

May 11, 2021 – Zoom Meeting

**PRESBYTERY OF CENTRAL NEW JERSEY MEETING ON ZOOM
TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2021**

The stated meeting of the Presbytery of Central New Jersey, held on Zoom, on Tuesday, May 11, 2021 was called to order at 6:35pm with greetings from Elder Cherry Oakley. Elder Jan Margolis opened the meeting with prayer.

Rev. Glory Thomas acknowledged that land within our geographical bounds was taken from those who were native to the land, specifically the Munsee Lenape and the Lenni-Lenape.

The Rev. Sue Smith, Acting Stated Clerk provided Zoom instructions for recognition and voting.

Worship

Rev. SanDawna Ashley preached “Think New” on Colossians 3:1-11. Music was provided by the San Diego Women’s Choir.

Roll of Presbytery’s Commissioners

A quorum was present. The following teaching elders were in attendance:

Lindsay Anderson-Beck (V)	Karen Hernandez-Granzen (V)	Matthew Pigman (AL)
Marie Bacchiocchi (V)	Ed Hoener (V)	Jean Pinto (HR)
Natalie Bell (V)	Charles Holm (HR)	Marianne Rhebergen (V)
Cindy Bowman (V)	Linda Hora (HR)	Paul Rhebergen (V)
David Bowman (V)	Doug Hughes (V)	Ann Schoonover (V)
James Brumm (V)	MaryJane Inman (V)	Byron Shafer (HR)
Rory Chambers (V)	Justin Karmann (V)	Thomas Sheffield (HR)
Terry Chapman (HR)	James Klotz (V)	Jonathan Shenk (AL)
Douglas Chase (HR)	Larissa Kwong Abazia (AL)	Sue Smith (V)
Dave Davis (V)	Marcus Lambright (V)	Beth Tanner (V)
Walter De Gunya (V)	Jenny Lee (V)	Lydia Tembo (V)
Miriam Diephouse-McMillan (V)	Robert Louer (V)	Glory Thomas (V)
Jessica Dixon (V)	Hannah Lovaglio (V)	Julie Thompson-Barrier (V)
Molly Dykstra (V)	Janet Macgregor-Williams (HR)	Jason Tucker (V)
George Erlandson (V)	Lauren McFeaters (V)	Jan Willem Van Der Werff (V)
Gary W Filson (V)	Nancy Mikoski (V)	Wendi Werner (V)
Diane Ford (V)	William Morris (V)	Dave Widmer (V)
Fred Garry (V)	Lori Neff LaRue (AL)	John L. Williams (HR)
Linda Goeddel (AL)	Alan Olson (V)	Phyllis Zoon (HR)
Katja Gruening (V)	Cynthia Parker (V)	
Stephen Heinzl-Nelson (V)	Joanne Petto (V)	

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The following Commissioned Ruling Elders were present:

Rick LaFever

The following churches were represented by the Elder Commissioner(s) indicated:

Allentown (R. Bruins, M. Foy)	Lakewood Hope (P. Williams)
Avenel (E. Benkert)	Lawrenceville (J. Everett)
Brick (C. Tompkins)	Lincroft (Jill Humann)
Cranbury (K. Gordon)	Manasquan (K. Dioguardi)
Dutch Neck (D. Redman, M. Redman, C. Stillwell)	Matawan (J. Godbehere)
East Brunswick-Trinity (A. Chicchi)	Nassau (L. Gilmore, K. Kleasen, C. Wehrheim)
Edison (L. Reeves)	New Brunswick (B. Meyer)
Ewing-Covenant (D. Lovitt, C. Taylor)	Ocean (D. Kunert, R. Stolze)
Farmingdale (H. Dunbar)	Pennington (K. Newport, C. Walker)
Forked River (L. De Lotto)	Perrineville (C. Heller)
Freehold (B. Guttormsen)	Shrewsbury (J. Davies)
Hamilton Square (M. Meduski, P. Neu, J. Woodman)	Slackwood C. Belles)
Hightstown (K. Klimpl)	South Brunswick-Grace (P. Godinez)
Hopewell (B. Pauley)	Tinton Falls (S. Buckley)
Iselin (A. Harrison)	Titusville (K. Schmidt)
Jamesburg (D. Chase)	Toms River (G. Bright, D. Raisch)
Kingston (F. Perren-Diaz)	Trenton Westminster (D. Byers)
Lakewood First (A. Gilman)	Woodbridge (R. Aarons)
	Yardville (G. Hanewald)

The following elders, who are officers, Core Transition Team/Interim Council members, Trustees, Former Moderators, were present: Jan Margolis, Cherry Oakley, Bisi Shofu, Kathryn Starzer-Farrell, Nancy Stout.

