

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 8, 2025 STATED MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF CARLISLE – DRAFT-B
Hybrid meeting at Camp Hill Presbyterian Church (Camp Hill, PA) and via Zoom

Attachments

1. Approved Presbytery of Carlisle Purpose Statement
2. Approved Honduras Partnership Covenant
3. Report of Treasurer for 2024 Year End
4. Report of the Presbytery Co-leader for Vision and Transformation
5. Report of the Commission on Ministry
6. Report of the Stated Clerk
7. Correspondence from the Session of Big Spring PC in Newville
8. Results of the Votes on the 226th General Assembly Proposed Amendments
9. Roll for Attendance at the February 8, 2025 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Carlisle
 - a. 35 presbyters were in attendance via Zoom, and 80 were on site (including 12 guests)

Abbreviations

- ACTION MSP Motion, Seconded, Discussed, and Passed (if it comes from committee, MP only)
- AC, PJC Administrative Commission, Permanent Judicial Commission
- AdCom Administration Committee
- BOO, BOC *Book of Order* – The Constitution of the PC(USA) Part II, *Book of Confessions*
- BOP Board of Pensions
- CC Coordinating Council
- CCE Certified Christian Educator
- CLC Church Leadership Connection
- COA Covenant of Agreement
- CPM Committee on Preparation for Ministry
- COM, NWCC Commission on Ministry, New Worshiping Community Commission
- GA, OGA, SOT General Assembly, Office of General Assembly, Synod of the Trinity
- IEP Interim Executive Presbyter
- MAL Member-At-Large
- MDP Ministry Discernment Profile
- NC, PNC Nominating Committee, Pastor Nominating Committee
- PC, PW, PHS Presbyterian Church, Presbyterian Women, Presbyterian Historical Society
- PLGCL/SC Presbytery Leader for Governance and Congregational Leadership / Stated Clerk
- PLVT, BPL Presbytery Leader for Vision and Transformation, Bridge Presbytery Leader
- TE, MWS Teaching Elder, Minister of Word and Sacrament
- RE, CRE, EREC Ruling Elder, Commissioned Ruling Elder, Elected RE Commissioner to this meeting
- VM Vice Moderator

Welcome and Zoom Instructions

The Stated Meeting (hybrid) of the Presbytery of Carlisle was called to order with prayer at 9:05 AM in the Sanctuary of Camp Hill Presbyterian Church (PC) by Moderator RE Roz Presby. Hosting pastor, TE Nancy Conklin (Camp Hill PC), welcomed presbyters and offered opening remarks about her church, which was founded in 1916; the building was constructed one hundred years ago, in 1925. A Preschool was started 1956, and Camp Hill PC helped found Faith Immanuel PC, Christ PC, and St. James PC within

the presbytery. Thanking God for local and extended mission, TE Conklin noted that the congregation is embarking on a study of Reformed theology using Shirley Guthrie's *Christian Doctrine*.

ACTION

MSP to approve the docket.

Enrollment of Corresponding Members

Two corresponding members were enrolled: Forest Claussen (Executive of the Synod of the Trinity (SOT) and Minister Member of Pittsburgh Presbytery), and Cindy Kohlmann (Connectional Presbyter/Stated Clerk, New Castle Presbytery).

Introduction of First-Time Commissioners, Pastors, DCEs, Special Guests

Moderator Presby welcomed non-commissioner church leaders – Deacons, Trustees, and other leaders – then asked first time Teaching Elders (TEs) and Ruling Elder Commissioners (RECs), who were elected by their Session to serve, to identify themselves from the floor mic or via Zoom. All were warmly welcomed.

- RE Geoffrey Vinton (Paxton PC)
- RE Lisa Potami (Centre PC)
- RE Michael Leader(Derry PC)
- RE Cheri Kearney (Falling Springs PC)
- TE Lon Kuehn (Centre)
- RE Clarence Asbury (St. James PC)
- RE Dana McDonald (Lower Marsh Creek PC)
- RE Diane Tokach (2nd Carlisle PC)
- Guest Sarah Saturno (St. James PC)
- Temporary Lay Speaker CeCe Novinger (Duncannon)
- RE Kelly Jones(Gettysburg PC)

Presbyters shifted into an attitude of worship, with a Call to “do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.” The opening hymn was Hymn 761, *Called as Partners in Christ's Service*.

Using a bingo cage, Moderator Presby – with the help of the Rev. Kent Carter and the Rev. Kristal Smith – awarded eight gift certificates to Hearts and Minds Bookstore to those who were “predestined” to receive them. Owner Byron Borger explained that Hearts and Minds is an independent bookstore in Dallastown, PA, that, for over 40 years has helped people grow in discipleship. He generously rounded down a dollar on all books purchased today. The onsite collection included resources on cultural diversity, racism, children's books, civility, and Lent.

Church Officer Training

Moderator Presby dispersed presbyters and guests to workshops in six breakout rooms at 9:30; she announced that a 15-minute break would follow the workshops and the meeting would resume at 10:45. Zoom attendees were given instruction for on-line breakout sessions.

- **Forrest Hates Titles**
 - Facilitated by TE Forrest Claassen (Synod of the Trinity Executive) this workshop explored ministry in different cultural settings which lend insight to the challenges of living in a changing American society and changing Presbyterian church in the 21st century.
- **Why Do We Need an Anti-Racism Statement Anyway?**

- Facilitated by TE Jamie McLeod (Presbytery Leader for Transformation and Vision) and TE Cindy Kohlmann (Connectional Presbyter, New Castle Presbytery), this workshop used as a starting place for conversation Harvard University's *Project Implicit Bias Survey*; participants discussed the importance of awareness of personal biases as we follow in the footsteps of the risen Messiah, anticipating the Realm of God.
- **Congregations as Signposts of the Kingdom: Visions and Resources for Becoming a More Just Church**
 - Facilitated by RE Byron Borger (First PC, York and Hearts and Minds Bookstore Owner), this workshop gleaned insights from the Confessions, worship practices, and Reformed theology about God's work in the world to answer the question, "how might we deepen our public theology and live more intentionally into being a faith community that is guided by Godly principles of inclusion and care, graciousness and justice?"
- **Ruling Elder 101**
 - Facilitated by RE Debbie Hough (Certified Christian Educator, Derry PC), this workshop provided an introduction/refresher for those called to the "Ministry of Discernment and Governance;" highlighting passages from the *Book of Order*, participants celebrated the gifts that enable REs to partner with pastors as spiritual leaders of the church, guiding members in their faith.
- **Policy Workshop for Clerks (and Others)**
 - Facilitated by TE Kristal Smith (Presbytery Leader for Governance and Congregational Leadership), this workshop provided Anti-Racism and Anti-Harassment policy templates for Clerks who are working with their Sessions to fulfill the intentions of the *Book of Order* and make sense of these policies in the context of each particular congregation.
- **Deacons in Action**
 - Facilitated by TE Katy Yates Brungraber (Visitation Pastor for Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church, Marion), this workshop encouraged Deacons to consider what it looks and feels like to share in Christ's love within and beyond the walls of our church buildings "for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures or anyone in distress."

Following a break at 10:30, the meeting resumed at 10:53 AM.

Report of the Nominating Committee

When the community regathered to continue the business portion of the meeting, Moderator Presby called on Chair of the Nominating Committee (NC), TE Christian Neubaum (Chaplain, Penn State Hershey Medical Center), to report on the work of the NC. The NC brought forward a slate of nominees that had been posted with meeting materials on the website. Nominees had agreed in advance to serve the Presbytery, if elected. There were no additional nominations from the floor.

ACTION

MP to close nominations and elect the slate of nominees as brought from Committee:

TE Dale Williams (honorably retired) to serve a second term as Synod Commissioner (Class of 2027)

RE Debby Madden (First PC, Carlisle) to serve Coordinating Council (Class of 2025)

TE Kevin Long (Intertwined) to serve the Nominating Committee (Class of 2026)

RE David Colestock (Pine Street PC) to serve the Nominating Committee (Class of 2027)

TE Stuart Seelman (Pine Street PC) to serve the Camp Krislund Committee (Class of 2026)

RE Joanne Lewis of (Greencastle PC) to serve the Administration Committee (Class of 2027)

TE Neubaum indicated the NC still is looking to fill vacancies in the Commission on Ministry, Permanent Judicial Commission, and NC. He then led presbyters through a 15-minute exercise to identify potential RE candidates to serve on Presbytery Committees and Commissions. Commissioners and pastors – whether on-site or on-line – were encouraged to prayerfully submit names of those with gifts and experience to serve the larger church with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love. TE Neubaum emphasized that REs and TEs are players with different roles on the same playing field.

Report of the Administration Committee

Vice-Moderator (VM) TE Janice Tiedeck (Monaghan PC) called on Presbytery Treasurer TE Ed Blank (Middle Spring, PC) to give the report of the Administration Committee. She noted for the Minutes that **this meeting will serve as a meeting of the Corporation per the Bylaws of the Presbytery of Carlisle.**

TE Blank presented the 2024 Year-End Financial Reports and Incoming Expense report. There were no questions. A hearty thanks was offered for the Treasurer's report and his quality work over the years.

Reports for Action and Information

VM Tiedeck asked Presbytery Leader Co-Leader Jamie McLeod and COM Co-Chair TE Tony Lorenz (First PC, Carlisle) to come forward with two items for action and information.

