



PRESBYTERY *of* PHILADELPHIA

CHRIST'S WORK ♦ OUR WITNESS

May 21, 2019

Stated Meeting Presbytery of Philadelphia

Letter from the Moderator
Introducing New Members
Digital Meeting Directions
Redress of Imbalance
Docket
Consent Agenda
Commission on Ministry
Commission on Financial Management
Leadership Collegium
Commission on Preparation for Ministry & Membership
Commission on Resources and Creative Ministries
Stated Clerk



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

On behalf of our risen Lord I bring you greetings and welcome you to our first online Presbytery meeting. This promises to be an unusual gathering of the faithful but may not be our last online meeting as we all navigate the uncertainties of the current global pandemic.

As I write this, I am deeply aware of the COVID-19 related deaths that have occurred in many of our congregations. I am aware of the extra toll these two months have taken on our pastors and congregational leaders, chaplains, and those serving in community ministries. Please be assured that we hold you in prayer as we continue on this unprecedented journey.

There are many blessings of being your Moderator, chief among them in the last two months has been the opportunity to witness the abounding creativity and commitment of those in our Presbytery. I am encouraged on a daily basis by the resilience and grace that is displayed during this time of unprecedented anxiety and concern. It is uplifting to see the many ways you are salt and light to a world that is in pain.

Like many of us, I am able to fully commit to my vocation and when on vacation, can fully commit to relaxing and fun. What I have never been able to fully accomplish is a balance of both in my daily life. Similarly, as stressful as isolation has been and still is for many of us, we are facing a future where we cannot be fully isolated nor fully in contact but will be called to balance both. The way we have responded to the current situation gives me great confidence that together we will navigate the new boundaries as we work together to spread the word and the gospel of Jesus Christ while protecting the health and welfare of our friends and family.

This on-line Presbytery meeting will be a great example of how we may continue to hold each other up while maintaining a social distance. We will have a time to share some of our personal experiences of the blessings of isolation as well as some of the challenges. We will joyfully commission members of our body to attend the General Assembly as they prepare for a historic virtual gathering in June. In spite of the pandemic, our work as a Presbytery continues. You will hear of the grants that have been provided to congregations especially hard hit by this situation and will also hear of opportunities for future grants both through the Presbytery and from other organizations. In this time of anticipation and hope for the future, we will also lift up in gratitude the faithful witness of the Macalester-Torresdale Presbyterian Church as they enter a new season of life.

As we face the new future together, this is an especially important time to remind ourselves that as Presbyterians we believe in the power of our connectional denomination. Our witness and work in the world are strengthened by communion with each other. This meeting, although in an unusual format, will be just as joy filled as our in person meetings have been - and hopefully will be in the future. I look forward with great anticipation to our time together.

Grace and peace,

Vijay Aggarwal,

Moderator of the Presbytery of Philadelphia



NEW MINISTER MEMBERS OF THE PRESBYTERY OF PHILADELPHIA

May 16, 2020



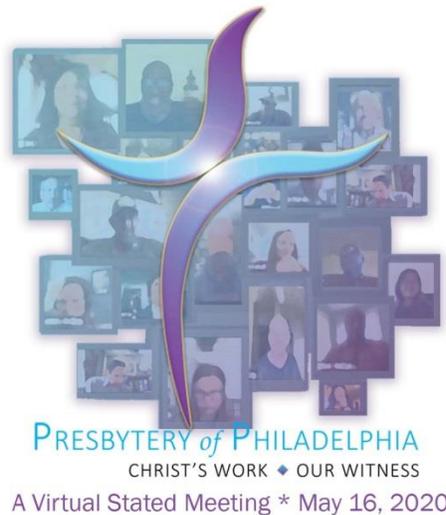
Rev. Richard Miller transferred from the East Iowa Presbytery and is serving as the Executive Pastor of the Wayne Presbyterian Church.



Rev. Peter Sulyok transferred from the Long Island Presbytery is serving as the Transitional Pastor of the Carmel Presbyterian Church.



Rev. Gregory Terry was ordained on February 16, 2020 and is serving as the Designated Pastor of the Holy Trinity-Bethlehem Presbyterian Church.



Registration Begins at 9:15 a.m. Quick Sheet for Participation

“For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”
Matthew 18:20

[Click Here for Helpful Visual Guide of ZOOM Tools](#)

I. Registration

- A. Advanced Registration Appreciated by Friday, May 15:
<https://presbyphl.org/events/may-16th-2020-digital-stated-mtg/>;
- B. Once you submit registration, the link to the ZOOM meeting will appear. After completing the required fields, you will be provided details for the stated meeting:
 1. Participants can join meeting by the computer **AND** by telephone; *if you will be joining by telephone, please note the number you will be calling from in the registration.* This will allow us to admit you from the waiting room; for security purposes, unrecognized telephone numbers will not be admitted until we can confirm their origin
 2. **Meeting ID:** 856-7978-6209
 3. **Meeting Password:** 91519150 (this password will likely not be required)
 4. You will notice two (re)occurrences of this meeting; May 15th Tutorial (optional) *and* May 16th Stated Meeting
- C. Day before Presbytery: Digital Meeting Tutorial (optional)
 1. Join us at 10 a.m. on Friday, May 15th for a thirty-minute tutorial and Q&A as we prepare for the first-ever virtual stated meeting;
 2. If you register for the Stated Meeting, the same ID and password apply; no need to register twice
- D. Day of Stated Meeting
 1. Registration opens at 9:15 a.m. using the provided meeting link, ID, and password;
 2. once you register, you will gain access to a digital waiting room with visuals and music. Our stated meeting hosts will be reviewing each registered participant and grant access to the stated meeting, which will automatically be called to order at 10 a.m.
 3. *Note:* your video and audio feed will not be public and will remain **MUTED/OFF** while in waiting room **AND** for the duration of the meeting, except when invited to turn on and participate; these features are controlled by the meeting hosts so to assure security and efficiency of the meeting

E. Registration on Day of Stated Meeting

1. For those who have not pre-registered for the meeting, simply register through ZOOM using this URL:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/join?pwd=ZlRlc0c3hWpZO2AwZyFUVjZjZjH>
2. A meeting host will admit you to the meeting and immediately privately chat with you to acquire all necessary information for registration; *for the sake of expediency, please pre-register by Friday, May 15th so we can minimize these pre-meeting chats required for registration*
3. If joining by phone, the number used must match your pre-registration; unrecognizable numbers will be contacted by a meeting host before being admitted

F. Guest Participants

1. If attending this virtual meeting as a guest and *not* as a commissioner or minister member, we ask that you note this in your pre-registration or when joining the meeting on the day of the event; *note: only commissioners and minister members are permitted to vote as a part of the meeting. thank you.*
2. *Even a virtual meeting is an open and public gathering of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, thank you to all who join us! This meeting will also be broadcast on Facebook LIVE.*

II. Audio and Display

A. Speaker View and Gallery View: Options are on the top right of your screen

1. Speaker View: This is the preferred view for the Stated Meeting; this view allows you to only view the individual who is talking during the stated meeting;
2. Gallery View (“Brady Bunch”): This view shows all participants whose video is turned on; if more than allotted per screen, there will be multiple pages of participants able to be viewed and scrolled through on the center right and left of your screen; this view can enhance the connectional feeling in the midst of the meeting;
3. Spotlight; this feature will be controlled by the meeting hosts and will lock in a given meeting participants screen regardless of who is speaking; in speaker view, this will make the spotlight video your entire screen; in gallery view the spotlighted video will appear as the first window in your gallery
4. On a mobile device, views can be changed by swiping right

B. Participant Display Name: The name that appears on your screen cannot be changed once the meeting begins. This is a security feature. The name that appears is the name that is typed in at registration. Hosts of the meeting can change these names if necessary and appropriate.

