

The Presbytery of Philadelphia held its Stated Meeting at the Oxford Presbyterian Church, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on Saturday, July 20, 2019 at 10:03 A.M.

Prior to the call to order of the meeting, the Presbytery took part in two Pre-Presbytery meetings, focused on Exploring Grants for Creative Ministries and the proposed 2020 budget.

The Presbytery was called to order at 10:03 A.M. and convened with prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Randy Barge (Olney, First).

Following the opening prayer, Moderator Barge called upon the Executive Presbyter Ruth Faith Santana Grace (Validated Ministry), the Stated Clerk Kevin Porter (Validated Ministry) and the Reverend Ethelyn Taylor (Oxford) who led the Presbytery worship with prayer, a devotional from Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4, reflections on the passage and hymns. Following the service, Reverend Taylor welcomed the Presbytery to the church and shared with the body both the arrangements for the meeting as well as the fact that she is celebrating 25 years as the pastor of the Oxford church.

Following her introduction, Moderator Barge called on the Stated Clerk, Reverend Kevin Porter for his report.

From the **Stated Clerk**

Reverend Kevin Porter submitted the following:

- The **Docket** was introduced for approval. The **docket was approved by the body as presented.**
- The **Consent Agenda** (Attachment A) was introduced for approval. The Presbytery **approved the consent agenda as presented.**
- The approved May 21, 2019 minutes are available on the website
- All churches are encouraged to contact the Presbytery office to notify it of ministers/elders who have passed away in 2019 so that they may be added to the 2019 Necrology
- General Assembly overtures deadline revolving amendments/interpretations is December 1, 2019 and for overtures needing session comments or presbytery concurrences is March 13, 2020
- 2 Corresponding Members, Mark DeVries (Middle Tennessee) and Cheni Khonje (West Jersey) were introduced. Upon motion and second **the Presbytery voted to seat the members as Corresponding Members.**

Moderator Barge then called for any new Minister Members of the Presbytery to introduce themselves for recognition, he subsequently called upon the new Elder Commissioners to stand and introduce themselves to the body.

- 2 New Minister Members were introduced including Reverends Eustacia Moffett Marshall (West Philadelphia Presbyterian Partnership), Reverend Dr. John Wilkinson (Chestnut Hill)

- 3 New Elder Commissioners introduced themselves: Barry Payne (Pottstown), Delores Solomon (Germantown, First), and Liza Zazzu (Morrisville)

From the **Leadership Collegium** (Attachment L)

Moderator Barge shared the following actions taken by the Collegium with the body:

- Approved the minutes of the May 21, 2019 minutes of the Presbytery
- One Ordination, Amy Ruhf at the Ambler church and one Installation, the Reverend Dr. Adam Hearlson at the Overbrook church since the last Presbytery meeting
- Drafted an Open Letter regarding the on-going issues on our Southern Boarder. The letter was distributed at the meeting and will be posted on the Presbytery website. A leadership team will soon be appointed to travel to the boarder to assess the situation and report back to the Presbytery
- Approved the sabbatical for Reverend Santana-Grace in September and October 2019. During the sabbatical, the Stated Clerk was appointed acting Executive Presbyter. Assisting Reverend Porter will be Moderator Barge, former moderators Michael Henry and Wonjae Choi

From the **Commission on Financial Management** (Attachment F)

Moderator Barge then called upon Elder Mike Henry who presented the proposed 2020 Presbytery Budget, highlighting projected revenue of \$1,230,896 and the review of budgeted expenses. **At the conclusion of Mr. Henry's report, the Presbytery voted to approve the presented 2020 budget.**

From the **Commission on Preparation for Ministry and Membership** (Attachment P)

At this time, Moderator Barge called on Vice Moderator Vijay Aggarwal (Wayne) to the chair. Mr. Aggarwal called upon Reverend Ken Ross (Member at Large) and Reverend Samantha Hudson (Glading) to give the report of the Commission on Preparation for Ministry and Membership and Commission on Ministry. Reverend Hudson outlined the role of the Commission and Mr. Ross called upon Leigh DeVries and Alexander Lester-Abdalla for examination by the Presbytery for Ordination.

Mr. Lester-Abdalla then shared with the body a brief history of his background and then read his Statement of Faith. Following a time of questions and responses, **a motion to arrest the examination was received, duly seconded and approved.** Mr. Lester-Abdalla was then excused from the meeting space and the Presbytery, **having received a motion and proper second to sustain the examination of Alexander Lester-Abdalla for ordination, and then voted in the affirmative.**

Following the vote, Mr. Lester-Abdalla was welcomed back into the meeting space with applause.

Reverend Ross then called upon Ms. DeVries shared with the body a brief history of her background and then read her Statement of Faith. Following a time of questions and responses, **a motion to arrest the examination was received, duly seconded and approved.** Ms. DeVries was then excused from the meeting space and the Presbytery, **having received a motion and proper second to sustain the examination of Leigh DeVries for ordination, and then voted in the affirmative.** Following the vote, Ms. DeVries was welcomed back into the meeting space with applause.

Reverend Ross then called upon all members of her family, congregation and the Commission on Preparation for Ministry and Membership for Ms. DeVries and Mr. Lester-Abdalla and prayed over the candidates.

From the **Executive Presbyter**

Moderator Barge called upon the Reverend Ruth Faith Santana-Grace (Validated Ministry) to give her report, including the following highlights:

- Provided Covenant Grants to nine churches for various mission activities at the local level
- Reinforced the Presbytery's commitment to be a Matthew 25 Presbytery and drew attention to the opportunities associated with this pledge, encouraging all to go to the website for more information on that commitment and learn how each church can also take on that pledge
- Noted that on November 9, 2019 the second annual Fall Fest Leadership Equipping Event will be held at the Carmel church beginning at 9 A.M. All are encouraged to attend
- Requested that the Presbytery pray for Ms. Santana Grace as she goes on sabbatical in September/October of 2019 and Reverend Porter as he, along with the current and two past Moderators, act as the Executive Presbyter in her absence

At the conclusion of Reverend Santana-Grace's report, the Presbytery was closed with prayer, song and benediction at 12:10 P.M. by Moderator Barge.

The financial offering of \$1,165.00 collected was dedicated to Heading God's Call.

With the meeting officially ended, the Presbytery broke for food, fellowship and outdoor summer activities.

The next stated meeting of the Presbytery to be held on Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at the Overbrook church beginning at 1 P.M.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next Stated Meeting of Presbytery will be

Tuesday, November 19, 2019, 1 P.M.

at Overbrook

2020 Stated Meetings of the Presbytery of Philadelphia

Tuesday, January 21, 2020

Tuesday, April 28, 2020

Saturday, July 20, 2020

Tuesday, November 17, 2020

Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, May 21, 2019 Attendance Report:

141 Total Participants, 34 Visitors, 44 Total Elders, 54 Ministers.

CHURCHES REPRESENTED BY ELDERS

Arch Street: Jim Balengee

Beacon: Megan Acedo

Bethel: Brenda Tucker-Boykins

Bryn Mawr: Anita Iyengar, Steve Udicious,
Joan LaLeike

Cedar Park: Edna Houston

Christ's Community: Bea Feddy

Collenbrook United: Nancy Krody

Concord Liberty: Robert J. Smith

Deep Run: Bill Brosius, Nancy Brosius

Doylestown: Dick Cornelius, Naomi
Darville

First African (West Philadelphia

Presbyterian Partnership): Marcia Singleton

Germantown, First: Diane Cassie, Delores
Solomon

Glading Memorial: Audrey Hopkins

Holy Trinity-Bethlehem: Elaine McCray

Levittown: Dale Howland

Middleton: Carl Hughs, Sharon Reed

Morrisville: Ray Hendrickson, Lisa Zazzu,
William Hughes

Mount Airy: Rebeccker Holland

Oak Lane: Willa Powell

Olney, First: Ken McKeown

Oxford: Irene Campbell, Bette Hawkins

Church of Pakistan: Shakeel Arif

Philadelphia, First: Susy Christensen,
Cynthia Decrucy

Pottstown: Donna Force, Gina James, Susan
Moyer, Thomas Zeigler

Summit: Deborah Merritt

Temple: Walter Toliver

Warminster: Frank Orzechoski, Al

DerMovsesian, Linda Harter

Westminster Mayfair: Tom Buck

Yeadon: Marva Scotland

CHURCHES NOT REPRESENTED BY ELDERS

Ambler	Ivyland	Penn Wynne
Anchor	Japanese Christian	Podowon
Ardmore	Jeffersonville	Port Kennedy
Aston	Kensington	Rhawnhurst
Bensalem	Lansdowne	Ridley Park
Berean	Lawndale Holy Grace	Roxborough
Bethesda	Lenape Valley	Southwestern
Calvary-Wyncote	Leverington	Flourtown
Calvin	Llanerch	Springfield
Central-Norristown	Lombard Central	Suh Kwang
Chestnut Hill	Lower Providence	Supplee Memorial
Church on the Mall	Macalester Torresdale	Swarthmore
Christ's South Philly	Marple	Tabernacle United
Crossroads	Mayfair	Thompson Memorial
Darby	Media	T. M. Thomas
Disston	Memorial	Tree of Life
Eddington	Neshaminy-Warwick	Trinity Clifton Heights
Elkins Park	New Spirit Community	Tully Memorial
Falls of Schuylkill	Newtown	United Ghanaian
Forest Grove	Newtown Square	Valley Forge
Fox Chase Memorial	Norristown	Wallingford
Frankford	Norriton	Wayne
Germantown Community	Northampton	Wissahickon
Gladwyne	Northminster	Wissinoming
Glenolden	Old Pine	Woodland
Good Shepherd	Olivet	Woodside
Grace, Jenkintown	Olivet-Covenant	Wynnefield
Gwynedd Square	Overbrook	
Holmes	Parkland	