TE McLeod presented the Presbytery's Purpose Statement for a final vote, noting that the presbytery had an initial reading in November, and the Statement was included in the meeting materials for today. VM Tiedeck asked for a motion and second to approve the Purpose Statement. In discussion, a proposal was made to add two words to the Statement so that it would read "light *and love* of Christ."

ACTION

MSP to approve the purpose statement as amended with the addition of "and love."

This is now the approved Presbytery of Carlisle Purpose Statement:

The Presbytery of Carlisle: creating and nurturing partnerships for living into the triune God's transformative promises. The Presbytery of Carlisle engages and builds bridges among our churches, communities, and differing voices to inspire transformative ministry. With a strong and deep history of providing mission and ministry in Central Pennsylvania, we work to provide inspiration and resources to elevate the gifts of each member congregation for their part in God's mission. We strive to be a beacon of God's hope, joy, mercy, and peace, reflecting the light and love of Christ in the world. Through the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, we celebrate our past and embrace our collective future, faithfully following God's lead toward our mission and purpose.

TE Lorenz and RE Kathy Wells shared pictures on PowerPoint from their October 2024 trip to Honduras, and related stories about this important mission of the presbytery. This whirlwind trip to 9 small churches in 4 days was the first since 2019. They traveled over rocky dirt roads (there is hope of buying a 4-wheel drive), and got pulled out of the mud by a semi-truck. Worship was dynamic. At the same time, people talked honestly about problems churches face there. Most churches have lost members who moved away to seek work. There is conversation around the possibility of Carlisle Presbytery supporting scholarships, which would enable some church members to stay in the country and get jobs instead of families being torn apart. Two medical doctors who went on the trip are interested in having a medical component on future trips. TE Lorenz and RE Wells noted that today is the second reading of the Partnership Covenant; the only real change since the first reading in November regards a retreat center.

ACTION

MSP to approve the Honduras Partnership Covenant (attached).

TE Lorenz and RE Wells shared with the presbytery a plaque that was presented to the mission team, celebrating solidarity of purpose and mission. They stressed the importance of the presbytery's commitment to staying connected and continuing to build relationship with our Honduran colleagues, especially after our Mission Co-Worker, Dori Hjalmarson, ends her work there at the end of March. Dori's position has been eliminated as part of the denomination's reorganization of Global Missions. Presbyters expressed gratitude for Dori's collegiality and good work over the years, and pray her next chapter of ministry is likewise fulfilling and fruitful.

Commission on Ministry Report

VM Tiedek asked TE Lorenz to bring the report from the Commission on Ministry (COM). (attached)

TE Lorenz said the written report from COM was included with meeting materials. There were no action items. With permission, he invited RE Coleen Reamer (Great Conewago PC) to offer a memorial moment for the Rev. Donald Mitchell, who entered the Church Triumphant December 21, 2024.

RE Reamer shared that Great Conewago PC is 285 years old; the oldest Presbyterian church in Adams County. TE Mitchell served as Part-Time Stated Supply there for 10 years, 2002 – 2012. Under his leadership, the stone wall foundation and plank floors were restored, and he guided the congregation through construction of their first Christian Education building, kitchen, fellowship hall, and rest rooms. "He loved as us all" and had a great sense of humor. He'd already retired twice before serving GCPC. He had a vision that the dwindling congregation would grow again with new developments on the horizon. His vision for growth would not be realized during his lifetime, but now, new faces appear each week.

VM Tiedeck invited Presbytery Co-Leader Kristal Smith to bring her report.

Co-Leader Smith drew attention to informational written reports included in meeting materials:

- Report of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) – at the stated CPM meeting on November 21, 2024, CPM voted to enroll Robert Cochran (St. Andrews PC) as an Inquirer
- Report of the Presbytery Leader for Vision and Transformation in which Co-Leader McLeod highlighted 25 congregations which he's visited so far, all showing signs of welcome, signs of authentic worship, signs of unity in the spirit of the risen Christ, and the ability to envision a brighter tomorrow for their congregation, their families, and the world. (attached)
- Report of the Stated Clerk in which Co-Leader Smith highlighted Readers of Presbytery Minutes, Deaths, Changes in Status, Receptions and Transfers of TE's, List of 36 (of 39) churches that completed Session Minutes Review, Dates of the next Minutes / Rolls reviews, 2024 Necrology Report, Roll of Ministers of Word and Sacrament (MWS) and honorably retired MWS, allegations against a Minister member, and the formation of an Investigating Committee. (attached)

Co-Leader Smith added a few words on behalf of Phil Gardner from Camp Krislund: summer registration is now open and they are looking for summer staff. Camp Krislund materials will be distributed with the Presbytery's February newsletter.

Co-Leader Smith read aloud correspondence from the Session of Big Spring, PC in Newville. Signed by a few of their REs, the letter – on behalf of the Congregation – expressed appreciation for presbytery's leadership and professionalism in this difficult season during which their pastor had to be removed.

“You’ve modeled mercy and grace.” The letter also expressed gratitude for support from COM, and especially the support of COM Co-Chair Tony Lorenz, and current Bridge Pastor, Rev. Lucy Bowerman. The letter noted that Pastor Emeritus (the Rev. William Beck) was a long-time comfort to the congregation, and that the Presbytery of Carlisle has “defined connectional church.” (attachment)

Co-Leader Smith helped presbyters navigate through voting on the proposed amendments to the *Book of Order* (BOO) that came from the 226th General Assembly last year. Documents about the amendments have been circulated for the past two months; she personally conducted two information sessions via Zoom in January with the presbytery’s Commissioners to GA. On behalf of Coordinating Council (CC), she moved the approval of all 12 amendments plus the ecumenical agreement with the Episcopal Church.

Moderator Presby clarified that the vote was being approached as a consent agenda and gave opportunity for presbyters to pull amendments for consideration at another time.

Proposed amendments: 24-A, 24-B, 24-C, 24-D, 24-E, 24-F, 24-G, 24-H, 24-I, 24-J, 24-K, 24-L, and 24-M.

Amendments that were pulled: 24A, 24C, 24B.

ACTION

MP to approve the consent agenda GA226 amendments to the *Book of Order*, 24-D through 24-M.

Considering the late hour and running overtime, there was discussion and a temperature-in-the-room vote about whether immediately to take up the amendments that had been pulled from the consent agenda (and strike while the iron is hot, so to speak, thus delaying worship, installation, and lunch) which was represented by “Ayes;” or whether to “postpone indefinitely” discussion until a special meeting can be called by CC so that commissioners won’t feel hurried in their conversation, which was represented by “Nays.” The nays were louder.

Moderator Presby asked speakers to orient themselves to designated “pro” and “con” microphones to ensure equal time for all views for discussion around the three pulled amendments. Individual Motions to approve the three amendments were seconded and ample time was allowed for discussion before each vote. Presbyters debated whether or not these three amendments to the BOO were necessary.

Those opposed suggested that Amendments 24-A and 24-C “ask us to affirm what we do not believe” and “they deny us our vote of conscience.” Others, speaking in favor of the amendment suggested that gender equality and sexual identity are only part of a list – “we are naming what the church believes – that all persons are called to serve,” that Biblically, “if God is God of love, God is not against love,” and that in the world we’re living in, we need to “name those who are being affected.”

A Motion to call the question was too divided to pass – presbyters wanted to let more people speak. One presbyter observed that “not once did our Savior Jesus Christ talk about sexual orientation,” so it shouldn’t be an issue for us; another observed that we are called to minister to “the least, the last, and the lost – it is our job as Christians to be attentive to who they are (beyond widow and orphan)”, and we now continue to seek out those who need the most care and love to be lifted up and celebrated – “this motion is in line with that theology.”

ACTION

MSP to call the previous question.

ACTION

MSP to approve 24-A.

Discussion around 24-B (providing for other forms of corporate witness) raised concern among some who felt that the reason Carlisle Presbytery is down to 39 congregations is that the denomination keeps pushing acceptance of homosexuality on the church people. Others who spoke in favor of the amendment observed that the amendment elevates the practice of new church development so they have means to minister to people in a way that's not available in a local congregation. Additionally, it was observed that the Church needs to be creative in order to help people find Jesus, and that, if people are not "finding" Jesus in traditional church settings, it is an encouraging sign for our denomination to allow alternative paths for folks to seek community and live life together, having Jesus at the center.

ACTION

MSP to approve 24-B.

By this point in the meeting, at least 10 people had left the building and others had signed off of Zoom.

A Motion to approve Amendment 24-C yielded robust discussion, but failed – by show of hands, 25 in favor, 35 opposed. Comments included "there is room in our denomination for honest disagreement," and "The PC(USA) has worked hard to create a welcoming space for those who – concerned that we are creating a hostile environment among the more conservative – we need to be welcoming to those who disagree." One presbyter noted that whether a Candidate graduates from Princeton or Gordon Conwell, they are examined equally; their concern was that this overture will be divisive. Lastly, it was questioned whether this issue is at the core of Christianity; presbyters were asked whether it is worth dividing the church over, since the Administrative Group at GA marked this amendment as redundant.

The final result of votes on Amendments to the BOO from GA226 are included as Attachment 8.

Co-Leader Smith concluded her report with the assurance that she will submit these results to the Interim Unified Agency, which is the temporary name for the combined Presbyterian Mission Agency and Office of General Assembly.