C. Audio and Video: At the beginning of the meeting, all participants will be invited to turn their audio on. The hosts will then **MUTE ALL** participants; Only the audio and video of those who are leading the Stated Meeting and/or hosting the Stated Meeting will be turned on; should there be a request or need to hear from or view other participants hosts will unmute participants and request participants to turn on their video. To do so, simply click share video on the bottom right of your tool bar or by clicking the video camera icon by your name in the participants window;

D. Participants via phone can use the *6 feature to mute/unmute themselves; however, once the meeting begins, all participants audio will be controlled by the meeting hosts;

E. The view for the meeting will be through spotlight view; only those speaking will be visible and the screen sharing will be controlled by hosts to display slides, documents, motions, liturgy, etc. There will be no need for attendees to change their views between speaker and/or gallery;

III. Participation

- A. Recording Disclaimer: The entirety of meeting and chat room are recorded and saved for record keeping and future publicity; participation in this meeting assumes understanding and consent;
- B. Chat Room Engagement: Access on the bottom toolbar of ZOOM Meetings; click this to pop up the chat room. These rooms can be used for public and private conversations with individual participants; however, along with public chats, ZOOM also records and saves private chats, please be aware of this in any of your dialogues and make sure all conversations are constructive and gracious; the chat room will also be monitored by a team of leaders within the presbytery for both security and efficiency purposes;
- C. Fellowship and Hospitality: Consider this space as similar to engaging in physical location of a stated meeting; say hello to new and familiar faces; extend a greeting, kind word, and encouraging thought; quote or give thanks for meaningful components of the gathering;
- D. Tech Deacon Assistance: If you need technical assistance at any point in the meeting, simply type "Tech Deacon" followed by your question. A member of our team will be monitoring the chat room and be sure to assist you;
- E. Questions: Chat room can be used to raise questions about meeting content, motions, actions, etc. As with all physical meetings, the Moderator of the Presbytery will facilitate and choose whether to recognize these questions or not; should there be a need to speak your question for clarity, the moderator will request to turn on your video and/or unmute participant audio

IV. Voting and Deliberation: There will several items that require action by commissioners and minister members of the presbytery and will be done so as follows through through the "Participants" window opened by clicking it on the bottom toolbar

- A. Voting: Yes and No Options in Participant Window (Nonverbal Options)
 - 1. When acting on motions, the moderator will call for a vote. All those in favor please click **yes** if in favor of the proposed action; click **no** if not in favor of the proposed
 - 2. Votes are automatically tallied above the green and red, yes and no buttons
 - 3. Votes can be changed/corrected; however, please adhere to the moderators instructions who will call for the end of the vote; once this occurs, please do not change your vote; the meeting hosts will "clear all" votes at the instruction of moderator
 - 4. *If voting by telephone, **to vote in favor, raise hand by dialing *9**; leave the hand raised until moderator instructs otherwise, then dial *9 again to lower hand; the moderator will the invite those discerning to vote "no" to raise their hand by dialing *9; leave the hand raised until moderator instructs otherwise, then dial *9 again to lower hand*
- B. Questions: Raise Hand if you have a question pertaining to the proposed action
 - 1. On-Line: click the option to "raise hand"; all raised hands move to the top of the participant window in alphabetical order; moderator has privilege to recognize question or not; if recognized, audio will be turned on and video ask to be turned on; please address questions to the moderator; you can lower hand by clicking the same button that will now read "lower hand;"
 - 2. Phone: participants dial *9 and this raises hand and a hand is displayed next to your name on screen; If recognized, audio will be turned on; please address questions to the moderator; you can lower hand by once again dialing *9

V. Breakout Groups

- A. The meeting will begin with worship and conclude with business. As part of worship, all participants/attendees will be invited to join a pre-assigned breakout group:
1. Once these groups go LIVE, you will see a window pop up on your screen requesting you to join the assigned breakout group, accept the invitation, if desired
 2. At this time, if desired, turn on your video and/or audio by selecting the video and audio buttons on your bottom toolbar *or* by clicking the video camera icon by your name in the participants window
 3. breakout groups are timed and include passing of the peace and question to consider as part of sharing; time will appear at top right of your screen; once the meeting is over you will be returned automatically to the main meeting and your video and audio will be OFF

- VI. Security:** A Tech Team has been convened for purposes of this gathering to handle registration logistics, monitor chat room, manage audio and video access and speaker display, anticipate and manage potential “zoombombers” intending to disrupt peaceful assembly, and field questions and comments about technology and ZOOM platform. Should you have additional concerns, please contact our Associate Presbyter, Rev. Greg Klimovitz, either by private chat during the ZOOM meeting or email: gklimovitz@presbyphl.org

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 86 congregants for every minister member. Using each congregation’s reported 2018 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 1,500 or more at 15.)*

Total Minister Members: 299 ♦ Total Congregation Membership: 25,716

**The newly formed West Philadelphia Presbyterian Partnership represents the 2019 collaboration of three churches: First African, Calvin, and Good Shepherd. Because the redress of imbalance membership is determined by the 2018 year-end statistical report, each church is granted one elder commissioner per congregation.*

This will be implementation beginning on December 1, 2019. This assigning begins in December 1, 2019 and continues through November 30, 2020.

| | |
|--|----|
| Abington | 10 |
| Ambler, First | 7 |
| Anchor | 1 |
| Arch Street | 1 |
| Ardmore, First | 4 |
| Aston | 1 |
| Beacon | 1 |
| Bensalem | 1 |
| Berean | 2 |
| Bethel | 1 |
| Bethesda | 1 |
| Beverly Hills | 1 |
| Bryn Mawr | 15 |
| Calvary - Wyncote | 2 |
| 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 |

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|------------------------|----|
| Crossroads-Limerick | 2 |
| Darby, First | 1 |
| Deep Run | 2 |
| Disston Memorial | 1 |
| Doylestown | 15 |
| Eddington | 2 |
| Elkins Park | 1 |
| Falls of Schuylkill | 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 |
| Grace Jenkintown | 5 |
| Gwynedd Square | 3 |
| Holmes | 1 |
| Holy Trinity Bethlehem | 1 |
| Ivyland | 1 |
| Japanese Christian | 1 |
| Jeffersonville | 1 |
| Kensington First | 1 |

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|----------------------------------|---|
| Lansdowne, First | 2 |
| Lawndale Holy Grace | 1 |
| Lenape Valley | 4 |
| Leverington | 2 |
| Levittown, First | 3 |
| Llanerch | 2 |
| Lombard Central | 1 |
| Lower Providence | 9 |
| MaCalester Torresdale | 1 |
| Marple | 2 |
| Mayfair | 1 |
| Media | 6 |
| Memorial | 1 |
| Middletown | 4 |
| Morrisville | 5 |
| Mount Airy | 1 |
| Neshaminy Warwick | 6 |
| New Spirit Community | 1 |
| Newtown | 9 |
| Newtown Square | 3 |
| Norristown, First | 1 |
| Norriton | 1 |
| Northampton | 2 |
| Northminster | 1 |
| Oak Lane | 1 |
| Old Pine, Third Scots & Mariners | 2 |
| Olivet Covenant | 1 |
| Olney First | 1 |
| Overbrook | 4 |
| Oxford | 2 |
| Parkland | 1 |
| PC of Pakistan | 1 |
| Penn Wynne | 1 |
| Philadelphia, First | 3 |
| Podowon | 1 |
| Port Kennedy, First | 1 |
| Pottstown, First | 7 |
| Rhawnhurst | 2 |
| Ridley Park | 6 |
| Roxborough | 1 |
| Southwestern | 1 |
| Springfield -Flourtown | 2 |
| Springfield, First | 2 |
| Suh Kwang | 1 |
| Summit | 1 |
| Supplee Memorial | 4 |
| Swarthmore | 8 |

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|---|----|
| Tabernacle United | 1 |
| Temple | 1 |
| Thompson Memorial | 4 |
| Thomas M Thomas Memorial | 1 |
| Tree of Life | 1 |
| Trinity - Clifton Heights | 1 |
| Trinity, Philadelphia | 1 |
| Tully Memorial | 1 |
| United Ghanaian Community | 3 |
| Valley Forge | 1 |
| Wallingford | 5 |
| Warminster | 4 |
| Wayne | 15 |
| Westminster Mayfair | 1 |
| Wissahickon | 1 |
| Wissinoming | 1 |
| Woodland | 1 |
| Woodside | 9 |
| Wynnefield | 1 |
| *West Philadelphia Presbyterian Partnership | 3 |
| Yeadon | 1 |

**PRESBYTERY OF PHILADELPHIA
STATED MEETING
SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2020
“First Ever Virtual Gathering”**

10:00 AM Business and Worship Begins



*Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity
for just such a time as this.*

Esther 4:14b



DOCKET

ABIDING

| | | |
|----------|---|---|
| 9:15 AM | Registration Opens | |
| 10:00 AM | Call to Meeting and Opening Prayer | Moderator Elder Vijay Aggarwal |
| | Technology Tips and Instructions | Reverend Greg Klimovitz |
| 10:10 AM | Worship Opening Meditation Commissioning of General Assembly Commissioners | Reverends Ruth Faith Santana-Grace and Kevin Porter |
| 10:50 AM | Stated Clerk Report Approval of the Docket Approval of Consent Agenda Recommendation to Amend Bylaws Seating of Corresponding Members Introduction of New Elder Commissioners and Minister Members | Reverend Kevin Porter |
| 11:05 AM | Executive Presbyter Report | |
| 11:05 AM | Leadership Collegium Report Administrative Commission for the Macalester-Torresdale Presbyterian Church Report Litany of Gratitude and Celebration for Faithful Witness | Moderator Elder Vijay Aggarwal Elder Julie Stephenson, chair |

11:45 PM New Business
11:50 AM Closing Prayer and Adjournment



The next Stated Meeting of
the Presbytery of Philadelphia
will be on Saturday, July 18, 2020 @ 10:00am
at Oxford Presbyterian Church
(likely to be a hybrid virtual meeting)

2020 STATED PRESBYTERY MEETINGS

Tuesday, November 17, 2020 First Presbyterian Church of Pottstown (afternoon through dinner)

*Any new business is to be in the hands of the Stated Clerk by 11:00 am, by submitting it via ZOOM chat or via email to Cassie Heintz, cheintz@presbyphl.org.

