

**PRESBYTERY OF
WESTERN
NORTH CAROLINA**

**MINUTES
ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH
STATED MEETING
October 31, 2015**

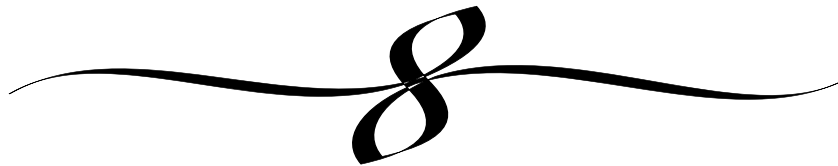


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**The Presbytery of Western North Carolina
106th Stated Meeting
October 31, 2015
at Shelby Presbyterian Church
Shelby, North Carolina**

CALL TO ORDER

Teaching Elder Michael Bailey, Moderator, convened the 106th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina at 9:00 a.m. with a hymn in the sanctuary of the Shelby Presbyterian Church in Shelby, North Carolina.

CONSTITUTION

The Moderator, Teaching Elder Michael Bailey, opened the 106th meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina at Shelby Presbyterian Church with prayer and the singing of the Doxology.

WELCOME

Teaching Elder Luke Harkey, pastor of Shelby Presbyterian Church, welcomed the Presbytery and gave thanks to John Knox and Ryburn Memorial Presbyterian Churches for their assistance in co-hosting this meeting.

A certificate was presented to the John Knox Presbyterian Church for their more than 30 years of participation in the Monday Food Ministry that their congregation had made available to the community.

ATTENDANCE

The Stated Clerk, Teaching Elder Cam Murchison, declared that a quorum was present by reference to our registration data and by observation of those in attendance. He invited people to turn off all cell phones.

The following TEACHING ELDERS WERE ENROLLED (P = Present; E = Excused; A = Absent without excuse):

Robert Abel	P	Ann Aichinger	E	Frank Aichinger	E
Wyatt Aiken, Jr.	E	Blan Aldridge	E	Charles Alexander	E
Merriam Alexander	P	Terry Alexander	E	Stephen Austin	A
James Aydelotte	P	Patricia Bacon	P	Michael Bailey	P
Tony Baker	E	Susan Balfour	A	Edna Banes	E
Steven Barnes	P	Douglas Bartlett	E	Ashley Beavers	E
Harold Bennett	E	Joseph Bennett	A	Anita Bernhardt	P
James Bernhardt	P	Katherine Blankenship	A	Lynn Bledsoe	P
Randall Boggs	P	Ronald Botsford	E	Adam Bowling	E
Lee Bowman	E	Richard Boyce	E	Grace Boyer	P
David Bradley	A	Ryan Brakemeyer	E	Ronald Brauer	E

Hayden Britton	E	Beverly Brock	A	Sandra Brown	E
Jason Bryant	A	William Buchanan	E	Monty Burnham	E
Sue Burton	E	Robert Busey	E	Joey Byrd	A
John Campbell	E	Kathy Campbell	P	William Campbell	A
Amy Cantrell	A	Helen Pride Carson	P	Mary Faith Carson	E
Katherine Cashwell	P	Joel David Cherry	E	Calvin Chesnutt	E
Dwight Christenbury	E	William Christian	E	Carol Clark	A
Mark Clark	A	Sarah Coburn	A	James Cockerham	P
Jeffrey Coffey	A	James Cogswell	P	Evelyn Coleman	P
Hunter Coleman	E	Priestley Conyers, III	E	Monty Cook	E
Thomas Cook, Jr.	E	Donald Cooper	P	Riley Covin	P
John Craven	E	Curtis Crowther	E	Robert Bruce Cumming	E
James Dale	E	Blake Daniel	E	Charles Davenport	P
Dent Davis	E	Heather Davis	E	Holly Davis	A
Eddie Deas, III	P	Jey Deifell, Jr.	E	Arthur DeJong	E
Susan Denne	P	Edward Donnell	E	Ellen Dozier	E
Philip Dunford	P	Steven Eason	E	Stephen Elderbrock	A
Raymond Fancher	A	Kristy Farber	P	Karol Farris	P
Lee Feero, Jr.	E	David Fillpot	E	Ragland Fletcher	E
Edward Forsyth	E	Maynard Fountain, Jr.	E	McCoy Franklin	E
Kevin Frederick	E	Keith Freeman	E	Berry French, III	E
John Frye, Jr.	P	Curtis Fussell, III	E	Tempe Fussell	E
James Gailey	E	A. W. Gaines	E	Tee Gatewood, III	E
Denise Geiger	E	Joanne Glaser	P	Samantha Gonzalez-Block	P
Jean Goodwin	A	Gregory Grana	E	Theodore Grant	E
Keith Grogg	P	Robert Gruber	E	George Gunn	E
Rebecca Gurney	E	Samuel Hale	E	Michal Hall	E
Terry Hanna	E	Patrick Hardy	P	Randall Hardy	A
Luke Harkey, III	P	Rebecca Harrison	P	William Heck	P
Robert Henderson	E	Robert Hewett	E	Robert Hinman	P

