

The Presbytery of Elizabeth

Presbyterian Church (USA)

636th Stated Meeting

September 22 MMIX

First Presbyterian Church

Dunellen, NJ

Attendance.

Congregation	Minister		Elder	
Avenel (2)	Jason Tucker	P	Wayne Collins Charles Kurowsky	P E
Basking Ridge (4)	Dennis Jones William O Culton (TS)	E P	Peggy Eicher John Kuhn Claire Pratt	P P P A
Bedminster, Lamington (2)	Matthew Davis [Vacant (A)]	A	Molly Falk	P A
Berkeley Heights, Westminster (2)	J Cochran-Carney (D)	P	Eugene Daniel	P A
Bernardsville (2)	Chester Kim	E	Phyllis Anderson	A A
Carteret (2)	Rachel S. Stahle (D)	P	Alicia Toke Charlotte Toke	P P
Clark, Osceola (2)	John Naugle	P	Jean Rudyk	P A
Clinton (2)	[Vacant (P)] Becci Curtis (A)	- A		A A
Cranford (3)	Diane Curtis (I) Valencia Norman (A)	E E	Donna Graciano Arthur Winter, Jr.	P P A
Dunellen, First (2)	Jeff Hayes Wildrick Silvio Del Campo (E)	P P	Edward W. Halteman, Jr. Mary Hicks	P P
Edison, Community	Kenneth Macari	P	Claude Heller	P
Edison, Lord of Hope	Chang Woo Lee	P		A
Edison, Oak Tree	Jill Hedlund Kitsko (D)	P	Madelynne Lindsey	P
Elizabeth, First	Robert Higgs (D)	P	Michael Bradley	P
Elizabeth, Second	Michael Granzen	P	Linwood Bagby	A

Elizabeth, Third-Westminster	Birda Ferguson (I)	E	Robert Miller	P
Elizabeth, Korean	Vacant (P) Isaac Ahn (A)	- P	Hoyung Lee	P
Elizabeth, Siloam-Hope	John Howard	P	Lorraine Tidd	P
Fanwood	David Jahnke E Anderson-Domer (PA)	P E	Elizabeth Henderson	P
Fords	Douglas Kurtz (SS)	A		A
Garwood	Gary Wetzel	E		A
Hillside Millennium	Jupiaic Gomes	P		A
Iselin	James F. Thomas	P	Betty Stauffer	P
Liberty Corner (3)	[Vacant] Anne Havrilla (A)	- - E	Don Mayer-Brown Debbye West	P P A
Linden	William Weaver	P	Meredith Schachter	P
Linden, Calvin	Bebb Wheeler Stone (I)	P	Bart Zucowsky	P
Martinsville, Christ	Susan Joseph Rack	P	Joan Eichhorn	P
Metuchen (2)	Samuel Massengill Curtis Lane Paul II (A)	P P	Phyllis Black Gregg Randolph	P P
Middlesex	Neal Presa	P	Ruth Mikalonis	P
Mountainside, Community	Chris Belden	P	Louise Sgarro	P
New Providence (2)	Jeffrey Ebert Michael Flavin (A) Ian Rankine (A)	A P E		A A
No. Plainfield, Watchung Ave.	Shannan Vance-Ocampo	E	Doug Boleyn	P
Perth Amboy	Peter Hofstra	P		A
Pittstown, Bethlehem (2)	Paul Rack (I)	P	Alicia Tamilio	P A
Plainfield, Bethel (2)	Murv Gardiner (SS)	P	Ray Bostwick Paul Broady	P P
Plainfield, Crescent Avenue (2)	Robert Martin	P	Joan Pivnichny Emily Upton	P P
Plainfield, United (2)	Victor Aloyo, Jr. (TS)	A	Jonathan Williams	P A
Pluckemin (2)	David Noble (I)	P		A A
Rahway, First (2)	Douglas Grote (I)	P	Joanne Noblitt Al Shipley	P P