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:

Ministers of Word and Sacrament

Rev. Barbara Ndovie, Honorably Retired, on April 1, 2020

Elders

Paul Frishkorn (Springfield, First) March 23, 2020

Eleda Rivers (Holy Trinity-Bethlehem) March 27, 2020

George Schneider (Philadelphia, First) April 27, 2020

“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

2. The Investigating Committee (IC) formed in response to a written complaint alleging misconduct by Minister U,* having decided no charges be filed, be dismissed with thanks - Ministers of Word and Sacrament Dr. James Thornton (Carmel), Kari Olson (Falls of Schuylkill, First), Lori Kosinski (Norriton), and Elders Linda Rutkosky (Doylestown) and Lloyd Higgins (Oxford).

* NOTE: The January 2, 2020 formation of this IC was reported out to the Presbytery as concerning an allegation of misconduct by Minister T due to clerical error.

The Leadership Collegium moves the following action item for approval by the Presbytery

3. That the bylaws of the Presbytery of Philadelphia be amended as follows:

a. “Section 1.4 Meetings, e. Voting” be amended to insert a new sub-section (iv):

(iv) Electronic voting is permissible when the mode of voting has been publicized with appropriate notice. The rights of members to vote are as stipulated in these bylaws and the procedures of its various commissions. There shall be a means of counting votes if called for by a commissioner.

b. “Section 2.5 Leadership Collegium, a. Defined” be amended to insert the additional underlined wording as follows:

a. The Leadership Collegium (the Collegium) shall have the authority to coordinate, oversee, and facilitate the mandated responsibilities in accordance with G-3.0109 and G-3.03-.0307 and as delegated by the presbytery. The Collegium shall serve as the Administrative Commission of the Presbytery authorized as might be needed to function on behalf of the Presbytery under emergency circumstances such as a natural disaster or a public health order forbidding social gatherings. These emergency powers cease once the Presbytery is able to hold a duly called meeting with reasonable notice and quorum.

c. “Section 2.5 Leadership Collegium, b. Membership” be amended to insert the additional underlined word as follows:

A-2

b. The Collegium shall be composed of the Moderator, Vice-Moderator, the moderators of the Standing Commissions, three at-large members, and the Committee(s) on Nominations, Personnel and Representation. The Collegium shall reflect the diversity of the Presbytery as nearly as possible. The Executive Presbyter, the Associate Presbyter, Business Administrator, and the Stated Clerk are members with voice and no vote.

Informational Items

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

1. The Ordination service of the Gregory Terry took place Sunday, February 16, 2020 at the Holy Trinity-Bethlehem Presbyterian Church with the Rev. Ethelyn Taylor preaching. All questions were answered in the affirmative.
2. The 2019 minutes of the Presbytery of Philadelphia were approved without exception or delinquency at the Synod of the Trinity Record Reading held virtually on April 30, 2020.

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

C-1

Informational Items

The following actions have been taken by the Commission on Ministry at their January 9, February 6, March 5, and April 2, 2020 Meetings.

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| Terms of Call |
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1. Approved the Terms of Call for the **Rev. Aaron Twitchell** as Associate Pastor at the **Abington Presbyterian Church** with the following terms: \$60,000 cash compensation; a housing amount to be determined; \$4,590 SECA; \$22,200 pensions; \$2,500 professional expenses; \$1,500 study leave; 1 month vacation (four Sundays), 2 weeks study leave: \$86,200 Total Package. (1/9/20)
2. Approved the Designated Terms of Call for **Gregory Terry** and **Holy Trinity-Bethlehem Presbyterian Church** with the following terms: this is a 30 hour per week position for 2 years; \$40,108 cash compensation; \$3,068 SECA; \$14,840 pensions; \$1,500 professional expenses; \$1,000 study leave; 1 month vacation (four Sundays); 2 weeks study leave; \$60,516 Total Package. (1/9/20)
3. Approved the Terms of Call for **Rev. Richard Miller** as Executive Pastor at **Wayne Presbyterian Church** with the following terms: \$90,000 cash compensation; \$6,885 SECA; \$33,300 pensions; \$2,500 professional expenses; \$1,000 study leave; one month (four Sundays) vacation; two weeks study leave: \$133,885 Total Package. (1/9/20)

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| Supply Contracts |
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1. Renewed the Supply Contract between **Rev. Michelle Grunseich** and the Session of the **Aston Presbyterian Church** effective June 1, 2019 with the following terms: this is a 20 hour per week position; \$13,108.29 cash compensation; \$13,108.28 housing; \$26,216.57 effective salary; \$2,005.57 SECA, \$3,386.66 pension; \$1,250 professional expenses; \$500 study leave; 2 weeks vacation, 1 week study leave \$33,358.80 Total Package. (1/9/20)
2. Renewed the Supply Contract between **Rev. Chris Holland** and the Session of the **New Spirit Community Church** with the following terms: this is a 19 hour per week position; \$34,000 housing allowance; \$2,601 SECA; \$3,740 (11%) pensions; \$1,000 professional expenses, \$500 study leave; 1 month (four Sundays) vacation; 2 weeks study leave; \$41,841 Total Package. (1/9/20)

C-2

3. Approved the renewal of the Supply Contract between the **Rev. Adan Mairena** and the Session of the **Yeadon Presbyterian Church** with the following terms: this is a 19 hour per week position; \$17,858.29 cash compensation; \$1,366.16 SECA, \$7,242.89 pensions (to presbytery). \$1,500 professional expenses, \$500 study leave; 2 weeks study leave, 1 month (four Sundays) vacation. (2/6/20)
4. Approved the renewal of the Supply Contract between **Rev. Anna Grant Borden** and the Session of the **Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church** and beginning January 1, 2020 with the following term: this is a half-time position; \$12,487 cash compensation, \$14,280 housing allowance, \$26,767 total effective salary; \$2,048 SECA, \$1,250 professional expenses, \$1,000 study leave; 2 weeks study leave; 1 month (four Sundays) vacation; \$31,065 Total Package. (2/6/20)
5. Renewed the Supply Contract between **the Revs. Barbara and Len Hedges-Goettl** and the Session of the **Trinity United Presbyterian Church** beginning on April 20, 2020 with the following terms: this is a shared position at 19 hour per week; \$26,744 housing allowance; \$2,046 SECA; \$1,250 professional expenses; \$500 study leave; 2 weeks study leave, 5 weeks vacation (five Sundays); \$30,540 Total Package. (3/5/20)
6. Approved the renewal Supply Contract between **Rev. David Larkin** and the Session of the **Jeffersonville Presbyterian Church** beginning January 1, 2020 with the following terms: this is a 19 hour per week position; \$2,000 cash compensation; \$31,200 housing allowance; \$12,789.64 supplemental health, \$2,539.80 SECA, \$3,984 pensions; \$2,500 professional expenses, \$1,000 study leave; 2 weeks study leave, 1 month (four Sundays) vacation; \$56,013.44 Total Package. (4/2/20)
7. Approved the Supply Contract between the **Rev. Jade Bass King** and the Session of the **Abington Presbyterian Church** as the minister for Congregational Care with the following terms: this is a 20 hours per week position; \$15,600 cash compensation; \$15,600 housing allowance; \$2,386 SECA, \$1,500 professional expenses, \$500 study leave; 2 weeks study leave, 4 weeks vacation; \$35,586.80 Total Package. (4/2/20)

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| Transitional Contracts |
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1. Approved the Transitional Contract between the **Rev. Diane Fitch** and the Session of the **Ardmore Presbyterian Church** for a period of 10 months beginning on March 9, 2020 with the following terms: \$30,000 cash compensation; \$50,000 housing allowance, \$6,120 SECA; \$9,600 (12%) pension; \$2,000 professional expenses; 2 weeks study leave (pro-rated for 10 months); 1 month vacation (pro-rated for 10 months); \$97,720 Total Package. (3/5/20)

C-3

2. Approved the Transitional Contract between **Rev. Peter Sulyok** and the Session of the **Carmel Presbyterian Church** for 12 months beginning on April 22, 2020 with the following terms: \$31,770 cash compensation; \$50,000 housing allowance; \$1,000 deferred compensation; \$2,020 additional life insurance payments; \$6,486 SECA; \$31,372 pension; \$2,500 professional expenses; \$1,000 study leave; 2 weeks study leave, 1 month (four Sundays) vacation; \$126,148 Total Package. (3/5/20)

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| Ordinations and Installations |
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1. Approve the following Administrative Commission for the Installation of **Rev. John Wilkinson** at the **Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill** on Sunday March 15, 2020 at 11:00am: Elders Mike Henry (former moderator, Valley Forge), Elder Javier Lopez (Central), and Elder June Higgins (Oxford) and Reverends Austin Shelley (Chestnut Hill), and Ruth Faith Santana-Grace (Executive Presbyter). (2/6/20) *Did Not happen yet due to Coronavirus*