Richard Hobson	E	Samuel Hobson, Jr.	E	James Holeman	P
Richard Holshouser	E	Samuel Hope	E	James Hornsby	E
William Hoyt, III	E	George Hutchins	P	Michael Isaacs	P
Donald Jafvert	E	William Janes	E	Esta Jarrett	P
Cecil Jividen	E	Wallace Johnson	E	Franklin Jones	A
Rebecca Jones	P	Kimberly Justice	A	Dong Uk Kang	A
David Kaylor	E	David Kennedy	E	Ira Kennerly	E
Paul Kercher	E	William Kirk	E	Albert Kissling	E
Earl Kreisa	E	Lee Kruse	A	John LaMotte	P
John Laughlin	E	Margaret Lauterer	P	James Layman	P
Thomas Lewis	E	William Lindeman	E	John Lindsay	P
Eugene Linton, Jr.	E	Deneise Deter Liss	A	Laura Long	E
Billy Lowe	P	Robert Lowry	P	David Lytle	A
Whit Malone	P	Marjorie Marsh	P	Joan Martin	E
Roberta Martin	E	Robert Martin, Jr.	E	Tyler Martin	E
John McCall	E	Sandra McClinton	A	Patricia McClurg	E
Robert McCully, Jr.	A	Noah McIntee	A	Flemon McIntosh, Jr.	E
David McKee	E	Michael McKee	E	James McPherson	E
Lynn Michie	A	Beth Ann Miller	P	Robert Montgomery	E
Anne Morgan	P	David Morgan	E	Richard Morgan	E
David Mulford	E	Donald Mullen	E	Cameron Murchison, Jr.	P
Carl Murray	E	David Nash	P	Elizabeth Newman	A
John Newton , Jr.	E	John Niles	E	Marshall Nord	A
Richard Nygren	E	Daniel Oedy	E	O'Hyun Park	E
Katherine Parker	E	Thomas Parker	P	David Parks	E
Donald Patchel	E	Stratton Peacock	E	Albert Peery, Jr.	E
Margaret Peery	E	Harry Petersen	E	Martha Jane Petersen	E
Lyle Peterson	E	Harry Philips	E	James Poling	E
Luke Ponder	A	Michael Poulos	E	Donald Price	E
Gene Price	E	Caroline Proctor	A	Allen Proctor, Jr.	A

Edyth Pruitt	P	John Pruitt	P	Tamara Puffer	A
Jay Rabuck	P	Daria Ragan	P	Joseph Rand	E
Kathleen Rankin	E	Earl Rash	E	Wilson Rhoton, Jr.	E
Calvin Rice	E	Don Robb, III	E	Mary Katherine Robinson	E
Steven Runholt	P	Feild Russell	P	Richard Rustay	E
Donald Scofield, Jr.	P	Henry Scoggins	E	Carol Seaman	E
Kyle Segars	P	William Serjak	E	Albert Shaw, Jr.	E
Mary Elizabeth Sigmon	P	Robert Singdahlsen	E	Wirt Skinner	P
Allen Smith	E	Kent Smith	P	Paul Smith	A
John Somerville	E	Becky Stanley	P	Mark Stanley	P
Margie Stansell	A	Carol Steele	E	John David Stewart	E
Daniel Stitt	E	Cynthia Strickler	E	Walter Styles	E
Charles Swann	E	William Sweetser, Jr.	A	Joseph Taber	P
Catherine Taylor	A	Chris Taylor	P	Keith Thompson	E
Dan Thornton	E	Denise Thorpe	A	Yvonne Thurmond	P
Russell Tillotson, Sr.	E	Margaret Torrence	E	Robert Tuttle	P
Thomas Tweedie	E	Melissa Upchurch	E	Gary Van Brocklin	A
Lauen Vanacore	P	Rockwell Ward	E	Samuel Warner	P
Lynn Webber	A	Judith Weger	P	Barbara White	E
Lamar Williamson, Jr.	E	Parker Williamson	E	Emily Wilmarth	E
Otis Wilson, Jr.	P	Victor Wilson	E	Chris Wingard	A
Eugene Witherspoon	E	Graham Wood, Jr.	E	Donaldson Woods	E
Rebecca Young	A				

The following COMMISSIONED LAY PASTORS WERE ENROLLED at this meeting of Presbytery:

Linda Abel	E	Philip Adams	A	Linda Amos	P
Robert Ayala	P	John Bates	P	Dwayne Durham	A
Elizabeth Hall	A	John Hall	A	Kenneth Humphreys	P
Bobby Justus	P	James Koone	P	Peggy Koone	P
Deborah Lesenger	P	David Moore, Sr.	A	James Millsaps	A

Lynn Moore	A	Marla Patchel	A	Randy Patterson	A
John Pea	P	Pete Peterson	A	Marcia Reighley	A
Russell Reighley	A	Barbara Ross	P	Betty Shaw	A
William A. Sigmon	A	Dennis Stamper	A	John Stanley	A
James Taylor	P	William Upchurch, Jr.	E	Roger Wise	E
William Wuehrmann	A				

The following MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL and COMMITTEE CHAIRS WERE ENROLLED at this meeting of Presbytery:

Jay Crane	P	Jan Duncan	A	Helen Hall	P
Jane Hansel	E	Jim Henderson	P	Bob McFerren	P
Barbara McLean	P	Melvin Meares	P	Dick Peck	A
Heath Rada	E	Bob Riddle	A	David Smith	A
Jack Suddreth	P	Mae Weed	P		