Also, in attendance were:

Elise Bates Russell, Ilene Black (Staff), Sharon Campbell, Edward Carlson, Rev. Shelley Donaldson, Trudi Folkes (Staff), Rev. SanDawna Gaulman Ashley, Lee Herrick, Rev. Paul La Montagne, Sal Lalama, Marie Luthringer (Staff), Chris Peet, Inna Nikoljukin, Kathy Ramsay, Rev. Nancy Talbot, Nancy Tindall, Samuel Yenn-Batah.

Elder Jan Margolis assumed the role of the moderator.

There was a motion to seat the following as corresponding members: Rev. Dr. SanDawna Ashley, Minnesota Valley Presbytery, Rev. Shelley Donaldson, Presbytery of Southern New England, Rev. Nancy Talbot, Presbytery of NYC, Rev. Paul La Montagne, Presbytery of the Highlands of NJ, Elder Nancy Tindall, NJ Missional Communities Administrative Commission, Elise Bates Russell, Camp Johnsonburg. **Approved.**

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda was presented for approval:

Consent Agenda

1) Approval of the docket for this meeting

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- 2) Approval of the minutes of the March 23, 2021 presbytery meeting as circulated
- 3) Receive the COM report (Appendix A)
- 4) Receive the CPM report (Appendix B)
- 5) Receive the Trustees minutes (Appendix C)
- 6) Receive the Core Transition Team minutes (Appendix D)

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda; the Trustees minutes were lifted to be addressed later in the meeting. **Approved.**

Business docketed at this meeting included:

- The Presbytery Convenes with Prayer
- Land Acknowledgement
- Zoom Instructions
- Worship
- Seating of Corresponding Members
- Report of the Stated Clerk - The Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda
- Camp Johnsonburg Presentation
- Core Transition Team
- Committee on Ministry
- Nominations
- Report of the Synod Administrative Commission
- Trustees
- Unfinished Business
- Motion to Adjourn
- Closing Prayer

Elder Cherry Oakley assumed the role of moderator.

Camp Johnsonburg

Elise Bates Russell, Executive Director, shared a video, provided an update on activities at the camp, and urged sending youth to the summer camp program.

Rev. Diane Ford assumed the role of moderator.

Core Transition Team

Rev. Diane Ford introduced a time of breakout rooms inviting the participants to answer these questions: What is the very best community you have ever experienced? What made it best? What would it take to inspire you to make that happen in this beloved community? After returning, each group was invited to share their responses in the chat or via email to the Stated Clerk.

Elder Cherry Oakley assumed the role of moderator.

Committee on Ministry

Rev. Jessica Dixon led a retirement litany for Rev. Cynthia Parker. Rev. Linda Goeddel offered words about Cynthia's ministry. Rev. Dixon then introduced two new members of the

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presbytery, Rev. Natalie Bell, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Matawan and Rev. Tom Sheffield, Honorably Retired.

Rev. Lori Neff LaRue introduced Samuel Yenn-Batah, a candidate for ordination. It was moved that the Call to Candidate Samuel Yenn-Batah as the Manager of Pastoral Care and CPE at Penn Medicine Princeton Medical Center is a validated ministry for Ordination. **Approved.** Mr. Batah is Certified Ready for a Call by the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta's CPM. It was moved that he be examined for ordination as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament on the floor of Presbytery. **Approved.** Mr. Batah was examined and it was moved that Samuel Yenn-Batah be ordained to the position of Manager of Pastoral Care and CPE at Penn Medicine Princeton Medical Center. **Approved.** It was moved that the Presbytery of Philadelphia ordain Samuel Yenn-Batah on our behalf and immediately dismiss him to the Presbytery of Central NJ. **Approved.** Rev. Neff LaRue closed this time with a prayer for Samuel's ministry.

There was a motion to extend the docket. **Approved.**

Nominations

Rev. Stephen Heinzl-Nelson presented the slate of nominations to the Permanent Judicial Commission.

2022

Elder David Pollison (Ewing Covenant)

Elder Joel Davies (Shrewsbury)

Rev. Lisa Day (Hightstown)

Rev. Gary Filson (Jamesburg)

2024

Rev. Nancy Mikoski (Pennington)

Rev. Lori Neff LaRue (Board of Pensions)

Rev. Wendi Werner (Dayton)

2026

Elder Kurt Kaboth (Ocean)

Rev. Alan Olson (Freehold)

After asking if there were nominations from the floor, it was moved to elect this slate.

Approved.

Synod Administrative Commission

Rev. Nancy Talbot, Synod Stated Clerk, spoke about the changes to the charge of the Synod Administrative Commission related to the Presbytery of Central NJ in Section E, and the process used to make the changes. She asked that any questions or comments be directed to the Administrative Commission co-chairs, Elders Sal Lalama and Nancy Tindall. Elder Tindall then gave a short history of the Administrative Commission and the work that they have focused on most recently. She commended the presbytery for spending the time imagining the new presbytery and how it is living into the aspiration and invitation to new missional communities. She urged the members to re-read the invitation.