2. Approved **Rev. Joy Douglas Strome (Presbytery of Chicago)** to preach at the Installation of **Rev. John Wilkinson** at the **Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill** on Sunday March 15, 2020. *Did Not happen yet due to Coronavirus*

3. Approved the following Administration Commission for the Ordination of **Gregory Terry** at **Holy Trinity-Bethlehem Presbyterian Church** on Sunday, February 16, 2020 at 3:00pm: Elders Vijay Aggarwal (moderator, Wayne), Elder Elaine McCray (Holy Trinity-Bethlehem), and Elder Diana Taylor (Germantown Community) and Reverends Ethelyn Taylor (Oxford) and Rev. Lori Kosinski (Norriton). (2/6/20)

4. Approve the following Administrative Commission for the Installation of the **Rev. Mindy Campbell** at the **First Presbyterian Church of Warminster** on Sunday, March 15, 2020 at 10:30am: Elder Vijay Aggarwal (moderator, Wayne), Elder Julia Hill (Yeadon), and Elder Cathy Michini (Falls of Schuylkill, First), and Reverends Jesse Garner (Honorably Retired) and Rev. Keith Lawrence (Honorably Retired). (2/6/20)
*Did Not happen yet due to Coronavirus

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| Validated Ministries |
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1. Validated the Ministry of **Rev. Chris Holland** beyond the jurisdiction of the church, as Senior Pastor at **The Common Place**. (1/9/20)

C-4

2. Validated the Ministry of **Rev. William Golderer** beyond the jurisdiction of the church, as president and CEO of United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey. (4/2/20)

Appointments of Moderators of Sessions

1. Appointed **Rev. Linda Jaymes** as Moderator of Session of the **First Kensington Presbyterian Church**. (1/9/20)
2. Appointed **Rev. Ashley Rossi** as Moderator of Session of the **Carmel Presbyterian Church** in the transition period. (2/6/20)
3. Appointed **Rev. Kevin Porter** to moderate **Oak Lane's** session meeting on April 19, 2020. (4/2/20)

Position Descriptions & Ministry Information Forms

1. Approved the **Carmel Presbyterian Church** Transitional Pastor Description (1/9/20)
2. Approved the **Lower Providence Presbyterian Church** Ministry Information Form. (1/9/20)

Exit Interviews & Covenants of Closure

1. Conducted an exit interview with **Rev. Shawn Hyska** with the **First Kensington Presbyterian Church**. (1/9/20)
2. Conducted exit interview with **Rev. Nikki Passante** with the **Media Presbyterian Church**. (3/5/20)

Transfers

1. At the request of the Stated Clerk of Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois, transferred **Rev. Katherine Orth** to the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois. (1/9/20)

Miscellaneous

1. Granted the Status of Honorably Retired to the **Rev. Clayton Ames**. (1/9/20)
2. Approved a grant of \$1,500 from the Care of Minister Fund. (2/6/20)

COMMISSION ON FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

F-1*Informational Items*

The following actions have been taken by the Commission on Financial Management at their March 5, 2020 Meeting.

The **Commission on Financial Management** (CFM) met on March 5, 2020 in the Presbytery office, with the following approved actions:

Audit - That CliftonLarsenAllen be engaged for the 2019 audit

Insurance - That the Presbytery's Master Insurance Policy be renewed.

Investment - That a total return distribution of 5% from the Presbytery's eligible endowment and other funds as of the end of 2019 be credited to its 2020 mission budget.

Report of Counsel

Leases **APPROVED** by the CFM and subsequently approved by the Collegium included:

- A. Landlord: Crossroads Presbyterian Church
 Tenant: Greater Philadelphia YMCA
 Premises: 3 classrooms (#2, 3 and 5); Developed outside play area; Multi-purpose Room during inclement weather when not needed by the Church – 8:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.
 Term: Five years – 09/01/2019 to 08/31/2024
 Rent: 09/01/19-08/31/20 \$1,704.00 per month
 09/01/20-08/31/21 \$1,721.00 per month
 09/01/21-08/31/22 \$1,738.00 per month
 09/01/22-08/31/23 \$1,755.00 per month
 09/01/23-08/31/24 \$1,773.00 per month
 Comment: Renewal of existing lease for 5 years, as in excess of one year required approval of Presbytery or the Collegium. No security deposit required.
- B. Landlord: Holy Trinity Bethlehem Presbyterian Church
 Tenant: Police Athletic League
 Premises: Gymnasium and Computer Room
 Monday through Friday 1:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. plus storage in the gymnasium and use of the Social Hall when available upon request of the Landlord
 Term: 3 years 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2021
 Rent: Not set in dollar terms but defined as a “fair share” of electric and a “fair share” of the gas usage during the winter months of November through March. There is also

an “agreed upon” share of the real estate property taxes to be paid by the Licensee.
 Comment: As in excess of one year, required approval of Presbytery or Collegium.

F-2

The **Commission on Financial Management** (CFM) met on May 7, 2020 in a brief, virtual, Zoom meeting. At that meeting it was announced that the Presbytery’s application for a Paycheck Protection Program loan had been approved and that the Presbytery had recently received a \$246,500 loan as a result. This will support salary & benefits for those on the Presbytery payroll. The CFM passed a resolution supporting the basis for this submission.

Property Transactions:

- Bridesburg Presbyterian Church. Closing on the sale of the real estate of the First Presbyterian Church at Bridesburg took place on February 28, 2020. The purchase price was \$300,000 before selling commission, legal fees and advertising expense.
- Olivet Presbyterian Church (Prospect Park). An agreement to sell the Olivet property to the Interboro School District had been approved by the Trustees but this sale later fell through because the school district could not get zoning relief from the Borough. The property, therefore, remains on the market.
- The West Philadelphia Presbyterian Partnership has given the CFM power of attorney to market and sell the Calvin Presbyterian Church property on behalf of the WPPP.

COVID Emergency Grants

The Trustees, working with the Collegium, have set aside \$500,000 to be given out through grants. These grants (up to \$10,000) are available to churches in the Presbytery which find themselves financially challenged due to the separation caused by the COVID pandemic. Applications can be made online through the Presbytery’s website.

An application review team has been set up to review all applications. Through May 7, 2020, the review team has approved 34 applications totaling slightly more than \$326,000.

LEADERSHIP COLLEGIUM

L-1

*Informational Items***The following actions have been taken by the Leadership Collegium at their March 17 and April 22, 2020 Meetings.**

- General Assembly deadlines for overtures with financial implications is April 21, 2020 and the deadline for all other overtures not involving amendments to (or interpretations of) to our denominational constitution is May 6, 2020. Bill and Overtures met virtually March 16 and voted to recommend that requests from two of our sessions for concurrences to overtures from other presbyteries be brought forward for presbytery consideration (with no recommendation). The session of Summit PC submitted request to have our presbytery concur with overture 013 “On Fossil Fuel Divestment” (Monmouth Presbytery). At that time of our meeting, that overture had 19 concurrences on record with Office of General Assembly. The session of Bryn Mawr PC submitted a request for concurrence with overture 047 “Regarding Our Commitment to Gun Violence Prevention” (Presbytery of Chicago). At the time of our meeting, that overture had no concurrences.

After some discussion, the collegium agreed that given the fact that we would likely not be meeting in April for a comprehensive conversation on climate change and fossil fuel ALONG with the fact that the overture had already received more than the necessary concurrences to go before the floor of General Assembly, there was no need for us to make a recommendation to concur.

Since there was no concurrence on the Gun Violence overture, the Collegium moved to concur with the Presbytery of Chicago on behalf of the presbytery.

Action: On motion duly seconded, the Collegium voted, on behalf of the Presbytery, to concur with Overture 047 from the Presbytery of Chicago “Regarding Our Commitment to Gun Violence Prevention” with the following wording added to the end of concurrence: *The faith community has long been a catalyst for social change. It is incumbent upon the church to give voice to and engage in action with the movement for sensible, widely supported approaches to curbing the proliferation of illegal guns, the primary weapons used to inflict destruction on our communities.* (See Attached). Said concurrence will be communicated to the Office of General Assembly and the Presbytery of Chicago. (3/17/2020)

- **From the Committee on Personnel**– Rev. Ryan Balsan
Action: Approved the formation of a Search Committee to seek out the Business Administrator – with the following members: Rev. Ryan Balsan (Ambler, First), Elder Mike Henry (Valley Forge), Rev. Ashley Rossi (Carmel), Elder Lorraine McKenzie (West Philadelphia Presbyterian Partnership/Calvin), and Rev. Sarah Colwill (Church on the Mall). (3/17/2020)
- **From the Commission on Financial Management** – Elder Mike Henry
Action: Approved the two leases as presented for the Crossroads Presbyterian Church and Holy Trinity-Bethlehem Presbyterian Churches as listed below: (3/17/2020)

1. Landlord: Crossroads Presbyterian Church
- Tenant: Greater Philadelphia YMCA
- Premises: 3 classrooms (#2, 3 and 5); Developed outside play area; Multi-purpose Room during inclement weather when not needed by the Church – 8:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.
- Term: Five years – 09/01/2019 to 08/31/2024
- Rent: 09/01/19-08/31/20 \$1,704.00 per month
09/01/20-08/31/21 \$1,721.00 per month
09/01/21-08/31/22 \$1,738.00 per month
09/01/22-08/31/23 \$1,755.00 per month
09/01/23-08/31/24 \$1,773.00 per month
- Comment: Renewal of existing lease for 5 years, as in excess of one year requires approval of Presbytery or the Collegium. No security deposit required.
2. Landlord: Holy Trinity Bethlehem Presbyterian Church
- Tenant: Police Athletic League
- Premises: Gymnasium and Computer Room
Monday through Friday 1:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. plus storage in the gymnasium and use of the Social Hall when available upon request of the Landlord
- Term: 3 years 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2021
- Rent: Not set in dollar terms but defined as a “fair share” of electric and a “fair share” of the gas usage during the winter months of November through March. There is also an “agreed upon” share of the real estate property taxes to be paid by the Licensee. As in excess of one year requires approval of Presbytery or Collegium.

