

The Presbytery of Elizabeth

Presbyterian Church (USA)

620th Stated Meeting

May 22 MMVII

First Presbyterian Church

Carteret, NJ

Attendance.

Congregation	Minister		Elder	
Avenel (2)	Charles Baier (I)	E	Bruce McKee	P A
Basking Ridge (4)	W. Stuart Ritter [Vacant (A)] Robert Beringer (TSAP)	P -- E	William Adams Marilynn Anderson Evelyn Drake Charles King	P P P P
Bedminster, Lamington (2)	Krystin Granberg (I) [Vacant (A)]	E	Tom Eicher Robert Wittpenn	P P
Berkeley Heights, Westminster (2)	Deirdre Greenwood White (TS)	A	Eugene Daniel Janet Stevens	P P
Bernardsville (2)	Chester Kim	P	Phyllis Anderson	A A
Carteret (2)	Bradley Crump	P	Alicia Toke Charlotte Toke	P P
Clark, Osceola (2)	John Naugle	A	Jean Rudyk	A A
Clinton (2)	Tim Harrison (C) Karen Harrison (C)	A A		A A
Cranford (3)	Gregory Horn Valencia Norman (A)	P E	Arthur Winter, Jr. Cheryl Vroom	P P
Dunellen (2)	Jeff Hayes Wildrick Silvio DelCampo (E)	P P	Steven Geiger Mary Hicks	P P
Edison, Community (2)	Kenneth Macari	P	Naftali Njuguna	P A
Edison, Lord of Hope (2)	Chang Woo Lee	A	Jang Ho Park	A A
Edison, Oak Tree (2)	Rick Oppelt	A		A A

Elizabeth, First (2)	Corina Rodriguez (SS)	P	Michael Bradley	P A
Elizabeth, Second (2)	Michael Granzen	P		A A
Elizabeth, Third-Westminster (2)	Birda Ferguson (I)	P	Ray Heller Camille Mallouh	P P
Elizabeth, Greystone (2)	Hector Seda (D)	P	Margaret Dauble	A A
Elizabeth, Korean (2)	Joon Sik Kim Isaac Ahn (A)	E P		A A
Elizabeth, Siloam-Hope (2)	John Howard	P	Helen Mosley	P A
Fanwood (2)	Paul F. Rack (I) Elizabeth Anderson- Domer (TSAP)	P E	Richard Sharrett Judy Wussler	P P
Fords (2)	Douglas Kurtz (SS)	A		A A
Garwood	Gary Wetzel	P		A A
Iselin	James F. Thomas (D)	P	Betty Stauffer	P
Liberty Corner (3)	Steve McConnell Anne Havrilla (A) Anita Miller Bell (TS)	A A A	Jeff Knouse	P A A
Linden	William Weaver	P	Meredith Meeker	P
Linden, Calvin	David Krotchko	E	John Arrowwood	P
Martinsville, Christ	Susan Joseph	P	Rayna Robb	P
Metuchen (2)	Samuel Massengill Douglas Grote (IAP)	P A	Ron Davies	P A
Middlesex	Neal Presa	P	Ruth Mikalonis	P
Mountainside, Community	Chris Belden	P	Marjory Bradshaw	P
New Providence (2)	Jeffrey Ebert Michael Flavin (A) Ian Rankine (A)	A A P		A A
No. Plainfield, Watchung Ave.	Brooks Smith	P	Doug Boleyn	P
Perth Amboy	Peter Hofstra	A		A
Pittstown, Bethlehem	[Vacant]	-	Alicia Tamilo	P
Plainfield, Bethel	[Vacant]	-	Paul Broady	P
Plainfield, Crescent Avenue	Robert Martin	P	Emily Upton	P

Plainfield, United	Victor Aloyo, Jr. (TS)	A		A
Pluckemin (2)	Jeffrey Gibelius	P	Stuart Race Lynn Santulli	P A
Rahway, First	Branwen Cook	P	Al Shipley	P
Rahway, Second	Douglas Muller	P	Carlos Allende	P
Roselle, First	Karen Chamis	E	Richard Bennett	P
Scotch Plains, Willow Grove	C Cochran-Carney	P		A
Springfield	Victoria M. Ney	P	Robert Halsey	A
Summit, Central (3)	S. Allen Foster (I) John Illian (A) Rebecca Laird (A)	P P A	Ted Chao Ken Christiansen Patsy Hammond	P P P
Union, Connecticut Farms	Howard Bryant (I)	P	Dale Costleigh	P
Union, Townley	Christopher Taylor	E	Lois Tangowski	P
Warren, Trinity United	Elsie A. Rhodes	E	Lynn Merrill	P
Westfield (4)	Raymond Roberts Tina McCormick (A) Helen Beglin (TSAP)	A E E	Richard Carlson Barbara Ringk Susan Schwarz	P P P A
Woodbridge	Robert Boyar	P	Al Amatucci	P