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Trustees

Rev. Dave Davis explained that the motion the Trustees are bringing to the meeting is slightly modified from what was in the minutes. It was moved that the Presbytery of Central New Jersey empower the Trustees of its Corporation to act on behalf of the presbytery on matters of property when the presbytery is not meeting and report that action to the next meeting. **Approved.**

Rev. Diane Ford assumed the role of moderator.

Unfinished Business

The business of receiving the Trustees minutes was discussed. The approved motion from the Trustees addressed the issue. There was a motion and second to receive the Trustees minutes. **Approved.**

Rev. Ford announced that the next meeting of the Presbytery of Central New Jersey will be held on June 22, 2021, beginning at 6:30pm

Adjournment

The Presbytery adjourned at 8:52pm to reconvene on June 22, 2021, at 6:30pm.

The Co-Moderators, Rev. Diane Ford, Elder Jan Margolis and Elder Cherry Oakley offered the closing prayer.

Attest: Rev. Sue Smith, Acting Stated Clerk

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Appendix A

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY THE PRESBYTERY OF CENTRAL NJ FOR THE MAY 11, 2021 PRESBYTERY MEETING

At the regular meeting of the Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery of Central NJ on Tuesday, May 4, 2021, the following decisions were approved:

There was a motion and second to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2021 meeting.

Approved.

A motion was made and seconded that the Presbytery of Central New Jersey cover the cost of boundary training for any person who must participate as specified in the Policy on Sexual Misconduct. **Approved.**

A motion was made and seconded that the staff begin background checks for persons covered by the Sexual Misconduct Policy who are not currently in compliance. **Approved.**

The document outlining the work done by the small teams vs the interim COM was discussed. (Appendix COM 4). There was a motion and a second to approve this workflow document as presented. **Approved.**

John the Baptist made a motion that the ministry to which Samuel Yenn Batah has been called, Manager of Pastoral Care and CPE at Penn Medicine Princeton Medical Center, be validated. **Approved.** A second motion was made that the COM recommend that Central Presbytery ordain Samuel Batah as a Minister of Word and Sacrament. **Approved.** Mr. Batah will be examined on the floor of presbytery at the May 11, 2021 meeting.

Vashti made a motion to recommend to the interim COM that the following be communicated to the session and pastor of Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church:

- The interim COM holds as its highest value the shalom of Rev. Lukata Mjumbe and his family, especially beloved son Truth. We pray without ceasing for Truth's healing, and we commend to Almighty God our colleague and friend Lukata and pray for peace and healing for the Mjumbe family.
- The interim COM commends the Witherspoon Street PC leadership and congregation for its compassionate and gracious care of Rev. Lukata and his family in this difficult, painful time. We offer the compassionate resources of the Presbytery to our friends at Witherspoon in support of WSPC and its pastor.
- The interim COM seeks a decent and orderly process for the determination of Rev. Mjumbe's terms of call. The congregation has not acted on the pastor's compensation package since December 2020, as per the Book of Order which states, "The session shall review annually the minister's terms of call and shall propose for congregational action such changes as the session deems appropriate" (G-2.0804). We therefore ask that the session set a date for a congregational meeting to vote on Rev. Mjumbe's terms of call, to

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be held not more than 45 days from the date of Rev. Mjumbe's return to full attention and focus on Witherspoon Street following his son's illness. If the congregational meeting is not set in this time frame, the presbytery will call the meeting.

- The interim COM, Elder David Redman and Elder Bisi Shofu, WSPC interim COM liaisons, and CNJP staff stand ready to provide any assistance possible to the session and pastor of WSPC.

Approved. The Stated Clerk will prepare a letter with this decision.

Barnabas moved to approve a small team to meet with the APNC of Tower Hill Presbyterian Church and bring a recommendation to the interim COM via email concerning their MIF.

Approved. They also moved to approve Rev. Dr. John Potter to labor within the bounds to moderate the session of Titusville Presbyterian Church, if the way be clear. **Approved.**

Rev. Smith moved that Rev. Ryan Irmer be dismissed to the Presbytery of the Highlands of NJ, effective May 10, 2021. **Approved.**

At the regular meeting of the Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery of Central NJ on Monday, April 19 the following decisions were approved:

There was a motion and a second to approve the structure of the Interim COM as currently constituted, and to approve the process charts for finding a temporary pastor, finding an interim pastor and finding a called pastor (Appendix COM 1). **Approved.**

There was a motion and a second to approve the Guidelines for Laboring Inside and Outside the Bounds of Presbytery. (Appendix COM 2). **Approved.**

There was a motion and a second to approve the Guidelines for Reception of Honorably Retired Ministers into the Presbytery (Appendix COM 3). **Approved.**