At 12:36 PM, Moderator Presby re-gathered presbyters in an attitude of worship, confessing our sins being assured of forgiveness, and passing the peace of Christ. As her final gift to the presbytery as Moderator, she provided scripture interpretation based on Hebrews 11:29 – 12:2, with a Sermon titled *How Will We Be Remembered?* She admonished REs to "please support your pastor as they speak truth to power. It's your job as spiritual leaders." She admitted that she worries about the institution of the Church: "remember the Church that turned a blind eye in Germany during Hitler's rise to power." She complimented congregations on the way they support community needs through soup kitchens and the like, but challenged presbyters to "consider if we aren't also called to address the corporate greed and hatred." She asked directly: "Elders, how are we going to be remembered, when our names are read in the Necrology?" In closing, Moderator Presby quoted Martin Niemöller, who, in the 1930s was an outspoken critic of Hitler; he survived eight years in Nazi prison camps, then spoke openly afterwards about his complicity.

"First they came for the socialists, and I did not speak out because I was not a socialist.
Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out because I was not a

trade unionist. Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out because I was not a Jew. Then they came for me - and there was no one left to speak for me.”

Moderator Presby closed, saying that the socialists, trade unionists, and Jews of yesterday are the trans-people, immigrants, and gay people of today. “Our society is in a time of crisis unlike anything I have seen in my 68 years. How are we going to respond? How will we be remembered? Passive and complicit? Or as ones who ran the race. May God have mercy.”

Moderator Presby’s powerful sermon pulled no punches and was received with acclamations of “Amen.” The sermon was followed by Hymn 757, *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples*, and an Affirmation of Faith from *The Confession of 1967* led by TE Kent Carter (Paxton PC).

Offering

Moderator invited TE Conklin to come forward to introduce the offering. TE Conklin explained that today’s offering will go to The Cracked Pot Coffee Shop, which hires and creates spaces of belonging for young people who are aging out of foster care. The offering collected in the amount of \$579.00 was followed by a Prayer of Dedication by TE Conklin.

INSTALLATION OF MODERATOR AND VICE-MODERATOR

Upon answering all the installation questions in the affirmative, TE Janice Tiedeck (Monaghan PC) and RE Gary Hollinger (Silver Spring PC) were installed as Moderator and Vice-Moderator for 2025. A Prayer of Installation was offered by Co-Leader Smith (“Help us to discern where your Spirit is leading. Grant us courage to follow you boldly,”). New Moderator Tiedeck received Symbols of Office from her predecessor: “May the Cross and Stole remind you that it is Christ who calls us into service and walks with us. And may you use this Gavel to guide us through our work as you moderate our meetings.”

With Incoming Moderator Tiedeck and outgoing Moderator Presby presiding at the Table, presbyters celebrated the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper together, remembering with love and gratitude the REs of the Presbytery of Carlisle who were called to the eternal realm in 2024, and who are now with God among the faithful of all generations in the great cloud of witnesses.

Camp Hill	John Ault, James Long
Central	Mary Norcross
Christ - Camp Hill	Sally Lou Ralston Goas, Randal "Bud" Caton, David Click, Wilbur "Bill" Brandt
Derry	Joan Cross Smith, Beulah Melvin Chabal, Robert Wagner
Dickinson	Philip Avery, Richard Eberts
East Waterford	R. Donald Love
Faith Immanuel	Gene Gangwish, Naida Huber
Falling Spring	Lynne Peters
First Carlisle	T.S. Jarl Uilkema
First United	William Moyer
Gettysburg	Allen Duncan, William Falcon
Great Conewago	Margaret "Peg" Lambert
Highland United	Peggy Tressler, Donald Campbell, H. Thomas Uish
Lost Creek	Gary Page
Lower Marsh Creek	Raymond Wright, Denise Lockwood
Lower Tuscarora	William Stong
Market Square	Ardith Buffington
Mechanicsburg	Ramona Steele

	Richard Heeter
Middle Spring	Albert Keer, Paul Gill, Frederick Nordal, Arlene Keer
Monaghan	Russell Ludlow
Paxton	Jerry D. Davies, Mildred Hitz, Frank Wright
Pine St	William Bauer, Frederick Morgenthaler
Second	Janet Clark
Silver Spring	Mary Lou Pierce McLain, Pam Murray
St. Andrews	Bill Birt, Nan Hoff
St. James	James Raymond Masters
Waynesboro	Helen Hill
Westminster United	Robert Gill, Edwina Gill

Additional petitions from the community were raised for the federal government, peace in war torn regions, those with illness and upcoming surgeries, congregations in pastor searches, families of those lost in recent plane crashes in Washington, D.C. and Philadelphia, Camp Krislund, wisdom and guidance for Christ's church, family concerns, our country and our nation's leaders, congregations with diverse political philosophies – that we might remain in good relation with one-another, opening minds to diverse perspectives and finding truth in God's word, and those dealing with fires in Southern California.

ACTION

MSP to adjourn the meeting.

At 1:33 PM, with a sending Hymn (*Arise, Your Light Is Come!*) and closing prayer, Moderator Tiedeck then dismissed us to a delicious lunch provided by our friends at Camp Hill PC.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Kristal Smith

Presbytery Leader for Governance and Congregational Leadership / Stated Clerk

ATTACHMENT 1
Approved Presbytery of Carlisle Purpose Statement

The Presbytery of Carlisle: creating and nurturing partnerships for living into the triune God's transformative promises.

The Presbytery of Carlisle engages and builds bridges among our churches, communities, and differing voices to inspire transformative ministry. With a strong and deep history of providing mission and ministry in Central Pennsylvania, we work to provide inspiration and resources to elevate the gifts of each member congregation for their part in God's mission. We strive to be a beacon of God's hope, joy, mercy, and peace, reflecting the light and love of Christ in the world. Through the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, we celebrate our past and embrace our collective future, faithfully following God's lead toward our mission and purpose.

ATTACHMENT 2**Covenant of Agreement/Convenio de Acuerdo
By Presbytery of Carlisle and the Evangelical Presbyterian Mission of Honduras
Por Presbiterio de Carlisle y La Misión Evangélica Presbiteriana de Honduras**

Representatives from the Presbyteries of Carlisle and Honduras met May 20 through 24, 2019, to review the history of our shared ministry and to discern the leading of the Spirit as to how the partnership might move forward. Participants of these meetings were as follows:

Representantes de los Presbiterios de Carlisle y Honduras se reunieron del 20 al 24 de mayo de 2019 para revisar la historia de nuestro ministerio compartido y discernir la dirección del Espíritu sobre cómo la asociación podría avanzar. Los participantes de estas reuniones fueron los siguientes:

- 1 Presbytery of Carlisle Representatives: Cheryl Galan, Vernon Gauthier, Anthony Lorenz, and Kimberley Wadlington.
- 2 Presbytery of Honduras Representatives: Juan Rodas, Agustín Andrade, Herbert Rivas, Alexander Rodas, Nora Palma, Selenia Ordoñez, Marlon Fernandez, Diana Bendeck
- 3 Facilitators: Arne Kristensen (Red Viva), and Dori Hjalmarson (Presbyterian Honduras Mission Co-Worker).
- 4 Since it had been five years since this agreement was originally, written, in June of 2024, when Pastor Juan Rodas and Pastor Dori Hjalmarson from the Presbytery of Honduras were visiting in the Presbytery of Carlisle, the Covenant of Agreement was slightly revised to include more possibilities for hands-on projects than just building homes, especially projects proposed by the Buen Sembrador ministry in Honduras, which began in 2020.

Dado que habían pasado cinco años desde que este acuerdo fue escrito originalmente, en junio de 2024, cuando el Pastor Juan Rodas y la Pastora Dori Hjalmarson de la Misión Evangélica Presbiteriana de Honduras estaban de visita en el Presbiterio de Carlisle, el Pacto de Acuerdo fue ligeramente revisado para incluir más posibilidades para proyectos prácticos que solo la construcción de viviendas, especialmente los proyectos propuestos por el ministerio del Buen Sembrador en Honduras, que comenzaron en 2020.

Covenant of Agreement/Convenio de Acuerdo

Proposal: The following is a proposed Covenant of Agreement submitted to both Presbyteries for approval. When approved, this covenant will provide guidance to both Presbyteries for the continuation of our partnership. The priority areas identified for our shared ministry going forward are:

Propósito *El siguiente es un convenio de acuerdo sometido a los dos presbiterios para su aprobación. A aprobarlo, este convenio proveerá guía a nuestros dos presbiterios para la continuación de nuestro compañerismo. Las áreas prioritarias de nuestro ministerio compartido:*

a **Hands-On Partnership Projects.** To participate with our partners in hands-on projects that will improve lives in Honduras. This might include, but is not limited to, the following:

Proyectos de servicio: *Participar con nuestros socios en proyectos sociales y prácticos para mejorar la vida de las comunidades hondureñas.*

i. **Home Construction.** We will continue to build houses, with the Presbytery of Honduras responsible to choose for whom and where the home is to be built. The Presbytery of Carlisle will continue to send teams to help with the building, and members of the Presbytery of Honduras will work with us in the home building. Both Presbyteries will provide funding as it is available.