Specialized Ministers in Other Service of This Church (G-11.0410)

Leslie Foltz-Morrison (NJ Interfaith Council on Disaster)	P
Robert Foltz-Morrison (Presbytery Staff)	P
William Ross Forbes (Board of Pensions)	P
Jupiaci Gomes (Millennium Presbyterian Community)	P
Linda Owens (Bound Brook PC, New Brunswick Presbytery)	A
Mercy Rumengan (Metuchen Indonesian Fellowship)	E

Specialized Ministers in Service Beyond the Jurisdiction of this Church (G-11.0411)

Erika Beer-Gerhard (Pastoral Counselor)	E
Leonard Bethel (Rutgers University)	A
Patricia Briegs (Therapist)	A
Sally Campbell (St. Luke's Hospital)	A
Kathryn Henry (Peapack Reformed Church)	P
Linda Hora (NJ Veterans' Home)	P
Jennifer T. Hrynyk (Community Congregational Ch, Short Hills)	E

Jill Hedlund Kitsko (Ogden Memorial, Chatham)	P
Dorothy Morris (Norwood Terrace)	A
Arthur Pace (U.S. Army Chaplain)	E
Mark Smith (U.S. Navy Chaplain)	A

Ministers-at-Large (G-11.0406b)

Janice Ammon	E
(Charles Baier) <i>see Avenel, First above</i>	-
Michael Burkley	E
Jennifer Butler (Maryland)	E
Reid Byers	A
Matthew Camlin (Pennsylvania)	E
Jeffrey Cochran-Carney	P
Robert Davis (Florida)	E
Lawrence Finn III	P
(Deirdre Greenwood White) <i>see Berkeley Heights, Westminster above</i>	-
Diane Hoppe-Hugo	E
Calvin Hsu	P
Fernando Jensen (Florida)	E
John Luyben	A
Jeff Neufeld (Georgia)	E
John Oh (Florida)	E
Yoon Park	P
Maureen Paterson	E
Janet Vane Pederson	A
Barbara Tipton (New York)	E
W. Alfred Tisdale, Jr. (Connecticut)	E
James Verser	E
Joseph Yoon	P

Retired Ministers

(Helen Beglin) <i>see Westfield above</i>	-
(Robert Beringer) <i>see Basking Ridge above</i>	-

Frederick Black	P
Russell Block	E
George Bonnell	E
Charles Brackbill	E
Keith Brown (Pennsylvania)	E
(Howard Bryant) <i>see Union, Connecticut Farms above</i>	-
Ray Downs (Georgia)	E
John Dunlap, Jr.	E
Thomas Evans	E
Else Farr (California)	E
(S. Allen Foster) <i>see Summit, Central above</i>	-
Joseph Fowler (New York)	E
Joseph Garlic	E
Leonard Grant	E
Charles Hale	E
Winter Lantz (North Carolina)	E
Abraham Luckhoff (Georgia)	E
Charles Maxell (Michigan)	E
John Millar (Manitoba Canada)	E
Hibbert Moss	E
Robert Newbold (Texas)	E
S. Lorenzo Shannon (Indiana)	E
Timothy J.J. Shu	E
Joyce Stedge-Fowler (New York)	E
John Stephenson	E
John Talbot (Florida)	E
Elmer Talcott	P
Je Sun Yoo	E
Edward Younken	E

Elders Serving on Council

Alan Ford (Bethlehem), Moderator	P
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Susan Gieser (Berkeley Heights), COM	P
Mabel Hansen (United), PW	A
Robert Jacobs (Liberty Corner), ECVU	E
Lee Anne Lowman (Central), Vice-Chair	E
Mr. Benji Martin (Plainfield, Crescent Ave.), YAD	E
Helen Mosley (Siloam-Hope), EDU	P
Gerard Nelson (Liberty Corner), Trustees	E
Jack Paddon (Liberty Corner) OSCU	E
Blanche Schaffer (Central), MaL	A
Judith Wussler (Fanwood), COR & Synod of the NE Rep	P

Elders Who Have Served as Moderator

Eunice Baer (Oak Tree)	P
John Cavicchia (Fanwood)	A
Maggie Chilton (Central)	P
Bonnie Ruggiero (Willow Grove)	A
Michael Young (Bethlehem)	A

