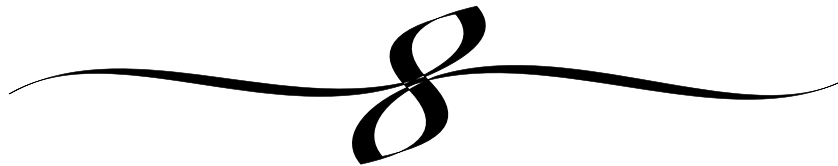


**PRESBYTERY OF  
WESTERN  
NORTH CAROLINA**

**MINUTES  
ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH  
STATED MEETING  
July 28, 2015**



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**The Presbytery of Western North Carolina  
105th Stated Meeting  
July 28, 2015  
at Trinity Presbyterian Church  
Hendersonville, North Carolina**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ruling Elder Barbara McLean, Vice-Moderator, convened the 105th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina at 9:00 a.m. in the sanctuary of the Trinity Presbyterian Church in Hendersonville, North Carolina.

**CONSTITUTION**

The Vice-Moderator, ruling elder Barbara McLean, opened the 105th Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina at Trinity Presbyterian Church with prayer.

**WELCOME**

Teaching Elder Mark Stanley, pastor of Trinity Presbyterian Church, welcomed the Presbytery and asked everyone to share in celebrating Trinity's 50th year in the community. He gave thanks to the 88 volunteers of Trinity Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville (PCUSA) for their support and work in preparation and planning of this day. In celebration of their Jubilee Year (1965-2015), a stole was presented to the Presbytery to be worn by the Moderator of Presbytery in future meetings.

**ATTENDANCE**

The Stated Clerk, Ruling Elder Bert Sigmon, 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 MINISTERS WERE ENROLLED (P = Present; E = Excused; A = Absent without excuse):

|                   |   |                       |   |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------|---|-------------------|---|
| Robert Abel       | E | Ann Aichinger         | P | Frank Aichinger   | P |
| Wyatt Aiken, Jr.  | E | Blan Aldridge         | E | Charles Alexander | E |
| Merriam Alexander | E | Terry Alexander       | E | Stephen Austin    | A |
| James Aydelotte   | P | Patricia Bacon        | P | Michael Bailey    | E |
| Tony Baker        | E | Susan Balfour         | P | Edna Banes        | P |
| Steven Barnes     | P | Douglas Bartlett      | E | Ashley Beavers    | E |
| Harold Bennett    | P | Joseph Bennett        | E | Anita Bernhardt   | P |
| James Bernhardt   | E | Katherine Blankenship | A | Lynn Bledsoe      | P |
| Randall Boggs     | A | Ronald Botsford       | E | Adam Bowling      | A |
| Lee Bowman        | E | Richard Boyce         | P | Grace Boyer       | P |
| David Bradley     | E | Ryan Brakemeyer       | A | Ronald Brauer     | E |
| Hayden Britton    | E | Beverly Brock         | E | 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        | E | Helen Pride Carson     | E | Mary Faith Carson    | E |
| Katherine Cashwell  | E | Joel David Cherry      | E | Calvin Chesnutt      | E |
| Dwight Christenbury | P | William Christian      | E | Carol Clark          | A |
| Mark Clark          | A | Sarah Cobrun           | A | James Cockerham      | P |
| Jeffrey Coffey      | A | James Cogswell         | P | Evelyn Coleman       | A |
| Hunter Coleman      | E | Priestley Conyers, III | E | Monty Cook           | P |
| Thomas Cook, Jr.    | E | Donald Cooper          | P | Riley Covin          | P |
| John Craven         | E | Curtis Crowther        | E | Robert Bruce Cumming | E |
| James Dale          | A | Blake Daniel           | P | Charles Davenport    | P |
| Dent Davis          | A | Heather Davis          | P | Holly Davis          | P |
| Eddie Deas, III     | P | Jey Deifell, Jr.       | E | Arthur DeJong        | E |
| Susan Denne         | E | Edward Donnell         | P | Ellen Dozier         | P |
| Philip Dunford      | P | Steven Eason           | E | Stephen Elderbrock   | A |
| Raymond Fancher     | P | 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       | P |
| Kevin Frederick     | E | Keith Freeman          | P | Berry French, III    | A |
| John Frye, Jr.      | P | Curtis Fussell, III    | P | Tempe Fussell        | P |
| James Gailey        | E | A. W. Gaines           | E | Tee Gatewood, III    | A |
| Denise Geiger       | E | Jean Goodwin           | P | Gregory Grana        | E |
| Theodore Grant      | E | Keith Grogg            | P | Robert Gruber        | E |
| George Gunn         | P | Samuel Hale            | E | Michal Hall          | E |
| Terry Hanna         | P | Patrick Hardy          | P | Randall Hardy        | A |
| Luke Harkey, III    | P | Rebecca Harrison       | E | William Heck         | E |
| Robert Henderson    | E | Robert Hewett          | E | Robert Hinman        | A |
| Richard Hobson      | E | Samuel Hobson, Jr.     | P | James Holeman        | A |
| Richard Holshouser  | E | Samuel Hope            | E | James Hornsby        | E |

|                     |   |                    |   |                        |   |
|---------------------|---|--------------------|---|------------------------|---|
| William Hoyt, III   | E | George Hutchins    | E | Michael Isaacs         | P |
| Donald Jafvert      | E | William Janes      | E | Esta Jarrett           | A |
| Cecil Jividen       | E | Wallace Johnson    | P | Franklin Jones         | A |
| Rebecca Jones       | E | Kimberly Justice   | A | Dong Uk Kang           | A |
| David Kaylor        | E | David Kennedy      | E | Ira Kennerly           | P |
| Paul Kercher        | E | William Kirk       | E | Albert Kissling        | E |
| Earl Kreisa         | E | Lee Kruse          | A | John LaMotte           | P |
| John Laughlin       | E | Margaret Lauterer  | E | James Layman           | P |
| Thomas Lewis        | P | William Lindeman   | A | John Lindsay           | E |
| Eugene Linton, Jr.  | E | Deneise Deter Liss | A | Laura Long             | E |
| Billy Lowe          | P | Robert Lowry       | P | David Lytle            | P |
| Whit Malone         | P | Marjorie Marsh     | P | Joan Martin            | P |
| 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    | A | Robert Montgomery      | P |
| Anne Morgan         | P | David Morgan       | P | 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        | P | O'Hyun Park            | P |
| Katherine Parker    | P | Thomas Parker      | P | David Parks            | E |
| Donald Patchel      | P | 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     | A | Donald Price           | E |
| Gene Price          | E | Caroline Proctor   | P | Allen Proctor, Jr.     | P |
| Edyth Pruitt        | P | John Pruitt        | E | Tamara Puffer          | P |
| Jay Rabuck          | P | Daria Ragan        | P | Mark Ramsey            | A |