Rahway, Second (2)	Douglas Muller	E	Jack Miesowitz	P A
Roselle, First (2)	Karen Chamis	P		A A
Scotch Plains, Willow Grove (2)	C Cochran-Carney	P	Jon Finne/August Ruggiero Maryjane Finne	P P
Springfield, First (2)	Victoria M. Ney	E	Don Rathjens	E A
Summit, Central (3)	Philip Jones John Illian (A) [Vacant (A)]	A E -	Truxton Mann Jim Northrop Frank Steadman	P P P
Union, Connecticut Farms (2)	Roberta Arrowsmith	P	Dale Costleigh	E A
Union, Townley (2)	Christopher Taylor	P	Lois Tangowski	P A
Warren, Trinity United (2)	Elsie A. Rhodes	P	Lynn Merrill	P A
Westfield (5)	Raymond Roberts Mike Samson (A) [Vacant (A)]	P P A	William Ainsley Richard Carlson Joy Hoffacker Barbara Ringk David Rogers	P P P P P
Woodbridge, First (2)	Robert Boyar	P	Al Amatucci	P A

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

Erika Beer-Gerhard (E Stroudsburg PC, Lehigh Valley Pbytery)	E
Linda Owens (Bound Brook PC, New Brunswick Presbytery)	A
Mercy Rumengan (Metuchen Indonesian Fellowship)	P

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

Leonard Bethel (Rutgers University)	P
Sally Campbell (St. Luke's Hospital)	P
Kathryn Henry (Peapack Reformed Church)	P
Linda Hora (NJ Veterans' Home)	E
Jennifer T. Hrynyk (Community Congregational Ch, Short Hills)	P
Dorothy Morris (Norwood Terrace)	P
Arthur Pace (U.S. Army Chaplain) (Pennsylvania)	E
Janet Vane Pederson (Grace Healthcare Services)	P
Mark Smith (U.S. Navy Chaplain)	A

Ministers-at-Large (G-11.0406b)

Charles H. Baier	P
Jennifer Butler (Maryland)	E
Bradley Crump (New York)	E
Robert Davis (Florida)	E
Lawrence Finn III	P
Leslie Foltz-Morrison	P
Deirdre Greenwood White	E
Karen K. Harrison (Wisconsin)	E
Fernando Jensen (Florida)	E
Christina L. McCormick (Georgia)	E
Jeff Neufeld (Georgia)	E
John Oh (Florida)	E
Yoon Park	A
Maureen Paterson	P
Joseph Yoon	A

Retired Ministers

Helen Beglin	E
Robert Beringer	E
Frederick Black	P
Russell Block	E
George Bonnell	E
Charles Brackbill	E
Pat Briegs	E
Howard Bryant	P
Reid S. Byers, Jr.	E
John Dunlap, Jr.	E
Else Farr (California)	E
Joseph Garlic	E
Leonard Grant	E
Charles Hale	P
David Krotchko	E

Winter Lantz (North Carolina)	E
Abraham Luckhoff (Georgia)	E
Charles Maxell (Michigan)	E
John Millar (Manitoba Canada)	E
Hibbert Moss	E
Corina Rodriguez (Oklahoma)	E
Bruce Schundler	E
S. Lorenzo Shannon (Virginia)	E
Timothy J.J. Shu	E
Joyce Stedje-Fowler (New York)	E
John Stephenson	E
John Talbot (Florida)	E
Elmer Talcott	E
W. Aldred Tisdale, Jr. (Connecticut)	E
James Verser	E
Je Sun Yoo	E
Edward Younken	E

Elders Serving on Council

Amy Aaroe (Cranford, First), Presbyterian Women	E
Warren Braunwarth (Central), Member at Large	P
Betty Prezzy Bryant (Third-Westminster), NOM	P
George Curtis (Basking Ridge), Personnel	P
Susan C. Gieser (Westminster), Chair	P
Brenda Johnson (Siloam-Hope), COR	P
Susan K. Krivenko (Rahway, First), Vice-Moderator	P
Helen Mosley (Siloam-Hope), EDU	P
Gerard Nelson (Liberty Corner), Trustees	P
Jack Paddon (Liberty Corner) OSCU	P
Judith Wussler (Fanwood), Synod of the NE Rep	P

Elders Who Have Served as Moderator

Eunice Baer (Woodbridge)	E
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Minutes.

