

THE PRESBYTERY OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA STATED CLERK'S REPORT

**D. Cameron (Cam) Murchison, Stated Clerk
July 26, 2016**

The Stated Clerk presents the following:

RECOMMENDATIONS:

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| CA | 1. | THAT Barbara McLean, Cam Murchison and Robbin Buchanan be requested to prepare the minutes of this Presbytery meeting for approval at the October 25, 2016 Presbytery meeting. |
| CA. | 2. | THAT the minutes of the July 26, 2016 Stated Meeting of Presbytery be approved as submitted. <i>(The full set of these minutes, including appendices, is available for review at the Stated Clerk's table.)</i> |
| CA | 3. | THAT the July 26, 2016 report of the Administrative Commission for the New Vision, Conover New Church Development be received and entered into the permanent record of the Presbytery. (Stated Clerk Attachment 1) |
| CA | 4. | THAT the July 26, 2016 report of the Administrative Commission for the First Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville be received and entered into the permanent record of the Presbytery. (Stated Clerk Attachment 2) |
| CA | 5. | THAT the July 26, 2016 report of the Board for the UKirk at WCU Cullowhee Campus Ministry be received and entered into the permanent record of the Presbytery. (Stated Clerk Attachment 3) |
| CA | 6. | THAT the July 26, 2016 report of the Administrative Commission for Walnut Grove Presbyterian Church be received and entered into the permanent record of the Presbytery. (Stated Clerk Attachment 2) |
| CA | 7. | THAT the July 26, 2016 report of the Administrative Commission for the West Asheville Presbyterian Church be received and entered into the permanent record of the Presbytery. (Stated Clerk Attachment 4) |
| | 8. | THAT the Administrative Commission for the West Asheville Presbyterian Church having completed their work, be dissolved, effective Tuesday, July 26, 2016, with the thanks of the Presbytery for its good work. |
| CA | 9. | THAT the July 26, 2016 report of the Administrative Commission for the First Presbyterian Church, Lenoir be considered during the docketed time at this meeting. (BA 1- BA 17) |

CA 10. THAT the minutes of the installation of the following be placed into the record of Presbytery:
Joanne Glaser

FOR INFORMATION:

11. THAT the General Council has appointed an Administrative Commission for the First Presbyterian Church, Kings Mountain, consisting of the following members:

- Rev. Susan Denne, Retired (Co-Chair)
- Rev. Dr. Charles Davenport, Long Creek Presbyterian Church (Co-Chair)
- Rev. Joan Martin, Covenant Village
- Rev. Joseph Taber, Lowell Presbyterian Church
- Elder Page Carver, First Presbyterian Church, Gastonia
- Elder John Lafferty, First Presbyterian Church, Lincolnton
- Elder Mollie Trosper, West Avenue Presbyterian Church, Gastonia

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

- Shepherd the First Presbyterian Church of Kings Mountain, including the Kings Mountain Session, and the congregation considering a request to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina to be dismissed, pursuant to the Policy “Guidelines for Congregations Considering A Request to Presbytery to be Dismissed,” dated July 30, 2013.
- 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.
- Honor and uphold the *PCUSA Book of Order*, (including 4.02) and Chapter 6 in the last PCUS Constitution which includes the trust clause.
- The Administrative Commission for FPC Kings Mountain, has been authorized, if in its judgment circumstances warrant, to undertake the process that may lead to the AC assuming original jurisdiction. It is understood that such a process would proceed pursuant to the provisions of the *Book of Order* and with the advice of the Office of the General Assembly.
- Provide a written report to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina at each Presbytery meeting until the commission is discharged.

12. THAT Administrative Commission reports were not received from the following commissions for this meeting:

- Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church, Swannanoa**
- Administrative Commission for Paint Gap Presbyterian Church**
- Administrative Commission for Westminster Presbyterian Church**
- Administrative Commission for the First Presbyterian Church, Kings Mountain**

13. THAT the 110th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Tuesday, October 25, 2016, at the Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church, Brevard, North Carolina.