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

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

|                 |   |                   |   |                  |   |
|-----------------|---|-------------------|---|------------------|---|
| Linda Abel      | E | Philip Adams      | A | Linda Amos       | A |
| Robert Ayala    | E | John Bates        | P | Dwayne Durham    | A |
| Elizabeth Hall  | P | Kenneth Humphreys | P | Bobby Justus     | E |
| James Koone     | P | Peggy Koone       | E | Deborah Lesenger | E |
| James Millsaps  | A | David Moore, Sr.  | A | Lynn Moore       | P |
| Marla Patchel   | P | Randy Patterson   | A | Pete Peterson    | A |
| Marcia Reighley | A | Russell Reighley  | A | Barbara Ross     | P |

|              |   |                   |   |                  |   |
|--------------|---|-------------------|---|------------------|---|
| Betty Shaw   | E | Bert Sigmon       | P | Dennis Stamper   | A |
| John Stanley | A | James Taylor      | P | William Upchurch | P |
| Roger Wise   | P | William Wuehrmann | A |                  |   |

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

|                |   |               |   |              |   |
|----------------|---|---------------|---|--------------|---|
| Jay Crane      | P | Helen Hall    | P | Bob Forsythe | P |
| Jane Hansel    | E | Jim Henderson | P | Bob McFerren | P |
| Barbara McLean | P | Melvin Meares | A | Dick Peck    | A |
| Heath Rada     | A | Bob Riddle    | P | 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 | P | Leslie McLeod   | P |
| Mary Lou Nash   | 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)        | Jerry Argall    | Parker Lewis   |
| Banner Elk (2)             | Cathy Richmond  |                |
| Belmont First (3)          | Laurie Maultsby | Deana Murphy   |
|                            | Lisa McMeeker   |                |
| Bessemer City First (2)    | A               |                |
| Black Mountain (3)         | Wayne Mullis    | Anne Straughan |
|                            | Betsy Ray       |                |
| Brevard-Davidson River (3) | Freddie Hart    | Jim Ansley     |
|                            | Ginny Bradford  |                |
| Bridgewater (2)            | A               |                |
| Brittain (2)               | A               |                |

|                       |                    |               |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Brittains Cove (2)    | A                  |               |
| Bryson City (2)       | A                  |               |
| Buladean (2)          | A                  |               |
| Burnsville First (2)  | Jon Ward           | Duke Rose     |
| Calvary (3)           | Vivan Ridley       |               |
| Canton (2)            | A                  |               |
| Cherryville First (3) | Pam Crowder        | Barbara Long  |
| Clinchfield (2)       | A                  |               |
| Columbus (2)          | Donna Ashley       |               |
| Conley Memorial (2)   | E                  |               |
| Crossnore (2)         | Fred France        | Jason DeWitt  |
| Dallas First (2)      | Marjorie Finger    | Angie Jones   |
| Dixon (2)             | A                  |               |
| Dorland Memorial (2)  | A                  |               |
| Dulatown (3)          | Charles Kincaid    | Elmer Dula    |
| Duncan's Creek (2)    | Sue Price          | Richard Price |
| Ellenboro (1)         | A                  |               |
| Etowah (1)            | Marque Cox         |               |
| Fairview (1)          | A                  |               |
| Fletcher (1)          | Ed Briggs          |               |
| Forest City First (1) | A                  |               |
| Franklin First (1)    | John Duncan        |               |
| Gastonia First (3)    | A                  |               |
| Glen Alpine (1)       | A                  |               |
| Good Hope (2)         | A                  |               |
| Grace Covenant (2)    | A                  |               |
| Grassy Creek (1)      | John Hall          |               |
| Green Mountain (1)    | A                  |               |
| Green Street (2)      | A                  |               |
| Hayesville (1)        | Betty Anne Watkins |               |



|                                             |                 |                |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Hendersonville First (1)                    | Cathy Childress | Evelyn Renda   |
| Hickory First (3)                           | A               |                |
| Highlands First (1)                         | Bob Tietze      |                |
| Ironton (1)                                 | E               |                |
| Jack's Creek (1)                            | A               |                |
| John Knox (1)                               | E               |                |
| Kenilworth (1)                              | Bob Craddock    |                |
| Kings Mountain First (1)                    | A               |                |
| Korean Presbyterian Church of Asheville (2) | A               |                |
| Lenoir First (2)                            | Jim Thompson    |                |
| Lincolnton First (1)                        | Jan Duncan      |                |
| Long Creek (1)                              | A               |                |
| Love's Chapel (2)                           | A               |                |
| Lowell (1)                                  | Joy Webb        |                |
| Marion First (1)                            | A               |                |
| Marshall (1)                                | Sarah Shaner    |                |
| Micaville (1)                               | A               |                |
| Mills River (1)                             | A               |                |
| Montreat (1)                                | Anne Rogers     |                |
| Morganton First (2)                         | Anna Sheppard   | Helen Sheppard |
| Morrison (1)                                | Debe Nowicki    |                |
| Mount Holly First (1)                       | Davie Groner    |                |
| New Hope, Asheville (1)                     | Bambi Teague    |                |
| New Hope, Gastonia (1)                      | A               |                |
| Newdale (1)                                 | Brenda Howard   |                |
| Newland (1)                                 | A               |                |
| Newton First (2)                            | Melva Cooper    | Tammy Wilson   |
| Northminster (2)                            | A               |                |
| Oak Forest (1)                              | A               |                |
| Oakwood (1)                                 | A               |                |