L-2

Mike Henry along with Ruth Santana-Grace will pursue possible dollars from anticipated income sources (sale of properties) that could be of assistance to our pastors and congregations during this time of pandemic. Governmental mandated closures are providing challenges for income from both giving and rentals. Henry and Santana-Grace will communicate with the Collegium with a proposed financial amount (upon approval by trustees) that would then be overseen by a committee with oversight from the Collegium.

- From the Committee on Nominations – Elder Bob Kenworthy
Action: Approved Rev. Leah Miller (Anchor) to a 1-year term on the Committee on Representation. (3/17/2020)

Action: Approved Elder Barbara Adams-Smelter (Calvin) to serve a 6-year term on the Synod Permanent Judicial Committee. (3/17/2020)

L-3

- From the Executive Team: Ruth Santana-Grace introduced this report with input from Greg Klimovitz, Kevin Porter and Chandler Stokes. Among the updates presented were:
 - Coronavirus – our new normal. Staff and leadership committed to walking along side our congregations and their leaders during these rapidly changing times. Santana-Grace personally sent emails and/or texts to pastors/heads of staff along with leaders of community ministries on Friday evening and Saturday morning offering solidarity and prayers. The response was overwhelming as we heard from pastors as they navigated this uncharted journey.

Leadership team continuing to think about ways to be helpful during this time.

Action: On motion duly seconded, the Collegium approved up to \$2,000 from the Reserve for New Initiatives to be set aside to aid our smaller congregations (less than 75 members) to buy zoom (or something comparable) in an effort to encourage ongoing virtual connections with their members. (3/17/2020)

- Presbytery Center as Voting Site – April 28th Primary: Due to ADA limitations, Oxford Presbyterian Church can no longer be used as a voting site. The presbytery has been approached and asked if we would allow the presbytery office to be used as a voting site. Chandler Stokes and Cassie Heintz met with election leaders.

Action: On motion duly seconded, the Collegium approved the request to allow the presbytery office to be used as a voting site for the April 28th election, assuming proof of insurance is all in order. (3/17/2020)
- Bylaws Correction: Kevin Porter reported that the recently revised bylaws were intended to include the moderator of Committee on Nominations – but it had been erroneously left off the version of the bylaws that was approved by the presbytery.

Action: On motion duly seconded, the Collegium approved amending Presbytery of Philadelphia bylaws to include the moderator of the Committee on Nominations as a member of the Collegium.

“Section 2.5 Leadership Collegium, b. Membership” be amended to insert the additional underlined word as follows:

 - b. The Collegium shall be composed of the Moderator, Vice-Moderator, the moderators of the Standing Commissions, three at-large members, and the Committee(s) on Nominations, Personnel and Representation. The Collegium shall reflect the diversity of the Presbytery as nearly as possible. The Executive Presbyter, the Associate Presbyter, Business Administrator, and the Stated Clerk are members with voice and no vote. (3/17/2020)
- Vital Congregations - Greg Klimovitz and Santana-Grace informed the Collegium that the Vital congregations gathering scheduled for April has been postponed. All congregations have been informed. As presbytery leadership has been working with these churches and their financial contributions, the Executive Team thought it would be helpful to offer some additional travel support to the 10 pastors participating in the future.

Action: On motion duly seconded, the Collegium approved the earmarking of \$5,000 to assist pastors with travel in the commitment to Vital Congregations gatherings (c \$500 per pastor) (3/17/2020)

- 224th General Assembly – The presbytery received a request from the Presbytery of Baltimore and the Office of General Assembly Committee on Local Arrangements (see attached letter). Their request included:
 - Presbytery of Philadelphia volunteers for one day or more at 224th General Assembly scheduled to meet in Baltimore June 20 – June 27.
 - Consider contribution of dollars to help offset the \$100,000 expenses of the Presbytery of Baltimore

Action: On motion duly seconded, the Collegium approved \$5,000 from Reserves from New Initiatives to support our participation as a partner presbytery at the 224th General Assembly. (3/17/2020)

Action: On motion duly seconded, the Collegium approved up-to-\$5,000 to support the costs and organizing of volunteers and bus for presbytery participation in the 224th General Assembly. (3/17/2020)

- Conversation regarding the April 18th Stated Presbytery Meeting

It was the consensus of the collegium that the staff explore options for a virtual meeting. The final decision as to whether or not we would meet in-person or virtually will be made by end-March.

Action: On motion duly seconded, in the spirit of understanding things may change, the Collegium approved the docket for the April 18th Presbytery meeting as presented. (3/17/2020)

Action: On motion duly seconded, the Collegium approved the request to designate offering collected at the April 18th Presbytery meeting to Care of Ministers' Fund. (3/17/2020)

- **Action:** Approved the March 17, 2020 Leadership Collegium Minutes. (4/22/2020)

- From the Commission on Financial Management – Elder Mike Henry
RESOLVED that the Trustees of the Presbytery of Philadelphia (the “Corporation”) accept the offer of the Interboro School District to purchase the property of the former Olivet Presbyterian Church, 1001 Washington Avenue, Prospect Park, PA, for the purchase price of \$492,500.00 in accordance with the terms of an Agreement of Sale delivered by the School District to the Corporation.

RESOLVED that the Assistant Treasurer/Business Administrator of the Corporation is authorized to take any additional actions and execute any additional amendments or endorsements necessary to close on the sale of the Property with the advice of legal counsel of the Presbytery.

RESOLVED that any one of the officers of the Corporation is authorized and

empowered to execute and deliver all agreements, instruments and documents, including but not limited to, an agreement of sale, a deed, a seller’s affidavit, and settlement statement, as are necessary and desirable to consummate the sale and conveyance of the Property to the Buyer. The said officer is further authorized, directed and empowered to proceed with the sale and to take all such actions as are necessary and desirable for the purposes of effectuating the sale.

RESOLVED that the Assistant Secretary or the Assistant Treasurer of the Corporation are also authorized to sign and affix the Corporation’s seal to any and all documents required to effectuate the sale as set forth above, and, to receive the check (made payable to the Trustees of the Presbytery of Philadelphia) representing the proceeds of the sale.

The sale of Olivet Prospect Park will also require the approval of the Presbytery or the Leadership Collegium on its behalf.

Action: Approved the sale of Olivet Prospect Park church building to Interboro School District to repurpose as an art center for the cost of \$492,500. (4/22/2020)

Action: Approved the leases as presented Crossroads and Holy Trinity-Bethlehem Presbyterian Churches: (4/22/2020)

Landlord: Crossroads Presbyterian Church
 Tenant: Greater Philadelphia YMCA
 Premises: 3 classrooms (#2, 3 and 5); Developed outside play area; Multi-purpose Room during inclement weather when not needed by the Church – 8:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.
 Term: Five years – 09/01/2019 to 08/31/2024
 Rent: 09/01/19-08/31/20 \$1,704.00 per month
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 09/01/22-08/31/23 \$1,755.00 per month
 09/01/23-08/31/24 \$1,773.00 per month
 Comment: No security deposit required.

D. Landlord: Holy Trinity Bethlehem Presbyterian Church
 Tenant: Police Athletic League
 Premises: Gymnasium and Computer Room Monday through Friday 1:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. plus storage in the gymnasium and use of the Social Hall when available upon request of the Landlord
 Term: 3 years 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2021
 Rent: Not set in dollar terms but defined as a “fair share” of electric and a “fair share” of the gas usage during the winter months of November through March. There is also an “agreed upon” share of the real estate

property taxes to be paid by the Licensee.

