

**Report of the Stated Clerk
(aka Presbytery Leader for Governance and Congregational Leadership)
November 6, 2024**

Items for Action

Action Item # 1: The Stated Clerk moves that Rev. Katy Yates Brungraber be elected as Recording Clerk of the Presbytery of Carlisle for the year 2025.

The Stated Clerk is grateful to Katy for her exemplary work as Recording Clerk during her past five terms of service and is grateful for her willingness to serve again. Readers of Katy’s minutes have commented on her ability to transport them to that time and space with her vivid and accurate recording of events.

Action Item # 2: At the request of the Sessions of Capital Presbyterian Church, St. James Presbyterian Church, and Monaghan Presbyterian Church as permitted by G-2.0404 in the Book of Order, the Stated Clerk moves that term limits for their officers be waived as determined appropriate by its Session according to the church’s needs and limitations for the year 2024.

Rationale

G-2.0404 Terms of Service: Ruling elders and deacons shall be elected to serve terms of no more than three years on the session or board of deacons and may be eligible for reelection according to congregational rule. However, no ruling elder or deacon shall be eligible to serve more than six consecutive years, and a ruling elder or deacon who has served six consecutive years shall be ineligible for election to the same board for at least one year. Election shall be to classes as nearly equal in number as possible, with the term of only one class ending each year. *The presbytery may, upon written request and by majority vote, grant a congregation a waiver of this limitation on terms (italics mine for emphasis).*

Action Item # 3: The Stated Clerk moves that each church in the Presbytery of Carlisle be given one additional Ruling Elder beyond the membership guidelines, outlined in [Standing Rule #12](#) of Carlisle Presbytery, who will have voice and vote at the 2024 meetings of the Presbytery of Carlisle.

Rationale

The Presbytery has adopted this practice since 2009. Standing Rule #12 of the Presbytery of Carlisle mandates that Presbytery shall redress annually, any imbalance between ministers and ruling elders entitled to vote at presbytery meetings. Accordingly, the Stated Clerk did the following analysis:

Total Minister Members as of November 18, 2022	107
Ruling Elder Commissioners from churches (based on membership guidelines outlined in Presbytery Standing Rule #12)	44
Other Ruling Elders entitled to vote per Carlisle Presbytery Bylaws	11

These additional 11 Elders consist of:

A. Committee Chairs (Ruling Elders)	1 – Norma
B. Ruling Elder Members of Council	2 – Rose, Nickie
C. Commissioned Ruling Elders (CRE)	2 – Neal, Roz
D. Ruling Elders who are in CRE Program	5 – Joe, Brad, Jodi, Beth, Rob
E. Certified Educators who are Ruling Elders and employed in Presbytery	0
F. Moderator of Presbyterian Women	1
Total Ruling Elders entitled to vote	11

Summary:

Total Minister Members	107
Total Ruling Elders entitled to vote	55
IMBALANCE:	52

GIVEN the fact that there are projected to be 39 churches in the presbytery for the year 2024, if the proposal above is approved by Presbytery this would result in the following:

Total Minister Members	107
Total Ruling Elders entitled to vote	94
IMBALANCE:	13

Items for Information

Past members of Permanent Judicial Commission

Book of Order, D-5.0206.b requires the Stated Clerk to report annually to Presbytery a roster of members of the Permanent Judicial Commission, by class, whose terms have expired within the past six years. These are as follows:

- Class of 2023 – RE John Carroll, TE Kathryn Johnston, RE Sally Kammerer
- Class of 2021- RE Gary Hollinger; TE Tom Thomas; TE Dick Houtz
- Class of 2019- TE Jon Black; RE Ginny Boynton; RE Norma Mateer

COM Approved Validated Ministries for the following Ministers

Peter Billings, St. Paul's and Trinity UCC
Donna Christopher, pastor at ELCA church and hospice chaplain
Peter Dietz, U.S. Navy
Andrew Hostetter, Willow Valley Retirement Community
Christian Neubaum, Penn State HMC
Don Opitz, Grove City College
Steve Velthuis, U.S. Navy
Howard West, Country Meadows

COM approved the Continuation of At-Large status for the following Ministers:

Lucy Bowerman
Katy Yates Brungraber
Candace Veon-Nyiri

Correspondence with the Presbytery of Detroit

Recommendation that Candidate Lon Kuehn be examined for ordination pending congregational approval of his call to Centre Presbyterian Church.

Reading of Presbytery Meeting Minutes

Thank you to TE Don Wahlig (Silver Spring) and RE Susan Anthony (Faith-Immanuel) for reading the minutes of the September 7, 2024 Presbytery meeting!

Review of the 2022 Presbytery Minutes

Exceptions

These are things that are required and are not found by the reader of your minutes.

1. The Committee on Representation did not meet in 2023 therefore there is no report from the committee to the Presbytery.
2. No Financial Review or Audit for 2023.

Delinquencies

These are incomplete recordings of actions.

NONE

Reported to the Office of the General Assembly

- The Installation of the Rev. Stuart Seelman at Pine Street Presbyterian Church on September 22, 2024.
- The transfer of the Rev. Pamela Meilands to Northumberland Presbytery on September 9, 2024.

Annual Review of 2023 Session Minutes and Registers

Of the 39 churches of the Presbytery of Carlisle, 32 presented their 2023 Session records for review with very few exceptions noted. Churches will get one more grace year before the new Anti-Harassment and Anti-Racism policies will be added to the review.

226th General Assembly Amendments

Actions taken at the 226th General Assembly mean that 12 Book of Order amendments and one ecumenical agreement will be brought for Presbytery consideration and action. Information will be distributed electronically, and two Zoom conversations will be scheduled prior to the vote, which is scheduled for February 8, 2025.

Commission Report

Received the report of the Commission to install the Rev. Stuart Seelman as Pastor of Pine Street Presbyterian Church. The installation took place on September 22, 2024 at 4:00 pm at Pine Street Presbyterian Church. All the constitutional questions were answered in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristal Smith
Presbytery Leader for Governance and Congregational Leadership