|                       |                  |                |
|-----------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Old Fort (1)          | A                |                |
| Olney (1)             | Phyllis Hallman  |                |
| Paint Gap (1)         | A                |                |
| Pine Street (2)       | A                |                |
| Pineola (1)           | A                |                |
| Quaker Meadows (1)    | Ann Dietz        |                |
| Reems Creek-Beech (1) | Elizabeth Barbee |                |
| Ridgeview (1)         | A                |                |
| Robinson Memorial (1) | Allen Wiggins    |                |
| Rutherfordton (2)     | Judie Shapiro    | Karl Trumpler  |
| Ryburn Memorial (2)   | Lucretia Bell    | Shelia Warthen |
| Saluda (1)            | A                |                |
| Shelby (2)            | Glenn Moore      | Mike Goss      |
| Sherrill's Ford (1)   | A                |                |
| Shiloh, Grover (1)    | A                |                |
| Siloam (1)            | Amelia Tipton    |                |
| Southminster (2)      | Cindy Mauney     | Dan Froelich   |
| Spindale (1)          | A                |                |
| Spruce Pine First (1) | A                |                |
| Sweetwater (1)        | Kenneth Davis    |                |
| Sylva First (1)       | Michael Collins  |                |
| Third Street (2)      | Lois Camp        | Albert Costner |
| Trinity (2)           | Thomas Bridges   |                |
| Tryon (2)             | A                |                |
| Union (1)             | Rose Brooks      |                |
| Union Mills (1)       | A                |                |
| United (1)            | A                |                |
| Unity (2)             | A                |                |
| Vians Valley (1)      | A                |                |
| Waldensian (2)        | Christy Bounous  | Dawn Hess      |

|                       |               |  |
|-----------------------|---------------|--|
| Walnut (1)            | A             |  |
| Walnut Grove (1)      | A             |  |
| Warren Wilson (1)     | Susan Laney   |  |
| Waynesville First (1) | Lee Galloway  |  |
| West Asheville (1)    | Patrick Price |  |
| West Avenue (1)       | Gail Haynes   |  |
| Westminster (1)       | Dox Descieux  |  |

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

|                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Teaching Elders              | 101 |
| Ruling Elders                | 74  |
| Certified Educators          | 4   |
| Admin Board/Committee Chairs | 9   |
| Visitors                     | 121 |
| Total                        | 309 |

There were four corresponding members in attendance.

- *Helen Locklear, Board of Pensions, Coastal Carolina Presbytery*
- *Paul Galbreath, Presbytery of the James*
- *Connie Button, New Hope Presbytery*
- *Veronica Cannon, serving at First Presbyterian Church, Lincolnton, Charlotte Presbytery*

Standing Committees:

Resolution and Thanks:

- *Ruling Elder, Cathy Childress, First Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville, PCUSA*

Bills and Overtures:

- *Teaching Elder, David Morgan*

Tellers:

- *Ruling and Teaching Elders from Trinity Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville, (PCUSA)*

### APPROVAL OF DOCKET

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

**8:30 Registration**

**8:30 Prayers Before Presbytery  
Orientation for New Elders**

**Barbara Ross**

**9:00 Convene with Prayer of Invocation**

**Barbara McLean  
Vice-Moderator**

**Welcome from Trinity Presbyterian Church**

**Mark Stanley**

**Appointment of Standing Committees**

**Barbara McLean**

**Resolution of Thanks**

*Elder Cathy Childress, First Presbyterian, Hendersonville PCUSA*

**Bills and Overtures**

*Rev. David Morgan*

**Tellers**

*Trinity Presbyterian and First Presbyterian, Hendersonville*

**Certification of Quorum**

**Bert Sigmon, 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**

**Bert Sigmon**

**B**

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

**Budget and Finance Committee**

**BB**

**Recognition of Bert Sigmon's Six Years of Service**

*(Reception to follow PWNC meeting after lunch in the atrium)*

**Installation Service of Cam Murchison, Stated Clerk**

*(Installation of new Stated Clerk effective August 1, 2015)*

**9:25 Service of Worship and Music Celebrating the Bread of Life**

**Preacher:** Rebecca Gurney and Samantha Gonzalez-Block

**Scripture:** Luke 15:1-10; Luke 10:38-42

**Sermon:** "Get Lost" and "Breaking Bread Together"

**Worship Leaders:** Mark Stanley and Mel Bringle

**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 (5 minutes)**

*(Work of the committee)*

**Jim Henderson**

**C**

**10:35 Committee on Preparation for Ministry (20 minutes)**

*(Introduction of Elizabeth "Betsy" Ray as a candidate for ministry)*

**Bob Tuttle**

**K**

**10:55 Church Leadership School (5 minutes)**

*(Recognition of graduates; 2015-2016 Church Leadership School)*

2015 CLS Graduates

*Dan Breen (Kenilworth)*

*John Pea (Robinson Memorial)*

*Renee Warthen (Ryburn Memorial)*

**Fred Van Itallie**

**OO**

- 11:00 Christian Education Committee** (3-5 minutes) **Kent Smith** **W**  
*(Pastor's Retreat)*
- 11:05 Youth Committee** (3-5 minutes) **Heather Davis** **Y**  
*(Upcoming Events)*
- 11:10 Hunger Committee** (5 minutes) **Jan Duncan** **R**  
*(Fall Grant Application Deadline, Support for Congregations, and Work of the Committee)*
- 11:15 Guatemala Partnership** (3 minutes) **Marie Connelly de Palacios**
- 11:20 Ministry Campaign** (10 minutes) **Feild Russell**  
*(Updates; Quiet Phase; Contributors; Campaign Video)*
- 11:30 Report of the General Presbyter** (5 minutes) **Bobbi White** **GP**
- 11:35 Committee on Ministry** (50 minutes) **Cam Murchison** **D**  
**Whit Malone and Tee Gatewood**  
*(Recognition of ministers with 25 and 50 years of ministry; ministers retiring; work of the committee, introduction of new ministers Edna Banes, Karol Farris, Rebecca Gurney; Samantha Gonzelez-Block and Holly Davis; Commissioning of Lay Pastor – John Pea and Kenneth Humphreys)*

**25 Years**

Carol Boggs Clark  
 Susan Denne

**50 Years**

Parker T. Williamson

**Honorably Retired**

Ashley Jerry Beavers  
 Lee Bowman  
 Raymond Fancher  
 Paul Edward Forsyth  
 John P. Lindsay