Construcción de viviendas. *Continuaremos construyendo casas, siendo la Misión Evangélica Presbiteriana de Honduras el responsable de elegir para quién y dónde se construirá la casa. El Presbiterio de Carlisle continuará enviando equipos para ayudar con la construcción, y miembros de la Misión Evangélica Presbiteriana de Honduras trabajarán con nosotros en la construcción de la vivienda. Ambos Presbiterios proporcionarán fondos a medida que estén disponibles.*

ii. **Visiting Migrant Shelters.** Members of both presbyteries will visit migrant shelters in Honduras and in the United States, offering donations according to need, to those passing through Honduras. We commit to advocate for migrants and educate our member congregations in justice and human rights of people in movement.

Visitar refugios para migrantes. *Juntos miembros de los dos presbiterios visitaremos los albergues de migrantes en Honduras y en los EEUU conforme a las necesidades presentes a quienes ahora pasan por Honduras. Comprometemos a hacer incidencia en nuestros países respectivos y a socializar el tema de migración entre nuestras congregaciones.*

iii. **Church Repairs.** We will work to assist with church repairs that might be needed to Presbyterian churches throughout Honduras. Again, this will be done in cooperation with members of the Presbytery of Honduras, with both Presbyteries providing money as possible.

Reparaciones de templos. *Trabajaremos para ayudar con las reparaciones de templos que puedan ser necesarias en las iglesias presbiterianas en todo Honduras. Nuevamente, esto se hará en cooperación con miembros de la Misión Evangélica Presbiteriana de Honduras, y ambos Presbiterios proporcionarán el mayor dinero posible.*

iv. **Working with the Buen Sembrador Team.** We will work with members of the newly formed Buen Sembrador team, the social justice branch of the Presbytery of Honduras. We will participate in whatever projects they plan - food distribution, medical clinics, or any other outreach.

Trabajando con el Equipo del Buen Sembrador. *Trabajaremos con miembros del equipo del Buen Sembrador, el comité de emergencias de la Misión Evangélica Presbiteriana de Honduras. Participaremos en cualquier proyecto que planeen: distribución de alimentos, clínicas médicas o cualquier otro tipo de extensión.*

v. **Working with the ministry of hospitality of Villa de Gracia.** Both presbyteries commit to developing and growing the ministry of hospitality that the Villa de Gracia retreat center represents, and to the Honduran Presbyterian Women's Ministry that manages the center.

Trabajar con el ministerio de hospitalidad en Villa de Gracia. *Los dos presbiterios quedan comprometidos a apoyar al ministerio de hospitalidad que representa el centro de retiros Villa de Gracia y el comité presbiterial de mujeres de la Misión Evangélica Presbiteriana de Honduras.*

• **Tending to our Relationship.** To make prayer, scripture study, and mutual learning central to our partnership, whether together or apart.

Atendiendo a nuestra Relación. *Hacer que la oración, el estudio de las Escrituras y el aprendizaje mutuo sean elementos centrales de nuestra asociación, ya sea juntos o separados.*

i. **Prayer.** While apart, this will most likely include the use of social media and will require coordination of one or more persons from each Presbytery to determine when particular congregations, persons, needs, and ministries will be prayed for, and how this information can be best disseminated. While together this will include time set aside for regular daily prayer among those actively sharing in ministry.

Oración. *Mientras estén separados, lo más probable es que esto incluya el uso de las redes sociales y requerirá la coordinación de una o más personas de cada Presbiterio para determinar cuándo se orará por congregaciones, personas, necesidades y ministerios particulares, y cómo se puede difundir mejor esta información. Mientras estén juntos, esto incluirá tiempo reservado para la oración diaria regular entre aquellos que participan activamente en el ministerio.*

ii. **Study.** We will actively seek opportunities for members from both Presbyteries to engage in learning experiences based in Scripture and/or topical studies of mutual interest. These learning experiences may be designed for group study within each partner's own context. There may also be opportunities for groups from both contexts to come together to share insights from their study, to discuss implications for congregational leadership and/or ministry, or to engage in a project or activity that is a response to the study. With active assistance from both partners, the Mission Co-Worker would help identify what is to be studied, materials to be used, and the timeframe of the study with active assistance from both partners. She would also serve as a facilitator/translator when groups from the two Presbyteries come together for study.

Estudiar. *Buscaremos activamente oportunidades para que los miembros de ambos Presbiterios participen en experiencias de aprendizaje basadas en las Escrituras y/o estudios temáticos de interés mutuo. Estas experiencias de aprendizaje pueden diseñarse para estudio en grupo dentro del propio contexto de cada socio. También puede haber oportunidades para que grupos de ambos contextos se reúnan para compartir ideas de su estudio, discutir implicaciones para el liderazgo y/o ministerio congregacional, o participar en un proyecto o actividad que sea una respuesta al estudio. Con la asistencia activa de ambos socios, el/la colaborador/a de misión (mission co-worker) ayudaría a identificar qué se va a estudiar, los materiales que se utilizarán y el cronograma del estudio con la asistencia activa de ambos socios. También serviría como facilitadora/traductora cuando grupos de los dos Presbiterios se reúnan para estudiar.*

c **Leadership Training and Like Group Retreats.** To leverage the partnership as a resource for the leadership development/training and potential transformation of partners in the Presbytery of Honduras and the Presbytery of Carlisle.

Capacitación en liderazgo y retiros grupales. *Aprovechar la asociación como un recurso para el desarrollo/capacitación de liderazgo y la transformación potencial de los socios en la Misión Evangélica Presbiteriana de Honduras y el Presbiterio de Carlisle.*

i. **Leadership Training.** We will consider how the partnership may support and strengthen leadership training initiatives already underway in Honduras through the ministry of our Mission Co-Worker. Likewise, we will consider what the partnership may contribute to the development and training of leaders in the churches of the Presbytery of Carlisle.

Formación de Liderazgo. *Consideraremos cómo la asociación puede apoyar y fortalecer las iniciativas de capacitación de liderazgo que ya están en marcha en Honduras a través del ministerio de nuestro Colaboradora en Misión. Asimismo, consideraremos qué puede aportar la asociación al desarrollo y capacitación de líderes en las iglesias del Presbiterio de Carlisle.*

ii. **Like/Affiliation Group Retreats.** It is mutually desirable for like/affiliation groups of both Presbyteries to have an opportunity to gather together for intercultural experiences. These experiences would bring groups of partners together around a mutual sense of call to strengthen their discipleship as followers of Jesus and to reflect the kingdom/realm of God in their calling to reach out to their neighbors/communities. We envision the potential for personal and social transformation as mutual support and cross-fertilization happens among groups such as youth, women, Ruling Elders, Deacons, Educators, Teaching Elders/Pastors. In a retreat setting, such groups will have the opportunity to build

relationships, find mutual support and encouragement for Christian leadership, and/or engage in projects together that meet a social/societal need, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Retiros de grupos de afiliación. *Es mutuamente deseable que los grupos similares/afiliados de ambos Presbiterios tengan la oportunidad de reunirse para tener experiencias interculturales. Estas experiencias reunirían a grupos de socios en torno a un sentido mutuo de llamado a fortalecer su discipulado como seguidores de Jesús y a reflejar el reino de Dios en su llamado a tender la mano a sus vecinos/comunidades. Visualizamos el potencial de transformación personal y social a medida que se produce el apoyo mutuo y la fertilización cruzada entre grupos como jóvenes, mujeres, ancianos gobernantes, diáconos, educadores, ancianos docentes y pastores. En un entorno de retiro, dichos grupos tendrán la oportunidad de construir relaciones, encontrar apoyo mutuo y aliento para el liderazgo cristiano y/o participar juntos en proyectos que satisfagan una necesidad social, en el nombre de Jesucristo.*

d **Telling Our Story.** To use many forms of communication to tell the story of the partnership, especially seeking to interpret how partners have experienced the presence and transforming power of God, and the impact it has had in their lives and/or the lives they've encountered through the individuals, groups and congregations of the partnership.

Contando nuestra historia. *Usar muchas formas de comunicación para contar la historia de la asociación, buscando especialmente interpretar cómo los socios han experimentado la presencia y el poder transformador de Dios, y el impacto que ha tenido en sus vidas y/o en las vidas que han encontrado a través de los individuos, grupos y congregaciones de la asociación.*

i. **Yesterday.** We will document the history of the partnership between the Presbytery of Honduras and the Presbytery of Carlisle, by writing a narrative of the beginnings of the partnership and how it has developed over time, including important dates, events, and people. This written history will give us an opportunity to acknowledge and express thanks for those who have given themselves to this ministry. It will also be a tool to help us as we seek to identify and engage the next generation of leaders in the partnership.

Ayer. *Documentaremos la historia de la asociación entre la Misión Evangélica Presbiteriana de Honduras y el Presbiterio de Carlisle, escribiendo una narrativa de los inicios de la asociación y cómo se ha desarrollado a lo largo del tiempo, incluyendo fechas, eventos y personas importantes. Esta historia escrita nos dará la oportunidad de reconocer y expresar agradecimiento por quienes se han entregado a este ministerio. También será una herramienta que nos ayudará en nuestro intento de identificar e involucrar a la próxima generación de líderes en la asociación.*

ii. **Today.** We will document the story of what God is currently doing through our partnership. We will elicit brief stories, testimonials, interviews and quotes from people of both Presbyteries, which may be shared in video form, on social media, or in printed form. We will curate photos and video clips showing the faces and activities generated by the partnership. We will seek to show who we are, what God is calling us to do, together, and how we are impacted by our partnership. As we tell our story, we will seek to invite others to join us in this partnership.