MINISTERS PRESENT

Adams III, HR; J. B.	Fitch, Diane Jamison	MacCullough, Bruce W.
Ahn, Peter	Garner, HR; Jesse B.	Mairena, Adan
Aikins, Kathryn	Hedges-Goettl, Barbara	Marshall, Eustacia Moffett
Barge, Randy L.	Heffernan, Deborah Downs	Martin, Peter
Bass, Jade King	Holland, Christopher	McShane, Pamela J.
Bethel, HR; Leonard	Hudson, Samantha	Morganti, Steve
Bruce, Christine A.	Ireland, Kevin	Olson, Kari
Choi, Wonjae	Jaymes, HR; Linda	Pedersen, Rachel
Colee, Laura	Kirkpatrick, Rebecca	Pidcock-Lester, Karen
Colwill, Sarah	Klimovitz, Gregory	Porter, Kevin
Dixon, Troy Janel	Kosinski, Lori Zang	Pottorff, Franklyn
Dooner, Timothy	Lawrence, HR; Keith D.	Pulsifer, HR; J. Michael
Dwyer, Judith	Lawrence-Caldwell, Melanie	Rhodes, Rachel
Eyre, Robert	Lester, Jr., W. Carter	Ross, Kenneth J.

Santana-Grace, Ruth Faith
 Somerville, Margaret
 Stavrakos, P. Todd
 Steinnagel, Schaunel
 Zambrana, Mary Kruse

Stratton, HR; Jimmy Lee
 Stratton, Ruth Ellen
 Taylor, Ethelyn
 Thompson, Lewis Casey

Willingham, John M.
 Wonderland, Kenneth B.
 Wonderland, Susan Faye

MINISTERS EXCUSED

Ames III, G. Clayton
 Ashford, Stephanie Templin
 Bell, Anita Miller
 Biederman, Robert
 Bonner, James Edward
 Bonwell, Raymond
 Callaway, Christine
 Cornelius, Taylor
 Fall, Susan
 Farrell, Lisa

Hecht, Kathy
 Heckman, Bailey
 Hoagland, Donald Clark
 Kibben, Margaret
 Lacroix, François L
 Na, Amy
 Nelson, Karen R.
 Passante, Nikki Perrine
 Poland, David M.
 Poteet, Michael

Rappaport, Lydia
 Roman, Kelly
 Rossi, Ashley
 Russo, Brian
 Schondelmeyer, Kristopher
 Segers, Rebecca
 Sweet, John D.
 Thomas, Jeanne Thornton,
 James W. Weisiger, Sarah

Also excused were all H.R.s who were not in attendance in accordance with Presbytery of Philadelphia Bylaws Section 1.3(B).

MINISTERS ABSENT

Aikins, Kathryn
 Auxter, Mark S.
 Balsan, Ryan Edward
 Berges, HR; John E.
 Betz-Bogoly, Cynthia
 Blake, Rebecca
 Brackett, Judith
 Brecht, George T.
 Brown, Carla Jones
 Brozyna, Marcie
 Carpenter, J. William
 Clark-Duncan, Anne
 Craver, Thomas L.
 Davis, Gerard
 Day, Katie
 Dietrich, Stephen
 Dorville, Eric
 Dryden Jr., Foster C.
 Earley, Barry J.
 Ebersberger, Sue
 Edwards, Christopher O.
 Ehman, John W.
 Evans, Michael J.
 Ezunkpe, Komlan

Farrell, Paul
 Ferguson, Laura
 Ferris, Jason R.
 Fettig, Jonathan
 Fletcher Jr., HR: Wallace N.
 Fong, Joanne Shum
 Foote, Jerry Kay
 Ford, Stephen T.
 Ford, Wanda Larman
 Friend, Elizabeth B. Ford
 Garcia, Raymond E.
 Gill, Joshua
 Golderer, William
 Gomez-Saravia, Gadiel
 Grant-Borden, Anna
 Greyling, Jacobus P.
 Griffith, Clyde E.
 Gross, Strother
 Grunseich, Michelle
 Gutridge, Stephen P.
 Hankel, Heidi
 Hausser, Sherri
 Hearlson, Adam
 Hearlson, Christiane Lang

Hessel, Beth
 Hill, Faith
 Hill, Kirby Lawrence
 Hodsdon, Sara
 Hoglund, Douglas C.
 Hollingshead, HR; George E.
 Holmes, Julie
 Holt, Charles
 Housworth, Paul E.
 Hull, Sanford D.
 Hyska, Shawn
 Irizarry, Jose
 Jacob, Robert A.
 Jarvis, Cynthia Ann
 Jones, James Alexander
 Khan, Shahbaz
 Kibben, Margaret G.
 Kim, Byung Il
 Krajian, Joyce
 Kroupa III, George
 Larkin, David
 LeClyuse, Megan
 Lee, Jieun
 Lee, Ki Nam

Lee, Sung Dae	Snyder, John A.
Levens, Kristen	Speck, Jonathan
Liu, HR; Clifford	Stavrakos, HR; Paul
Lyndaker-Studer, Mark	Steege, Mary
Markel, John S.	Stiffler, Flo Guynn
Martin, Joan	Stratton, Ruth Ellen
Massengill, Samuel E.	Stroup, Maria A.
McClain, Keith	Summers, Thomas
McKinney Jr., William P.	Telford, Taylor
McPheeters, Douglas W.	Thomas, James
Miller, Leah	Thompson, Brenton
Milligan, Fred	Timothy, Nancy
Mingle, Edward G.	Tung, Arthur C.
Morgan, Marianne	Wallace, Mark I.
Morse, Daniel	Watson, Deborah
Mullis, Baron	Weed, Stephen N.
Myers, Jeffrey T.	Williams, Faith
Norfleet, Agnes	Wilson, Henry S.
Ofosu-Donkoh, Kobina	Wood, H. Stanley
Orth, Katherine	Yu, In Kon
Palmer, Langdon B.	
Park, Anne	
Park, Tae Moon	
Pearce, Patricia	
Penza, Gregory Tyler	
Pleim, Kurt	
Poinsett, James	
Pretz, S. Timothy	
Price, Donald	
Pyrch, Cheryl	
Quick, Hannah	
Rhone, Rhonda	
Robinson, Graham	
Rodgers, Andrea	
Rogers, Robert J.	
Ross, Robert	
Rusert, Abigail Visco	
Sanchez, David E.	
Scales, Lenore	
Searight, Sarah Cooper	
Searight, William	
Sexton, Pauline	
Shaker, Sameh	
Sharif, Kurshid	
Sheetz-Willard, Julia	
Shelley, Austin Crenshaw	
Shendge, Manisha	
Shimada, Peter	
Shin, Joyce	
Smith, David	
Smyrl, Peter	



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I hope you are all enjoying the advent of summer. The long, warm days of summer are always a good time for a little outdoor fun. Speaking of fun, I am very excited about our upcoming presbytery meeting at Oxford Presbyterian Church. It is going to be an opportunity to have some real fun. Of course, there will be some work we will have to attend to.

One item of business will be to approve the 2020 budget that will be presented by the Commission on Financial Management and Leadership Collegium. You should have all received in the mail a copy of the Annual Ministry Narrative that was presented at our last presbytery meeting. It is a brief narrative of the wonderful work being done by the Presbytery, as it seeks to equip our churches for ministry and mission. That work includes everything from the distribution of grants, to the support of our various community ministries. None of it could be done without the support and faithful giving of our churches, and for that, we give God thanks for all of you.