**Honorably Retired**

Eugene B. Linton, Jr  
 Anne C. Morgan  
 Albert G. Peery, Jr.  
 Robert J. Tuttle

- 12:25 Board of Pensions** (3-5 minutes) **Helen Locklear** **KK**  
*(Updates for 2015-2016)*
- 12:30 Malawi Mission Team Report** (3-5 minutes)  
*(Video)*
- 12:35 Prayers of Intercession** **Jay Rabuck**  
*(Please submit requested prayers of intercession to the Stated Clerks table before 11:00 a.m.)*
- Benediction and Adjournment**  
**Closing Hymn**
- 12:45 Lunch**
- 1:15 Reception for Bert Sigmon**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Stated Clerk Bert Sigmon explained the rules for the Consent Agenda. He then moved that the Consent Agenda be approved. The Consent Agenda was 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)

**STATED CLERK'S REPORT**

Elder Sigmon presented recommendations 1 thru 4 and 7 thru 9 included in the Stated Clerk's report,

stating that these recommendations had previously been approved in the Consent Agenda. He then referred to items 10-18 as items for information.

Elder Sigmon then moved recommendations 5 and 6, which were duly seconded and approved.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**CA 1. THAT Barbara McLean, Bert Sigmon, and Robbin Buchanan be requested to prepare the minutes of this Presbytery meeting for approval at the October 31, 2015 Presbytery meeting.**

**CA 2. THAT the minutes of the April 28, 2015 Stated Meeting of Presbytery be approved as submitted.**

**CA 3. THAT the Presbytery accept the report of membership and worship statistics as submitted by the Sessions on the Annual Statistical Report. (Stated Clerk Appendix C - Membership Statistics and Stated Clerk Appendix D - Worship Statistics)**

**CA 4. THAT the minutes of the installation of the following be placed into the record of Presbytery: (Appendix E)**

Mary Katherine Robinson

**5. THAT an Administrative Commission for the First Presbyterian Church, Lenoir be approved consisting of the following members:**

Rev. Edyth Pruitt, Fairview Presbyterian Church (Co-Chair)

Elder John Pea, Robinson Memorial (Co-Chair)

Rev. Dr. James Bernhardt, Northminster

Elder Terry Taylor, Hickory, First

Rev. Steven Barnes, Newton, First

Rev. Jeff Coffey, Marion, First

Elder Helen Hall, Dulatown

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

- Shepherd the First Presbyterian Church of Lenoir, including the Lenoir Session and the congregation considering a request to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina to be dismissed.
- In this process, follow and implement the Policy “Guidelines for Congregations Considering A Request to Presbytery to be Dismissed,” dated July 30, 2013.
- Hear and provide care for members wishing to remain in the PCUSA.
- Provide the structure for the first congregational hearing to discuss the question, without vote, should the First Presbyterian Church of Lenoir request dismissal to another Reformed body?
- Work for effective communication about the discussions on whether the church should leave the denomination.
- Negotiate the legal agreement, detailed in section IV.D., which includes property and other issues, if the session determines to proceed to a vote on dismissal.
- Call and provide the structure for the second congregational hearing to vote on “Shall the First Presbyterian Church of Lenoir request Presbytery to dismiss it to another Reformed Body?”
- If the vote is for dismissal, recommend a decision to the Presbytery as detailed in section IV. E.3, in conjunction with *BO: G-4.02*.

- If dismissal is approved by the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, determine which congregational members will be dismissed and support the remaining members according to their requests, which could include continuing with PCUSA.
- If the congregation votes to remain in the PCUSA, work for reconciliation.
- Provide a written report to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina at each presbytery meeting until the commission is discharged.

**6. THAT an Administrative Commission for the Walnut Grove Presbyterian Church, Newland be approved consisting of the following members:**

Elder Roger Wise, Fletcher Presbyterian Church  
 Elder Bob Ayala, Newdale Presbyterian Church  
 Elder Laura Carringer, Banner Elk Presbyterian Church  
 Rev. Kathy Campbell, Crossnore Presbyterian Church  
 Rev. Keith Freeman, Pineola Presbyterian Church  
 Ex-Officio – Elder Barbara Ross, Crossnore Presbyterian Church

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

- Shepherd the Walnut Grove Presbyterian Church of Newland, including the Walnut Grove Session and the congregation considering a request to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina to be dismissed.
- In this process, follow and implement the Policy "Guidelines for Congregations Considering A Request to Presbytery to be Dismissed," dated July 30, 2013.
- Hear and provide care for members wishing to remain in the PCUSA.
- Provide the structure for the first congregational hearing to discuss the question, without vote, should the Walnut Grove Presbyterian Church of Newland request dismissal to another Reformed body?
- Work for effective communication about the discussions on whether the church should leave the denomination.
- Negotiate the legal agreement, detailed in section IV.D., which includes property and other issues, if the Session determines to proceed to a vote on dismissal.
- Call and provide the structure for the second congregational hearing to vote on "Shall the Walnut Grove Presbyterian Church of Newland request Presbytery to dismiss it to another Reformed Body?"
- If the vote is for dismissal, recommend a decision to the Presbytery as detailed in section IV. E.3, in conjunction with BO: G-4.02.
- If dismissal is approved by the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, determine which congregational members will be dismissed and support the remaining members according to their requests, which could include continuing with PCUSA.
- If the congregation votes to remain in the PCUSA, work for reconciliation.
- Provide a written report to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina at each presbytery meeting until the commission is discharged.

**CA 7. THAT the July 28, 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 E)**

**CA 8. THAT the July 28, 2015 report of the Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville be received and entered into the permanent record of the Presbytery. (Appendix F)**

- CA 9. THAT the July 28, 2015 report of the Administrative Commission for the First Presbyterian Church, Lenoir be received and entered into the permanent record of the Presbytery. (Appendix G)

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION:**

10. 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  
 Cullowhee Campus Ministry Board

11. The 106th Stated meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Saturday, October 31, 2015, at the Shelby Presbyterian Church, Shelby, North Carolina.

12. THAT the following date has been established for Sacred Trust-Relational Boundaries Training for 2015:

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.