Hoy. *Documentaremos la historia de lo que Dios está haciendo actualmente a través de nuestra asociación. Obtendremos breves historias, testimonios, entrevistas y citas de personas de ambos presbiterios, que podrán compartirse en forma de video, en las redes sociales o en forma impresa. Seleccionaremos fotografías y videos que muestren los rostros y las actividades generadas por la asociación. Buscaremos mostrar quiénes somos, qué nos llama Dios a hacer juntos y cómo nos impacta nuestra asociación. Mientras contamos nuestra historia, buscaremos invitar a otros a unirse a nosotros en esta asociación.*

e **Finance.** Responsibility for the financing of the shared partnership will continue to fall in large part with the Presbytery of Carlisle, with the Presbytery of Honduras contributing as they are able. The Presbytery of Carlisle will continue to invite its member congregations to contribute to both the Mission Co-Worker Support and Mission Partnership Funds along with adding financial support for our shared ministry with the Presbytery of Honduras in the annual budget. This will underscore the Honduras Partnership as a ministry of the whole of the Presbytery, funded through the shared mission giving of our congregations and implemented through the participation of our people.

Finanzas. *La responsabilidad del financiamiento de la asociación compartida seguirá recayendo en gran parte en el Presbiterio de Carlisle, y la Misión Evangélica Presbiteriana de Honduras contribuirá en la medida de sus posibilidades. El Presbiterio de Carlisle continuará invitando a sus congregaciones miembros a contribuir tanto al Fondo de Apoyo a los Colaboradores de la Misión como al Fondo de Asociación de la Misión, además de agregar apoyo financiero para nuestro ministerio compartido con la Misión Evangélica Presbiteriana de Honduras en el presupuesto anual. Esto subrayará la Alianza Hondureña como un ministerio de todo el Presbiterio, financiado a través de la misión compartida de nuestras congregaciones e implementado a través de la participación de nuestra gente.*

Terms. This covenant is effective from the date of approval by both Presbyteries. Any changes to the covenant will be approved by both Presbyteries before they can be implemented. Either Presbytery may choose to unilaterally withdraw from the agreement by providing written notification to the Clerk/Secretary of the partner Presbytery. Both Presbyteries agree that they will make a good faith effort to work through disagreements and misunderstandings, including, if necessary, through an impartial third party that both Presbyteries agree on. This Covenant will be in effect for five years, at which time it will be reviewed and approved by both Presbyteries if they wish to continue in this shared partnership.

Términos. *Este pacto entra en vigor a partir de la fecha de aprobación por ambos Presbiterios. Cualquier cambio al pacto será aprobado por ambos Presbiterios antes de que puedan implementarse. Cualquiera de los Presbiterios puede optar por retirarse unilateralmente del acuerdo proporcionando una notificación por escrito al Secretario del Presbiterio asociado. Ambos Presbiterios acuerdan que harán un esfuerzo de buena fe para solucionar los desacuerdos y malentendidos, incluso, si es necesario, a través de un tercero imparcial con el que ambos Presbiterios estén de acuerdo. Este Pacto estará vigente durante cinco años, momento en el cual será revisado y aprobado por ambos Presbiterios si desean continuar en esta asociación compartida.*

Signed	Date	Firmado	Fecha
The Rev. Anthony Lorenz Chair of Commission on Ministry		Pastor Juan Bautista Rodas Flores Presidente de la Misión Evangélica Presbiteriana de Honduras (MEPH)	
The Rev. Kristal Smith. Stated Clerk of Presbytery of Carlisle		Agustín Andrade Fernández Secretario, MEPH	
Elder Roz Presby Moderator of Presbytery of Carlisle		Boris Alexander Rodas Flores Fiscal, MEPH	

Designated Funds Report
as of December 31, 2024
Prepared by Edward Blank, Treasurer

	A	B	C	D	E
2	Balance			Balance	
3	Funds	12/31/2023	Income	Distributions	12/31/2024
4	Mission and Grants				
5	Holy Land Travel	7,688	0	(1,000)	6,688
6	Ministry & Mission Support	11,314	0	(2,000)	9,314
7	Small Church Leadership	5,929	1,590	(960)	6,559
8	Pastor's Sabbatical Fund	15000	0	0	15,000
9					
10	Preparation for Ministry				
11	Prep for Ministry	7,935	0	(3,800)	4,135
12					
13	Coordinating Council				
14					
15	PI Residual	51,137	0	(9,116)	42,021
16	Minister's Emergency	700	6,918	(2,000)	5,618
17					
18	Presbytery Designated Mission				
19					
20					
21	Honduras				
22	Partnership	16,864	7,580	(14,660)	9,784
23					
24	Juniata Shared Ministry	4,584	94,110	(94,044)	4,650
25	Legal Reserve Fund	5,000	0	0	5,000
26	New Worshipping Communities	116,186	30,365	(25,751)	120,800
27	Interwined	9,673	49,278	(54,750)	4,201
28	The Circle	11,500	33,995	(41,027)	4,468
29	Peacemaking Offering	6,879	9,072	(9,609)	6,342
30	TOTAL	270,389	232,908	(258,716)	233,772
31					

ATTACHMENT 4
Report of the Presbytery Co-leader for Vision and Transformation

Last Sunday, I was worshipping with the faithful at Silver Spring Presbyterian Church and Don Wahlig preached about the theme of gratitude. In his message, he suggested that we all experience little love letters from God appearing in our lives and the proper response to those moments of joy, peace, and understanding was to return to God with gratitude. That message has stuck with me as I have pondered my first 9 months as your presbytery co-leader for vision and transformation. I have spent much of that time traveling to different congregations (25 or 26 by the time you read this!) and in each location, I have been given gifts upon gifts and grace upon grace—little messages from God of love and welcoming seemingly written just for me. And while I am still putting together the pieces of who the Presbytery of Carlisle is and who we can be, I wanted to offer you just a few reflections from my congregational visits that have sustained me through this first chapter in my position and I believe might well give you hope for your own journey, no matter which church you attend. There have been a number of things that unify us and I want to offer up those to you today.

The first is that each house of worship that I have visited has greeted me with joy and welcoming. Whether in the form of handshakes and hugs or warm cups of coffee at fellowship hour, each congregation has gone out of their way to make me feel like part of their church family. Sometimes I have come in and offered words of reflection from the presbytery staff. Other times, I have just sat in worship and gotten to silently reflect on the words, music, prayers, and sermons, but never have I felt like a stranger. I am grateful for that.

The second is that each congregation that I have visited has been dreaming of something bigger than themselves that they are being called to be or do. One of the misgivings about the church is that we are slowly dying. That small congregations like so many that dot the landscape of Central Pennsylvania are just struggling to keep the doors open and that takes up all their time, energy, and effort. And while there may be some truth to that statement (it certainly does take a lot of effort to keep any church open) that is not something that has been readily apparent from my occasions to join in worship or meetings with our churches. From the smallest congregations that have 20 or 30 in worship on Sundays to the largest gatherings in the presbytery, no one that I have been with has lost the ability to dream dreams and have visions of a better tomorrow for their church families or the world. And they still put their best foot forward to make those dreams and visions a reality.

The third is the authenticity of worship in each church. I have seen led by children, laity, clergy, and a mixture of all three and in each case, the services have been authentic and true to who each congregation is and aspires to be. Sermons have been given with a deep respect for the scripture upon which they were based. Music has been offered up to the glory of God. Prayers have come from the heart and head and challenged the hearers to struggle for greater justice, peace, and love in this world. In each service I have attended, even though we all possess a different understanding of God and God's movement in the world, we have all been unified in the spirit of the risen Christ who continues to abide in us all.

As I continue to travel around the presbytery, I am getting a glimpse of what the presbytery is and what it can be. I look forward to continuing to dream dreams and have visions with each of y'all as you ask God what God would have us do next. It is an exciting time in the life of the church with opportunities to step out in faith and try new ministries, gatherings, welcoming, study, service, and fellowship that invites the stranger to become friend and friend to become family. I am so grateful for all the chances that God has given me in the last nine months to walk with the congregations of Carlisle and I look forward to the chances that are still yet to come. Peace, friends.

Respectfully submitted.

Jamie McLeod Presbytery Co-leader for Vision and Transformation

ATTACHMENT 5
Commission on Ministry Report to Presbytery
February 8, 2025

Action Items

NONE

Information Items

Appointed the following Moderators of Session:

- The Rev. Dale Williams as Moderator of McConnellsburg Presbyterian Church effective December 1, 2024.
- The Rev. Anthony Lorenz as temporary moderator of the Big Spring Presbyterian Church effective immediately (December 2, 2024).
- The Rev. Edward Blank as Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Falling Spring effective January 1, 2025.
- The Rev. Douglas Bletzner as Moderator of Central Presbyterian Church effective February 1, 2025.

Approved the following Minister transfers:

- The Rev. Emily McCachren to the Highlands Presbytery.
- The Rev. Candace Veon-Nyiri to the Presbytery of Detroit.
- The Rev. Peter Billings to the Highlands Presbytery.
- Receive the Rev. Rebecca Langer as an Honorably Retired member of Carlisle Presbytery from St. Augustine Presbytery.
- Receive the Rev. Dale Francis as an Honorably Retired member of Carlisle Presbytery from Lehigh Presbytery.