Corresponding & Temporary Members

Rev. Victor Aloyo, Jr. (Plainfield, Iglesia) Presbytery of NYC	A
Rev. Anita Miller Bell (Liberty Corner) Philadelphia Presbytery	A
Rev. Branwen L. Cook (Rahway, First) UCC	P
Rev. Aslan Daniel, Presbytery of New York City	P
Rev. Murv L. Gardiner, Philadelphia Presbytery	P
Rev. Krystin Granberg (Lamington) Presbytery of NYC	E
Elder Dan Grimes, (PDA), Presbytery of Eastern Virginia	P
Rev. Rebecca Laird (Summit, Central) Church of the Nazarene	A
Rev. Jonah Salim, Presbytery of the Nile, Egypt	P
Elder Robert Wilson, (GA Moderator), Presbytery of North AL	P

Others in Attendance

Sara Burke, staff (Westfield), Elizabeth Quintero (staff), Cecelia Quintero (staff volunteer), Dave Bomgaars (Central), Bruce Pereyra (Lamington), Betty Prezzy Bryant (Third-Westminster), Erwin Altoan (Rahway, Second), Beverly Krausse (Watchung Ave.), Harry Krausse (Watchung Ave.), Tom Bradley (Watchung Ave.), Gail Smith (Watchung Ave.), Gwyn Gronlund (Watchung Ave.), Diane Ledder (Watchung Ave.), Dot Fenz (Watchung Ave.), Rupert Fenz (Watchung Ave.), Kathryn Mustaro (Basking Ridge), Dan Griggs (PDA), Roland Kmiberlin (Edison, Community), Nicholas Bradshaw (Muontainside, Community), Nadia Ayoub (Central), Gordon Falk (Lamington), Ray Bostwick (Bethel), Karen Hartnett

Minutes.

(Prior to this meeting, presbyters gathered for a Pre-Meeting Gathering Time, which included several options:

1. Theological Table-Talk with Rev. Neal Presa, on "Baptism."
2. Meet Elder Robert Wilson, The Vice-Moderator of General Assembly, PCUSA.
3. Meet our incoming minister, Rev. Matthew Davis.
4. Meet Rev. Jonah Saleem, from Egypt.)

The Presbytery at Worship.

The presbytery gathered for a time of worship which featured a sermon on Jonah 4 by Rev. James Thomas (Iselin).

Moderator's Call to Order.

The 620th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Elizabeth was held on Tuesday, May 22, 2007, at the First Presbyterian Church, in Carteret, NJ. The meeting was called to order at 7:14 pm (EDT), and opened with prayer by Elder Alan Ford (Bethlehem), the Moderator of Presbytery.

A quorum was present.

1. The Moderator introduced the Host Pastor, Rev. Bradley Crump (Carteret), who welcomed the presbytery. He spoke of the mission and history of the church, which began in 1893. Rev. Crump also reviewed the facility.
2. First time Commissioners were introduced from the Liberty Corner, Connecticut Farms, Westfield, Third-Westminster, and Rahway Second churches.
3. The presbytery **VOTED** to seat Elder Robert Wilson (Presbytery of North Alabama), the Vice-Moderator of the General Assembly, Rev. Jonah Salim (Presbytery of the Nile, Egypt), Elder Dan Grimes (Presbytery of Eastern Virginia), Rev. Aslan Daniel (Presbytery of New York City), and Rev. Murv Gardiner (Philadelphia Presbytery) as Corresponding Members, for this meeting.

Stated Clerk.

Rev. Paul F. Rack (Fanwood), the Stated Clerk of presbytery, gave his report.

1. The presbytery **VOTED** to authorize the Sacrament of Baptism to be celebrated by Rev. Joseph Yoon (MaL) at the Ambassadors Fellowship in Edison, for Olivia Kang and Ryan Kang, on May 27, 2007.
2. The presbytery **VOTED** to approve the following Consent Agenda:
 - a. The published Revised Docket for this meeting.
 - b. The Minutes of 619th Stated Meeting.

- c. The Minutes of Special Meeting of April 26, 2007.
- d. The following excuses:
Baier (Avenel), Granberg (Lamington), Norman (Cranford), Kim (Korean), Anderson-Domer (Fanwood), Krotchko (Calvin), Chamis (Roselle), Taylor (Townley), Rhodes (Trinity United), McCormick (Westfield), Beglin (Westfield), Rumengan (SM), Hrynyk (SM), Burkley (MaL), Hoppe-Hugo (MaL), Paterson (MaL), Verser (MaL)

Excuses were granted to the following elder commissioners of presbytery:
Robert Jacobs (Liberty Corner), Lee Anne Lowman (Central), Mr. B Martin (Crescent Ave), Gerard Nelson (Liberty Corner), Jack Paddon (Liberty Corner), Judy Wussler (Fanwood)
- e. Granting an extension to the First Elizabeth Administrative Commission; they will report at a future meeting.
- f. The First Reading of a new Travel Reimbursement Policy.
- g. The annual Presbytery Balance Review and Implementation Report. (See Appendix I.)