The following CERTIFIED CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS WERE ENROLLED for this meeting of Presbytery:

Glenn Bannerman	A	Melinda Christian	A	Betty Davenport	A
Angela Drummond	A	Margaret Kennerly	E	Leslie McLeod	P
Kathy Parse	A	Lynn Thomas	A	Patricia Tuttle	A
Jane Vann	P				

The following CHURCHES WERE ENROLLED by the attendance of their elder commissioners:

Arbor Dale (2)	A	
Asheville First (4)	Paul McNeill	Gloria Dupree
	Pat Harr	
Banner Elk (2)	Dorothy Pullease	Susan Carter
Belmont First (3)	Summer Cline	Clay Vandermeer
	Smitty Hanks	
Bessemer City First (2)	A	
Black Mountain (3)	John Hopkins	
Brevard-Davidson River (3)	Reg Tomlin	Bill Marable
	Jack Baldrige	

Bridgewater (2)	Roger Lowry	Judith Lowry
Brittain (2)	Edward Norris	Bob Hough
Brittains Cove (2)	A	
Bryson City (2)	A	
Buladean (2)	A	
Burnsville First (2)	Jon Ward	
Calvary (3)	Vivan Ridley	
Canton (2)	A	
Cherryville First (3)	Lee Daggerhart	Stephanie Mulvey
Clinchfield (2)	A	
Columbus (2)	A	
Conley Memorial (2)	E	
Crossnore (2)	Mary Ann Abrusci	Jason DeWitt
Dallas First (2)	Patti Duncan	
Dixon (2)	A	
Dorland Memorial (2)	A	
Dulatown (3)	Evelyn Bennett	Elmer Dula
Duncan's Creek (2)	Sue Price	Richard Price
Ellenboro (1)	A	
Etowah (1)	Gary Haulton	
Fairview (1)	Bill Sullivan	
Fletcher (1)	A	
Forest City First (1)	Mary Sandra Costner	
Franklin First (1)	A	
Gastonia First (3)	Barbara Yarbrough	
Glen Alpine (1)	A	
Good Hope (2)	A	
Grace Covenant (2)	Mary Lou Nash	Anna Jarvis
Grassy Creek (1)	Jane Hensley	
Green Mountain (1)	A	

Green Street (2)	A	
Hayesville (1)	E	
Hendersonville First (1)	Elizabeth Moss	
Hickory First (3)	A	
Highlands First (1)	A	
Ironton (1)	E	
Jack's Creek (1)	A	
John Knox (1)	Florence Brooks	
Kenilworth (1)	Bob Craddock	
Kings Mountain First (1)	Stella Putnam	
Korean Presbyterian Church of Asheville (2)	A	
Lenoir First (2)	Jim Thompson	
Lincolnton First (1)	John Lafferty	
Long Creek (1)	Susan Smith	
Love's Chapel (2)	A	
Lowell (1)	Joy Webb	
Marion First (1)	Robert Ayers	
Marshall (1)	A	
Micaville (1)	A	
Mills River (1)	A	
Montreat (1)	Anne Seaman	
Morganton First (2)	A	
Morrison (1)	A	
Mount Holly First (1)	Bob Jessen	
New Hope, Asheville (1)	Bambi Teague	
New Hope, Gastonia (1)	Sue Hawkins	
Newdale (1)	Anita Fortner	
Newland (1)	A	
Newton First (2)	Gary McDougal	
Northminster (2)	Isaac Stewart	

Oak Forest (1)	A	
Oakwood (1)	A	
Old Fort (1)	A	
Olney (1)	Marilyn Gordon	
Paint Gap (1)	A	
Pine Street (2)	A	
Pineola (1)	E	
Quaker Meadows (1)	Donna Harney	
Reems Creek-Beech (1)	Ryan Baldwin	
Ridgeview (1)	Wayne Tipton	
Robinson Memorial (1)	A	
Rutherfordton (2)	Douglas Sheets	Karen Andrews
Ryburn Memorial (2)	Lucretia Bell	
Saluda (1)	A	
Shelby (2)	Glenn Moore	Albert Mancinelli
Sherrill's Ford (1)	A	
Shiloh, Grover (1)	A	
Siloam (1)	A	
Southminster (2)	Amy Anderson	Charles Dixon
Spindale (1)	A	
Spruce Pine First (1)	A	
Sweetwater (1)	Gerald Finney	
Sylva First (1)	A	
Third Street (2)	Jeffrey Adams	
Trinity (2)	Bob Forsythe	
Tryon (2)	A	
Union (1)	Kathy Kytle	
Union Mills (1)	Susan Ward	
United (1)	A	
Unity (2)	Chris Deiulio	

Vians Valley (1)	A	
Waldensian (2)	Willie Pascal	John Lafferty
Walnut (1)	A	
Walnut Grove (1)	E	
Warren Wilson (1)	Derron Daugherty	
Waynesville First (1)	A	
West Asheville (1)	A	
West Avenue (1)	Sylvia Sellers	
Westminster (1)	Dot Descieux	

The Stated Clerk later reported that the attendance for this meeting was:

Teaching Elders	84
Ruling Elders	72
Certified Educators	2
General Council/Committee Chairs	8
Visitors	42
Total	208

There following corresponding member was in attendance:

- Veronica Cannon, member of the Charlotte Presbytery, serving the First Presbyterian Church, Lincolnton

Standing Committees:

Resolution and Thanks:

- *Rev. Becky Stanley*

Bills and Overtures:

- *Rev. Randall Boggs*
- *Rev. Jim Layman*
- *Elder Summer Cline, Belmont, First*

Tellers:

- *Ruling and Teaching Elders from Shelby Presbyterian Church and Ryburn Memorial Presbyterian Church*

APPROVAL OF DOCKET

Stated Clerk Murchison moved the approval of the docket as distributed. The motion was made and approved.