Approved the following Covenants of Agreement:

- Between the Rev. Ed Blank and Middle Spring PC.
- Between CRE Neal McCulloch and Dickinson Presbyterian Church.
- Between CeCe Novinger and Duncannon Presbyterian Church.
- Between Katy Yates Brungraber and Salem Lutheran Church in Chambersburg.
- Between the Rev. Dale Williams and McConnellsburg United Presbyterian Church.
- Between the Rev. Kelly Wiant and the New Worshipping Communities Commission for The Circle.
- Between the Rev. Brand Eaton and Great Conewago Presbyterian Church.
- Between the Rev. Lucy Bowerman and Big Spring Presbyterian Church.

Approved the following Ministry Discernment Profiles from these churches:

- Market Square as presented on November 14.
- Middle Spring as presented on November 14.

Approved the following Terms of Dissolution and Dissolutions:

- Between The Rev. Scott Bowerman and Central Presbyterian Church, Chambersburg.
- Between the Rev. Emily McCachren and McConnellsburg United Presbyterian Church and concur with the request to dissolve the pastoral relationship effective November 30, 2024.
- Between the Rev. Andrew Hart and the Presbyterian Church of Falling Spring, Chambersburg and concur with the request to dissolve the pastoral relationship effective December 29, 2024.
- Between the Rev. Dr. Stephen Melton (as amended December 15, 2025) and Big Spring PC.

- Concurred with the termination of the Covenant of Agreement between the Rev. Ivo Meilands and the Presbyterian Congregation of Middletown.
- Granted permission to Central Presbyterian Church to elect a Pastoral Nominating Committee.
- Granted the Rev. Dr. Stephen Melton retired status effective January 12, 2025.
- Granted the Rev. Ruth Woodlen (retired United Methodist Church minister) permission to administer the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper at Faith Immanuel Presbyterian Church for a period of 12 months, at which time the permission may be renewed.

COM Approved Validated Ministries for the following Ministers

Matthew Robinson, University of Bonn
Anne Stewart, Princeton Theological Seminary
Drew Stockstill, U.S. Navy

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

Tom Folts
Rachel Schwab
Kathryn Yaroschuk

- Approved up to \$1,000 Financial Assistance for Big Spring PC upon their request.
- On December 2, 2024, COM concurred with the action of the Session of the Big Spring Presbyterian Church to place Dr. Melton on a Leave of Absence effective immediately until January 12, 2025.
- On December 2, 2024, COM recommended to the Permanent Judicial Commission that Dr. Melton’s Leave of Absence until January 12, 2025 be affirmed.
- On December 2, 2024, COM recommended to the session of the Big Spring Presbyterian Church that Dr. Melton shall not initiate communication (written, in-person, telephone, or electronic) with members/friends of the congregation.
- On December 2, 2024, COM recommended to the session of the Big Spring Presbyterian Church that Dr. Melton not be permitted to enter church property at any time with the exception of removing his personal effects from the premises. He shall arrange this time when two members of the Big Spring Presbyterian Church (at least one active ruling elder) are able to be present for this task. At that time he shall return all keys and submit a list of usernames and passwords for all church-related accounts.
- On December 2, 2024, COM recommended to the session of the Big Spring Presbyterian Church that Dr. Melton not be permitted to lead worship, preach, teach, celebrate the sacraments, moderate meetings, conduct weddings or funerals, or offer pastoral care to members and friends of the congregation.
- On December 2, 2024, COM recommended to the Permanent Judicial Commission that Dr. Melton not be permitted to lead worship, preach, teach, celebrate the sacraments, moderate meetings, conduct weddings or funerals, or offer pastoral care in any congregation within the Presbytery of Carlisle until this matter has been resolved.
- Appointed a Care Team to walk alongside Dr. Melton for the dual purpose of accountability and support. This team will be led by Bill McHenry and include John Green and Arlene Dunn.
- Appointed a Care Team to walk alongside the Big Spring Presbyterian Church for support. This team will be led by Anthony Lorenz and include Lucy Bowerman and Vern Gauthier.
- On January 9, 2025, COM determined the Rev. Dr. Melton is not permitted to lead worship, preach, teach, celebrate the sacraments, moderate meetings, conduct weddings or funerals, or offer

pastoral care in any congregation within the Presbytery of Carlisle unless and until this matter is possibly processed through the Permanent Judicial Commission.

- On January 9, 2025, COM determined the Rev. Dr. Melton is not permitted to seek a new call or enter into a Covenant of Agreement with any congregation or Session within Carlisle Presbytery unless and until this matter is possibly processed through the Permanent Judicial Commission.
- On January 9, 2025, COM determined the Presbytery of Carlisle will not transfer the Rev. Dr. Melton to another presbytery or denomination unless and until this matter is possibly processed through the Permanent Judicial Commission.

ATTACHMENT 6
Report of the Stated Clerk
(Presbytery Leader for Governance and Congregational Leadership)
February 8, 2025

Items for Action

None

Items for Information

Reading of Presbytery Meeting Minutes

Thank you to TE Lucy Bowerman (Big Spring) and RE Lincoln Milner (Monaghan) for reading the minutes of the November 6, 2024 Presbytery meeting!

Reported to the Office of the General Assembly

- 2 The death of the Rev. John Larson of Carlisle, PA, who died December 19, 2024.
- 3 The death of the Rev. Donald Mitchell of Gettysburg, PA, who died December 21, 2024.
- 4 The enrollment of Destini Hodges as a Candidate in the preparation process.
- 5 The enrollment of Robert Cochran as an Inquirer in the preparation process.
- b Changed the Rev. Andrew Hart’s status from Pastor to Chaplain, Educational Institution.
- Changed the Rev. Gene Gordon’s status to Retired.
- d Changed the Rev. Andrew Hostetter’s status from Pastor to Chaplain, Other Institutions.
- e Changed the Rev. Dr. Stephen Melton’s status to Retired.
- f Removed RE Roz Presby from her Commission at Faith Immanuel.
- Removed RE Becky Drover from her Commission at Wells Valley (as of November 2020).
- Received Honorably Retired TE Rebecca Langer from St. Augustine Presbytery.
- Received Honorably Retired TE Dale Franics from Lehigh Presbytery.
- Transferred the Rev. Emily McCachren to Highlands Presbytery.
- Transferred the Rev. Peter Billings to Highlands Presbytery.
- Transferred the Rev. Candace Veon-Nyiri to the Presbytery of Detroit.

2024 Session Records Review

36 of the Presbytery’s 39 churches have completed a review of Session Records for 2023.

Church	A/N	Church	A/N
Big Spring	A	Lost Creek	A
Camp Hill	A	Lower Marsh Creek	A
Capital	A	Lower Tuscarora	A
Central	A	Market Square	A
Centre	A	McConnellsburg	A
Christ, Camp Hill	A	Mechanicsburg	A
Derry	A	Middle Spring	A
Dickinson	A	Monaghan	A
Duncannon	A	Mt. Olivet	A
East Waterford	N	Paxton	A
Faith Immanuel	A	Pine Street	A
Falling Spring	A	Presbyterian Congregation Middletown	A

First, Carlisle	A	Second	A
First United, Newville	A	Silver Spring	A
Gettysburg	A	St. Andrews	A
Great Conewago	A	St. James	A
Greencastle	A	Waynesboro	A
Harrisburg Korean	N	Wells Valley	N
Highland United	A	Westminster	A
Hope United	A		

A= APPROVED N= NOT SUBMITTED

Thank you to those churches who completed that work!

2024 Session Records Review

All Clerks of Session are invited to bring their minutes and membership rolls for the annual review. The Presbytery is offering three times to gather for this work:

- Saturday, April 5 at 10:00 am at Westminster United in Mifflintown
- Monday, May 12 at 6:30 pm at St. James in Mechanicsburg and on Zoom
- Saturday, May 3 at 10:00 am at Central Presbyterian Church in Chambersburg

Clerks will receive more information about this in the coming weeks.