A very important responsibility of the Presbytery is the examination of candidates for ministry. We will have two excellent candidates coming before us to be examined on the floor of the Presbytery. Please be prepared to engage them in a thoughtful and empowering examination as they take this final step in embracing God's call in their life. We will also have a report from our Executive Presbyter, who will give us an update on some of the exciting initiatives being undertaken in our Presbytery. And then the fun begins.

After we adjourn, everyone is invited for a time of intergenerational fellowship and fun on the lawn of Oxford Presbyterian Church. There will be an old fashioned BBQ picnic with lots of delicious food, games, and other fun activities, to include a Dunk Tank. So, if you have been dreaming of the opportunity to dunk a member of the Leadership Collegium or Executive Staff, your time has come. All the proceeds from the Dunk Tank will go to Heeding God's Call, a local organization dedicated to ending gun violence [www.heedinggodscall.org].

Blessings and Peace!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy Barge". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Rev. Randy Barge, Moderator of the Presbytery

NEW MINISTER MEMBERS OF THE PRESBYTERY OF PHILADELPHIA

July 20, 2019



Rev. Eustacia Moffett Marshall – Transferred from the Salem Presbytery and is serving as the Designated Pastor of the West Philadelphia Presbyterian Partnership



Rev. Dr. John Wilkinson – Transferred from the Presbytery of Genesee Valley and will be serving as the Pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill.

REDRESS OF IMBALANCE

The *Book of Order* (G-3.0301) requires the Presbytery to “adopt and communicate to the sessions a plan for determining how many ruling elders each session should elect as commissioners to Presbytery.”

An examination of the total number of members of the congregations of the Presbytery and the total number of minister members reveals a ratio of approximately 84 congregants for every minister member. Using each congregation’s reported 2017 membership and assigning 1 ruling elder commissioner for every 86 members would lead to the following number of ruling elder commissioners for each Presbytery meeting. *(Please note: This allocation caps the maximum number of ruling elder commissioners for all congregations of 1,800 or more at 18.)*

Total Minister Members: 332 ♦ Total Congregation Membership: 27,860

RECOMMEND: I recommend the imbalance be redressed for implementation beginning on December 1, 2018. This assigning begins in December 1, 2018 and continues through November 30, 2019.

Abington	10
Ambler, First	7
Anchor	1
Arch Street	2
Ardmore, First	4
Aston	1
Beacon	1
Bensalem	1
Berean	2
Bethel	1
Bethesda	2
Beverly Hills	1
Bryn Mawr	18
Calvary - Wyncote	2
Calvin	1
Carmel	5
Cedar Park	1
Central Norristown	1
Chambers Memorial	1
Chestnut Hill	7
Christ's	1
Christ's Community Church- Drexel Hill	1
Church on the Mall	1
Collenbrook United	1
Concord Liberty	2
Crossroads-Limerick	2
Darby, First	1
Deep Run	3

Disston Memorial	1
Doylestown	18
Eddington	2
Elkins Park	1
Falls of Schuylkill	1
First African	1
Forest Grove	2
Fox Chase Memorial	1
Frankford	1
Germantown Community	1
Germantown First	2
Glading Memorial	1
Gladwyne, Lower Merion	1
Glenolden, First	1
Good Shepherd	1
Grace Jenkintown	6
Gwynedd Square	3
Holmes	1
Holy Trinity Bethlehem	1
Ivyland	1
Japanese Christian	1
Jeffersonville	1
Kensington First	1
Lansdowne, First	2
Lawndale Holy Grace	1
Lenape Valley	4
Leverington	2

Levittown, First	10
Llanerch	2
Lombard Central	1
Lower Providence	10
MacAlester Torresdale	1
Marple	3
Mayfair	1
Media	6
Memorial	1
Middletown	3
Morrisville	5
Mount Airy	1
Neshaminy Warwick	6
New Spirit Community	1
Newtown	10
Newtown Square	3
Norristown, First	2
Norriton	1
Northampton	1
Northminster	1
Oak Lane	1
Old Pine, Third Scots & Mariners	2
Olivet - Prospect Park	1
Olivet Covenant	1
Olney First	1
Overbrook	5
Oxford	2
Parkland	1
PC of Pakistan	1
Penn Wynne	1
Philadelphia, First	3
Podowon	1
Port Kennedy, First	1
Pottstown, First	7
Tree of Life (Princeton)	1
Rhawnhurst	1
Ridley Park	7
Roxborough	1
Southwestern	1
Springfield -Flourtown	2
Springfield, First	2
Suh Kwang	1
Summit	2
Supplee Memorial	4
Swarthmore	8
Tabernacle United	1

Temple	1
Thompson Memorial	4
Thomas M Thomas Memorial	1
Trinity - Clifton Heights	1
Trinity, Philadelphia	1
Tully Memorial	1
United Ghanaian Community	3
Valley Forge	2
Wallingford	5
Warminster, First	4
Wayne	18
Westminster Mayfair	1
Wissahickon	1
Wissinoming	1
Woodland	1
Woodside	9
Wynnefield	1
Yeadon	1

**PRESBYTERY OF PHILADELPHIA
STATED MEETING
20 JULY 2019 at 10:00 AM
OXFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PHILADELPHIA, PA**

✠
*Then the LORD answered me and said:
Write the vision;
make it plain on tablets,
so that a runner may read it.
(Habakkuk 2:2)*
✠

DOCKET

9:00 AM	Registration	
9:15 AM	Pre-Presbytery Conversations (<i>at the Presbytery office, next to the Oxford Church</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exploring Grants for Creative Ministries Commission on Resources and Communications Funding Our Presbytery's Work and Witness (Proposed 2020 Budget) Commission on Financial Management 	
10:00 AM	Call to Order and Opening Prayer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Devotional and Hymn Sing 	Moderator, Rev. Randy Barge
10:35 AM	Welcome and Arrangements	Rev. Ethelyn Taylor, Oxford Presbyterian Church
	Stated Clerk's Report Approval of Docket Approval of Consent Agenda Seating of Corresponding Members	Rev. Kevin Porter
	Introduction of New Elder Commissioners and New Minister Members	Rev. Randy Barge
10:45 AM	Leadership Collegium Report	Rev. Randy Barge
11:00 AM	Commission on Financial Management Report Presentation of Proposed 2020 Budget	Elder Mike Henry

11:30 AM Commission on Preparation for Ministry & Membership and Rev. Ken Ross,
 Commission on Ministry Report Rev. Samantha Hudson

Examination for Ordination

Alexander Lester-Abdalla (Associate Pastor at Morrisville)

Leigh DeVries (Associate Pastor at Bryn Mawr)

12:30 PM Executive Presbyter Report Rev. Ruth Faith Santana-Grace

12:45 PM New Business*
 Adjournment with Closing Song and Blessing

1:00 PM Fellowship, Games, and BBQ lunch on the lawn**



**Next Stated Presbytery Meeting will be
 Tuesday, November 19, 2019
 (mid-afternoon through dinner)**

Location to be determined



Mark your Calendars 2020 Stated Presbytery Meetings

Tuesday, January 21, 2020

Tuesday, April 28, 2020

Saturday, July 18, 2020

Tuesday, November 17, 2020

*All new business must be in the hands of the Stated Clerk by 11:00 am.

** In case of inclement weather, lunch will be served in the fellowship hall and games will be canceled.

CONSENT AGENDA

A-1

Action Items

The Stated Clerk moves the following action items for approval by the Presbytery.

1. With gratitude for their faithful witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, that the death of the following Ministers of Word and Sacrament and Elders be recorded in the minutes of this stated meeting:

Minister of Word and Sacrament

Rev. Jean Howard Morton, May 20, 2019

Elders

Carol Jensen, May 15, 2019 (Warminster, First)

Shirley Ann Cowper, May 24, 2019 (Warminster, First)

Lucy Bugbee Burns, June 1, 2019 (Morrisville)

C. Rush Barr, June 20, 2019 (Gwynedd Square)

“For I know that my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth; And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, That in my flesh I shall see God,” Job 19:25-26

Informational Items

The following items are for your information from the Office of the Stated Clerk.

1. The Ordination of the Amy Ruhf took place on Sunday, June 30, 2019 at 3:00 pm at the First Presbyterian Church of Ambler with the Rev. Su Fall preaching. All questions were answered in the affirmative.

2. The Installation of the Rev. Dr. Adam Hearlson took place on Sunday, June 2, 2019 at 10:00 am at the Overbrook Presbyterian Church with the Rev. Charles Howard preaching. All questions were answered in the affirmative.