8:30 Registration

Orientation for New Elders

Barbara Ross

9:00 Convene with Prayer of Invocation

**Michael Bailey
Moderator**

Welcome from Shelby Presbyterian Church

Luke Harkey

**Appointment of Standing Committees
Resolution of Thanks**

Michael Bailey

Bills and Overtures

(Overture from Asheville, First)

(Fossil Fuel Divestment – Faithful Alternative to Climate Change)

Tellers

Ruling and Teaching Elders from Host Churches

Certification of Quorum

Cam Murchison, Stated Clerk

Approval of Docket

Consent Agenda

A

(Consent Agenda is a consent motion. Any commissioner may pull any item from the Consent Agenda for any reason. Simply state the item to be removed from the Consent Agenda and it will be dealt with as part of the committee report from which it was drawn.)

Stated Clerk's Report

Cam Murchison

B

Reports Submitted for Information and/or Included in the Consent Agenda

Budget and Finance Committee

BB

Highlights of the 236th Meeting of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic

II

Guatemala Partnership Educational Report

P

Small Membership Church Committee

GG

9:25 Service of Worship and Music

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Cameron Murchison

Scripture: Deuteronomy 34:1-2; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Sermon: The Living and the Dead

10:25 Speak Out (5 minutes)

(Opportunity to address the Presbytery for one minute or less, per speaker, on any suitable topic. No new business may be introduced at this point, but announcements, concerns, or opinions may be shared.)

10:30 General Council (10 minutes)

Jim Henderson

C

(Work of the committee, Election of Vice-Moderator/Moderator-Elect; Reports from Divisions on Progress of Re-organization of Committees, Westminster and Paint Gap closing.)

Westminster Presbyterian Church and Paint Gap Presbyterian Church (10 minutes)

Liturgy for Closing of Church

10:50 Committee on Preparation for Ministry (20 minutes)

Bob Tuttle

K

(Introduction of inquirers to move to candidates for ministry)

Nominating Committee (10 minutes)

Jane Hansel

I

(Work of the committee and election of commissioners to 222nd General Assembly)

Youth Committee (5 minutes)

Heather Davis

Y

(Upcoming Events; Middle School Retreat; and 2016 Youth Triennium)

Campus Ministry (10 minutes)

Steve Runholt

Camp Grier (7 minutes)
(Update on progress at Camp Grier)

Jason McDougald

Ministry Campaign (10 minutes)
(Updates; Quiet Phase; Contributors)

Feild Russell

Committee on Ministry (15 minutes)

Whit Malone D
John Pea and Tee Gatewood

(Work of the committee, introduction of new ministers – Chris Taylor, Joanne Glaser and Patricia Lytle {UCC Pastor}; Sacred Trust/Relational Boundaries)

Black Mountain Home for Children, Youth & Families (3 minutes)**Sarah Thomas**

Committee on Preparation for Ministry (20 minutes)
(Introduction of inquirers to move to candidates for ministry)

Bob Tuttle K

Report of the Associate Presbyter (5 minutes)

Anita Bernhardt AP

Guatemala Partnership (2 minutes)

Marie Connelly de Palacios

Report from the Bills and Overtures Committee (10 Minutes)

(Report from committee regarding 2016 PCUSA Fossil Fuel Divestment Overture Rationale)

1:00 Prayers of Intercession

(Please submit requested prayers of intercession to the Stated Clerk's table before 11:00 a.m.)

Benediction and Adjournment

1:05 Reception in Fellowship Hall – Everyone is asked to gather for a time of fellowship and community building.

CONSENT AGENDA

Stated Clerk Cam Murchison explained the rules for the Consent Agenda. He then moved that the Consent Agenda be approved. Items 9, 10, and 12 from the Stated Clerk's Report were pulled from the Consent Agenda. The remaining items of the Consent Agenda were approved as submitted. Items included in this motion are marked by "CA" in the margin. (Appendix A)

The following committees submitted reports to the Presbytery for information and approval. All were received and approved.

- Budget and Finance Committee Report (Appendix B)
- Highlights of the 236th Meeting of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic (Appendix C)
- Guatemala Partnership Educational Report (Appendix D)
- Small Membership Church Committee (Appendix E)
- Report of the General Presbyter (Appendix F)

STATED CLERK'S REPORT

Dr. Murchison presented recommendations 1 thru 3, 8, 11 and 13 included in the Stated Clerk's report, stating that these recommendations had previously been approved in the Consent Agenda. He then referred to items 14-18 as items for information.

Stated Clerk Murchison moved recommendations 4 thru 7, and 9, 10 and 12, which were duly seconded and approved.