2024 Necrology Report

With gratitude to God for their lives and faithful service among us, received Necrology Reports of the following Ruling Elders for the year 2024:

Church	Ruling Elder	Date of Birth	Ordination Date	Date of Death	Age
Camp Hill	John G. Ault	11/20/50	5/3/92	6/23/24	73
	James L. Long	6/9/38	2/22/21	8/3/24	86
Central	Mary Norcross	10/10/30	1/21/73	4/2/24	93
Christ - Camp Hill	Sally Lou Ralston Goas	4/3/36	12/8/74	4/20/24	88
	Randal "Bud" Caton	1/28/41	1/13/08	4/26/24	83
	David E. Click	6/14/32	1/3/82	9/14/24	92
	Wilbur A. "Bill" Brandt	2/6/32	12/8/74	9/16/24	92
Derry	Joan Cross Smith	6/1/28	1/15/06	2/12/24	95
	Beulah Melvin Chabal	11/23/50	1/20/13	4/4/24	73
	Robert Wagner	12/29/31	1/14/07	11/8/24	93
Dickinson	Philip Avery	3/1/32	1/24/84	9/6/24	92
	Richard Eberts	5/24/29	3/28/93	10/8/24	95
East Waterford	R. Donald Love	12/18/33	10/6/91	4/30/24	90
Faith Immanuel	Gene Gangwish	7/31/53	5/17/15	5/1/24	70
	Naida Huber	7/18/27	1/7/79	12/27/24	97
Falling Spring	Lynne Peters	2/16/47	1/4/10	12/9/24	77
First Carlisle	T.S. Jarl Uilkema	9/25/36	1/10/99	7/26/24	87

First United	William Moyer	5/27/35	1/11/04	2/21/24	88
Gettysburg	Allen Duncan	1/17/32	1/11/81	6/4/24	92
	William Falcon	9/3/39	1/12/86	9/7/24	85
Great Conewago	Margaret "Peg" Lambert	12/29/29	2/14/10	9/30/24	94
Highland United	Peggy Tressler	2/19/51	Jan-90	4/20/24	73
	Donald Campbell	9/26/40	Jan-96	8/2/24	83
	H. Thomas Uish	1/9/44	Jan-94	12/2/24	80
Lost Creek	Gary Page	5/15/37	1/28/70	11/25/24	87
Lower Marsh Creek	Raymond Wright	8/23/36	1/5/20	3/25/24	87
	Denise Lockwood	3/17/52	1/14/01	5/3/24	72
Lower Tuscarora	William Stong	8/28/46	5/31/05	10/18/24	78
Market Square	Ardith Buffington	9/28/36	1/8/89	8/15/24	87
Mechanicsburg	Ramona Steele	4/20/34	12/7/80	7/29/24	90
	Richard Heeter	4/15/61	1/27/08	10/4/24	63
Middle Spring	Albert Keer	9/28/32	12/31/81	2/15/24	91
	Paul Gill	10/14/37	1/4/76	5/17/24	86
	Frederick Nordal	12/10/48	1/4/80	5/19/24	75
	Arlene Keer	3/25/40	1/14/96	8/26/24	84
Monaghan	Russell Ludlow				
Paxton	Jerry D. Davies		1/13/91	1/31/24	
	Mildred Hitz		1/1/78	4/28/24	
	Frank Wright		1/15/89	5/9/24	
Pine St	William Bauer	4/11/38	5/1/92	2/24/24	86
	Frederick Morgenthaler	5/21/42	1/1/71	11/4/24	82
Silver Spring	Mary Lou Pierce McLain	10/30/40	1/13/95	2/3/24	83
	Pam Murray	12/13/43	6/17/01	2/23/24	80
St. Andrews	Bill Birt	4/30/43	1/14/04	7/2/24	81
	Nan Hoff	11/16/24	1/14/01	8/26/24	99
St. James	James Raymond Masters	6/7/44	2/28/93	2/7/24	79
Waynesboro	Helen Hill	10/24/31	1959	2/1/24	92
Westminster United	Robert Gill	11/23/27	1/5/97	6/13/24	86
	Edwina Gill	6/8/45	12/16/90	7/17/24	79

Membership Roll

I have reported, as required by the *Book of Order*, the members of Carlisle Presbytery as of December 31, 2024, to the Office of the General Assembly. Also as required by the *Book of Order*, I created and have on file, the roll of the Ministers of Word and Sacrament in the Presbytery of Carlisle and the register of Certified Christian Educators. The Roll of Ministers and Register of CREs as of 31 December 2024 is included below.

Permanent Judicial Commission

The Stated Clerk received allegations against a minister member of Presbytery on December 2, 2024. The Moderator and Clerk of the Permanent Judicial Commission were informed and they created a

Special Committee per D-3.0201. In consultation with the Commission on Ministry Co-Chairs and the Presbytery Moderator, an Investigating Committee had been formed per D-7.0501 and has begun its work.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristal Smith
Presbytery Leader for Governance and Congregational Leadership

**Roll of Teaching Elders and Certified Christian Educators
in Carlisle Presbytery as of 12/31/2024**

Honorably Retired (G-2.0503-c)

William Beck
Doug Beltzner
Charles Best
Jon Black
Dale Bowne
W. Wilson Bradburn
Marie Buffaloe
Karin Carroll
Barbara Derrickson
Paul Derrickson
Arlene Dunn, Interim Pastor, PC of Middletown
Dale Francis
Cheryl D. Galan
Gene Gordon
John Green
Bertha Hamel
William Hammann
Richard Houtz
Bruce Humphrey, Interim Pastor, Market Square
Charles Jessen
Darlene Kline
Rebecca Langer
Ron Martin-Minnich
Jeanette Mater
Myrtle McCall
Jennifer McKenna
Mark Medina
Ivo Meilands
Troy Morgan
Anne Myers
Charles Myers

Art Pace
John Park
Donald Potter, Parish Associate, Camp Hill
Nancy Reinert
James Reitz
Robert Rhoades
Jim Richwine
Lois Richwine
Timothy Roach
Anne Ross, Visitation Pastor, Market Square
John Schmidt
Dick Sheffield
Heather Sigler
John Sproat
Sandy Strauss
Russell Sullivan
Thomas Sweet
Thomas D. Thomas
Edward Trask
Roger Uittenbogaard
Suzanne Uittenbogaard
Carol Van Schenkhof
Mary Washburn
Dale Williams, Temporary Pastor, McConnellsburg
Harry Winsheimer
Galen Work
David Wright

Teaching Elders Engaged in Validated Ministry within a congregation, or within the jurisdiction of the church (G-2.0503-a)

Edward Blank	Interim Pastor, Middle Spring
Scott Bowerman	Pastor, Central, Chambersburg
David Bowerman	Interim Pastor, Centre, Loysville
Kent Carter	Interim Pastor, Paxton, Harrisburg
Lisa Chase	Associate Pastor, Silver Spring
Nancy Conklin	Pastor, Camp Hill
Mark Englund-Krieger	Pastor, Lower Marsh Creek
Graham Fowler	Pastor, Lost Creek, McAlisterville; Stated Supply in Huntingdon Presbytery
Vernon Gauthier	Pastor, First United, Newville
Jeff Gibelius	Pastor, Second, Carlisle
Shawn Gray	Temporary Associate Pastor, Derry
Andrew Hart	Pastor, Falling Spring, Chambersburg
Kathryn Johnston	Pastor, Mechanicsburg
Inho Kang	Pastor, Harrisburg Korean
Anthony Lorenz	Pastor, First, Carlisle

Jamie McLeod	Presbytery Leader for Vision and Transformation
Caleb McClure	Pastor, Gettysburg
Nancy McClure	Pastor, Highland, Westminster (Juniata Valley Shared Ministry)
Stephen Melton	Designated Pastor, Big Spring, Newville
Robin Morgan	Pastor, St. Andrews, Lebanon
Anthony Saturno	Pastor, St. James, Mechanicsburg
Stuart Seelman	Pastor, Pine Street
Allison Smith	Temporary Associate Pastor, Market Square
Kristal Smith	Presbytery Leader for Governance and Congregation Leadership
Emily Sutphin	Associate Pastor, Mechanicsburg
Janice Tiedeck	Pastor, Monaghan, Dillsburg
Don Wahlig	Pastor, Silver Spring, Mechanicsburg
Stephen McKinney-Whitaker	Pastor, Derry

Teaching Elders Engaged in Validated Ministry outside the congregation (G-2.0503- a)

Katy Yates Brungraber	Interim Pastor at ELCA Church
Donna Christopher	Supply Pastor at ELCA Church, Hospice Chaplain
Peter Dietz	Navy Chaplain
Kevin Long	Organizing Pastor, Intertwined
Christian Neubaum	Chaplain, Hershey Medical Center
Don Opitz	Chaplain, Grove City College
Matthew Robinson	Professor, University of Bonn
Anne Stewart	Vice President for External Relations, Princeton Theological Seminary
Drew Stockstill	Navy Chaplain
Stephen Velthuis	Navy Chaplain
Howard West	Director of Spiritual Life Services, Country Meadows
Kelly Wiant	Organizing Pastor, The Circle HBG NWC

Members-at-Large (G-2.0503-b)

Lucy Bowerman	Seeking a call
Thomas Folts	Family Needs
Rachel Schwab	Seeking a call
Kathryn Yaroschuk	Family Needs

Commissioned Ruling Elders

Neal McCulloch Dickinson Roz Presby Hope, Dauphin

Certified Christian Educators (G-2.1103)

Retired Certified Christian Educators- Living within the Bounds of Carlisle Presbytery

Debbie Hough	Ruling Elder, Derry
Debby Madden	Ruling Elder, First, Carlisle
Mary Speedy	Ruling Elder, Mechanicsburg

Kathy Wells

Ruling Elder, Monaghan

Commissioned Ruling Elders - not currently commissioned

Craig Kegerise Member, Derry Suzi Souder Member, Mechanicsburg

ATTACHMENT 7
Correspondence from the Session of Big Spring PC in Newville



Big Spring Presbyterian Church
25 SOUTH CORPORATION STREET, NEWVILLE, PA 17241

February 3, 2025

The Rev. Kristal Smith
The Rev. Dr. Jamie McLeod
Presbytery of Carlisle
2601 N. Front St.
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Dear Rev. Smith and Rev. Dr. McLeod,

On behalf of the congregation, the Session of Big Spring Presbyterian Church shares our gratefulness for your leadership, particularly over the last several months. We have been blessed with your professionalism and care for us as a congregation and as individuals. True leaders lead with perseverance and hope. You have modeled both mercy and grace; your compassion has been clearly evident, experienced, and witnessed.