13. THAT the following Session Records for 2014 were submitted and approved on Saturday, May 16, 2015, at a Session Records Review held at the Reems Creek-Beech Presbyterian Church, Weaverville.

|                       |                   |                    |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Burnsville, First     | Kenilworth        | Waynesville, First |
| Etowah                | Reems Creek-Beech | West Asheville     |
| Hayesville            | Sylva, First      | Westminster        |
| Hendersonville, First |                   |                    |

14. THAT the following Session Records for 2014 were submitted and approved on Saturday, May 30, 2015, at a Session Records Review held at the First Presbyterian Church, Cherryville.

|                      |                       |                   |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Asheville, First     | Ironton               | Robinson Memorial |
| Bessemer City, First | John Knox             | Shelby            |
| Cherryville, First   | Kings Mountain, First | Third Street      |
| Dixon                | Morrison              | Union             |
| Gastonia, First      | New Hope, Gastonia    | West Avenue       |

15. THAT the following Session Records for 2014 were submitted and approved on Saturday, June 6, 2015, at a Session Records Review held at the First Presbyterian Church, Morganton.

|                  |                  |                    |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Black Mountain   | Dulatown         | Micaville          |
| Bridgewater      | Fairview         | Newland            |
| Brittains Cove   | Fletcher         | Pineola            |
| Clinchfield      | Franklin First   | Ryburn Memorial    |
| Columbus         | Grassy Creek     | Sherrill's Ford    |
| Conley Memorial  | Highlands, First | Siloam             |
| Crossnore        | Marion, First    | Spruce Pine, First |
| Dorland Memorial |                  | Trinity            |



Union Mills  
Vians Valley  
Walnut Grove

**16. THAT the following Session Records for 2014 have not been reviewed and are delinquent in meeting the requirements of the 2013-2015 Book of Order.**

|                                    |                                |                             |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Arbor Dale                         | Green Mountain (Yrs 2012-2014) | Oak Forest (Yrs 2012-2014)  |
| Buladean (Yrs 2010 - 2014)         | Green Street                   | Oakwood                     |
| Calavary                           | Jack's Creek (Yrs 2013-2014)   | Old Fort (Yrs 2006-2014)    |
| Canton                             | Korean Pres                    | Paint Gap (Yrs 2010-2014)   |
| Ellenboro (Yrs 2006-2014)          | Lenoir, First                  | Pine Street (Yrs 2006-2014) |
| Estatoa                            | Love's Chapel                  | Ridgeview (Yrs 2006-2014)   |
| Forest City, First (Yrs 2013-2014) | Mills River (Yrs 2013-2014)    | Shiloh                      |
| Glen Alpine (Yrs 2013-2014)        | New Hope, Ashe (Yrs 2013-2014) | Spindale (Yrs 2009-2014)    |
| Good Hope (Yrs 2013-2014)          | Northminster                   | Walnut(Yrs 2010-2014)       |
| Grace Covenant                     |                                |                             |

**17. THAT the following dates have been set for 2015, 2016 and 2017 Presbytery Meetings:**

**2015**

July 28, 2015 ~ Trinity Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville

October 31, 2015 ~ Shelby Presbyterian Church, Shelby

**2016**

January 30, 2016 ~ First Presbyterian Church, Newton

April 26, 2016 ~ Montreat Conference Center

July 26, 2016 ~ Grandfather Home for Children-Children's Hope Alliance

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

**RECOGNITION OF SERVICE**

Teaching Elders Luke Harkey, Jim Cockerham and Bobbi White paid tribute to the retiring Stated Clerk, Bert Sigmon, who received a standing ovation. As a portion of tribute, a song written by Jim Cockerham, to the tune of "Bye, Bye, Love," was sang by Jim Cockerham, Luke Harkey and Bert Sigmon. (Appendix H).

**INSTALLATION OF STATED CLERK**

The Presbytery elected their third Stated Clerk as an independent position, separate from the General Presbyter, at its April 28, 2015 meeting. Teaching Elder D. Cameron Murchison was elected for the position of part-time Stated Clerk for the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, with a renewable three-year term of office, beginning August 1, 2015. Reverend Murchison was installed in a service led by Vice-Moderator Barbara McLean, General Presbyter Bobbi White and retiring Stated Clerk Bert Sigmon. (Appendix I).

**SERVICE OF WORSHIP  
AND CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

Worship was led by Teaching Elders Mark Stanley and Dwight Christenbury, and Ruling Elders Mel Bringle, Lynn Moore and Fred Van Itallie, with music provided by Eric Wall.

Rebecca Gurney, Designated Associate Pastor-elect for Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, preached a sermon entitled "Get Lost," with scripture taken from Luke 15:1-10. Samantha Gonzalez-Block, Associate Pastor-elect for Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, delivered a sermon entitled, "Breaking Bread Together," with scripture taken from Luke 10:38-42.

Worship concluded with a celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, led by Teaching Elders Mark Stanley and Dwight Christenbury, and Ruling Elders Mel Bringle, Lynn Moore and Fred Van Itallie, with communion being served by the ruling and teaching elders affiliated with Trinity Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville (PCUSA).

**GENERAL COUNCIL**

On behalf of the General Council, Jim Henderson presented Recommendation 1 included in the General Council report, stating that this recommendation had previously been approved in the Consent Agenda. He then presented recommendation 2 for adoption, which was approved. Items 3 thru 16 of the report were referred to as items for information.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- CA 1. **THAT the Presbytery elect the following person to serve on the Nominating and Representation Committee:**  
**Nominating:**  
**Mr. Charlie Snead (Hendersonville, First)(C) Class of 2017**
2. **THAT the Council recommends that the structure and responsibilities of the General Council be revised in the Standing Rules IV. (This requires a two-thirds vote of the Presbytery). The changes are indicated within the description below:**

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO STANDING RULES SECTION IV**

**IV. PRESBYTERY ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD GENERAL COUNCIL**

- A. **Purpose.** The **Administrative Board General Council** shall ensure that the priorities of Presbytery are carried out by the Divisions, committees, and other units, as well as the staff of Presbytery, and that these priorities are reflected in the Presbytery budget. It shall coordinate the many parts of Presbytery to contribute to the life and witness for Christ of the whole Church. It shall foster positive attitudes within the Presbytery and encourage its members to engage in regular prayer regarding the mission of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, the Synod of Mid-Atlantic, the General Assembly and the whole Presbyterian Church (USA). The **Administrative Board General Council** is the servant of Presbytery and has only those powers provided by these Standing Rules or authorized by Presbytery.
- B. **Membership.** The **Administrative Board General Council** shall be composed as follows:
1. **Voting Members**
    - **Immediate Past Moderator of Presbytery, who shall serve as**

chair for one-year.