- CA 1. **THAT Michael Bailey, Cam Murchison, and Robbin Buchanan be requested to prepare the minutes of this Presbytery meeting for approval at the January 30, 2016 Presbytery meeting.**
- CA 2. **THAT the minutes of the July 28, 2015 Stated Meeting of Presbytery be approved as submitted.**
- CA 3. **THAT the minutes of the installation of the following be placed into the record of Presbytery: (Appendix G)**
 Mary Katherine Robinson
4. **That the Presbytery of Western North Carolina approve the dissolution of the Paint Gap Presbyterian Church (at its request) and approve the appointment of an Administrative Commission.**

That the Presbytery go on record commending the faith and faithfulness of the Session and congregation of the Paint Gap Presbyterian Church, thanking them for the many years of ministry to the church, community, and the world.

5. **THAT an Administrative Commission for the Paint Gap Presbyterian Church, Burnsville, be approved consisting of the following members:**

 Mr. Bob Ayala (Newdale)
 Rev. Steve Elderbrock (Burnsville, First)
 Rev. Bill Sweetser (Spruce Pine, First)
 Mr. Bobby Justus (Grassy Creek)
 Mrs. Beth Hall (Micaville)

THAT the commission has been assigned the following responsibilities and authority:

- To work pastorally with the members of Paint Gap, supporting them in their transition to other congregations and giving thanks for the ministry of the Paint Gap Church.
- To dissolve the congregation, close the church and preserve their records (G3.0301a and G-3.107).
- To hold the members on the roll of Presbytery and transfer their membership to a congregation of their choosing.
- To administer the funds in the church's accounts and to make payments on behalf of the church and the Presbytery.
- To determine the disposition of all the property, including authority to sell the property and dispose of its contents (G 4.0205).

6. **THAT the Presbytery of Western North Carolina approve the dissolution of the Westminster Presbyterian Church (at its request) and approve the appointment of an Administrative Commission with the following commendations and encouragements:**

- That the Presbytery join the Westminster Presbyterian Church on October 25, 2015, at their closing service, celebrating their years of ministry in Asheville, the surrounding community, and the world.
- That Presbytery thank the Westminster Presbyterian Church for their financial contribution and legacy to future church development and ministry through

selling the building. This was a courageous, mission-minded, and faithful decision for building up the Body of Christ and will have ministry implications of telling the Good News of the gospel for years to come.

- That the Presbytery go on record commending the faith and faithfulness of the Session and congregation of the Westminster Presbyterian Church, thanking them for their many years of ministry to the church, community, and the world and their gift to future ministry.

7. THAT an Administrative Commission for the Westminster Presbyterian Church, Asheville, be approved consisting of the following members:

Rev. Merriam Alexander (Asheville, First)
Rev. Keith Grogg (Montreat)
Mrs. Dot Descieux (Westminster)
Mr. Don Peterson (Kenilworth)
Mr. Chuck Riley (Grace Covenant)

THAT the commission has been assigned the following tasks and powers:

- To work pastorally with the members of Westminster, supporting them in their closing worship, their transition to other congregations, and giving thanks for the ministry of the Westminster Presbyterian Church.
- To hold members on the roll of Presbytery and transfer their membership to congregations of their choosing.
- To dissolve the congregation and close the church (G-3.0301a), and take possession of their records (G-3.107).
- To administer the funds in the church's accounts, pay any outstanding bills and debts, and to make payments on behalf of the church and the Presbytery.
- To determine the disposition of all the property, including the authority to sell the property and dispose of any contents (G 4.0205).

- CA 8. **THAT the October 31, 2015 report of the Administrative Commission for the New Vision, Conover New Church Development be received and entered into the permanent record of the Presbytery. (Appendix H)**
- CA 9. **THAT the October 31, 2015 report of the Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville be received and entered into the permanent record of the Presbytery. (Appendix I)**
- CA 10. **THAT the October 31, 2015 report of the Administrative Commission for the First Presbyterian Church, Lenoir be received and entered into the permanent record of the Presbytery. (Appendix J)**
- CA 11. **THAT the October 31, 2015 report of the Cullowhee Campus Ministry Board be received and entered into the permanent record of the Presbytery. (Appendix K)**
- CA 12. **THAT the October 31, 2015 report of the Administrative Commission for the Walnut Grove Presbyterian Church, Newland be received and entered into the permanent record of the Presbytery. (Appendix J)**
- CA 13. **THAT the overture, submitted to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina by the Session of the First Presbyterian Church, Asheville, regarding 2016 PCUSA Fossil Fuel Divestment Overture, be referred to the Presbytery's Bills and Overtures**

Committee for a report and recommendation of action at this meeting. (Appendix L)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

14. **THAT Commission reports were not received from the following commissions/boards for this meeting:**

**Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church, Swannanoa
Administrative Commission for West Asheville Presbyterian Church**

15. **The 107th Stated meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Saturday, January 30, 2016, at the First Presbyterian Church of Newton, North Carolina.**

16. **THAT the following date has been established for Sacred Trust-Relational Boundaries Training for 2015: (Appendix M)**

November 21, 2015 Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Asheville

The new four-year cycle of training for clergy and volunteers will focus on child safety, theological issues of sexual misconduct prevention, and issues of social media.