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

Dan Grimes spoke on behalf of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, inviting people to go on-line and read stories of Presbyterians working to relieve the suffering of those affected by Hurricane Katrina. He also thanked the presbytery for their gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing which, along with special offerings, helps to fund the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program.

Nominating Committee.

Elder Betty Prezzy Bryant (Third-Westminster), chair, presented her report. There being no other nominations from the floor, the presbytery **VOTED** to elect presbyters to the following positions:

Vice-Moderator of Presbytery

Elder Barbara McLaughain (Westfield) 2008

Council Member-at-Large

Rev. Jeffrey Hayes Wildrick (Dunellen) 2010

Audit Committee

Elder Ray Heller (Third-Westminster) 2009

Elder Karen Hartnett (Carteret) 2010

Committee on Ministry

Rev. Robert Martin (Crescent Ave.), Chair 2009

Elder Warren Braunwarth (Central) 2008

Elder Eunice Baer (Oak Tree) 2008

Elder Robert Glaser (Connecticut Farms) 2009

Rev. Robert Boyar (Woodbridge) 2010

Elder Betty Prezzy Bryant (Third-Westminster) 2010

Elder Alan Ford (Bethlehem) 2010

Elder Karen Hartnett (Carteret) 2010

Elder Bonnie Ruggiero (Willow Grove) 2010

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

Elder Marilyn Foss Anderson (Basking Ridge) 2010

Rev. Linda Hora (SM) 2010

Rev. Samuel Massengill (Metuchen) 2010

Rev. Neal Presa (Middlesex) 2010

Rev. Ian Rankine (New Providence) 2010

<u>Education and Discipleship Unit</u>	
Rev. Birda Ferguson (Third-Westminster)	2010
<u>Evangelism and Church Vitality Unit</u>	
Rev. Lawrence Finn, III (MaL)	2010
Rev. Kenneth Macari (Edison Community)	2010
Rev. Jeff Gibelius (Pluckemin)	2010
Rev. Fred Black (HR)	2010
<u>Financial Development Committee</u>	
Elder Dex Carpenter (Liberty Corner)	2010
<u>Outreach and Social Concerns Unit</u>	
Elder Linwood Bagby (Elizabeth Second)	2010
Elder Jack Paddon (Liberty Corner)	2010
Elder Muriel Ryder (Basking Ridge)	2010
<u>Trustees of Presbytery</u>	
Elder Nicholas Bradshaw (Mountainside)	2010

Treasurer's Annual Report.

1. Elder David Bomgaars (Central), the Treasurer of Presbytery, introduced Elder Maggie Chilton (Central) and George Vircik (Calvin), who serve on the Auditing Committee. Elder Chilton reported that the books of the presbytery are "just fine." Friendly suggestions have been made by the Auditing Committee to the Treasurer regarding possible areas of cost reduction.
2. Elder Bomgaars also introduced Elder Bruce Pereyra (Lamington), who is the bookkeeper of the presbytery, and commended him for his work.
3. The Treasurer noted his annual report and reflected on some of its details for the presbytery. (See Appendix II.)

Committee on Ministry.

Elder Susan Gieser (Westminster) presented her final report as chair of the Committee on Ministry.

1. She introduced Rev. Matthew Davis (Presbytery of Santa Fe), who is a candidate for the position of pastor at the Lamington church. There was a congregational meeting on May 20, 2007, at which Rev. Davis was elected. (AA/EEO guidelines were followed in this call process.) Rev. Davis answered questions from the presbytery regarding his Statement of Faith. The presbytery **VOTED** to approve Rev. Davis as pastor of the Lamington church, and the following terms of call.

<u>Terms of Call</u>	
Salary	\$57,000
Social Security Supplement	\$4,360
Manse & Utilities	\$24,000
Pension & Medical	\$25,515
Travel/Professional Allowance	\$2,500
Continuing Education Allowance	\$1,700
Continuing Education Leave	14 days including 2 Sundays
Vacation	31 days including 5 Sundays
Total	\$115,075

Those present from the Lamington church came forward for a prayer with Rev. Davis by Rev. S. Allen Foster (Central).