L-6

- From the Executive Team:
 - **Action:** Approved the dismissal of Investigating Committee for Minister “U” with gratitude for their faithful service: IC was made up of Rev. Jim Thornton (chair), Rev. Lori Kosinski, Elder Linda Rutkosky, Elder Lloyd Higgins and Rev. Kari Olson. (4/22/2020)
- Conversation regarding the Virtual Gathering May 16th Stated Presbytery Meeting

Action: On motion duly seconded, the Collegium approved recommending the following amendment to the bylaws of the Presbytery of Philadelphia for adoption by the Presbytery:

- a. “Section 1.4 Meetings, e. Voting” be amended to insert a new sub-section (iv): (iv) Electronic voting is permissible when the mode of voting has been publicized with appropriate notice. The rights of members to vote are as stipulated in these bylaws and the procedures of its various commissions. There shall be a means of counting votes if called for by a commissioner. (4/22/2020)

Action: On motion duly seconded, the Collegium approved recommending the following amendment to the bylaws of the Presbytery of Philadelphia for adoption by the Presbytery, inserting the additional underlined wording as follows:

- a. The Leadership Collegium (the Collegium) shall have the authority to coordinate, oversee, and facilitate the mandated responsibilities in accordance with G-3.0109 and G-3.03-.0307 and as delegated by the presbytery. The Collegium shall serve as the administrative commission of the Presbytery authorized as might be needed to function on behalf of the Presbytery under emergency circumstances such as a natural disaster or a public health order forbidding social gatherings. These emergency powers cease once the Presbytery is able to hold a duly called meeting with reasonable notice and quorum. (4/22/2020)

Action: On motion duly seconded, the Collegium approved putting the motions to change the bylaws of the Presbytery of Philadelphia on the consent agenda. (4/22/2020)

Action: On motion and duly seconded, the Collegium voted to approve the draft docket for the May 16th virtual meeting of the Presbytery as amended. (4/22/2020)

[OVT-047] Regarding Our Commitment to Gun Violence Prevention**Source:** Presbytery**Event:** 224th General Assembly (2020)**Committee:** Unassigned**Sponsor:** Chicago Presbytery**Type:** General Assembly Full Consideration**L-7**

Recommendation

The Presbytery of Chicago overtures the 224th General Assembly (2020) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to endorse the following affirmation and actions:

Affirmation:

We remember that the disciples ask Jesus when he saw them in faithful ministry and he answered, “As you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me” (Matthew 25:40). In our country 40,000 people are losing their lives each year to gun violence. Each one of these represents to us the crucified Christ, as do their orphans, their grieving parents and families, as do the nearly 100,000 who are injured and the countless others who are traumatized by gun violence through suicides, murders, family violence, and accidents; In faithfulness to the Prince of Peace, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) stands with, grieves with, and calls for change alongside the victims of our uniquely-American epidemic of gun violence.

Recommendations:**1. Commend and give thanks for those who have stood with “the least of these” and taken action:**

a. Every local congregation that has held a study group or conversation, reached out to the community and their elected officials, or taken other actions; specifically, we celebrate the Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church and First United Church of Oak Park, congregations in Chicago that have jointly received the 2019 Peacemaker Award of the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship for pioneering work to prevent gun violence.

b. Every part of the Presbyterian family that has taken action on gun violence prevention, including: our General Assembly Moderators; the Office of the Stated Clerk; Presbyterian Disaster Assistance with its film and book resources and its pastoral presence with communities that experience gun violence; the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program & Presbyterian Peace Fellowship, for the co-sponsored webinar series, *Standing Our Holy Ground*; the Office of Public Witness, the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy, Presbyterian News Service, the Presbyterian Writers Guild, *The Presbyterian Outlook*; the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship with its *Gun Violence Prevention Congregational Toolkit* and other resources; Presbytery of Grace in Dallas, Texas, for recognizing God’s call to the Reverend Deanna Hollas, ordained as the first minister of Gun Violence Prevention; and all other entities, staff, officers, and individuals in the PC(USA) that have taken action to save lives from gun violence.

c. The students of America who demand change; the businesses such as Walmart, Dicks’ Sporting Goods, and 130 other corporations that have called for commonsense laws to prevent gun violence; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms for banning the sale of bump stocks to convert guns into automatic weapons; action of the U.S. House and Senate to update the National Background Check System; the U.S. House in passing legislation for universal background checks, greater protection of women from domestic gun violence, and for restoration of federal funding for research into the causes and best solutions to gun violence—and for all the organizations and individuals across America who call upon the U.S. Senate and all elected officials and candidates to support these actions and turn them into real change.

2. Call upon every congregation in the PC(USA) to prayerfully consider their role in helping to prevent gun violence. As Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. reminded us, “Everyone can do something.”

3. Direct the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy, in partnership with others, including, but not limited to the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program, the Advocacy Committee for Women's Concerns, the Racial Equity Advocacy Committee, and the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship, to update the historic 2010 policy of the 219th General Assembly, *Gun Violence, Gospel Values: Mobilizing in Response to God's Call* and to present this update for a vote at the 225th General Assembly (2022) which includes:

- a. An update of the 2010-era statistics and sources to current statistics and sources about gun violence; and an update on current legislative actions and efforts to seek common ground for saving lives.
- b. The sinful, historical intersection between guns and race. Issues to pursue:
 - (1) The history of gun ownership being too often a means for white people to "protect" themselves and their families from perceived threats from black, brown, and native people, creating a culture of entitlement to gun ownership that is born out of racism, white supremacy, and violence.
 - (2) The beneficiaries versus the populations most at risk of becoming victims due to guns without safety technology, and distribution systems at risk of theft or illegal sale.
 - (3) The acknowledgement that structural racism has perpetuated trauma in communities of color that has resulted in the gun violence that we see, and that the systematic disinvestment in these communities is a root cause that needs to be repaired.
 - (4) The sources of and solutions to gun violence in predominately black and brown communities, seeking effective solutions that do not further contribute to mass incarceration.
 - (5) The need for changes in police use-of-force training, police culture, and fair prosecution of cases of police gun violence, so that all citizens feel safe in relation to those whose calling is to protect them.
- c. The impact of gun violence on women and children: such as domestic gun violence, murder-suicides of entire families, school shootings, and accidents; including review of the legal responsibility of adults whose guns are used by children and others to commit violence or accidental shootings.
- d. The affirmation, inclusion, and referral to actions of the General Assembly subsequent to 2010 on gun violence prevention (2014, 2018) and of resources to help every congregation with education, pastoral care, and action as they seek God's plan for their role in helping to prevent gun violence.

Rationale

The 219th General Assembly (2010) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) *unanimously* passed a major and comprehensive policy, *Gun Violence, Gospel Values: Mobilizing in Response to God's Call*. Based on prior General Assembly actions against gun violence since 1968, the 2010 document placed the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) at the forefront of spiritual communities calling for commonsense changes in gun regulations and for an affirmation that the uniquely American obsession with guns is not consistent with the love, healing, and nonviolent witness of Jesus Christ. Rooted in biblical values and reform theology, this historic and excellent ten-year-old document deserves to be updated and reissued as a contemporary policy to help our congregations and our nation heal from the escalating epidemic and tragedy of gun violence.

The 2020 overture notes the work of prior General Assemblies on this issue and commends those who have led the way in faithful witness to prevent gun violence.

The overture calls on every congregation in the PC(USA) to ask for God's guidance to them on how their

congregation can faithfully respond to the challenge and reality of gun violence.

L-9

The overture proposes that the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy (ACSWP), coordinate an update to the 2010 policy to be presented for a vote to the 225th General Assembly (2022). The overture does not call for a complete revision of the 2010 policy, which is excellent, but rather for an update based on changes in American culture and policy over the last ten years. There are now many outdated statistics and sources in the document, including, most unfortunately, the increase in annual gun deaths from 30,000 to 40,000.

The 2010 document does address the relation between guns and race and the impact of gun violence on women and children. However, there has been a great deal of new light shed on issues such as the historical connection between racism and gun “entitlement.” A new generation of activists, elected officials, and candidates have offered new approaches to protecting women from domestic gun violence and to preventing gun violence in black and brown communities beyond the failed approach of mass incarceration. Over the last ten years, we have seen an increase in mass shootings, school shootings, and police shootings. All of these difficult topics deserve review in light of current events and proposals.

**PROPOSED BYLAWS AMENDMENTS
PRESBYTERY OF PHILADELPHIA
FOR MAY 16, 2020 STATED MEETING APPROVAL**

L-10

(NOTE: PROPOSED NEW LANGUAGE IS UNDERLINED)

1.4 Meetings

- a. **Place** Meetings of the presbytery may be held at such places within and outside the City of Philadelphia and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as the Presbytery Leadership Collegium (the “Collegium”) may determine.
- b. **Stated Meetings** The presbytery shall hold a minimum of three stated meetings annually with the dates to be determined by the Collegium (G-3.0304).
- c. **Special Meetings** A special meeting of the presbytery may be called by the Collegium with no less than seven days notice given to each continuing member of the presbytery and each clerk of session setting forth the date, time, place of the meeting, and the specific business for which the meeting is called.
- d. **Manner of Notice** Whenever notice is required to be given to any person under these bylaws, it shall be given in writing by electronic mail to his or her address appearing on the rolls of the presbytery maintained by the Stated Clerk. Reasonable special accommodation will be made upon request.
- e. **Quorum** A quorum shall be no fewer than thirty-five ministers who are members of the presbytery and thirty-five elder commissioners who represent fifteen different congregations. The Stated Clerk shall determine that a quorum is present.
- e. **Voting**
 - (i) Each member of the presbytery in attendance at a meeting of the presbytery shall be entitled to one vote.
 - (ii) Voting by proxy shall not be permitted.
 - (iii) Decisions shall be reached by vote, following opportunity for discussion and discernment, and a majority shall govern, except as otherwise provided in these bylaws.
 - (iv) Electronic voting is permissible when the mode of voting has been publicized with appropriate notice. The rights of members to vote are as stipulated in these bylaws and the procedures of its various commissions. There shall be a means of counting votes if called for by a commissioner.