3. The Formation on June 13, 2019 of an Administrative Commission (AC) for Olivet Presbyterian Church of Prospect Park in response to the written notification of the Olivet Session’s action petitioning the Presbytery to “close and disband the Olivet Presbyterian Church as of the worship of Sunday, October 27, 2019.” The AC will walk alongside the congregation to consider and process the Session's request. The AC consists of the following members: Ministers of Word and Sacrament Shawn Hyska (Kensington, First), Ethelyn Taylor (Oxford), Rebecca Segers (Germantown, First), and Elders Jean Beaton (Ivyland) and Eck Gerner (Swarthmore), Moderator.

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

C-1

Informational Items

The following actions have been taken by the Commission on Ministry at their May 2, 019 and July 6, 2019 meetings

Terms of Call

1. Approved the Terms of Call, if the way be clear, for the **Rev. Dr. John Wilkinson** to serve the **Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill** effective September 9, 2019 with the following terms: this is a full time position; \$83,000 cash compensation; \$32,000 housing allowance; \$115,000 effective salary; \$8,798 SECA; \$42,550 pension; \$5,000 professional expenses; \$2,000 medical allowances; two weeks study leave; one month (four Sundays) vacation; 3 months sabbatical after 7 years of service; \$173,348 Total Package. (6/6/19)
2. Approved the Terms of Call, if the way be clear, for **Alexander Lester-Abdalla** to serve as the Associate Pastor of the **Morrisville Presbyterian Church** effective July 1, 2019 with the following terms: this is a full time position; \$38,150 cash compensation; \$16,350 housing allowance; \$633.48 dental; \$55,133.48 effective salary; \$4,169.25 SECA; \$20,165 pensions; \$2,500 professional expenses; \$1,000 study leave; up to \$5,000 moving expenses; two weeks study leave; one month (four Sundays) vacation; 12 weeks parental leave; \$82,967.73 Total Package. (6/6/19)
3. Approved, if the way be clear, the Terms of Call between the **Rev. Eustacia Marshall** and the congregation of **The West Philadelphia Presbyterian Partnership (WPPP)** effective July 1, 2019 with the following terms: this is a full time position; \$65,495 cash compensation, \$21,555 housing allowance, \$2,500 supplemental health insurance; \$90,000 effective salary; \$6,885 SECA; \$33,300 pension; \$1,632 dental; \$157 vision; \$4,000 professional expenses; \$2,000 study leave allowance; two weeks study leave, one month(four Sundays) vacation; \$137,974 total package. (5/2/19)

Supply Contracts

1. Approved the Supply Pastor Contract between the **Rev. Rebecca Blake** and the Session of the **Beacon Presbyterian Church** for a period of twelve months beginning October 1, 2018 with the following terms: this is a part time 20 hours per week position;

\$15,500 cash compensation; \$12,000 housing allowance; \$27,500 effective salary; up to \$5,000 health insurance; \$1,000 study leave; \$100 professional expenses; two weeks study leave; four weeks (four Sundays) vacation; \$33,600 Total Package. (6/6/19)

2. Approved the renewal of the Supply Commissioned Lay Pastor Contract between **Elder Roland Reeves** and the Session of the **Trinity Presbyterian Church in Kensington** for a period of twelve months beginning June 1, 2019 with the following terms: this is a 19 hour per week position; \$22,800 cash compensation; \$22,800 total package. (6/6/19)

Ordinations and Installations

1. Approved **Rev. Charles Howard** to preach at **Rev. Dr. Adam Hearlson's** installation on Sunday, June 2, 2019 at the Overbrook Presbyterian Church. (6/6/19)

2. Approved, if the way be clear, the Administrative Commission for the Ordination of **Amy Ruhf** on Sunday, June 30, 2019 at 3:00pm at the First Presbyterian Church of Ambler with the following Ministers of Word and Sacrament: Randy Barge (Onley, First), Dr. Anita Bell (Lenape Valley), Dr. Janel Dixon (Cedar Park) and Ryan Balsan (Ambler, First) and Elders Wanda McNeill (Oxford), Michael Myers (Forest Grove), Marilyn Lobely (Ambler, First). (6/6/19)

Appointments of Moderator of Session

1. Appointed **Rev. John King** moderator of the **Glenolden Presbyterian Church** session from June through December 2019. (6/6/19)

Position Descriptions & Ministry Information Forms

1. Approved the request, if the way be clear, to allow the **First Presbyterian Church in Warminster** to open a Designated Pastor Position. (6/6/19)

2. Approved the Ministry Information Form for the Associate Pastor for Christian Education and Discipleship at the **Wayne Presbyterian Church**(6/6/19)

3. Approved the Ministry Information Form for the Executive Pastor at the **Wayne Presbyterian Church**. (6/6/19)

Exit Interviews & Covenants of Closure
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1. Approved the covenant of closure between the **Rev. David Smith** and the Session of the **Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church**. (6/6/19)

Transfers

1. Approved the transfer, at the request of the Stated Clerk, of the **Rev. RJ Leek** to the Presbytery of Central Florida, at the request of the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Central Florida. (6/6/19)
2. Approved the transfer, at the request of the Stated Clerk, of the **Rev. Keith Roberts** to the Presbytery of Baltimore, at the request of the Stated Clerk of Baltimore. (6/6/19)

Miscellaneous

1. Approved the minutes of the May 2, 2019 COM meeting. (6/6/19)
2. Approved the request to allow the **Rev. Jane DeFord** of Donegal Presbytery to officiate Communion at the Presbytery of Philadelphia Presbyterian Women's regional retreat, on Saturday, June 15, 2019 at Church on the Mall. (6/6/19)



Proposed 2020 Mission Budget Narrative

Overview

The Presbytery's proposed 2020 budget represents a collective ministry of walking alongside our churches and their members, working together to further the Kingdom of God in our region. It also reflects the collective financial support provided by the very congregations we are called to serve, including those in need of financial support themselves. We are grateful for the generous support we receive.

The Presbytery's mission budget reflects current unrestricted income and corresponding operating expenses. It does not include other ministry initiatives and financial support that are funded through a number of restricted funds and accounts, such as Covenant Fund and Great Ends grants, the Capital Fund and the Reserve for New Initiatives, which provided approximately \$480,000 of support for various churches and ministries in 2018.

As we turn our attention toward 2020, our overall goal is to sustain and grow the ministries provided and missions supported by the Presbytery, using our existing staffing and revenue base.

Revenue

The Presbytery has three primary sources of revenue, which in recent years have been converging in amount and are roughly equal in the 2020 budget. They are:

- **Basic, or unified mission giving—\$417,500 (34%).** Basic mission giving from churches to the Presbytery is a primary source of funding for key ministry and mission activities of the Presbytery, as well as the Synod of the Trinity and General Assembly. The 2020 budgeted mission revenue of \$417,500 has been estimated as roughly midway between what we received in 2018 (\$435,000) and what we have budgeted for 2019 (\$400,000).
- **Per capita (also known as apportionment)—\$410,000 (33%).** Per capita, which is shared among presbyteries, synods and the General Assembly, supports and sustains the connectional church of which we are all part, and the ecclesiastical functions that serve it. The proposed budget assumes a total increase in per capita from \$29.25 to \$30.00 per member. Per capita dollars would be distributed as follows: Presbytery = \$18.65; Synod of the Trinity = \$2.40; Office of General Assembly (GA) = \$8.95. Please know that the Presbytery portion was not increased in 2019 in response to the increase requested by GA.
- **Investments and Other—\$403,396 (33%).** Our investment income represents distributions from our endowment funds, supplemented by a modest additional amount (\$18,397) from restricted funds. This amount, when added to our basic mission and per capita income, brings our total operating revenue in line with proposed 2020 budgeted expenses of \$1,230,896. This is about a 1% increase above the 2019 budget.