- Moderator of Presbytery, who shall serve as vice-chair for one year.
- Chair (or his or her designee) from each Division.
- Moderator *or her designee* of the Presbyterian Women of Presbytery.
- Six at-large Members, selected by the Nominating and Representation Committees (giving due consideration to geography and experience, with equal number of teaching and ruling elders) and elected by Presbytery, serving three year staggered terms (two on, two off each year). These may be nominated and elected for an immediate second three year term, after which they may not serve on the council for at least one year before being eligible again.
- Vice-Moderator (Moderator-elect) of Presbytery, who **shall may** serve as secretary.
- Treasurer

2. Non-Voting Members\*

- General Presbyter
- Stated Clerk
- Any staff of Presbytery chosen by the General Presbyter
- One commissioner to the Synod Assembly selected by the Nominating and Representation Committees
- One recent commissioner to the General Assembly selected by the Nominating and Representation Committees

C. Leadership Team. The chair, vice-chair, secretary, two at-large members elected from the Council, the General Presbyter and the Stated Clerk shall form a leadership team for the **Administrative Board General Council**, whose duties shall be to

- Make preparations for each meeting of the **Board Council**
- Submit recommendations to the **Board Council**
- Carry out assignments given by the **Board Council**
- Take appropriate action on urgent matters that cannot wait for the next **Board Council** meeting, such action to be reported at the next meeting

D. Functions: The **Administrative Board General Council** shall have the following responsibilities:

1. To lead Presbytery in setting appropriate goals in accord with its Mission Statement.
2. To coordinate the mission and programs of Presbytery.
3. To review the work of all Divisions, committees and other units of Presbytery, offering helpful advice as warranted.
4. To approve the proposed annual budget prepared by the **Building Relations Administration** Division, ensuring that Presbytery's priorities are reflected therein, for submission to Presbytery; and to make adjustments to the budget approved by Presbytery, provided that such are reported to the next meeting of Presbytery.
5. To refer work to, and to hear recommendations from, the Divisions,

- committees and other units of Presbytery.
6. To approve the proposed docket for the Presbytery meetings prepared by the Moderator and Stated Clerk, in consultation with the General Presbyter, *and have oversight of worship at Presbytery meetings.*
  7. To serve as the Board of Trustees of the Presbytery Corporation, with the right to designate some of their members to exercise that responsibility on behalf of the *Administrative Board General Council.*
  8. To consider requests from congregations regarding the exercise of their property rights under G-4.0206 in the *Book of Order*, and recommend appropriate actions to Presbytery.
  9. To recommend persons for the Nominating and Representation Committees of Presbytery, and for the offices of Vice-Moderator (Moderator-elect) and if necessary, Moderator.
  10. To approve the appointment of persons by the Nominating and Representation Committees to fill vacancies on committees in cases of emergency (subject to ratification by Presbytery).
  11. To act as a hearing board in *personnel* matters which may be appealed from the *Operations Administration* Division.
  12. To refer actions of the General Assembly and Synod to divisions and committees for study and interpretation.
  13. To keep Presbytery informed of its work through reports at each meeting.
  14. To review Presbytery's fulfillment of its responsibilities listed in the *Book of Order* (G-3.03).
  15. To authorize celebrations of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at retreats, camps, conferences and special gatherings under the jurisdiction of Presbytery.
  16. To recommend personnel policies to Presbytery for all its employees, which shall embody the inclusiveness required in the *Book of Order.*
  17. Between meetings of Presbytery, to act on behalf of Presbytery in urgent matters by a two-thirds majority vote, provided that a full report of such action is given to Presbytery at its next meeting.

**FOR INFORMATION:**

3. THAT the special offering taken at the April 28, 2015 meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, for churches affected by extreme weather conditions in the Presbyteries of Boston and New England, totaled \$2,121.
4. THAT the General Council approved the Budget & Finance Committee's recommendation to have the moderator of General Council to send a letter to each committee chair asking them to refrain from any unnecessary spending or to postpone any items or programs that are not vital this year, explaining to them that we have a possible shortfall and ask each committee to do their part.
5. THAT the General Council approved Kenilworth Presbyterian Church be allowed to take out a \$100,000 loan with the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program (PILP) and the Presbytery to sign as guarantee. The decision is based on Kenilworth's current financial situation, their favorable member to debt ratio and the fact that they own other property that could be sold if the payment began to interfere with their normal operations.

6. **THAT the General Council approved the Budget & Finance Committee's recommendation that the Presbytery of Western North Carolina extend a line-of-credit up to \$25,000 to Camp Grier at the beginning of 2016, to be taken from PWNC reserves, and that the Presbytery of Western North Carolina require the balance owing from the line-of-credit to be repaid to PWNC by October 1, 2016. The line-of-credit is based on Camp Grier anticipating needing funds at the beginning of 2016 when revenue is lean. This would assist with their cash flow and show support for Camp Grier.**
7. **THAT the General Council approved a request from the Hunger Committee that the unexpended monies from the 5% administrative fees revert back to funds allocated for Regional Grants, instead of International Grants.**
8. **THAT the General Council approved a policy for the Ministry Campaign related to decisions concerning receipts and disbursements of funds received by the Building H.O.P.E. Ministry Campaign. (Appendix J)**
9. **That the General Council approved the membership and responsibilities of Administrative Commissions for the First Presbyterian Church, Lenoir and Walnut Grove Presbyterian Church, Newland.**
10. **THAT Presbytery, at its April 28, 2015 meeting, approved a \$50,000 interest free loan to the Westminster Presbyterian Church, Asheville pending the sale of their church building. The loan will be repaid at that time. Should said loan not be repaid by January 1, 2016, the loan will begin to accrue interest at a rate of 4.25%. The General Council approved loan documentation, including a Deed of Trust and Promissory Note, and the process of the transfer of property from the unincorporated to incorporated Westminster Presbyterian Church.**
11. **THAT the African American Advisory Task Force is sponsoring an event at Third Street Presbyterian Church on August 22, 2015, "Standing at the Crossroads." This event is being held for African American congregations and their pastors.**
12. **THAT the Christian Education Committee is sponsoring a Pastor's Retreat at the William Black Lodge on September 28-30, 2015.**
13. **THAT a list of upcoming events of the Presbytery can be found on the back of the Presbytery Docket.**
14. **THAT the following dates have been set for youth events in 2015 and 2016:**

|                    |                                           |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| September 20, 2015 | Middle and High School Youth Rally        |
| 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              |
15. **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 2015, 2016 and 2017 :**

|                  |                                                   |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| July 28, 2015    | ~ Trinity Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville, NC |
| October 31, 2015 | ~ Shelby Presbyterian Church, Shelby              |
| <u>2016</u>      |                                                   |
| 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