14. THAT the following dates have been set for 2016, 2017, and 2018 Presbytery Meetings:

2016

Tuesday, July 26, 2016 – Grandfather Home for Children
Tuesday, October 25, 2016 – Brevard-Davidson River

2017

Saturday, January 28, 2017 ~ First Presbyterian Church, Lincolnton
Tuesday, April 25, 2017 ~ Montreat Conference Center
Tuesday, July 25, 2017 ~ Seeking Invitation
Saturday, October 28, 2017 ~ Seeking Invitation

2018

Saturday, January 27, 2018 – Seeking Invitation
Tuesday, April 24, 2018 – Montreat Conference Center
Tuesday, July 24, 2018 – Seeking Invitation
Saturday, October 27, 2018 – Seeking Invitation

The Presbytery will welcome invitations from churches or institutions willing to host Presbytery meetings in 2017 and 2018.

15. THAT the following Session Records for 2016 were submitted and approved on Saturday, May 14, 2016 at a Session Records Review, held at the First Presbyterian Church, Waynesville.

Brevard-Davidson River	Dorland Memorial	Franklin, First
Grace Covenant	Hayesville, First	Reems Creek-Beech
Vians Valley	Waynesville, First	West Avenue

16. THAT the following Session Records for 2016 were submitted and approved on Saturday, June 11, 2016 at a Session Records Review, held at the First Presbyterian Church, Rutherfordton.

Asheville, First	Columbus	Dulatown
Etowah	Hendersonville, First	John Knox
Kenilworth	Marshall	Micaville
Mt. Holly, First	New Hope, Gastonia	Northminster
Olney	Rutherfordton	Saluda
Shelby	Siloam	Spruce Pine, First
Sylva, First	Tryon	Union Mills
Unity		

17. THAT the last date for Clerk of Session Training and Reviewing Church Records for 2016 will be:

October 1, 2016 First Presbyterian Church, Bessemer City

The following churches should plan to be in attendance and submit their records:

Belmont, First	Bessemer City, First	Black Mountain
Brittains Cove	Bryson City	Buladean
Calvary	Canton	Cherryville, First
Dallas, First	Dixon	Duncan’s Creek

Ellenboro	Forest City, First	Gastonia, First
Glen Alpine	Good Hope	Green Mountain
Green Street	Highlands, First	Ironton
Jack’s Creek	Kings Mountain, First	Korean Presbyterian Church
Lenoir, First	Lincolnton, First	Long Creek
Love’s Chapel	Lowell	Mills River
Morrison	New Hope, Asheville	Oak Forest
Oakwood	Old Fort	Pine Street
Ridgeview	Ryburn Memorial	Sherrill’s Ford
Shiloh, Grover	Spindale	Sweetwater
Third Street	Union	Walnut
Warren Wilson	West Avenue	

18. THAT the next date for Sacred Trust-Relational Boundaries Training for 2016 will be:

November 12, 2016 UKirk at Western Carolina University, Cullowhee

For Pastors and Elders of the Presbytery: According to our presbytery’s policy, clergy and elders involved in leadership are required to take sexual misconduct training once every four years.

For leaders of local congregations: The workshop is open for all local leaders who want to educate themselves about healthy boundaries.

Who should attend: all persons designated below are required to have an approved three-hour workshop of sexual misconduct sponsored by the WNC Presbytery or equivalent training approved by the Sexual Misconduct Prevention Team.

All Presbytery professionals and Presbytery volunteers are required to have the three-hour training every four years with the following exceptions:

1. Exempted from training are fully retired Presbytery professionals who have availed themselves of this option, with its associated limitations of not serving on Presbytery Committees, preaching in local churches, leading workshops or retreats, or exercising other pastoral functions such as celebrating the sacraments, or conducting weddings and/or funerals unless a “Single Event” exception has been made to Presbytery.
2. Members on the following committees, their sub-committees, and Task Forces are **ineligible for exemption** during the term of their membership:

General Council	Youth
Committee on Ministry	Christian Education
Examinations	Joint Outdoor Ministry
Small Membership Church	Campus Mission
Permanent Judicial Commission	
3. Members of all other existing committees are exempt, though changes to committee structures may require review of eligibility.
4. **Interims** who are working within the bounds of the Presbytery who receive comparable hours of training in their judicatory, at least as frequently as required in our Presbytery, may be exempt.