The following motion was moved and seconded regarding e-votes: E-votes will be used for the following decisions: approval of a session moderator, approval of an honorable retirement, dismissal of a minister to another presbytery, laboring outside of the bounds and the approval of an AC for an installation or ordination. The acting stated clerk will send out the e-vote, everyone replies all, if there is an objection that cannot be cleared up via email, the vote will stop until the next meeting. **Approved.**

The following omnibus motion was moved and seconded:

- Dismiss Rev. Louis Mitchell to Pittsburgh Presbytery effective February 25, 2021.
- Joyfully and with celebration, approve the request of the Rev. Cynthia Parker, and confer upon her the title of Honorably Retired effective April 5, 2021.
- Give permission for Rev. Nina Reeder labor outside the bounds of the Presbytery of Central New Jersey to serve as a Covenant Call Pastor at the Presbyterian Church of Willingboro, NJ within the bounds of the Presbytery For Southern NJ.

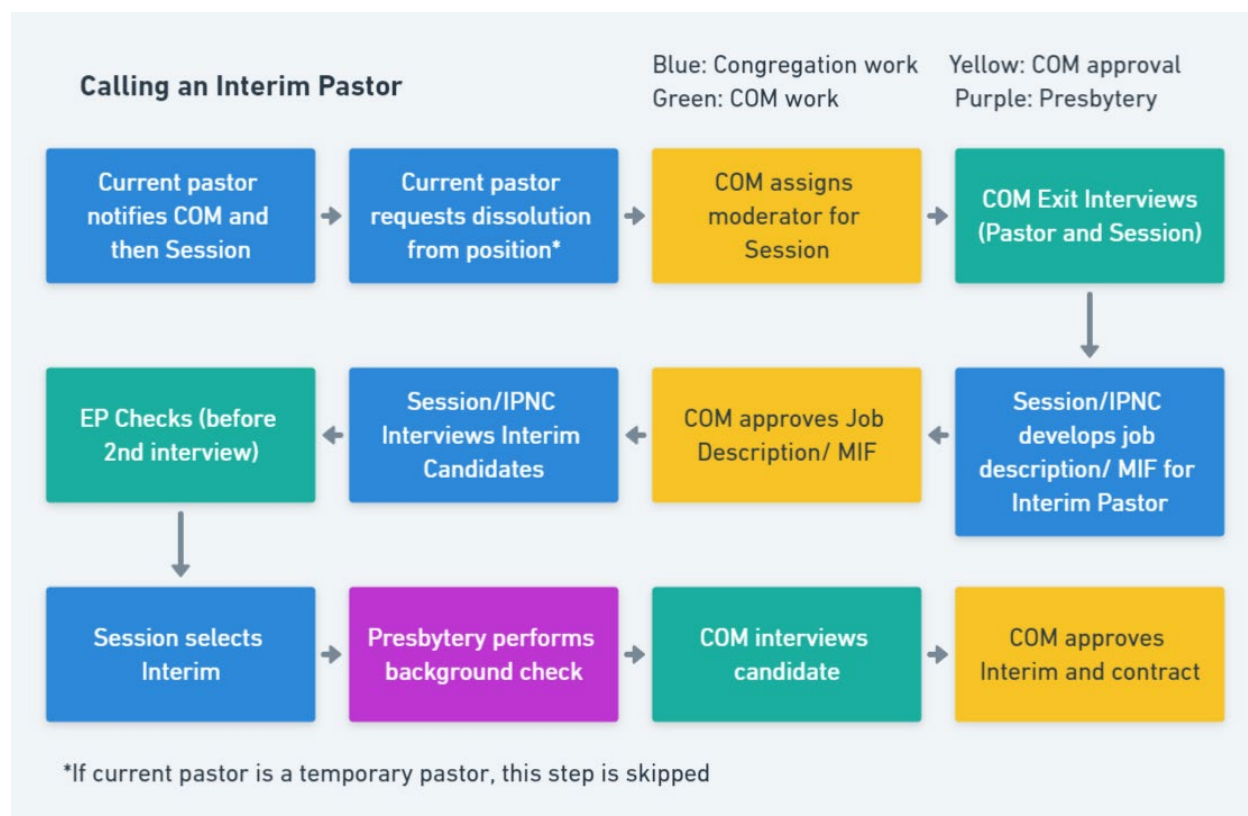
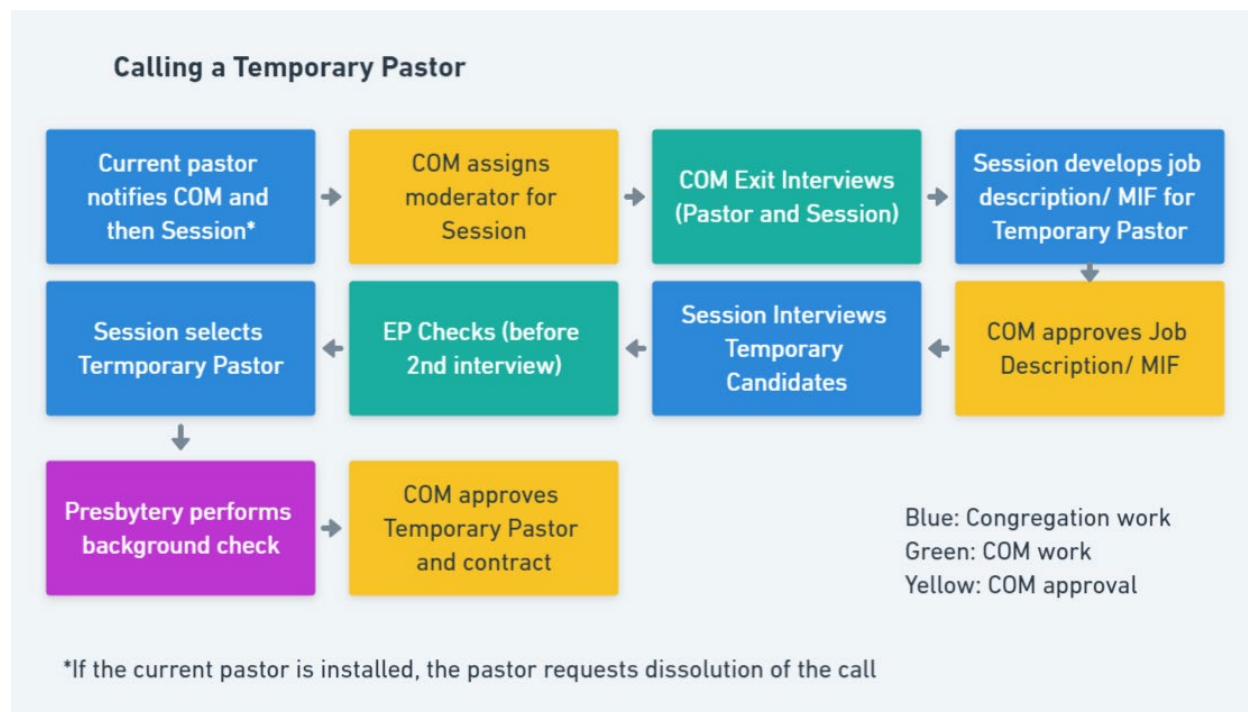
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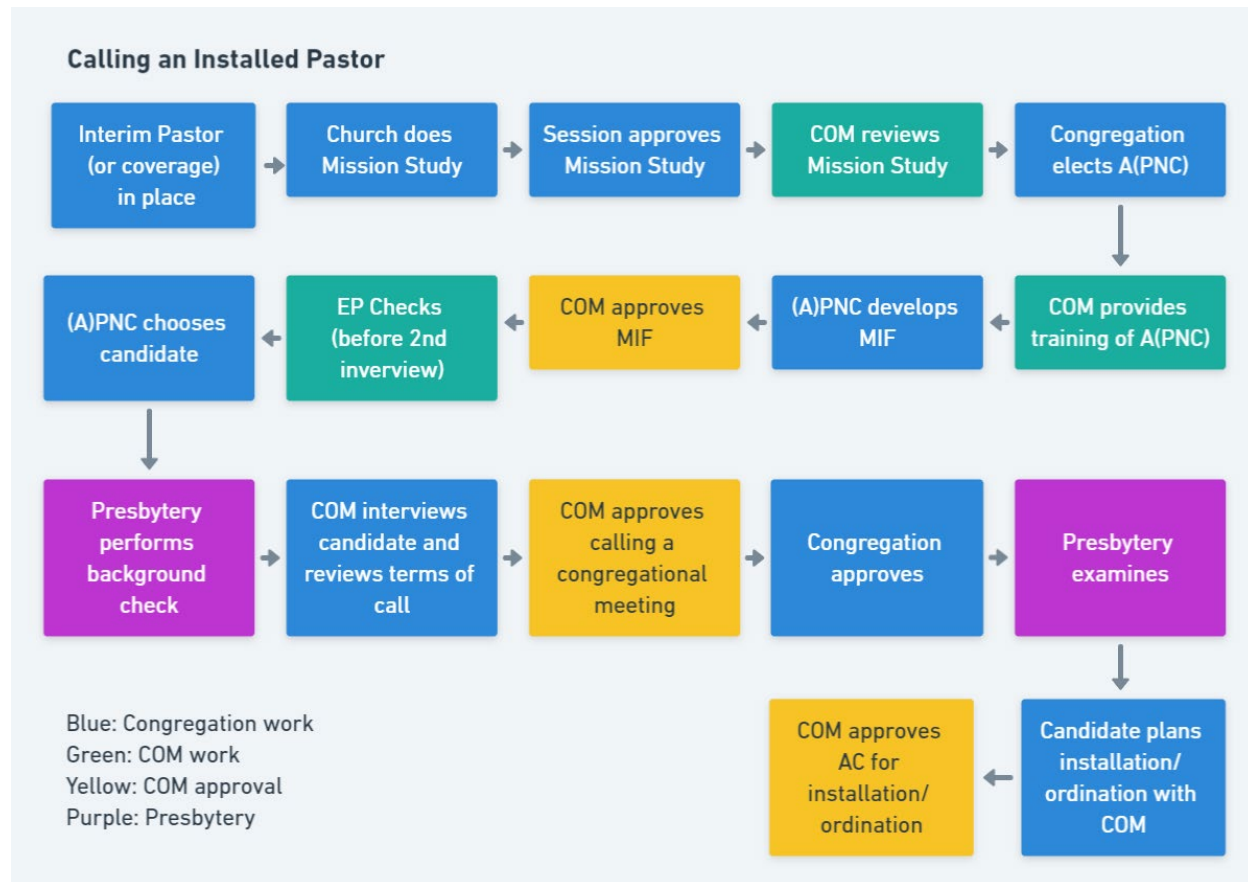
- Appoint Rev. Dierdre Thomson as the moderator of the First Presbyterian Church of Englishtown effective April 5, 2021.
- Give permission for those pastors laboring inside our bounds prior to March 1 to continue under their current contracts until those contracts expire: Rev. Donna Lepsky (Presbytery For Southern NJ), contract pastor at the Lakehurst Presbyterian Church and Rev. Eileen Lindner (Presbytery of Northeast NJ), bridge pastor at Point Pleasant Presbyterian Church.
- Receive Rev. Thomas Sheffield as an Honorably Retired member.