- g. **Docket** The Collegium shall be responsible for drafting the docket, subject to approval of the presbytery. **L-11**
- h. **Rules of Order** The presbytery shall be governed and guided by the *Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*, these bylaws and the Manual of Operation for the Presbytery of Philadelphia (“Manual of Operations”) which shall contain its policies and procedures (G-3.0106). The latest edition of *Robert’s Rules of Order* shall be the parliamentary authority for the transaction of the business of the presbytery, its commissions, and committees (G-3.0105).
- i. **Suspension of bylaws** These bylaws may be suspended at any meeting of the presbytery by a two-thirds vote of the members present consistent with the *Book of Order*.

2.5 The Leadership Collegium

- a. **Defined** The Leadership Collegium (the Collegium) shall have the authority to coordinate, oversee, and facilitate the mandated responsibilities in accordance with G-3.0109 and G-3.03-.0307 and as delegated by the presbytery. The Collegium shall serve as the administrative commission of the Presbytery authorized as might be needed to function on behalf of the Presbytery under emergency circumstances such as a natural disaster or a public health order forbidding social gatherings. These emergency powers cease once the Presbytery is able to hold a duly called meeting with reasonable notice and quorum.
- b. **Membership** The Collegium shall be composed of the Moderator, Vice Moderator, the moderators of the Standing Commissions, three at-large members, and the Committee(s) on Nominations, Personnel and Representation. The Collegium shall reflect the diversity of the Presbytery as nearly as possible. Executive Presbyter, the Associate Presbyter, Business Administrator, and the Stated Clerk are members with voice and no vote.



PRESBYTERY of PHILADELPHIA
Commissioners and Young Adult Advisory Delegate
to the 224th General Assembly (2020)



N-1

Ministers of Word and Sacrament Nominees



The Rev. Anna Grant-Borden

Rev. Anna Grant-Borden is serving as the pastor at Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church. A child of this presbytery, Anna grew up as a member of First African Presbyterian Church. She is an active member of the Commission on Ministry and the National Black Presbyterian Caucus. She holds a Master of Divinity from Lutheran Theological Seminary along with a Bachelor's degree in Secondary Education from Cheyney University and a Master's degree in Elementary Education from Temple University. Prior to ordained ministry, Anna taught in the Philadelphia School District for 37 years. Anna is excited about the opportunity to participate in the General Assembly. She firmly believes that it is our ability and fervent desire to discern and be in concert with God's movement and direction in our local and global communities that keeps the Presbyterian Church alive, vibrant and relevant. She is married to Elder John Borden Sr., mother of six and grandmother of ten.



The Rev. Pam McShane

Rev. Pam McShane serves as the pastor of Tree of Life Church PCUSA in Springfield, Delaware County, where she has been for 19 years. During that time, Pam has led the church through significant changes. With her leadership, her congregation has focused on a powerful ministry alongside people with disabilities and their families. In response to identified needs, their "Our Community Cup," provides a weekly coffeehouse. Pam has been active in the Presbytery of Philadelphia for many years and in many roles. She is currently serving on the Commission on Ministry. A graduate of Bryn Mawr College and Princeton Theological Seminary, Pam enjoys working with congregations as they discern and live out God's call to them in this time and place. She also enjoys mentoring seminarians and younger pastors. Pam is married to Brian McShane and has three adult children.



The Rev. Leah Miller

Rev. Leah R. Miller serves as the pastor of The Anchor Church in Wrightstown, PA since September 2013. A Bucks County native, Leah holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education with a focus in Science from Temple University. Upon her college graduation, Leah served as a missionary with the Foundation for Peace in the Dominican Republic and Haiti. Having discerned God's call to ministry in Haiti, she pursued her Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary in 2013. She has served on the board for Kirkwood Christian Camp and is currently serving her second term on the Committee for Representation and serves as a faculty member and site supervisor for our Princeton Seminary Partnership Ministry and Leadership Incubator. Recently married to Justin Quarles, Leah loves hiking, camping, and cooking for family and friends. She is most excited to connect with the greater Presbyterian Church body and to pray and discern God's will for God's church.



The Rev. Todd Stavrakos

Rev. Todd Stavrakos, a Philadelphia native, was called to serve as pastor to Gladwyne Presbyterian Church in 2006. Prior to that time, he served several congregations in southern New Jersey and Cumnock, Scotland. Todd has lived in the suburbs of Chicago, Washington DC, and Princeton, NJ. Before entering the ministry, Todd spent ten years working in the political world, serving on Congressional staff in Washington, DC. Todd received his undergraduate degree at Villanova University and his Master of Divinity at Princeton Theological Seminary. He lives with his wife Jennifer and their two children, Sam and Lydia, in Havertown, PA. Todd is an active member of the presbytery, currently serving on the Administrative Commission of the West Philadelphia Presbyterian Partnership, the Leadership Collegium, and the Self-Development Committee. Todd is committed to being a voice in the community, serving on the Board of Heeding God's Call, Head Start Learning Tree. He is also active on bringing awareness to issues of interfaith dialogue, racism, education and poverty.

Ruling Elder Nominees



Elder Megan Acedo (The Beacon Church)

Ruling Elder Megan D. Acedo is a founding member of and serves as the Clerk of Session at Beacon Church. Megan is currently a member of the Presbytery Leadership Collegium and serves as the chair of the Presbytery Committee on Representation. Megan is the Coordinator of Student Ministries & Service Learning at Eastern University where she directs the service learning program for first-year students, advises and supports campus ministries, and directs their domestic and international mission programs. Megan also teaches as an adjunct faculty in First-Year Programs, the summer EQUIP program, and the Social Work department. Megan is a California transplant and lives in the Kensington neighborhood with her lively family. Megan regularly tweets about life, faith, and social justice at @CoffeeLurver and, perhaps a little too obviously, loves coffee.



Elder Eck Gerner (Swarthmore Presbyterian Church)

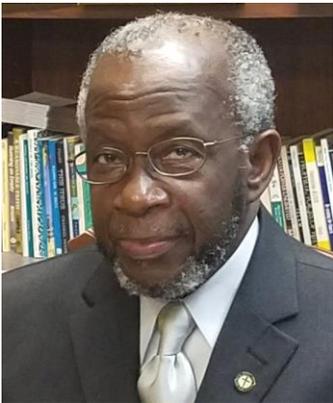
Ruling Elder Eck Gerner brings a multi-generational commitment to the ministry of Swarthmore Presbyterian Church where he has served as Clerk of Session, Trustee, Treasurer, and Commissioner to the Presbytery of Philadelphia. Eck currently serves on the Presbytery's Commission on Ministry and is chairing an Administrative Commission. After 36 years, Eck retired from Sunoco, Inc. as Assistant Corporate Secretary working with its Board and Board Committees for more than two decades. Eck has been politically active in his community serving as Mayor of Swarthmore, as well as serving on the Borough Council. For over 30 years, he was the Citizen Representative on the Borough's Pension Committee. He currently serves as Vice Chair of the Swarthmore Borough Authority and volunteers on a series of other community boards. Eck and his wife Kathy have been happily married for 43 years (and counting!) with two wonderful daughters, two great sons-in-law, and four terrific grandchildren.



Elder Lois Adele Hayman-El (West Philadelphia Presbyterian Partnership)

Ruling Elder Lois Hayman-El is a member of the West Philadelphia Presbyterian Partnership (a new church plant and partnership that includes First African Presbyterian Church, Calvin Presbyterian Church and Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church). A cradle Presbyterian, she has served as an elder since 1977. Lois' church leadership has included the Worship and Music Committee, the Finance Management Committee, the John Gloucester Memorial and Historical Society and the Personnel Committee. Lois is an active member of the presbytery, serving on the Older Adult Committee and the Self Development of People Committees. Lois is currently serving on the Tri-Session Leadership

Committee for the West Philadelphia Presbyterian Partnership (WPPP). In support of this ministry, Lois has served on the WPPP Pastor Nominating Committee and serves on the Planning Team for WPPP. Lois is a professional Social Worker and is currently the Training Specialist for Philadelphia Corporation for Aging. She has been married to Alexander R. El for thirty years.