STATED CLERK ATTACHMENT 1

Report from the New Vision Administrative Commission July 2016

The Spirit has definitely been moving at New Vision in Conover, NC over the last few months! The congregation remains steady and true to its ministry of reaching out to the unchurched and 'dechurched'. However, the search for a new pastor is almost at an end. After much discussion and prayer, Mark Osborne is being called to be the CLP for New Vision. Many thanks go to the Committee on Ministry and First Presbyterian, Hickory for their help and support in providing the means for this to occur. Pending the outcome of the recommendation from the COM at the July Presbytery meeting, a celebration of new beginnings is planned for July 31 at 4pm in Conover. All are welcome.

Mark has continued to provide the message on Sundays and lead during the mid-week service. Attendance continues to remain steady with new visitors coming on a regular basis. A new young adult Sunday school has started as well. VBS is scheduled for July 10 – 14 with opportunities for children and adults.

Mission and outreach continue to be a strong component of the ministry of New Vision. We continue to support our missionaries, The VanBrocklins, in their ministry overseas. Work also continues with the backpack program as well as the local soup kitchen and Cooperative Christian ministry. The Steering team also approved support for the project H.O.P.E campaign through a giving plan over a five year period.

The future looks bright for New Vision. While financial issues continue to be of concern, there seems to be an increase in giving as the uncertainty of leadership and direction has been answered. The support from the Presbytery continues to be greatly appreciated. There also is a new sense of excitement as the church looks towards the future. At the same time, the church has also had to deal with the loss of one of their strong leaders with the death of Ronnie Sherrill. While many of their members continue to deal with health, financial and employment issues, the church is that one unwavering foundation of strength and support. They continue to show their love for Christ and each other through their service and support. They are an example of what it means to 'be the church' to each other and the local community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Greg Smith
Chair, Administrative Commission
New Vision Church
Conover, NC

STATED CLERK ATTACHMENT 2

Report of Administrative Commission The First Presbyterian Church of Hendersonville June 26, 2016

The Synod Permanent Judicial Commission's dismissal of the remedial complaint entitled "Complaint for Delinquency and Irregularity", which was brought by those wishing to be dismissed to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, has been appealed to the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission (GAPJC). The Committee of Council is preparing for the GAPJC hearing, scheduled for early October.

Negotiations have continued as the remedial complaint goes through the church courts, with an exchange of proposals between the parties since our last report. Significant progress has been made, but a settlement agreement has not yet been achieved.

The Administrative Commission continues to ask for the prayers of Presbytery that a way may be found to reach an agreement that enables both congregations to undertake the ministries to which they believe God is calling them.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Forsythe
Chair

Report of the Administrative Commission Walnut Grove Presbyterian Church June 26, 2016

The Administrative Commission met on Sunday, July 10, 2016 to discuss a proposal from Walnut Grove Presbyterian Church concerning a possible property settlement. Negotiations continue.

Roger Wise, Moderator

STATED CLERK ATTACHMENT 3



UKirk at WCU

PC(USA) Campus Ministry at Western Carolina University
Rev. Karol Farris, Campus Minister
594 Centennial Drive, Cullowhee, NC 28723
828-508-2354 • ukirkwcu@gmail.com • www.ukirkwcu.org

UKirk at WCU Campus Ministry Report July 5, 2016

As the college students left campus for their summer adventures, I had a unique adventure of my own in May, spending a week in the Taizé community in France. This ecumenical monastic community welcomes more than 100,000 guests each year, mostly young adults under age thirty. Seventeen PC(USA) campus ministry and camp leaders took part in this pilgrimage. What an amazing experience to be among 2500 young people from different countries and churches who all come together to connect with God and one another. I would be glad to share more about my trip if you are interested.

Now that UKirk at WCU has been in existence for one year, I've had the opportunity to reflect on the experience thus far and to begin planning for the coming year.

UKirk has become a recognized student organization at WCU, so we are able to have a visible presence at student events on campus. We hosted an ecumenical worship service in early April that drew a diverse crowd of students from several other campus organizations. Finally, we hosted a "pancake study break" free late-night breakfast before final exams each semester. This tradition from the previous Presbyterian ministry is well-established yet has taken on a new feel in the renovated space. We opened our non-profit coffeehouse, Hillside Grind, during the first week of the school year and have been open consistent with the school schedule. We are glad to be fulfilling our mission of providing an alternative place for students to spend time in a safe and welcoming environment; many students come in every day that we are open.