Approved.

There was discussion on the next steps with the session of the First Presbyterian Church of Trenton. There was a motion and second for the Vashti team to work on the details of the conversation consultation and to finalize the group to meet with the session to discuss the way forward. **Approved.**

Appendix COM 1





Central Presbytery Committee on Ministry

GUIDELINES FOR LABORING INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE BOUNDS OF PRESBYTERY

Expectations for Presbytery Membership

Every minister shall ordinarily be a member of the presbytery where his or her work is situated or of the presbytery where he or she resides. (G-3.0306)

Should a minister seek to establish an ongoing ministerial relationship (whether full-time, part-time, permanent or temporary) with a congregation or organization whose membership rests in another presbytery, that minister must request permission to labor within or outside the bounds of the presbytery.

Laboring Outside the Bounds

Minister members of Central Presbytery may accept occasional invitations to conduct workshops, preach and participate in worship services within the bounds of another presbytery without prior approval of the presbytery or the committee on ministry under the following circumstances:

- The minister is in good standing within CP and the minister's service is not restricted in any fashion by prior disciplinary action or COM oversight.
- An invitation has been received from the pastor and the Session of a particular church, or from a governing body of the church, or from an ecumenical agency related to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
- The service is of a limited nature and does not constitute a continuing relationship between the minister and the church or agency.
- The work does not involve service at a congregation or with a member previously served by the teaching elder as an installed, interim or stated supply pastor or associate pastor.
- Labor within the bounds of another presbytery has been approved or reported as required by that presbytery. (The minister is responsible for compliance with requirements of the other presbytery.)

When any one of these criteria is not met the request must come before the committee on ministry for approval.

Laboring Inside the Bounds:

Ministers who are members of other presbyteries in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) or who are members in good standing of other Christian churches may be invited to conduct occasional workshops, preach and participate in worship services within the bounds of this presbytery without prior approval of the presbytery or the committee on ministry under the following circumstances:

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- An invitation has been issued by the pastor and the Session of a particular church, by a governing body of the church, or ecumenical agency related to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
- The service is of a limited nature and does not constitute a continuing relationship between the minister and the particular church or agency.
- The work does not involve service at a congregation or with a member previously served by the teaching elder as an installed, interim or stated supply pastor or associate pastor. Ministers in good standing from churches that are party to the Formula of Agreement (ELCA, RCA, UCC, PCUSA) may preside at worship and officiate at the Sacraments when invited by a governing body of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), provided such service is reported at least annually to the presbytery through the committee on ministry.
- Ministers in good standing of other Christian churches (not party to the Formula of Agreement) may assist at but may not preside at Sacraments without the prior approval of the committee on ministry.

When any one of these criteria is not met the request must come to the committee on ministry for approval.

Requests requiring the approval of the Committee on Ministry

Should a minister wish to establish an ongoing relationship with a congregation or organization whose membership rests in a presbytery other than the minister's presbytery of membership, that minister must seek the approval of the Committee on Ministry.

In the minister's request, the minister should address the following:

- the location of the minister's primary personal support network
- the location of the minister's professional support network
- the duration of the relationship
- the minister's ability to be involved in the life of the presbytery of membership

In addition, the minister should provide the Committee on Ministry with copies of the terms of call/compensation as well as the position description outlining the responsibilities of the ministry to which the minister has been called.