- 16. THAT the Presbyterian Women will be holding their Fall Gatherings on:**  
September 26, 2015 (Eastern) - First Presbyterian Church, Belmont  
October 3, 2015 (Western) - First Presbyterian Church, Sylva

#### **COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY**

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

- I. THAT Mary Elizabeth (Betsy) Ray, a member of Black Mountain Presbyterian Church, and a student at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Charlotte, NC, be enrolled as a Candidate following the required examination by Presbytery.**

After Betsy Ray shared her faith journey and call to the ministry, Vice-Moderator Barbara McLean opened the floor for questions. Following a period of time for questions, the Presbytery approved the enrollment of Betsy Ray as a candidate. The Vice-Moderator then asked the questions in the *Book of Order, G-14.0305f*, which were answered affirmatively. The Rev. Margaret Torrence delivered the charge to Betsy Ray and the Rev. Mary Katherine Robinson offered the prayer. Those who came in support of Betsy Ray were asked to stand and be recognized. (Appendix K)

#### **CHURCH LEADERSHIP SCHOOL**

Emeritus Dean for the Church Leadership School and the Commissioned Lay Pastor Program, Fred Van Itallie, reported on the Church Leadership Program and the enthusiastic endorsement of the program by all who have attended. He encouraged the body to share with their friends and others within their congregations about the program. Pastors were reminded that they had received an invitation from the Church Leadership Task Force offering to speak before their session or congregation and invite elders to apply to the program, as this is the best kept secret of the Presbytery. They then recognized the 2015 graduates. (Appendix L)

##### 2015 CLS Graduates

*Dan Breen (Kenilworth)*

*Renee Warthen (Ryburn Memorial)*

*John Pea (Robinson Memorial)*

#### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

Teaching Elder Dwight Christenbury, chair of the Leadership Division, reported on the work of the Christian Education Committee and of the next Retreat for Pastors. The Christian Education Committee in conjunction with the Committee on Ministry, will sponsor a Pastor's Retreat on September 28-30, 2015 at the William Black Lodge. The focus of the retreat will be on Lenten preparation for preaching and worship. (Appendix M)

## **YOUTH COMMITTEE**

Teaching Elder Heather Davis reported on the work of the committee, upcoming events and the recent Week of Work Mission Event. Week of Work was attended by 53 youth and 7 adults from our Presbytery. The major event for 2016 will be Triennium which will be held July 19-23, 2016, at Purdue University. (Appendix N)

## **HUNGER COMMITTEE**

Jan Duncan, chair of the Hunger Committee, reported on the work of the committee and grants that were recently awarded to seven agencies totaling \$24,000, sponsored by churches in our Presbytery. Sixty-nine congregations were thanked for their participation in the Nickel-A-Meal Program. Congregations were urged to consider sharing applications to agencies in their community for the fall distribution. The deadline for fall applications is October 1. (Appendix O)

## **GUATEMALA PARTNERSHIP**

Teaching Elder Carole Ball invited members to two upcoming events being sponsored by the Guatemala Partnership Leadership Team. These events will be educational and informational events about Guatemala and the Books for Children Program. The events will be held on August 23 at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church and August 30 at First Presbyterian Church, Gastonia.

## **MINISTRY CAMPAIGN**

Rev. Feild Russell shared that the Ministry Campaign - Building H.O.P.E. continues to be in the quiet phase and that we are building on top of the ministries that are currently making an impact in our Presbytery. The campaign has been supported by a number of contributors and has received 100% support from the General Council and Planning Committee of the Campaign. It was reported that as of this meeting, the campaign has raised \$535,800 of the \$2.5 million goal.

## **REPORT OF THE GENERAL PRESBYTER**

Our General Presbyter, Rev. Bobbi White, rejoiced in the many good initiative of the Holy Spirit in our Presbytery. She shared that we need to look for what the Holy Spirit is doing and open our eyes that we may see the Holy Spirit at work. (Appendix P)

## **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 Q)

Whit Malone, chair of the committee, recognized all members who have been in the ministry for 25 and 50 years. Also recognized at this time were ministers who have retired during the past year. Certificates were presented to those being recognized for honorable retirement and faithful service to the church.

#### **50 Years in Ministry**

Parker T. Williamson

#### **Honorably Retired**

Ashley Jerry Beavers

Lee Bowman

Raymond Fancher

Paul Edward Forsyth

John P. Lindsay

#### **25 Years in Ministry**

Carol Boggs Clark

Susan Denne

#### **Honorably Retired**

Eugene B. Linton, Jr

Anne C. Morgan

Albert G. Peery, Jr.

Robert J. Tuttle

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

- Edwin Brenegar, III, to the Presbytery of Wyoming, as Member-at-Large, effective May 2, 2015
- Mark Burnham, to the Presbytery of the Palisades, as Stated Supply Pastor, South Presbyterian Church, Bergenfield, NJ, effective June 16, 2015

## **COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY**

### **II. ORDINATION/INSTALLATION**

On behalf of the Committee on Ministry and the Examinations Sub-Committee, the Rev. Whit Malone introduced Rebecca Gurney, to serve as designated associate pastor at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church and Samantha Gonzalez-Block, to serve as associate pastor at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, as candidates for ordination and installation. Having heard sermons during the morning worship, Rev. Malone moved, on behalf of the Committee on Ministry, that Rebecca be ordained and installed by the Presbytery of Western North Carolina; and Samantha Gonzalez-Block be ordained by the Presbytery of Newark and installed by the Presbytery of Western North Carolina. The motion passed and the Rev. Malone offered prayer. (Appendix Q)

The Rev. Bobbi White, General Presbyter, presented Rebecca Gurney and Samantha Gonzalez-Block with Guatemalan stoles on behalf, of and as a welcome to the Presbytery.