Although we've had a slow start in building a consistent community at UKirk, I've been able to begin developing fruitful relationships with several individual students and am hopeful to nurture some student leaders who can help determine the direction of the group. We have more to do in terms of formalizing the board, and the coffeehouse is still somewhat financially dependent on the ministry. Though the coffeehouse is closed for the summer, we hope to start again strong with the fall semester. To that end, we are looking to hire a part-time manager for the coffeehouse. If you know of someone with food service management experience who may be a good fit, please have them contact me at ukirkwcu@gmail.com.

As our Presbytery's only stand-alone campus ministry, we need you, the leaders of our local congregations, to help us connect with students you know at WCU and to provide support for this unique outreach of the Church to college students in Western North Carolina.

In Christ,

Karol

Rev. Karol Farris

STATED CLERK ATTACHMENT 4

Administrative Commission Report for West Asheville Presbyterian Church July 26, 2016

On June 7, 2016, I had the pleasure of meeting with Rev. Kent Smith to discuss the status of the West Asheville Presbyterian Church with regards to its health and well-being as a congregation. I am pleased to report that the church has made much progress in the seven years since the Presbytery of Western North Carolina created a commission to work alongside the Session.

West Asheville is a historic church in downtown West Asheville. They are a small membership church moving from survival mode to reorganizing themselves for God's ministry in this unique time in their community and beyond. They worship every Sunday, with wonderful music by Aaron Price, Director of Music, and a small choir. As they reach out to others, they are trying to use their large building as an asset and not a liability, by having it be a place for the community, as a center in West Asheville that can be used by many people and organizations. They are also doing other forms of mission locally and beyond, including Habitat for Humanity, serving at the Veterans Restoration Quarters, Vacation Bible School, Presbytery, and others.

Since their finances are now in order and they are operating in the black, they have the option of looking outward. They have made major repairs on the building, including replacing aging carpet and a collapsing floor. With a grant from the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation, they made the fellowship hall bathrooms handicapped accessible. They moved from fuel oil heating to save \$500 a month in the winter. With these repairs, they can now make better use of their building.

One of their goals is to use the large building as a ministry and community center. Their morning pre-school, a church function, is bursting at the seams. KinderMusic, music lessons, a variety of other lessons, and half a dozen 12 Step Programs are utilizing the building. On Saturdays, "Ingrid's Food Pantry" serves the neighborhood and local homeless population. A Ukrainian Orthodox Church meets on Sunday morning in the Chapel. They have recently rented out a portion of the building that could not be used. It has been fixed up in good shape by a local nonprofit and is now occupied by rent paying tenants.

This year, West Asheville will be celebrating their centennial anniversary. Once a month, former pastors will be preaching with a pot luck fellowship meal following worship. The major celebration will be on Saturday, October 26th, with the honored guest Heath Rada, former PCUSA moderator, followed by a program, music, and a catered meal. Celebrating this anniversary has brought new energy to the church. The West Asheville Church also houses and supports the Community on Haywood, which is this Presbytery's first 1001 New Worshipping Community. This Community is trying to reach out to "Nones" and "Dones." They are now serving about 25 people at worship or "Bible and Brew". They meet on the first and third Wednesday evening at 5:30 p.m. for supper, informal Bible study, and worship. On alternate Wednesdays, they meet at 6:00 p.m. for "Bible and Brew" at a local pub. In addition, the Community is involved in service projects, including "Blessing Bags" for the homeless. (Communityonhaywood.org.)

The church is blessed to have Reverend Smith providing a steady vision and loving worship and pastoral care. As you can see in the above report, the physical plant has been improved in a variety of ways. They are celebrating their centennial and plan to continue to be a beacon within their community for years to come. Everyone is welcome to join them.

STATED CLERK ATTACHMENT 4

The Session of the West Asheville Presbyterian Church (in the minutes of its June meeting), concurs with the recommendation of the West Asheville Administrative Commission that the Commission be dissolved. It has been a pleasure to witness the faithful and thoughtful work of this Session and congregation.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Mark Stanley, Co-Moderator
West Asheville Administrative Commission