Confirmation that the presbytery in which the congregation or organization is located has granted approval should be communicated through the presbyteries' Stated Clerks.

Central Presbytery Committee on Ministry

GUIDELINES FOR RECEPTION OF HONORABLY RETIRED MINISTERS INTO THE PRESBYTERY

Honorably Retired Ministers Seeking Membership

Honorably retired ministers, as defined in G-2.0503c and G-2.0506, who move into the geographical bounds of Central presbytery may make application to be received as members by submitting the documentation identified below.

1. A letter of introduction including a brief narrative (1 page) describing the minister's desire to seek membership in Central Presbytery, and
2. A completed membership information form.

Upon receipt of the documentation above, the presbytery, through its staff and appropriate committee, will complete:

1. An information interview to become acquainted with the minister requesting membership,
2. An Executive Presbyter check, and
3. A background check.

The Committee on Ministry will act on behalf of Presbytery to review each request to transfer of membership into the presbytery and ensure the requesting Honorably Retired Minister meets the criteria for membership (G-2.0502) and is in the appropriate category of membership (G-2.0503).

Should the request be approved, the Honorably Retired Minister will be:

1. Placed on the presbytery's rolls,
2. Required to participate in the presbytery's boundary training within one year of becoming a member, and
3. Adhere to the presbytery's sexual misconduct policy.

NOTE:

Retired ministers who are called by Sessions to temporary pastoral relationships shall ordinarily follow the same process as a minister being called to be pastor. (G-2.0504b)

Process Workflow of Small Teams to Interim COM

Small teams:

1. Gather around projects related to the focus of the small team.
2. In some instances, the small team might pool resources with another small team or member thereof, staff, or with resources outside the interim COM structure.
3. Deep dive the issues presented, including, but not limited to:
 1. Interviews with parties involved
 2. Polity requirements
 3. Background research
 4. Potential resources
4. Brainstorm potential avenues of exploration and solution
5. Prepare recommendations to the interim COM, including, but not limited to:
 1. Bullet point summaries of pertinent information
 2. Brief précis of process followed
 3. Recommendations to the committee

Interim COM

1. Receives the work of the small teams and commits to honor the work done and the process
2. Prepares for discussion with thorough reading of provided materials
3. Asks questions for further information or clarification
4. Votes the recommendations up or down
5. If affirmative, accepts the recommendation of the small team
6. If the recommendation is rejected, sends the project back to the small team for further work

With this process, all recommendations would rise from the work of the small teams. The committee as a whole would act on those recommendations. For this to work and for the work to flow smoothly, the interim COM as a committee of the whole must restrain itself from the compulsion to redo and revisit the work that has been done by the small team. Members must be willing to accept that the small team has been faithful to its work and control the impulse to provide “value-added” to every discussion. With these boundaries, I believe this provides a framework for an efficient flow of the interim COM’s work.

Report of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry

For the Consent Agenda:

On 6 May 2021, acting on behalf of the presbytery, the Committee on Preparation for Ministry advanced inquirer Olivia Sandel to candidacy for ordination to the ministry of the Word and Sacrament. Ms. Sandel is a member of the Forked River Presbyterian Church and was enrolled as an inquirer on 4 June 2019.

Minutes of the Trustees of the Presbytery of CENTRAL NJ

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Presbytery of Central New Jersey was called to order on Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 11:04AM via Zoom by Elder Cherry Oakley, President. Elder Oakley opened the meeting with prayer.

Attendance:

Rev. Dave Davis	P	Elder Linda Gilmore	P	Elder Cherry Oakley	P
Elder Angie Olsen	P	Elder Joe Tully	P	Elder Jean Woodman	P
Rev. Paul La Montagne	E				

Staff: Rev. Sue Smith, Acting Stated Clerk

Visitor: Elder Nancy Tindall, NJ Missional Communities Administrative Commission

Elder Tindall reported on the corporate filings to change the name of the corporation. The lawyer, Ellen O'Connell has filed paperwork (not online) for the name change with New Jersey and the IRS. The NJ Secretary of State has received the paperwork and it should take a couple of weeks to process. Paperwork will be sent to the presbytery for its records.

Elder Gilmore reported on the March financials. The corporation is still paying staff and the office lease has been extended to August. Discussions with the church about use of the office space beyond August will start in May.

Elder Gilmore also reported that the Treasurers of the three former presbyteries provided a report to the finance transition team with current processes, suggested recommendations and concerns. Next steps are to have a meeting with the finance transition team.

Rev. Davis reported on the work of the staffing and structure transition team, which has some crossover with the finance team. They will be touching base with the current staff in the next couple of weeks.

There was a discussion on potential changes to the make-up of the Board of Trustees to include representation from Monmouth and Elizabeth Trustees. There was further discussion that the Trustees remain committed to merging the practices, policies, and cultures of the Trustees of the three corporations. In the interim, as that work continues and before the presbytery approves an administrative manual, congregational property matters require a timely process.