We also note the work of the Commission on Ministry in support of us, particularly the Rev. Anthony Lorenz's guidance and attentiveness in the especially busy season of Advent, amidst his already busy schedule. Another presbyter, our Pastor Emeritus, the Rev. William Beck, provided pulpit supply and interim pastoral care, without hesitation and with sensitivity, a comfort to our congregation.

You have defined connectional and have been an outstanding example to each of the presbyters in the Presbytery of Carlisle. Every congregation in the Presbytery has much for which to be thankful. Our congregation will continue to thrive, given the gifted interim leadership of the Rev. Lucy Bowerman, another blessing among a host of others.

With heartfelt thanks,

Big Spring Presbyterian Session

ATTACHMENT 8
Results of the 226th General Assembly Amendment Votes

ID	Section	Result	Brief Description
24-A	F-1.0403	Y	Add “gender identity, sexual orientation” to list of descriptors of people God unites in Christ.
24-B	G-1.0104	Y	Provide for other forms of Corporate Witness under the jurisdiction of the presbytery.
24-C	G-2.0104b	N	Add language to examination for ordination to name the consideration of Historic Principles of Church Order and the principles of participation in F-1.0403.
24-D	G-2.0504b	Y	Extend temporary pastoral relationship term from 12 to 36 months.
24-E	G-2.0504b	Y	At the end of a temporary pastoral relationship, there shall be no non-disclosure agreement.
24-F	G2.0610	Y	Providing for greater confidentiality in the case of waiving a requirement for ordination.
24-G	G-2.0901	Y	At the end of an installed pastoral relationship, there shall be no non-disclosure agreement.
24-H	G-3.0106	Y	Add adults with vulnerabilities to protection policy
24-I	G-3.0302d	Y	Removes requirement for concurrence when proposing an overture to the General Assembly.
24-J	G-3.0501	Y	Amends the distribution of GA commissioners based on presbytery size.
24-K	D-7.0501	Y	Aligns with the responsibility of being a mandated reporter.
24-L	D-7.0902b	Y	Clarifies that administrative leaves are to be paid and who bears the cost.
24-M	G-5.0203	Y	<i>Episcopal-Presbyterian Agreement on Local Sharing of Ministries</i>

ATTACHMENT 9

Roll for Attendance at the February 8, 2025 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Carlisle

Totals									
Pastors		41							
Elders		62							
Voters		103							
Guests		10							
Corr. Member		2							
Attendance		115							
Excused		0							
Honorably Retired					Active MWS				
Name		Status	Present	Excused	Name		Status	Present	Excused
Beck	William	HR			Blank	Edward	P		1
Beltzner	Doug	HR			Bowerman	David	NP		1
Best	Charles	HR			Bowerman	Lucy	NP		1
Black	Jon	HR			Brungraber	Katy Yates	NP		1
Bowerman	Scott	R		1	Carter	Kent	P		1
Bowne	Dale	HR			Chase	Lisa	P		1
Boyer	Rick	HR			Conklin	Nancy	P		1
Bradburn	W. Wilson	HR			Cook	Robert	P		1
Buffalo	Marie	HR		1	Christopher	Donna	NP		
Carroll	Karin	HR			Dietz	Peter	NP		1
Derrickson	Barbara	HR			Englund-Krieger	Mark	P		1
Derrickson	Paul	HR			Folts	Tom	NP		
Dunn	Arlene	R			Fowler	Graham	P		1
Francis	Dale	HR			Gauthier	Vernon	P		1
Galan	Cheryl	HR		1	Gibelius	Jeff	P		
Gordon	Gene	HR			Gray	Shawn	P		1
Green	John	HR			Hart	Andrew	P		
Hamel	Bertha	HR			Hostetter	Andrew	P		
Hammann	William	HR			Johnston	Kathryn	P		1
Houtz	Richard	HR			Kang	Inho	P		1
Humphrey	Bruce	HR		1	Kuehn	Lon	P		1
Jessen	Charles	HR			Long	Kevin	NP		1
Kline	Darlene	HR			Lorenz	Anthony	P		1
Langer	Rebecca	HR		1	McLeod	James	NP		1
Martin-Minnich	Ron	HR			McClure	Caleb	P		1
Mater	Jeanette	HR			McClure	Nancy	P		
McCall	Myrtle	HR			Melton	Stephen	P		
McKenna	Jennifer	HR			Miller	Lynn	P		1
Medina	Mark	HR			Morgan	Robin	P		
Morgan	Troy	R			Neubaum	Christian	P		1
Myers	Anne	HR			Opitz	Don	NP		
Myers	Charles	HR		1	Robinson	Matthew	NP		
Pace	Art	HR			Saturno	Anthony	P		1
Park	John	HR			Schwab	Rachel	NP		
Potter	Donald	HR			Seelman	Stuart	P		
Reinert	Nancy	HR			Smith	Allison	NP		1
Rhoades	Robert	HR			Smith	Kristal	NP		1
Richwine	Lois	HR		1	Stewart	Anne	NP		
Richwine	James	HR		1	Stockstill	Andrew	NP		
Roach	Timothy	HR			Sutphin	Emily	P		
Ross	Anne	HR		1	Tiedeck	Janice	P		1
Schmidt	John	HR		1	Velthius	Stephen	NP		
Sheffield	Dick	HR			Vickery	Caroline	P		1
Sigler	Heather	HR		1	Wahlig	Donald	P		1
Sproat	John	HR			Whitaker	Stephen	P		
Strauss	Sandra	HR			West	Howard	NP		
Sullivan	Russell	HR			Wiant	Kelly	NP		
Sweet	Thomas	HR			Yaroschuk	Kathryn	NP		
Thomas	Thomas D.	HR							
Trask	Edward	HR			Forrest Claassen from Pittsburgh Presbytery				1
Uittenbogaard	Roger	HR			Cindy Kohlman from New Castle Presbytery				1
Uittenbogaard	Susan	HR			Corresponding Member				2
Van Schenkhof	Carol	HR			Total HR Pastors				11
Washburn	Mary	HR			Total Installed and NP Pastors				28
Williams	Dale	HR		1	Total MWS				41
Winsheimer	Harry	HR							
Work	Galen	HR							
Wright	David	HR							

Church	Elder Commissioners	# of Elders	CREs	Total #
Big Spring	Sally Kammerer, Fred Muller	2	Neal McCulloch	1
Camp Hill	Beth Fine, Joe Harner	2	Roz Presby	1
Capital	Jim Case	1		
Central	Pat McNamee, Amanda Bietsch	2		
Centre	Vance Kretzing, Wanda Hockenberry	2		
Christ, Camp Hill	David Bower, Sara Frailey	2		
Derry	Michael Leader, Debbie Hough	2		
Dickinson	Michelle Bourne	1		
Duncannon	Larry Gildner	1	Committee Chairs	
East Waterford			Sue Mummert	1
Faith Immanuel	Susan Anthony	1		
Falling Spring	Mitch Rosenberger, Dave Mummert, Cheri Kearn	3		
First, Carlisle	Susan Palyo, Deb Ryerson	2		
First United, Newville				
Gettysburg	Kelly Jones, Jane North	2		
Great Conewago	Coleen Reamer	1		
Greencastle	Jennifer Robertson, JoAnne Lewis	2	Christian Educators	
Harrisburg Korean				
Highland United	Dennis Tressler, Jim Turner	2		
Hope United	Judy Bostdorf, Steve Megonnell	2		
Lost Creek	Kathy Schrack	1		
Lower Marsh Creek	Doyle Waybright, Dana McDonald	2		
Lower Tuscarora	Brenda Miller, Bailey Imes	2	Council	
Market Square	Nancy Snyder, Cindy Bendroth, Jonelle Darr	3	Rose Jewell-Jordan	1
McConnellsburg			Debby Madden	1
Mechanicsburg	Larry Stoner, Amy Berry	2	Gary Hollinger	1
Middle Spring	Kemper Dyson	1	Bill McHenry, Highland United	1
Monaghan	Bobbie Gasswint, Kathy Wells	2	Total CRE, CC, CE, Council	6
Mt. Olivet				
Paxton	Geoffrey Vinton, Bob Frank	2	Guests	
Pine Street	Elyse Rogers, Amy Chick	2	Susan Hench, Centre	1
Presbyterian Congregation Middletown	Norma Mateer	1	Lisa Potami, Centre	1
Second	Diane Tokach, David Brown	2	Gabriella Rumer, Dickinson	1
Silver Spring	Susan Neville, Betsy Nielson	1	Lucinda Novinger, Duncannon	1
St. Andrews	Bill Mulligan, Gini Badger	2	Charlie Thompson, First	1
St. James	Sarah Saturno, Clarence Asbury	2	Lincoln Millner, Monaghan	1
Waynesboro	Lori Sutton	1	Barbara Hughes, St. James	1
Wells Valley			Joe Calhoun, Christ	1
Westminster			Phil Gardner, Krislund	1
			Rick Borger, St. Andrews	1
	Total Elder Commissioners	56	Total Guests	10
	Total Other Personnel	6	Total Voting Elders	62