## **COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY**

### **III. 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 O)

- Karol J. Farris, from Muskingum Valley Presbytery, as Campus Minister, UKirk Campus Ministry at Cullowhee, Western Carolina University, effective May 25, 2015.
- Edna J. Banes, from the Presbytery of the James, as Honorably Retired, effective June 2, 2015.
- Holly K. Davis, from National Capital Presbytery, as pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Waynesville, effective September 1, 2015.

## **COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY**

### **IV. VALIDATION OF MINISTRIES**

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

- Joseph D. Bennett, as Chaplain, Hospice of Yancey County, through July 28, 2016.
- John T. Campbell, as Director, Eastatoo Trail Counseling and Consultation Center, through July 28, 2016.
- Karol Farris, as Campus Minister, UKirk at Western Carolina University, through July 28, 2016.
- David Bradley, as a Pastoral Counselor, through July 28, 2016.
- David Lytle, as Chaplain, Presbyterian Medical Center, through July 28, 2016.



**COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY**  
**V. COMMISSIONED LAY PASTORS**

On behalf of the Committee on Ministry, Rev. Whit Malone recommended that the Presbytery approve that John Pea be commissioned as a lay pastor. John Pea will be commissioned to the Robinson Memorial Presbyterian Church, Gastonia, NC. Following questions and answers, the motion passed. Vice- Moderator McLean then offered prayer. The commissioning for John Pea is to include permission to celebrate the Sacraments, moderate the Session and officiate at weddings. The moderator thanked the congregation of Robinson Memorial for sharing John with another church within our Presbytery. (Appendix Q)

**BOARD OF PENSIONS**

The Rev. Helen Locklear, Regional Representative with the Board of Pensions, brought greetings from the Board of Pensions. She addressed the body regarding the Board of Pensions 2015-2016 updates and approved recommendations for 2015-2016 Medical Dues. (Appendix R)

**MALAWI MISSION TEAM REPORT**

On behalf of the Malawi Mission Team, Dr. Barbara Nagy reported on the work of the team and of the many achievements in Malawi.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Rev. Jay Rabuck, transitional pastor at Reems Creek-Beech, Weaverville, led the Presbytery in prayers of intercession.

**RESOLUTION OF THANKS**

Ruling Elder Cathy Childress, First Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville (PCUSA) submitted the following Resolution of Thanks for the 105<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina:

We rejoice today at the 105<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina on this day, July 28<sup>th</sup> at Trinity Presbyterian Church of Hendersonville. We give thanks for the feeling of power and the grace of God with our service that was led by Rebecca Gurney and Samantha Gonzalez-Block, along with moving and beautiful music and the partaking of Communion.

We give thanks to the recommendation from the Committee on Preparation for Ministry with the introduction and the affirmation of Elizabeth “Betsy” Ray as a candidate for ministry.

We give thanks for the Hunger Committee and the \$24,000 of grant awards to the seven churches that will help with hunger issues in our Presbytery.

We give thanks to our Church Leadership School, Dr. Van Itallie, and the following graduates: Daniel Breen, Renee Warthen and John Pea.

We give thanks to the Christian Education and Youth Committees for scheduling opportunities and retreats to draw us closer to our Lord.

We give thanks to the individuals serving on the Administrative Commissions for New Vision, Hendersonville, Walnut Grove (Newland) and Lenoir churches. We pray for the congregations of these churches and ask for wisdom, discernment, peace and for the will of God to be heard and followed.

We give thanks for our Guatemala Partnership, The Ministry Campaign and the Malawi Mission Team.

We give thanks for our Committee on Ministry and recommendation to Presbytery for examination and ordination of Rebecca Gurney, Samantha Gonzalez-Block; the recommendation and commissioning by Presbytery for John Pea as a Lay Pastor; the recommendation of adding an additional commission to Lay Pastor Kenneth Humphreys; and also approved the examination and transfer of membership to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina for the following: Karol Farris, Edna Banes and Holly Davis. All were approved with unanimous approval.

We especially give thanks to all the ministers who were recognized with 25 and 50 years of ministry; ministers retiring and the introduction of new ministers.

We give special thanks and heartfelt gratitude to retiring Stated Clerk Bert Sigmon for his six years of service and to our newly elected Stated Clerk, the Rev. Dr. Cameron Murchison, as he begins his work.

We again give thanks to Trinity Presbyterian Church of Hendersonville for hosting, organizing, feeding, cleaning and for being a shining example of love and friendship, not only in the Presbytery of Western North Carolina—but also in their community! And we are grateful for the members of First Presbyterian Church of Hendersonville (PCUSA) who assisted Trinity in these efforts.

#### **BENEDICTION AND ADJOURNMENT**

With the business of the 105th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina completed and adjournment voted, Vice-Moderator McLean adjourned the meeting at 12:35 p.m. with prayer.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

The 106th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Saturday, October 31, 2015 at Shelby Presbyterian Church in Shelby, North Carolina.

**These minutes were prepared by the following:**

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**Barbara McLean, Vice-Moderator**

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**William A. “Bert” Sigmon, Stated Clerk**

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**Robbin Buchanan, Assistant Stated Clerk**

**These minutes to be approved by Presbytery on October 31, 2015 at its meeting at the Shelby Presbyterian Church, in Shelby, North Carolina.**

## APPENDICES

- A. Consent Agenda
- B. Budget and Finance Committee Report
- C. Membership Statistics
- D. Worship Statistics
- E. Minutes of Installation for Mary Katherine Robinson
- F. Administrative Commission Report for New Vision, Conover
- G. Administrative Commission Report for Hendersonville, First
- H. Administrative Commission Report for Lenoir, First
- I. Tribute to Bert Sigmon
- J. Installation of Stated Clerk
- K. Ministry Campaign Policy Related to Receipts and Disbursements
- L. Committee on Preparation for Ministry
- M. Church Leadership School
- N. Christian Education Committee
- O. Youth Committee
- P. Hunger Committee
- Q. Report of the General Presbyter
- R. Committee on Ministry
- S. Board of Pensions

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