(continued)

Expenses

Major expense categories include:

- Support for camping, community ministries and other programs—\$145,000. The 2020 mission budget includes continued direct Presbytery support for Central Church in Norristown, Chester Eastside, John Gloucester House, Kirkwood Camp, the Welcome Church, and West Kensington Ministry, supplementing direct giving from congregations for camping and ministries serving places where economic disparity and poverty are pervasive. Also included (a combined \$20,000 under budgeted Ministry expenses) is support for our Ministry and Leadership Incubator “Seminary Partnerships” that provide teams of creative seminarians to walk alongside pastors and congregations with less than 150 members.
- Personnel—\$897,168. This overall 2% increase reflects a strategic one-time adjustment in salaries and merit increases proposed by Personnel. This assumes a 1% cost of living raise for the majority of the staff in 2020. In addition to the financial support provided to various ministry partners above, Presbytery staff and its commissions and committees also serve our churches in the following ways:
 - *Congregational ministry*—Providing support through strategic gatherings and planning; design implementation; leadership retreats and training for elders.
 - *Pastoral ministry*—Responding to arising needs and creating opportunities to support our pastors and congregational leadership; providing spiritual presence through Spirit Soundings and Presbytery-wide worship opportunities that enrich the body; strengthening candidates and inquirers considering their ministry; providing opportunities for enriched leadership through special training on topics such as boundaries, personnel, etc.
 - *Ecclesiastical ministry*—Equipping our congregational leaders by showing how they are part of a larger narrative and covenantal life through constitutional requirements; providing resources and training for clerks through reading of session records and development of statistics; creating a foundation for our story today and tomorrow.
 - *Resources and Communication*—Encouraging creative ministries through the administration of various grant programs such as the Covenant Funds and Great Ends programs. Telling the story of our congregations, large and small, through Covenant Connection articles on our website, social media and video and audio files.
 - *Business management*—Advising on and interpreting fiscal realities and possibilities to leadership of our congregations, including stewardship; assisting with risk management and providing legal and contractual counsel; workshops on the business, accounting and finances of the church.
- Administrative Expenses—\$147,245. This includes audit, legal and insurance fees and expenses, as well as the cost of maintenance and utilities for the Presbytery office.
- Other Expense Categories—\$41,483. These support the ongoing ministry work of our commissions and committees (\$19,833), including the Leadership Collegium and Youth Triennium, and our ecclesiastical responsibilities (\$21,650), which include the costs of convening stated meetings and managing the judicial process.

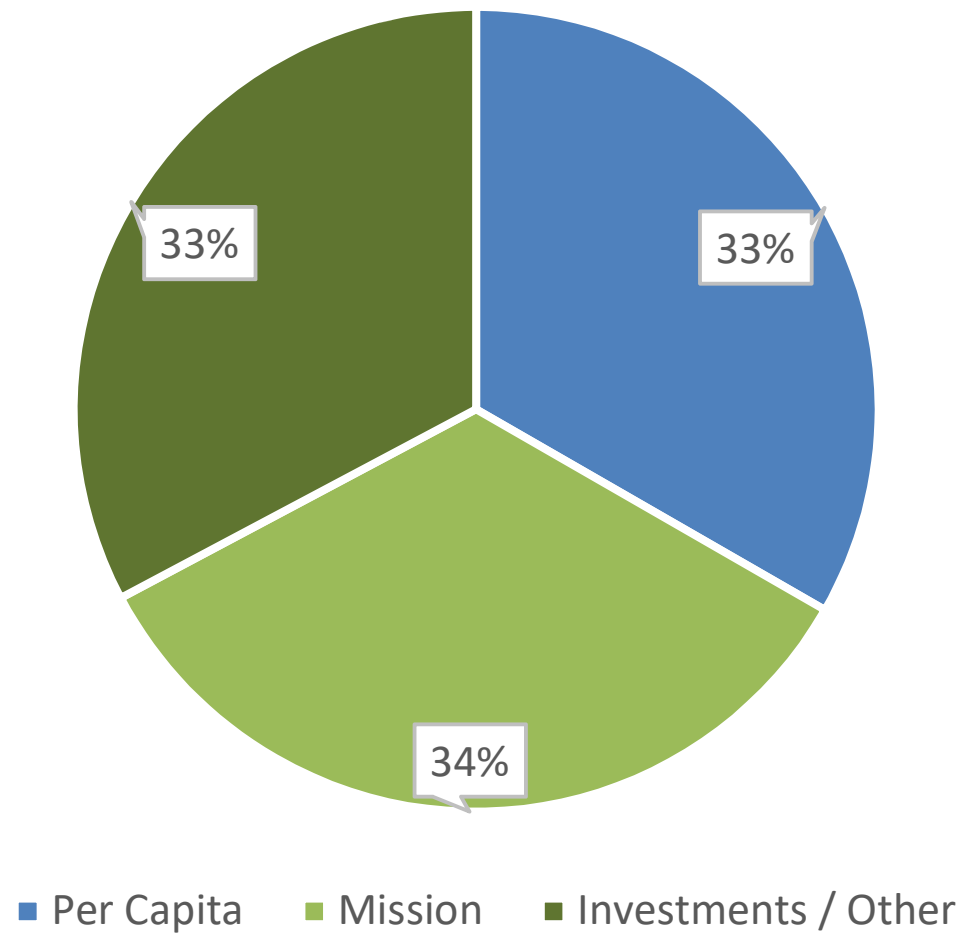
On a functional expense basis, 42% of budgeted expenses (which total \$1,230,896) are for Ministry & Mission, 23-24% for Ecclesiastical & Pastoral, and 34% for Finance & Administration.

**PRESBYTERY OF PHILADELPHIA
PROPOSED 2020 MISSION BUDGET**

(Presbytery per capita - \$18.65; Total per capita - \$30.00)

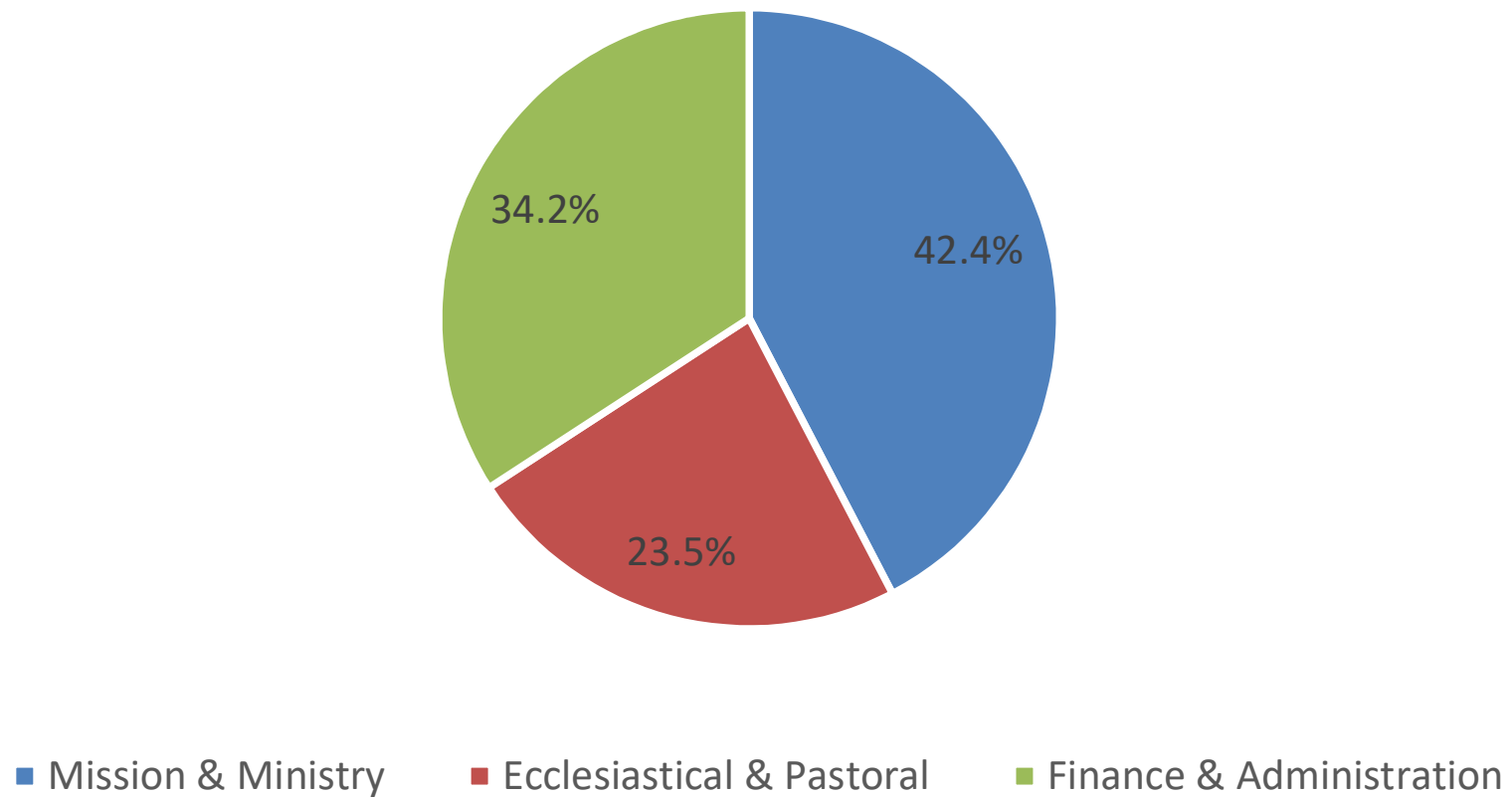
	<u>2018 Actual</u>	<u>2019 Budget</u>	<u>2020 Budget</u>
<u>REVENUE</u>			
Presbytery Share of Per Capita	\$ 432,011	\$ 420,000	\$ 410,000
Presbytery Share of Mission Giving	\$ 435,111	\$ 400,000	\$ 417,500
Restricted Investments	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
Unrestricted Investments	\$ 414,748	\$ 340,000	\$ 335,000
Non-Recurring Restricted Account	\$ -	\$ 5,680	\$ 18,396
<u>TOTAL REVENUE</u>	<u>\$ 1,282,014</u>	<u>\$ 1,215,680</u>	<u>\$ 1,230,896</u>
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
Regional Commissions	\$ 5	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Resources & Creative Engagement (CRC)	\$ 3,517	\$ 3,500	\$ 4,000
Ministry	\$ 25,817	\$ 27,000	\$ 26,833
Financial Administration	\$ 143,307	\$ 142,000	\$ 147,245
Kirkwood Camp	\$ 41,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 35,000
Chester Eastside	\$ 40,000	\$ 33,846	\$ 30,000
John Gloucester House	\$ 23,329	\$ 21,154	\$ 20,000
Central Church, Norristown	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000
West Kensington Ministry	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000
Welcome Church	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Leadership Collegium	\$ 11,666	\$ 7,000	\$ 8,000
Personnel	\$ 874,219	\$ 881,544	\$ 897,168
Ecclesiastical Administration	\$ 20,694	\$ 18,636	\$ 21,650
<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>	<u>\$ 1,223,554</u>	<u>\$ 1,215,680</u>	<u>\$ 1,230,896</u>
Surplus / (Deficit)	\$ 58,461	-	-