2. Elder Gieser presented Rev. Brooks Smith (Watchung Avenue) who is retiring after over 28 years of service at that church. The presbytery **VOTED** to grant him the status of Honorably Retired, and dissolve the pastoral relationship between Rev. Smith and the Watchung Avenue church. Many members of the Watchung Avenue church came forward to testify to Rev. Smith's ministry. Rev. Smith also spoke of his journey as a pastor, originally inspired by the civil rights movement of the 1960's. Rev. Douglas Grote also spoke of his experiences with Rev. Smith, and offered a prayer.
3. Elder Gieser reported that the Committee on Ministry took the following actions on behalf of the presbytery under the authority given to it in G-11.0502h.
 - a. Approved the following Administrative Commission to install Rev. Victoria M. Ney as pastor of the Springfield church on May 27, 2007, at 3 pm: Rev. Hibbert Moss (HR), Rev. Jill Kitsko (SM), Rev. Neal Presa (Middlesex), Elder Eunice Baer (Oak Tree), Elder Alan Ford (Bethlehem), the Moderator of Presbytery, Elder Susan Gieser (Westminster), and Elder Robert Halsey (Springfield).
 - b. Approved the following Administrative Commission to ordain Candidate Nancy Asbury as a Minister of Word and Sacrament, on Sunday, June 17, 2007, at 4 pm: Rev. Valencia Norman (Cranford), Rev. Stuart Ritter (Basking Ridge), Rev. Kathy Henry (SM), Elder Alan Ford (Bethlehem), the Moderator of Presbytery, Elder Mary Riley (Basking Ridge), and Elder Jack Frost (Liberty Corner).

Address from the Vice-Moderator of General Assembly.

The Moderator introduced and welcomed Elder Robert Wilson (Presbytery of North Alabama), who is the Vice-Moderator of the General Assembly, PCUSA. He brought greetings from the Moderator and the denomination, and offered a prayer. He then spoke on the equality we share before a God who does not show partiality. The presbytery engaged in a ritual of sharing in pairs, affirming the deepening of relationship. Using the film, *Driving Miss Daisy*, as a (negative) example, he talked about learning to understand each other's worlds, reaching across divides of race and class. There are 160 million "unchurched" people in the USA. We can communicate the gospel of compassion to our neighbors.

The Vice-Moderator then responded to questions from the presbytery.

Task Force on Examinations.

Rev. Susan Joseph (Christ), chair, presented the Report of the Presbytery Task Force on Examinations for a Second Reading. After a time of debate in which differing points of view were heard, the presbytery **VOTED not to approve** these recommendations. The presbytery **VOTED** to dismiss the Task Force with appreciative applause for their hard work.

Executive Presbyter.

Rev. Robert Foltz-Morrison, the Executive Presbyter, presented remembrances for a minister of Word and Sacrament who has recently passed into the Communion of the Saints, Rev. Charles Fitz. Rev. William Weaver spoke in memory of Rev. Fitz. (See Appendix III.)

*Rest eternal grant him, O Lord;
and let light perpetual shine upon him.*

Council.

The Moderator turned the gavel over to the Vice-Moderator. The Moderator then presented the Council

report, which is the report of the Special Nominating Committee. There being no nominations from the floor the presbytery **VOTED** to elect the following presbyters to serve on the Nominating Committee: Elder Alan Ford (Bethlehem), Rev. John Howard (Siloam-Hope) and Elder Judy Wussler (Fanwood).

Evangelism and Congregational Vitality Unit.

The Stated Clerk presented for a first reading a proposed warrant for a commission of the presbytery intended to oversee New Church Developments in the presbytery. He then responded to questions from the floor.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry.

Rev. Victoria Ney (Springfield), chair, gave the report of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry.

1. Rev. Ney introduced Candidate Nadia Ayoub (Central) who is doing mission work in Tajikistan and has been working towards ordination. She spoke enthusiastically of her labors with children. She said that ordination will empower and expand her work. The presbytery **VOTED** unanimously (that is, a greater than the required three-quarters majority) to approve the development of an alternative Exegetical Ordination Examination process, to be administered by the committee. The presbytery **VOTED** unanimously (that is, a greater than the required three-quarters majority) to approve the development of an alternative Theology Ordination Examination process, to be administered by the committee.
2. The presbytery **VOTED** to approve Candidate Aaron Janklow (Westfield) for Final Assessment, upon the recommendation of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry.
3. The presbytery **VOTED** to approve Candidate Jeffrey Lee (New Providence) for Final Assessment upon the recommendation of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry.

Adjourn.

After hearing from the host pastor detailed instructions for the complicated task of evacuating Carteret, the presbytery **VOTED** to adjourn at 9:48 pm (EDT) with prayer by the Moderator.

Attest:

Rev. Paul F. Rack
Stated Clerk

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