A motion was made that the Trustees of the Corporation of the Presbytery of Central New Jersey be empowered to act on behalf of the presbytery on matters of property when the presbytery is not meeting and report that action to the next meeting. **Approved.**

The status of the sale of the Plainsboro church property was discussed. Rev. Molly Dykstra has served as the point person working with the church for the presbytery. A motion was made for Rev. Dykstra to continue to be the point person and report progress to the presbytery. **Approved.** Elder Oakley will inform Rev. Dykstra.

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The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees is Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 11:00AM via Zoom. The meeting was adjourned at 12:08PM with prayer by Elder Gilmore.

Attest, Rev. Sue Smith, Acting Stated Clerk

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Appendix D

MINUTES OF THE CORE TRANSITION TEAM April 29, 2021

The regular meeting of the Core Transition Team was called to order at 12:07pm with a prayer by Rev. Diane Ford. The meeting was moderated by Elder Sal Lalama, NJ Missional Communities Administrative Committee (NJMCAC)

Attendance:

Rev. Diane Ford	Rev. Linda Goeddel	Rev. Stephen Heinzl-Nelson
Rev. Karen Hernandez-Granzen	Rev. Chris Houtz	Rev. Marcus Lambright
Rev. Hannah Lovaglio	Elder Jan Margolis	Elder Cherry Oakley
Elder Kathryn Starzer-Farrell	Rev. Glory Thomas	Rev. John Williams

Staff: Rev. Larissa Kwong Abazia, Rev. Jeremy Campbell, Rev. Paul La Montagne, Rev. Sue Smith

NJMCAC: Elder Sal Lalama, Elder Nancy Tindall

The meeting started with a review of the May 11 presbytery meeting. There was agreement to continue the land acknowledgement, which Glory will do. There was a question on why the election of the PJC was not interim. Jeremy explained and will provide that explanation in writing for the meeting. It was requested that bios be provided for those nominated to the PJC. The Core Team needs to plan for its 30 minutes on the docket.

There was a general discussion to help those who had not been present on what has happened over the past two weeks regarding the decision on not extending Thia's contract. The team is still waiting for the report they requested from Thia.

Sal suggested that any person or team that wants to engage with Thia should communicate that request through Shelley Donaldson.

The next meeting will take place on May 6 from noon to 1pm. The meeting will be moderated by Shelley, Sal or Nancy from the NJMCAC. One of the discussion points will be the moderating of the team going forward. The zoom room will remain open until 1:30 for those who want to check in with each other.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20pm with prayer with prayer by Rev. Hannah Lovaglio.

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE CORE TRANSITION TEAM MAY 6, 2021

The regular meeting of the Core Transition Team was called to order at 12:04pm by the moderator, Rev. Shelley Donaldson, NJ Missional Communities Administrative Commission (NJMCAC). Rev. Donaldson opened the meeting with prayer.

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Attendance:

Rev. Diane Ford	Rev. Linda Goeddel	Rev. Stephen Heinzl-Nelson
Rev. Karen Hernandez-Granzen	Rev. Chris Houtz	Rev. Marcus Lambright
Rev. Hannah Lovaglio	Elder Jan Margolis	Elder Cherry Oakley
Elder Kathryn Starzer-Farrell	Rev. Glory Thomas	Rev. Wendi Werner
Rev. John Williams		

Staff: Rev. Larissa Kwong Abazia, Rev. Paul La Montagne, Rev. Sue Smith

NJMCAC: Rev. Shelley Donaldson, Elder Sal Lalama, Elder Nancy Tindall

Other: Rev. Thia Reggio, Synod Consultant

Rev. Reggio reviewed her report by section. A copy will be circulated at a later time. Rev. Reggio spent most of the time reviewing her recommendations for next steps. The Core Team needs to decide whether to move forward with the recommendations or not. There was a question as to whether Rev. Reggio can help with materials to orient members of the new committees when established. She will look at materials which might be updated. Any questions or comments on the report should be sent to Rev. Donaldson.

Rev. Smith reviewed the docket for the May 11 presbytery meeting. The final outstanding item was whether the Core Team wanted the 30 minutes allotted on the docket and which part of the meeting each co-moderator was moderating. Rev. Ford and Elder Margolis are to organize a meeting to discuss use of the Core Team time.

There was a motion and second to accept the minutes of the April 29, 2021 Core Team Meeting. **Approved.**

There was a motion and a second to accept the nominations slate. **Approved.**

Rev. Donaldson and Elder Tindall reported for the NJMCAC. They reported that the AC is working to amend its charge and will be holding a listening session on Monday, May 10 from 5:30-6:30pm. The proposed amended charge will be circulated on May 7.

The next meeting will take place on May 13 at noon.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:13pm with prayer Rev. Donaldson