17. **THAT the following dates have been set for 2016 and 2017 Presbytery Meetings:**

2016

January 30, 2016 ~ First Presbyterian Church, Newton

April 26, 2016 ~ Montreat Conference Center

July 26, 2016 ~ Children's Care Alliance (Grandfather Home for Children)

October 25, 2016 ~ Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church

2017

January 28, 2017 ~ First Presbyterian Church, Lincolnton

April 25, 2017 ~ Montreat Conference Center

July 25, 2017 ~TBD

October 24, 2017 ~TBD

18. **THAT the following dates have been established for Clerk of Session Training and Reviewing Church Records:**

Saturday, April 16, 2016 First Presbyterian Church, Morganton

Saturday, May 14, 2016 First Presbyterian Church, Waynesville

Saturday, June 11, 2016 Rutherfordton Presbyterian Church

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

AND CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Worship was led by Teaching Elders Luke Harkey and Rebecca Jones, with music provided by the choir and members of the Shelby Presbyterian Church congregation. Our new Stated Clerk, Cam Murchison, preached affirming that all believers, on either side of death, "will be with the Lord forever." (I Th. 4:17).

Worship concluded with a celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, led by the Teaching Elders Luke Harkey and Rebecca Jones, with communion being served by the ruling and teaching elders affiliated with Shelby Presbyterian Church. As part of our worship, we also gave thanks to God for the ministries of the Paint Gap and Westminster Presbyterian congregations, whose members will now serve elsewhere.

GENERAL COUNCIL

On behalf of the General Council, Jim Henderson presented recommendations 2 thru 4 included in the General Council report, stating that these recommendations had previously been approved in the Consent Agenda. He then presented recommendation 1. The recommendation was moved and approved.

He then presented items 5 thru 13 of the report as items for information.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT the Presbytery elect Teaching Elder Susan Denne as Moderator of the Presbytery for 2017, serving as Vice-Moderator in 2016.**

- CA 2. **THAT the Presbytery elect the following persons to serve on the Nominating and Representation Committee:**
Nominating:
Mrs. Jane Hansel (Montreat) (B) Chair 2016
Mr. Marvin Chambers (Kenilworth) (B) Class of 2018

- CA 3. **THAT permission be granted for the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper to be celebrated at Presbytery sponsored events and weekly Ukirk worship gatherings for the upcoming school year, from August 18, 2015 through May 3, 2016.**

- CA 4. **THAT the Presbytery approve moving the Evangelism Committee from the Outreach Division to the Congregational Care Division in the new committee structure.**

FOR INFORMATION:

5. **THAT the General Council approved taking an offering at the October 31st meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for the flood waters and clean-up in South Carolina and for the flooding and drought leaving families without food in Malawi. (Appendix N)**

6. **THAT the General Council reviewed and approved the following Synod Grant Applications:**
New and Small Church Grant Fund
Pineola Presbyterian Church - New Roof
Good Hope Presbyterian Church - After School Program

Visionary Grant
Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church - Hands and Feet of Asheville

7. **THAT the General Council approved the following members to serve on the Ministry Campaign Finance Committee:**
Barbara McLean - Moderator of Presbytery for 2016
Michael Bailey - Moderator of General Council for 2016
Jay Crane - Administrative Division Chair
Hal Bennett - General Council Representative
Jim Henderson - General Council Representative
Otis Wilson - Member of Ministry Campaign Planning Team

8. **THAT the General Council continues to review the work of the divisions of the**

Presbytery as they strive to work toward a new committee structure for Presbytery. Progress reports for various divisions have been submitted for Presbytery records. (General Council Attachments 2, 3, and 4)

Administrative Division (Appendix O)
Leadership Division (Appendix P)
Congregational Division (Appendix Q)

9. **THAT a list of upcoming events of the Presbytery can be found on the back of the Presbytery Docket.**
10. **THAT there will be a workshop held on Thursday, November 5, for Clerks of Sessions and church professionals on Stats, Rolls, and Registers.**
11. **THAT the Christian Education Committee will sponsor an over-night spirituality retreat, to be held April 8-9, 2016, at the Moore Center at Montreat Conference Center. The theme will be Experiential Worship.**
12. **THAT the following dates have been set for youth events in 2015 and 2016:**
November 6-8, 2015 Middle School Retreat
February 27, 2016 Healthy Relationships & Sexuality Retreat
March 11-12, 2016 High School Mission Retreat
July 19-23, 2016 Presbyterian Youth Triennium
13. **THAT the General Council will welcome invitations from churches or institutions willing to host Presbytery meetings. The following dates have been set for Presbytery Meetings in 2016 and 2017:**

2016

January 30, 2016 ~ First Presbyterian Church, Newton
April 26, 2016 ~ Montreat Conference Center
July 26, 2016 ~ Grandfather Home for Children
October 25, 2016 ~ Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church

2017

January 28, 2017 ~ First Presbyterian Church, Lincolnton
April 25, 2017 ~ Montreat Conference Center
July 25, 2017 ~TBD
October 24, 2017 ~TBD

CLOSING OF CHURCH

The sessions and congregations of Paint Gap Presbyterian Church and Westminster Presbyterian voted to close their churches. Moderator Michael Bailey led the Presbytery through a closing litany service of worship and thanksgiving for these two churches. (Appendix R)

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

On behalf of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, Rev. Bob Tuttle made the following recommendations to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina: (Appendix S)

- I. **THAT Barrett A. Payne, a member of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, and a student at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA, be enrolled as a Candidate following the required examination by Presbytery.**

- II. THAT Rosy A. Robson, a member of Black Mountain Presbyterian Church, and a student at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, VA, be enrolled as a Candidate following the required examination by Presbytery.
- III. THAT Matthew David Conner, a member of Gastonia First Presbyterian Church, and a student at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA, be enrolled as a Candidate following the required examination by Presbytery.
- IV. THAT William J. B. Wilson, a member of Asheville First Presbyterian Church, and a student at Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, NJ, be enrolled as a Candidate following the required examination by Presbytery.