Presbytery of Philadelphia 2020 Budget Revenue Sources



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Presbytery of Philadelphia 2020 Budget Functional Expense Breakdown



Presbytery of Philadelphia
Balance Sheet
As of 4/30/2019

ASSETS:	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Cash:				
PNC Bank-Presbytery	94,640.94	59,330.83	1,300.00	155,271.77
Payroll Checking	4,037.49	0.00	0.00	4,037.49
BlackRock (Temp Fund)	176,683.09	0.00	0.00	176,683.09
PNC Business Card	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
Petty Cash	<u>150.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>150.00</u>
Total Cash:	276,511.52	59,330.83	1,300.00	337,142.35
Commingled Investments:				
Glenmede	7,757,797.92	716,037.41	2,469,103.90	10,942,939.23
Europacific Fund	<u>588,829.97</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>588,829.97</u>
Total Commingled Investments:	8,346,627.89	716,037.41	2,469,103.90	11,531,769.20
Other Investments:				
Community Investments	179,930.74	0.00	0.00	179,930.74
Covenant Fund	1,784,059.91	0.00	0.00	1,784,059.91
Good Shepherd Fund	3,414,277.31	0.00	0.00	3,414,277.31
G.S/WPPP Ministry Endowment	<u>1,962,003.42</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,962,003.42</u>
Total Other Investments:	7,340,271.38	0.00	0.00	7,340,271.38
Accounts Receivable:				
Cash Flow Advances	19,060.99	0.00	0.00	19,060.99
Loans Receivable	293,977.11	0.00	0.00	293,977.11
Grant Mortgages	737,781.76	0.00	0.00	737,781.76
Advances	27,038.42	0.00	0.00	27,038.42
Due from other Funds	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Accounts Receivable:	1,077,858.28	0.00	0.00	1,077,858.28
Land Lease:				
Land Lease	<u>201,105.45</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>201,105.45</u>
Total Land Lease:	201,105.45	0.00	0.00	201,105.45
Real Estate and Equipment:				
Office Equipment	84,993.24	0.00	0.00	84,993.24
Buildings and Land	<u>7,251,914.43</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>7,251,914.43</u>
Total Real Estate and Equipment:	7,336,907.67	0.00	0.00	7,336,907.67
Accumulated Depreciation:				
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(1,625,903.67)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(1,625,903.67)</u>
Total Accumulated Depreciation:	<u>(1,625,903.67)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(1,625,903.67)</u>
Total ASSETS:	<u>22,953,378.52</u>	<u>775,368.24</u>	<u>2,470,403.90</u>	<u>26,199,150.66</u>
LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES:				
Accounts Payable:				
Payroll Liabilities	2,002.69	0.00	0.00	2,002.69
Funds Held for Others	159,079.96	0.00	0.00	159,079.96
Deferred Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Accounts Payable:	161,082.65	0.00	0.00	161,082.65
Funds Balances:				
Operating Equity-Budget	394,155.16	0.00	0.00	394,155.16
Oper. Equity-Restricted Accts.	884,785.21	85,274.41	221,648.61	1,191,708.23
Loans Equity	1,300,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,300,000.00
Fixed Assets Equity	5,912,109.45	0.00	0.00	5,912,109.45
General Endowment Equity	2,985,925.49	0.00	724,584.26	3,710,509.75
Endow.Purpose Restr.Eqty	535,230.61	0.00	1,524,171.03	2,059,401.64
Endow.Purpose Restr.Inc.	85,525.63	375,865.94	0.00	461,391.57
Restricted Expendables	4,466,853.67	314,227.89	0.00	4,781,081.56
Trust Funds	5,843,402.75	0.00	0.00	5,843,402.75
Trust Fund Income	<u>384,307.90</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>384,307.90</u>
Total Funds Balances:	<u>22,792,295.87</u>	<u>775,368.24</u>	<u>2,470,403.90</u>	<u>26,038,068.01</u>
Total LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES:	<u>22,953,378.52</u>	<u>775,368.24</u>	<u>2,470,403.90</u>	<u>26,199,150.66</u>

Date: 7/5/2019, 10:33 AM

Presbytery of Philadelphia
Comparative Mission Budget Report
From 1/1/2019 Through 4/30/2019

Account Code	Account Title	YTD Actual	Prior Year Actual	Current Year Change
<u>REVENUE</u>				
9001	Per Capita	162,946.51	210,965.52	(48,019.01)
9010	Congregational Giving	83,761.00	103,413.02	(19,652.02)
9062	Individuals/Org.: Unified	181.54	103.32	78.22
9070	Investment Income	<u>35,554.01</u>	<u>35,869.27</u>	<u>(315.26)</u>
Report Total		<u>282,443.06</u>	<u>350,351.13</u>	<u>(67,908.07)</u>
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>				
1300	Regional Commissions	0.00	5.05	(5.05)
1400	Resources & Communication	251.28	621.10	(369.82)
1600	Commission on Ministry	196.95	263.06	(66.11)
4000	Financial Administration	32,589.01	37,941.77	(5,352.76)
4010	Kirkwood Camp	10,000.00	20,000.00	(10,000.00)
4500	Community Ministries	31,683.04	46,054.52	(14,371.48)
5090	Leadership Collegium	504.00	35.05	468.95
5100	Personnel	297,668.83	289,446.10	8,222.73
5310	Ecclesiastical Administration	<u>5,781.33</u>	<u>5,931.36</u>	<u>(150.03)</u>
Report Total		<u>378,674.44</u>	<u>400,298.01</u>	<u>(21,623.57)</u>
Total Revenue Over (Under)				
Expenditures		(96,231.38)	(49,946.88)	(46,284.50)

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Presbytery of Philadelphia
Mission Summary Budget Report
From 4/1/2019 Through 4/30/2019