Call to Order.

The 636th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Elizabeth was held on Tuesday, September 22, 2009, at the First Presbyterian Church, in Dunellen, NJ. The meeting was called to order at 4 pm (EDT), and opened with a song ("Thank You, Lord") and a prayer by Howard Bryant (HR), the Moderator of Presbytery.

A quorum was present.

1. The Moderator introduced the Host Pastors, Jeffrey Wildrick and Silvio Del Campo (Dunellen), who welcomed the presbytery. Speaking in English and Spanish, they introduced the facility and spoke briefly about the history and mission of the church. They talked especially about the renovations in the Sanctuary, recently completed, which make the room more useful and flexible in mission to this community.
2. First time Commissioners were introduced from the Central, Iselin, and Avenel churches.
3. Vince Patton, Director of Church Relations with the Presbyterian Publishing Corporation, was introduced to the presbytery.

Moderator.

Howard Bryant, the Moderator of Presbytery, presented his written report, also mentioning his intention to visit every church during his term and the positive response he has so far received. (See Appendix I.)

Stated Clerk.

Paul F. Rack (Bethlehem), the Stated Clerk of Presbytery, presented his report, which consisted of the following Consent Agenda:

1. The distributed Docket for this meeting.
2. The Minutes of the 635th Stated Meeting.
3. The following excuses, collected at the meeting: Ministers D Jones, C Kim, Curtis, Norman, Ferguson, Anderson-Domer, Wetzel, Havrilla, Rankine, Vance-Ocampo, Muller, Greenwood White; and Elders Kurowsky (Avenel), Costliegh (Connecticut Farms), Aaroe (Cranford), Baer (Woodbridge), and Ford (Pittstown).
4. The Minutes of the Council from September 2009. (See Appendix II.)
5. The Treasurer's Report. (See Appendix III.)
6. Elizabeth First Administrative Commission.

Status Report from Robert Beringer, chair

"The Elizabeth Old First Commission has lost several members with moves over the summer, but continues to support the Session and the new Pastor at Old First. We have developed a close working relationship with the Session, and hope to wrap up our work in the next few months."

7. Ratify Moderatorial Appointment of Rev. Jeffrey Cochran-Carney (Westminster) to serve on the New Church Development Commission.
8. Trustees Report.
 Loan approval for Cranford church. (See Appendix IV.)
 Lease of Linden church. (See Appendix V.)
9. Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report. (See Appendix VI.)
10. Refer to the Nominating Committee the position of Ecumenical Liaison.

The presbytery **VOTED** to approve the items on the Consent Agenda.

Nominating Committee.

Betty Prezzy Bryant (Third-Westminster), chair, brought the report of the Nominating Committee, placing

the following names into nomination for positions within the presbytery:

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

Rev. Roberta Arrowsmith (Connecticut Farms)	2012, Term I	(Co-chair)
Rev. Valencial Norman (Cranford)	2010, Term II	(Co-chair)

Committee on Ministry

Rev. Charles Hale, Jr. (HR)	2012, Term I
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Presbyterian Camps and Conferences, Camp Johnsonburg

Rev. Curtis Lane Paul (Metuchen)	2012, Term I
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Financial Development Committee

Elder Barbara McLaughlan (Westfield)	2011, Term I
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Financial Development Committee.