After sharing their faith journeys and their call to the ministry, Moderator Michael Bailey opened the floor for questions. Following a period of time for questions, the Presbytery approved the enrollment of Barrett A. Payne, Rosy A. Robson, Matthew David Conner and William J. B. Wilson as Candidates. The Vice-Moderator then asked the questions in the *Book of Order*, G-14.0305f, which were answered affirmatively.

The Rev. Kristy Farber delivered the charge and offered the prayer for Barrett Payne. The Rev. Bob Tuttle delivered to charge and the Rev. John LaMotte offered the prayer for Rosy A. Robson. The Rev. Lauren Vanacore delivered the charge and the Rev. John Frye offered the prayer for Matthew David Conner. The Rev. Dean Thompson delivered the charge and the Rev. Maggie Lauterer offered the prayer for William J. B. Wilson. Those who came in support of these candidates were asked to stand and be recognized. (Appendix Q)

NOMINATING

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Robbin Buchanan presented the work of the committee and their recommendations for commissioner representatives to the 222nd (2016) General Assembly in Portland, Oregon. All were duly elected. Commissioners to the 222nd (2016) General Assembly will be Teaching Elders Kathy Campbell, Esta Jarrett, and Don Scofield; Ruling Elders John Pea, Mary Louise Bringle, and Rodney Lytle, and YAD Anna Huntley. (Appendix T)

The Nominating Committee presented the following recommendations as alternate commissioners to the 222nd (2016) General Assembly: Teaching Elder Harold (Hal) Bennett and Ruling Elders Lee Galloway, Mimi Michael and Rodger Rizk. All were duly approved. (Appendix T)

The Nominating Committee presented the following recommendation as a delegate for a one-year term (2016) for the Stated Meetings of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic, Rev. Dr. Charles Davenport. He was approved. (Appendix T)

The Presbytery approved the recommendation that the Nominating Committee, along with the Moderator of Presbytery and the chair of the Committee on Ministry, be given the authority to replace a commissioner to the General Assembly in the event that the elected commissioner(s) and/or alternate commissioner(s) be unable to attend. (Appendix T)

YOUTH COMMITTEE

Teaching Elder Evelyn Coleman reported on the work of the committee and upcoming events. She highlighted the Middle School Retreat scheduled for November 6-8 at Camp Grier. Other events highlighted for 2016 were the Healthy Relationships and Sexuality Retreat, High School Mission Retreat and Presbyterian Youth Triennium. (Appendix U)

CAMPUS MINISTRY

Steve Runholt, chair of the Campus Ministry Committee reported on the work of the committee. The Chaplain at Warren Wilson College, Dr. Brian Amons, sent greetings from the college.

Teaching Elder Karol Farris, UKirk Ministry, reported on the campus ministry of the Cullowhee Campus. She reported that the ministry had a slow start but is growing in numbers and programs. The Coffee House, Hillside Grind, (located in the former fellowship hall) a non-profit coffee house, has become the meeting place for Bible Study, dinners, and other meetings.

CAMP GRIER

Janie Faucette Moore, Director of Adventure and Mission Program at Camp Grier, reported on the vision and growth at the camp over the past two years. Camp attendance has increased over 20% in the past 2 years. Campers are enjoying adventures with the climbing wall, zipline, and looking forward to a mountain bike pump track. They continue to work with developing new programs.

MINISTRY CAMPAIGN

Feild Russell, Mark Stanley and Anita Bernhardt, leaders of the Building HOPE Ministries Campaign, reported that during the "quiet phase" (2015), nearly \$1 million has been pledged. The "congregational phase" will begin in January 2016, as we move towards our goal of \$2.25 million that will strengthen our witness here and abroad.

CHURCHES AND PASTORS COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

I. WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

On behalf of the Committee on Ministry, Rev. Whit Malone reported on the actions taken by the Committee on Ministry on behalf of the Presbytery. (Appendix V)

On behalf of the committee, Rev. Malone reported that the following ministers requested that their membership be transferred:

- Mark Ramsey, Mission Presbytery, as Pastor, Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church, Austin, Texas, effective August 1, 2015.
- Catherine Taylor, Coastal Carolina Presbytery, as Member-at-Large, effective June 11, 2015.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY II. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MINISTERS

On behalf of the Committee on Ministry and the Examinations Sub-Committee, the Rev. Whit Malone introduced the following new ministers in the Presbytery. They spoke briefly and signed the Book of Obligations. Their Statements of Faith and biographical statements were included in the report of the Committee on Ministry. (Appendix V)

- Christopher Voorhees Taylor, from Elizabeth Presbytery, as Member-at-Large, effective September 1, 2015.
- Joanne D. Glaser, from West Virginia Presbytery, as Pastor at Sweetwater Presbyterian Church, effective November 1, 2015.
- Tricia Lytle, UCC Pastor, Temporary Membership, as Transitional Associate Pastor at Unity Presbyterian Church, effective October 4, 2015 through her of service (*BO G-2.0506*).
- Patrick Johnson, from Presbytery of New Brunswick, as Pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Asheville, effective December 13, 2015. (Patrick will be presented at the January 30, 2016 Presbytery Meeting.)