Account Code	Account Title	Current Prd Budget	Current Prd Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget Variance - Revised	Total Budget
<u>REVENUE</u>							
9001	Per Capita	35,000.00	46,455.35	140,000.00	162,946.51	22,946.51	420,000.00
9010	Congregational Giving	33,333.33	28,709.65	133,333.32	83,761.00	(49,572.32)	400,000.00
9062	Individuals/Org.: Unified	0.00	70.90	0.00	181.54	181.54	0.00
9070	Investment Income	32,500.00	12,939.08	130,000.00	35,554.01	(94,445.99)	390,000.00
9096	Non-recurring:Restricted	<u>473.33</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,893.32</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(1,893.32)</u>	<u>5,680.00</u>
Report Total		<u>101,306.66</u>	<u>88,174.98</u>	<u>405,226.64</u>	<u>282,443.06</u>	<u>(122,783.58)</u>	<u>1,215,680.00</u>
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>							
1300	Regional Commissions	83.32	0.00	333.28	0.00	333.28	1,000.00
1400	Resources & Communication	541.66	0.00	2,166.64	251.28	1,915.36	6,500.00
1600	Commission on Ministry	333.34	1.35	1,333.36	196.95	1,136.41	4,000.00
4000	Financial Administration	11,833.33	8,309.49	47,333.32	32,589.01	14,744.31	142,000.00
4010	Kirkwood Camp	3,333.33	10,000.00	13,333.32	10,000.00	3,333.32	40,000.00
4500	Community Ministries	9,583.33	8,721.54	38,333.32	31,683.04	6,650.28	115,000.00
5090	Leadership Collegium	583.33	0.00	2,333.32	504.00	1,829.32	7,000.00
5100	Personnel	73,462.00	70,141.13	293,848.00	297,668.83	(3,820.83)	881,544.00
5310	Ecclesiastical Administration	<u>1,553.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>6,212.00</u>	<u>5,781.33</u>	<u>430.67</u>	<u>18,636.00</u>
Report Total		<u>101,306.64</u>	<u>98,173.51</u>	<u>405,226.56</u>	<u>378,674.44</u>	<u>26,552.12</u>	<u>1,215,680.00</u>
Total Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures			(9,998.53)		(96,231.38)		

Presbytery of Philadelphia
Comparative Budget Report: Kirkwood
From 1/1/2019 Through 4/30/2019

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	YTD 2019 Current Year	YTD 2018 Prior Year Actual	Current Year Change
	Actual	Prior Year Actual	Change
REVENUE:			
Congregational Giving	14,085.30	11,324.82	2,760.48
Presbytery Support	13,000.00	20,000.00	(7,000.00)
Individuals/Organiz.: Unified	558.83	306.30	252.53
Program Related	0.00	6,620.00	(6,620.00)
Partner Camp Programs	500.00	0.00	500.00
Registrations	7,691.50	2,590.00	5,101.50
Rentals	<u>13,020.00</u>	<u>11,810.00</u>	<u>1,210.00</u>
Total REVENUE:	<u>48,855.63</u>	<u>52,651.12</u>	<u>(3,795.49)</u>
EXPENDITURES:			
Building Equipment	4,152.53	52.74	4,099.79
Building Maintenance	6,657.06	11,933.43	(5,276.37)
Grounds Maintenance	5,386.72	5,637.73	(251.01)
Insurance	6,053.58	9,179.70	(3,126.12)
Miscellaneous	27.00	12.00	15.00
Office Equipment	423.99	0.00	423.99
Salaries and Benefits	30,689.52	29,488.57	1,200.95
Postage	0.00	9.79	(9.79)
Professional Fees	907.25	1,342.41	(435.16)
Program Related	4,124.37	3,809.83	314.54
Publicity/Promotion	3,898.72	4,524.45	(625.73)
Development	0.00	851.90	(851.90)
Supplies	1,171.34	766.83	404.51
Telephone	966.35	867.50	98.85
Travel	159.04	0.00	159.04
Utilities	11,650.14	8,451.63	3,198.51
Vehicles	<u>362.45</u>	<u>1,296.67</u>	<u>(934.22)</u>
Total EXPENDITURES:	<u>76,630.06</u>	<u>78,225.18</u>	<u>(1,595.12)</u>
Total Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures	<u>(27,774.43)</u>	<u>(25,574.06)</u>	<u>(2,200.37)</u>

Date: 7/5/2019, 10:33 AM

P-1**COMMISSION ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY AND MEMBERSHIP***Action Items*

The Commission on Preparation for Ministry and Membership recommends candidates **Alexander Lester-Abdalla** (Wayne) and **Leigh DeVries** (Middle Tennessee Presbytery), be examined for ordination and, if the way be clear, their plans for ordination be approved.

Information Items

The following actions have been taken by the Commission on Preparation for Ministry and Membership at their May 9, 2019 and June 13, 2019 Meetings.

Enrolled as Inquirer

1. Enrolled Emma-Claire Martin as an Inquirer. (6/13/19)

Certified Ready

1. Approved Christen Blore (Doylestown) to be certified ready for examination for ordination pending a call. (2/14/19)

Enrolled as a Member

1. Enrolled Rev. Eustacia Moffett Marshall as a member of the Presbytery of Philadelphia. (5/9/19)
2. Enrolled Rev. Dr. John Wilkinson as a member of the Presbytery of Philadelphia. (6/13/19)

Under the Care of the Presbytery of Philadelphia **P-2**
Commission on Preparation for Ministry and Membership

Inquirers

Dean, Mary Kathryn (Philadelphia, First)
Dwayen, Gabriel (Tully)
Jones, Claire (Christ's Community)
Martin, Emma-C laire (Tree of Life)
Mucklow, Wayne (Old Pine)
Rigsby, Suzin (Abington)

Candidates

Baah, Isaac (United Ghanaian)
Biermann, Heidi (Thompson Memorial)
Briggs, William (Doylestown)
Chaffee, John (Media)
Heintz, Cassandra (Carmel)
Hensel, Russel (Supplee)
Heyer-Rivera, Christian (Chestnut Hill)
Hostetter, Andrew (Wayne)
Hostetter, Sarah (Wayne)
Poteet, Margaret (Chestnut Hill)
Rascoe, Allen (Beacon)
Terry, Gregory (Oxford)
Willcox, Courtenay (Bryn Mawr)

Certified Ready

Ballard, Brian
Bass, Aaron
Blore, Christen
Cornish, Theodore
Hodges, Glenda
Lester-Abdalla, Alexander
Lindtner, Jamie
Nambiar, Virginia
Rich, Patricia

Leigh DeVries Autobiography**P-3**

I was born in Nashville, Tennessee, the youngest child of a Presbyterian pastor from a long line of pastors. My teenage years were punctuated by mission trips, camp leadership, and leading worship through singing. I was deeply cared for in the youth ministry of First Presbyterian Church, Nashville, and it became the developmental backdrop which formed my love of Jesus and my call to love the world as Jesus did.

After graduating from Nashville School of the Arts, I attended Rhodes College in Memphis. At Rhodes, my theological imagination seemed to “wake up” as I looked at my faith from an academic perspective. At the same time, I was privileged to serve as a core-team leader of our student-led campus ministry at Rhodes. These were years of almost daily dissection and deconstruction of my childhood faith.

After living my senior year of college in a grant-funded intentional Christian community of six women, I graduated in 2011 with a BA in Religious Studies and a Minor in Music. After graduation, though I felt a deep devotion to Jesus, I had significant questions about the Church, the institution that I now understood had been a force for hurt and oppression to so many.

After trying my hand at the world of professional music, I spent a few transformational months working as an itinerant farmer in New Zealand. I returned to Nashville to be a part of the Center for Youth Ministry Training and serve on staff in the youth ministry at my home church, beginning my overtly theological education at Memphis Theological Seminary. Working as a youth pastor while simultaneously taking seminary courses provided an incredible opportunity to experience practical theology. During this time, I sensed a call to work with young people. Their passion and willingness to ask the big questions of faith still inspires me to more deeply love God, myself, and those around me.

Two years later, I moved to New Jersey to attend Princeton Theological Seminary. At PTS, through the love and care of professors and friends, I began to question and understand my sexuality, and in 2016, I began to identify as a queer woman. As a Christian woman from the Bible Belt, this was a difficult realization. With incredible followers of Jesus walking alongside me, I began discovering more of the person I believe God called me to be. It was also at PTS that I met my wife, Jennifer Herold, who was also studying for her Master of Divinity at PTS.

During my tenure at PTS, even before my “coming out,” I participated in BGLASS (the seminary LGBTQ+ student club). I also wrote and acted in the yearly PTS comedy show, Theologiggle, and was involved in the formation of the Women, Gender and Theology Certificate, participating in a wide variety of conversations and colloquiums as the program formed. In May of 2017, I graduated with a Master of Divinity, an MA in Christian Education and Formation, and a Certificate in Women, Theology and Gender.

Beginning in August 2017, I worked as the Associate Director of the Bend Youth Collective, a progressive, ecumenical youth group made up of youth from five different churches. Simultaneously, I worked as the Director of Youth Ministry at Bend Church, a reconciling United Methodist church, and Nativity Lutheran Church, in Bend, Oregon.

Jenni and I are excited to move Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, in June of 2019, where I will, God willing, become the ordained and installed Pastor for Youth and Their Families at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church.