Peter Hofstra (Perth Amboy), chair, presented the report of the Financial Development Committee. He began with a video presentation showing the many uses of the money we contribute to the mission of the church. Then he talked about the scriptural basis of the presbytery's budget. He looked ahead to the immediate future in which we expect to have an Interim Executive Presbyter who will lead us through a mission study process. FDC is looking to lead us in good stewardship of presbytery's resources, taking into consideration Scripture, the Constitution, and our missional needs.

Our operating side and our missions side each have specific areas of responsibility. The plan is for per capita to cover the operating and mandated elements of the budget, and to eventually possibly include all staff salaries. Mission giving would cover the programming and outreach efforts of the presbytery. This will require a significant rise in the per capita assessment, by \$8 to \$20. This will fill for 2010 the hole we saw in the 2009 budget, which was only filled because of the lack of an EP salary. \$277K is the projected per capita total. General Mission giving to the presbytery has declined over the past few years, and is expected to further decline.

The first reading of the budget will come in November, with a second reading in January, 2010.

The presbytery **VOTED** (with a smattering of negative votes) to approve a rise in this presbytery's per capita assessment to \$20.00. (The total per capita, including the Synod and General Assembly portions, is now \$30.)

Committee on Ministry.

Robert Martin (Crescent Avenue), chair, presented the report of the Committee on Ministry.

1. He introduced the candidate for the position of Pastor at the Elizabeth Korean church, Jaeshin Soh (Eastern Korean Presbytery). Jaeshin read his Statement of Faith and responded to questions from the presbytery. The presbytery **VOTED** to receive Jaeshin as a member, appoint him as Pastor at the Elizabeth Korean church, and approve the Terms of Call, which appear below:

Terms of Call

Salary	\$45,000
Housing	\$24,500
Total Effective Salary	\$70,000
Pension & Medical	\$22,050 (31.5% of TES)
Total Compensation	\$92,050
Travel/Professional Reimbursement	\$ 7,000
Continuing Education Allowance	\$ 2,000
Flexible Spending Reimbursement	\$ 5,000
Total Cost to Church	\$106,050

The Moderator invited Jim Thomas, the COM liaison with the Korean church, and the many members of that church who were present at the meeting to come forward for prayer with their new pastor.

2. The presbytery **VOTED** to approve the request of the Presbytery of New Brunswick to transfer Patrick W. T. Johnson to that presbytery, effective September 1, 2009. He is serving as the Interim Pastor of the Frenchtown church.
3. The presbytery **VOTED** to approve the request of Deirdre Greenwood White (MaL) to labor outside the bounds of presbytery as "Settled Pastor" (whatever that is) at the Annisquam Village church, in Gloucester, MA, pending the approval of the Presbytery of Northern New England; effective October 1, 2009.
4. The presbytery **VOTED** to approve the request of the congregation of the Clinton church to dissolve the call of Timothy Harrison (Clinton) as co-pastor, effective July 12, 2009. A congregational meeting was held on Sunday, July 12, 2009, moderated by Rebecca Curtis (Clinton).
5. The presbytery **VOTED** to approve the request of the congregation of the Clinton church to dissolve the call of Karen Harrison (Clinton) as co-pastor, effective July 12, 2009, and change her status to Minister-at-Large. A congregational meeting was held on Sunday, July 12, 2009, moderated by Rebecca Curtis (Clinton).

Memorial Moment for William Ross Forbes.

Kent Lorentzen (Westfield) presented words of remembrance and appreciation for the life and ministry of William Ross Forbes. He gave a synopsis of Bill's work and reflected on his effectiveness as a preacher. "He was a compassionate and sincere man who was genuinely concerned about the welfare of his congregation" in Westfield.

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

Consultation Hour.

**Vince Patton
Director of Church Relations
The Presbyterian Publishing Corporation**

The Moderator introduced Vince Patton (Central P. C., Louisville, KY), the Director of Church Relations of the Presbyterian Publishing Corporation.