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
III. VALIDATION OF MINISTRIES

On behalf of the Committee on Ministry, Rev. Whit Malone moved that the Presbytery validate the ministries of the following: (Appendix V)

- William Buchanan, as Executive Director of Asheville Youth Mission, through October 31, 2016.
- Joan Martin, as Chaplain at Covenant Village, Inc., through October 31, 2016.
- Cynthia Strickler, as Director of the Dunamis Fellowship, Int., Vice President and Dean of Faculty, Dunamis Institute, Presbyterian Reformed Ministries, Int., through October 31, 2016.

BLACK MOUNTAIN HOME FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

Sarah Thomas, VP of Finance & Development at Black Mountain Home for Children, Youth and Families, thanked the churches and donors for their gracious contributions to the home. Through your contributions, wishes and dreams of the children can be met. Each congregation in attendance was encouraged to pick up their "Thanksgiving Offering" Packets.

REPORT OF ASSOCIATE PRESBYTER

Anita Bernhardt, Interim Associate for Witness, Mission and Church Support, spoke on behalf of General Presbyter, Bobbi White as she was traveling in China. She expressed that she felt it was an honor and privilege to be a part of this Presbytery, a Presbytery that is a healthy, welcoming, of high quality, and a working Presbytery. She encouraged the Presbytery to continue to be thankful, welcoming, and to introduce yourself to new comers in your midst. (Appendix W)

GUATEMALA PARTNERSHIP

Marie Connelly de Palacios brought greetings from the Guatemala Partnership Committee and partnership churches in Guatemala. She expressed that we were closing out a year of discernment and that the Guatemala Partnership Leadership Team would be traveling to Guatemala in January 2016 to renew the five-year covenant. She requested that the Presbytery keep the partnership in prayer.

BILLS AND OVERTURES

Teaching Elder Jim Layman, chair of the Bills and Overtures Committee presented the following recommendation for the overture submitted to their committee:

- Proposed that the Presbytery take time to study, reflect, be in conversation and prayer concerning the 2016 PCUSA Fossil Fuel Divestment Overture between the October 31, 2015 Presbytery Meeting and the January 30, 2016 Presbytery Meeting. That the Presbytery would take action on said overture at it January 30, 2016 meeting.

The recommendation was presented to the body of Presbytery and was approved.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rev. John Pruitt led the Presbytery in prayers of intercession.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

Teaching Elder Becky Stanley and Ruling Elders Mary Sandra Costner and Elizabeth Moss submitted the following Resolution of Thanks for the 106th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina:

On this cloudy Halloween Day, we were treated to an informative, efficient and inspiring day of Presbytery. The Shelby Church folks are all to be praised for welcome, coffee, a wonderful array of goodies, and, all in all, a most pleasing day. Especially to be thanked are the ministers and members of

the church: Luke Harkey, Rebecca Jones, Mary Conner, Lloyd Williams, Jon Brownlee, elders and deacons.

It was a time of transition for many, saying good-bye to close friends and welcoming new ministers and four new candidates for ministry! We celebrated our Reformation and All Saints Day with incredible zeal.

BENEDICTION AND ADJOURNMENT

With the business of the 106th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina completed and adjournment voted, Moderator Bailey adjourned the meeting at 12:25 p.m. with prayer.

NEXT MEETING

The 107th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Saturday, January 30, 2016 at First Presbyterian Church, Newton.

These minutes were prepared by the following:

Michael Bailey, Moderator

D. Cameron Murchison, Stated Clerk

Robbin Buchanan, Assistant Stated Clerk

These minutes to be approved by Presbytery on January 30, 2016 at its meeting at the First Presbyterian Church, Newton, North Carolina.

APPENDICES

- A. Consent Agenda
- B. Budget and Finance Committee Report
- C. Highlights of 236th Stated Meeting of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic
- D. Guatemala Partnership Educational Report
- E. Smaller Membership Church Committee
- F. Report of the General Presbyter
- G. Minutes of Installation for Mary Katherine Robinson
- H. Administrative Commission Report for New Vision, Conover
- I. Administrative Commission Report for Hendersonville, First
- J. Administrative Commission Report for Lenoir, First and Walnut Grove
- K. Cullowhee Campus Ministry Board Report
- L. 2016 PCUSA Overture on Fossil Fuel and Divestment
- M. Invitation for Sacred Trust Relational Boundaries Training
- N. Special Offering for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and Malawi
- O. Report from Administrative Division on Restructuring
- P. Report from Leadership Division on Restructuring
- Q. Report from Congregational Development on Restructuring
- R. Litnity for Closing a Church
- S. Committee on Preparation for Ministry
- T. Nominating Committee Report
- U. Youth Committee
- V. Committee on Ministry
- W. Report from Associate Presbyter

*For a copy of the Appendices, please contact the Presbytery Office.
(828/438-4217 or rbuchanan@presbyterywnc.org)*