P-4**Leigh DeVries
Statement of Faith**

I believe in a God who is utterly with us, regardless of social status, nationality, religion or any other signifier that separates us from one another. The with-ness of God, this fundamental understanding and love from the heart of God, is the foundation of my Christian faith. Love is the what, the why, the how of who God is. I am called to seek out that same with-ness which Jesus exemplified as the Emmanuel, by participating in God's saving action in a suffering world.

God was murdered on the cross in Jesus. God has also been the victim of friendly fire, a beaten wife, and a person suffering with schizoaffective disorder. God has experienced and continues to experience, through the Spirit, the whole of human life with each person, often painfully, out of love. Each being thus uniquely expresses a presence of God, and it is through relationship and community that we can most powerfully learn who God is.

Our Creator God lives in unity with Jesus and the Holy Spirit. In their union, they exemplify perfect unity, providing the model for perfect relationship. The Church is a vehicle for such transformational relationships, fashioned after the Trinity. We seek to live as community, continuously inviting all people into love and peace through relationship with God, self, and the other. In the chaos of life, God is present in each sinful, beautiful, messy human life.

Within the Church, the Bible is a concrete witness to the life of Jesus, authoritatively telling the narrative that undergirds and informs the Christian life. The Bible reveals that we do not live in a vacuum, that God has spoken before and will speak again. Through the power of story, specifically the stories of the Bible, we learn truths about who we are, who God is, and how humanity has sought to understand God. As with all written texts, the Bible too is contextual, with greater depth and application being drawn from its words when understood through the context in which they were written.

Sin, at its most basic, is anything that further separates us from ourselves, from one another, from creation, from God. The cross is God's ultimate expression of with-ness, coming down to earth in flesh in Jesus to embody love. God is the love that meets us wherever we are, but loves us too much to let us stay the same.

The sacraments communicate profound truths of the Christian faith. The sacrament of baptism claims us, as reborn, claimed as children of God. In communion, we taste and eat of the presence of Jesus, taking God's with-ness into our very bodies in ultimate intimacy that defies explanation. The presence of God, taken into the body through communion, is then shared as we go out to be love and express love to a suffering world.

In the end, God is love. The goal of the Christian life is but to seek out that divine love in the self, the other, and all of creation, to seek connection in a world that profits from separation, to express the love of our Cosmic Christ to all of God's beloved Creation.

P-5**Alexander Lester-Abdalla's
Autobiographical Statement**

I am originally from Pottstown, Pennsylvania where I lived most of my life. I was raised Roman Catholic by parents who are faithful and open people. They always encouraged us to express our beliefs in various ways, so I knew that when I went to college I wanted to try different faith traditions. It was at Villanova University that I started to attend a Presbyterian church regularly (Wayne Presbyterian). During this period, I fell in love with Presbyterian worship, polity, and theology in a way that shaped me forever.

After college I completed a year of service with Americorps Vista working at Project HOME in Philadelphia. I have always felt called to vocations of service and meeting the needs of people facing poverty, homelessness, and inequality. However, through this year of service I learned that God was calling me away from a secular path to a ministry that included serving people in a spiritual capacity, as well as materially, emotionally, and intellectually. Through affirmation of my peers, mentors, and faith community I decided to go to seminary.

In seminary I grew exponentially in personal, as well as vocational areas. I matured emotionally and spiritually in ways that improved my quality of life, as well as being more equipped to serve others. I relished in my academic study and practical experiences that shaped my ability to do ministry. And I continually felt affirmed in my call to be a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the PCUSA. I am very grateful to God who inspires my belief that I have received a call from Morrisville Presbyterian Church—a tremendous community with great leadership that is looking for a pastor that overlaps perfectly with my beliefs and interests in ministry.

I am continuously supported by my wife, Elizabeth, and our extended family. I am an avid sports fan, politics nerd, and lover of all cookies and ice cream everywhere.

P-6**Alexander Lester-Abdalla****Statement of Faith**

I believe my faith is a gift given, created, revealed, and sustained by the one-triune God: God the Father and Creator; God the Son, Word, and Redeemer; and God the Holy Spirit and Sustainer.

I believe in God the Father who created all things and called it good. God inspires our awe by being transcendent from creation, while simultaneously comforting our fears by acting in creation through God's providence. God created humanity in God's image with the ability to be in relationship with God. However, humanity has an innate tendency to turn from God and towards sin. Sin is individual and communal tendency towards idolatry and tyranny, and evil is the almost total corruption of sin. There is nothing humanity can do on its own to rid itself of sin and evil, but God's love is steadfast and is constantly interceding on our behalf in order to be in right relationship with God.

I believe the one-triune God has been revealed and redeems through the Son, Jesus Christ, the Word of God. The Word of God has been revealing God's self and God's nature throughout existence. I experience God through God's Word by means of Jesus Christ: that is the Word revealed in Scripture and proclaimed by the Church. Through the incarnation God became human in that Jesus Christ was born fully human and fully divine with fully human qualities while maintaining full divinity. Through his life, Jesus Christ's ministry revealed God's nature and message to humans commanding us to love God and love one another. Through Jesus Christ's death on the cross God endured the depths of human suffering and took on the judgement of human sin even though he was innocent. Through Jesus Christ's resurrection, God destroyed the hold of sin on humanity that forever separated us between humanity and God so that we may have new eternal life being in right relationship with God. Through Jesus Christ's life, death, and resurrection God saves humanity by drawing all people to God by revealing the good news or gospel: in Jesus Christ we know that we are loved by God and we are to love God and love one another.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the third person of the trinity who sustains our faith. The Holy Spirit justifies us by grace through faith in that our relationship with God is a gift that is given to us freely. The Holy Spirit also sanctifies us by guiding us in Christian life. The Holy Spirit works through the sacraments to give us visible signs and seals of God's invisible grace. Through baptism we are claimed by God through the Spirit and engrafted into the body of Christ. Through communion we are given spiritual nourishment in the form of the bread of life and the cup of salvation as we give thanks and remember Christ's saving work until he comes again. The Holy Spirit is God's presence in creation giving us gifts in life, encouraging us in faith, and calling us to do God's work in the world.

I believe in the holy catholic and apostolic Church: holy in that it is set apart from the world called to work within it; catholic in that it is universal across places and time; apostolic in that it descends from the first witnesses of Christ. As Jesus Christ is the head of the Church, God calls us to worship and serve God. Through Christ the Church glorifies God in Christian worship, grows in faith in Christian discipleship, and seeks reconciliation in the world through Christian service. The Church does this through proclaiming the good news of the Gospel, administering the sacraments, preaching and teaching the Word of God through Scripture, and working towards reconciliation and justice in the world. In all these things the Church works towards the reign of God revealed in Jesus Christ until he comes again in glory.

COMMITTEE ON BILLS AND OVERTURES

S-1

In order to accommodate the schedule of deadlines from the Office of the General Assembly (OGA) for overtures to be considered by the 224th General Assembly (2020) in Baltimore, MD¹, the Bills and Overtures Committee has proposed the following schedule for our sessions to follow for any overtures originating from the Presbytery of Philadelphia:

December 1, 2019 Deadline for all **overtures involving amendment(s) to/interpretation(s) of the Book of Order or overtures requiring financial support** to be filed with the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Philadelphia from the sessions of our congregation.

The above overtures will be voted on at our January 21, 2020 * Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Philadelphia.

March 13, 2020 Deadline for all **other overtures or comments from the sessions of our congregations and requests for concurrences from other presbyteries** to be filed with the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Philadelphia.

The above overtures will be voted on at our April 28, 2020 * Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Philadelphia.

***NOTE: Any overtures to be considered at the stated meeting will be e-mailed to commissioners in advance. In addition to a pre-presbytery information session on the day of the stated meeting to serve as a first-reading, a Saturday morning conversation will be scheduled if needed.**

If you are considering submitting an overture, please feel free to contact Stated Clerk Rev. Kevin Porter (statedclerk@presbyphl.org – please put “Overture” in the subject line), or refer to the 2018 Standing Rules of the General Assembly. [www.pcusa.org/resource/standing-rules-general-assembly]

If you would like to serve or nominate someone to serve as a Commissioner or Young-Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD), see the separate brochure. Please note the deadline for nominations is September 13, 2019. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Committee on Nominations Chair, Elder Bob Kenworthy at kenworthy@comcast.net.

¹ **224 GA (2020): June 20-27, 2020 (Baltimore, MD)**

180-day Deadline: December 23, 2019 (list of commissioners to OGA)

120-day Deadline: February 21, 2020 (amendment to/interpretation of *Book of Order*)

60-day Deadline: April 21, 2020 (financial implications)

45-day Deadline: May 6, 2020 (all other overtures, comments)

30-day Deadline: May 21, 2020 (consultation)