Vince noted that the PPC is totally funded by sales of its books and resources; it receives no funding from the denomination. He started off by introducing *Feasting on the Word*, "the most comprehensive lectionary-based commentary ever published." PPC also sponsored the "Calvin reading challenge."

TheThoughtfulChristian.com, features ecumenical studies on a wide range of topics. Anyone may subscribe to the site at new reduced rates.

ThePresbyterianLeader.com is the new online resource center for all PCUSA leaders.

The PPC also publishes a daily devotional guide called *These Days*, and has for forty years now.

The Discipleship Study Bible is a recent project that has come to fruition and has been very well-received, highlighting discipleship and social witness aspects of the biblical text.

He also shared some of the other books that PPC is currently publishing, including titles intended to reach the general reader. They publish about 50 new titles a year, plus more studies on Thoughtful Christian and Presbyterian Leader.

After dinner the Vice-Moderator, Susan Krivenko (Rahway First), was invited to chair the meeting.

Rob Martin stood to welcome two new pastors in the presbytery, received over the summer: Rachel Stahle (Carteret) and Tex Colton (Basking Ridge).

Global Mission and Peacemaking Committee.

Bebb Stone (Calvin) presented the report of the Global Mission and Peacemaking Committee, of which she is a member. She began with a prayer for the International Day of Peace, which was yesterday.

1. Then she talked about the "Big Tent" event, a denomination-wide gathering of interest groups, held last summer, and the Peacemaking Offering. Al Amatucci (Woodbridge) and Edwin Estevez (Watchung Ave.) received scholarships to attend the "Big Tent," and were invited to speak to the presbytery about their experience.
2. Bebb went on to talk about PHEWA, an association of Presbyterians connected through ministries given to them by the General Assembly. It is not an interest or affinity group. They work with various networks in the church: Presbyterians for Disabilities Concerns, The Presbyterian AIDS Network, The Presbyterian Association of Specialized Pastoral Ministries, The Presbyterian Association for Community Transformation, The Presbyterian Child-Advocacy Network, The Presbyterian Health Network, Presbyterians for Addiction Awareness, Presbyterians Affirming Reproductive Options, Presbyterian Serious Mental Illness Network, and Presbyterians Against Domestic Violence. Because it works with many marginalized populations, the work of PHEWA is often criticized.

Interim Executive Presbyter Search Committee.

Cynthia Cochran-Carney (Willow Grove) reported for the Interim Executive Presbyter Search Committee. They are continuing their work. The CIF is on-line and they have received several referrals both from Louisville and independently. They are seeking someone who is thinking about where our congregations are going, who can prepare our presbytery for the next chapter. Therefore, they are not looking merely for management skills, but a good questioner in terms of directions for the future. She asked for continuing prayers.

Asset Sharing Time.

Asset Sharing for this meeting had to do with Christian Education Initiatives. Susan Rack talked about working with The Discipleship Project plan and how it enhances adult education in churches of any size, noting that the Dunellen church also participates in the plan; there is a bulletin board in the fellowship hall. The resources are free. (thediscipleshipproject.org.)

She also mentioned the Christian education plan called "Godly Play," which has worked very well in her small church. (godlyplay.org)

Amendment to Warrant for New Church Development Commission.

The presbytery **VOTED** to amend the warrant of the New Church Development Commission, adding the following language:

"18. The presbytery may, after consulting with the NCDC and the assessing the state of the church, and getting the agreement of both, assign the NCDC to work with any church the presbytery deems is in a situation analogous to that of a New Church Development, that is, having mission potential but no functional session."

The Presbytery at Worship.

The presbytery moved to a service of worship led by the praise team from Dunellen and featuring the new multi-media capabilities of the renovated Sanctuary. Robert Martin (Crescent Avenue), preached.

Adjourn.

After worship the presbytery adjourned, the Docket having been exhausted, with a prayer by the Moderator of Presbytery, at 8:32 pm (EDT).

Attest:

Paul F. Rack
Stated Clerk