Elder Lloyd Higgins (Oxford Presbyterian Church)

Ruling Elder Lloyd Higgins has been a member of Oxford Presbyterian Church in Mt. Airy, PA for 30 years. During that time, Lloyd has served multiple terms as a Ruling Elder on Session, and a Trustee on the Board of Trustees. His ministry at Oxford has included Clerk of Session, leading several ministry teams, Church Treasurer and President of the Board of Trustees. Lloyd currently serves as Clerk of Session, co-chair of Personnel Committee and member of the Christian Education where he chairs the Leadership Training Team and is a Bible Study teacher. Lloyd has served on many commissions and committees of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, including several Investigative Committees, Administrative Commissions, and Commission on Ministry. He is currently a member of the Commission on

Preparation for Ministry and Membership (CPMM). Lloyd and his wife June migrated to the United States from the Republic of Guyana, South America almost 40 years ago. They are retired and devote themselves to serving the Lord.

Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD)



William "Will" Gillespie (Wayne Presbyterian Church)

Will graduated from Vanderbilt University in May of this year with a Bachelor of Science in Human & Organizational Development and Sociology. His faith grew substantially while at school, spending all four years as an active participant in a campus ministry and as a member of the Christian fraternity Beta Upsilon Chi. After graduation, he returned to the Philadelphia area to start a job as a Human Resources Analyst at Mobiquity, a digital consulting firm. Before attending college, Will was involved with the youth group, served as an usher and was ordained as a Youth Deacon. Upon graduation from Vanderbilt, he returned to the greater Philadelphia area and is serving as a volunteer for the middle school youth group, teaching high school Sunday school, and participating in young adult activities. Will is thrilled by the opportunity to learn more about what the larger Presbyterian Church is doing to

increase involvement among all people, but specifically young adults, and can't wait to participate in those conversations.

COMMISSION ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY AND MEMBERSHIP

P-1*Information Items*

The following actions were taken by the Commission on Preparation for Ministry and Membership at its January 9, February 13, and March 12, 2020 meetings.

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|----------------------|
| Enrolled as Inquirer |
|----------------------|

1. Enrolled Lars Peterson (Arch Street) as an Inquirer. (2/13/20)
2. Enrolled Connor McCraney (Newtown) as an Inquirer. (3/12/20)

| |
|-----------------|
| Certified Ready |
|-----------------|

1. Certified Isaac Baah (United Ghanaian) ready to be examined for ordination pending a call. (2/13/20)
2. Certified Margaret Poteet (Chestnut Hill) ready to be examined for ordination pending a call. (3/12/20)

| |
|--------------------|
| Enrolled as Member |
|--------------------|

1. Enrolled Rev. Richard Miller as a member of the Presbytery of Philadelphia. (1/9/20)
2. Enrolled Rev. Peter Sulyok as a member of the Presbytery of Philadelphia. (3/12/20)

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

Inquirers

Dean, M. K. (Philadelphia, First)
Dwayen, Gabriel (Tully)
Hearst, Eric Jerome (Oxford)
Jones, Claire (Christ's Community)
Martin, Emma-Claire (Tree of Life)
McCraney, Connor (Newtown)
Mucklow, Wayne (Old Pine)
Peterson, Lars (Arch Street)
Rigsby, Suzin (Abington)

Candidates

Briggs, William (Doylestown)
Chaffee, John (Media)
Heintz, Cassandra (Carmel)
Hensel, Russel (Supplee)
Heyer-Rivera, Christian (Chestnut Hill)
Hostetter, Sarah (Wayne)
Willcox, Courtenay (Bryn Mawr)

Certified Ready

Baah, Isaac
Bass, Aaron
Biermann, Heidi
Blore, Christen
Cornish, Theodore
Hodges, Glenda
Hostetter, Andrew
Lindtner, Jamie
Nambiar, Virginia
Poteet, Margaret
Rascoe, Allen
Rich, Patricia

Commission on Resources and Creative Ministries

R-1

The Commission on Resources and Creative Ministries gives thanks for the ways our congregations and related ministries continue to embody the gospel with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love. Since our January 2020 Stated Meeting, we have awarded the following Great Ends Grants for relevant local ministry:

The Christian Association at UPENN in Partnership with The First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia: Enhanced hospitality efforts at regular Bible Study that particularly addresses students who are food insecure.

Coming to the Table in Partnership with Churches in the Northwest Region of the Presbytery: Regular gatherings and conversations that facilitate approaches to dismantle systemic racism.

Please remember and take advantage of this opportunity to apply for up to \$3,000 worth of funds in the areas of Care and Compassion, Peacemaking and Advocacy, Youth Leadership Development, and Ministry and Leadership Development. Submit your application online: <https://presbyphl.org/grants/great-ends-grants/>

We are also eager for the launch of this year's Covenant Fund Grant Program here: <https://presbyphl.org/grants/covenant-fund/>. Grant recipients can apply for up to \$15,000 worth of seed dollars for new *and expansions of existing* ministry efforts. In light of COVID-19, the CRC discerned the need to respond pastorally to those congregations developing proposals. We understand that some ministries might benefit from the receipt of funding earlier and others need more time to develop an application in light of this unique and challenging season of pandemic. In an effort to meet these needs, the 2020 Covenant Fund will be offered in two waves. The first wave deadline is June 5th with a disbursement date to awarded grantees being July 16th; the second wave deadline is August 7th with a disbursement date to awarded grantees being September 3rd. Applicants will be encouraged to think of expansion of existing ministries. We count it a blessing to be able to support and uplift creative witnesses to the gospel in our time.

To help equip congregations and leaders we, as of the Stated Meeting, hosted a webinar on the specifics of how to apply for Covenant Fund grants and launched 2-on-1 conversations upon requests. Interested applicants can request a brainstorming conversation with two members of the CRC in efforts to leverage ideas and assets for ministry. Details on all this and more can be found here: <https://presbyphl.org/leadership/commissions/resources-communications>

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Sarah Cooper Searight, Moderator of CRC

MACALESTER–TORRESDALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION
REPORT TO THE PRESBYTERY OF PHILADELPHIA
MAY 16, 2020 STATED MEETING

S-1

BACKGROUND

The Leadership Collegium of the Presbytery appointed the Administrative Commission (AC) on November 12, 2019 to respond to the request of the session of the Macalester – Torresdale Presbyterian Church for dissolution of the congregation. Our charge was to aid the congregation in its discernment, and once the will of the congregation was affirmed, to walk alongside them during the process of celebrating their ministry and accomplishing the various tasks associated with the process of dissolution.

Elder Julie Stephenson (Holy Trinity – Bethlehem) agreed to serve as Moderator, representing the Commission on Ministry and serving as members:

Rev. Chris Edwards (Honorably Retired)
Rev. Jieun Lee (Podowon)
Elder David Sager (Doylestown)
Rev. John Sweet (Frankford)

SUMMARY

The AC had its introductory meeting and orientation on December 3, 2019 and attended worship at Macalester – Torresdale the following Sunday, December 8, 2019. Conversations with this faithful congregation confirmed their agreement with the session’s assessment of the wisdom of dissolving the congregation.

We reviewed the tasks required for dissolution with the congregation and began developing a time-line with them that would honor their process for closure. In January, 2020, conversations began with the daycare which has been operating in the Macalester – Torresdale building as its primary tenant regarding potential options for consideration after the dissolution of the congregation, if the way be clear.

On March 12, 2020 the AC met at Presbytery office with Rev. Samantha Hudson, COM moderator leading the meeting and Kevin Porter and Chandler Stokes as staff support. AC members Chris Edwards, Dave Sager, John Sweet were physically present, with Julie Stephenson and Jieun Lee on conference call. At this meeting, details were approved for the next steps.

On March 15, 2020 at a congregational meeting duly called and moderated by the Rev. Charles Holt and witnessed by AC members David Sager and Chris Edwards, the congregation voted to request the Presbytery of Philadelphia to concur with the request for the Macalester – Torresdale congregation to be dissolved at the close of its final service and celebration of witness and ministry to be held April 19, 2020.

The AC continued to be engaged with the congregation and the trustees of the Presbytery of Philadelphia in the intervening weeks until we were informed by supply pastor Rev. Charles Holt and Elder John Hill on April 9, 2020 that the closing service and celebration of ministry and witness scheduled for April 19 had been canceled due to COVID-19 restrictions.

S-2

In recognition that circumstances beyond any of our knowledge or control may influence decisions regarding both the disposition of the building and the desire and ability of the saints of Macalester-Torresdale to reschedule a final event in the building, and on behalf of the AC, I move the following:

MOTIONS:

- 1) That the presbytery affirms the faithful witness of the Macalester-Torresdale congregation with gratitude for its over a century-long witness and approves the dissolution of the Macalaster-Torresdale congregation and authorizes the appropriate entities of the Presbytery to resolve any outstanding contractual matters related to the congregation.**
- 2) That the Administrative Commission be authorized to be in conversation with the session of Macalaster-Torresdale to determine if and how the congregation might have a service of celebration of the congregation's ministry and witness. Upon completion of any such service, the AC is dismissed with thanks.**