Rev. Joshua Jong, Moderator

Rev. Mark A. Tammen, Stated Clerk

WE GATHER TOGETHER

The Presbytery of Long Island of the Presbyterian Church (USA) held an In-person Stated Meeting at the Shinnecock Presbyterian Church in Southampton on Saturday, September 24, 2022. The meeting was called to order with a Call to Worship and prayer by the Moderator, Rev Joshua Jong Moderator, at 9:30 am. A quorum was present.

Roll Call - *Separate document*

WELCOME GUESTS AND BEGIN OUR WORK

Opening Prayer & Call to Worship - Rev. Joshua Jong, Moderator

Greetings from Host Church – Rev. Mike Smith, Bryan Polite / Chairman of the Shinnecock Nation, and Mrs. Smith

Elders attending a Presbytery meeting as First Time Church Commissioners were introduced and welcomed.

Approval of Docket

Motion Approved: The Presbytery approved the docket of September 24, 2022

<u>Stated Clerk Report/Rev Mark Tammen (Appendix A – pp 63-64)</u>

Motion Approved The Presbytery approved the minutes of the Stated Meeting held on June 25, 2022

Motion Approved Presbytery Stated meetings 2023

Saturday, January 28, 2023 Saturday, April 22, 2023 Saturday, June 17, 2023 Saturday, September 30, 2023

Motion Approved The Presbytery received the 2021 Necrology report (Appendix B – p 65)

Motion Approved Nominating Slate

COMMITTEE	CLASS OF	RECOMMENDATION
Second Vice Moderator		Elder Ellen Gove Shelter Island
Committee on Ministry	2025	Rev. Johanna McCune Wagner Setauket
Committee on Ministry	2025	Elder David Bracket Freeport
Committee on Ministry	2025	Elder Sean Moran Brookhaven
Board of Trustees	2025	Rev. Stephen Adkison Shelter Island

Moderatorial Team

• Yaphank Administration Commission

Approved Elder Don Adams (Selden), Elder Jean Hrbek (Setauket), Elder Connie Pititto (Belmore), Chair - Rev. Wade Pond (Melville), and Rev. Candy Whitman (member at large)

August 8, 2022 action:

The Presbytery of Long Island, after discovering the Yaphank Church no longer had sufficient members to take legal actions, gave its Administrative Commission original jurisdiction authority so that it could take the actions on behalf of the Yaphank Church.

From the Synod of the Northeast: The 2020 & 2021 minutes of the Presbytery of Long Island were approved without exception.

The Presbytery received the report of the Treasurer (Appendix C – p 66-69)

Music - Spirit of the Living God

Pastoral Inquiry Commission (Appendix D – pp 70-75)

Rev. Dr. Peter J. Kelley – Chair, Rev. Kathryn Jones Calone, Rev. Elisabeth K. Simpson, Elder Janet Allen Spencer, and Rev. Ralph B. Jr Wright

The Presbytery apologies and acknowledges that its leaky system of supervision and accountability was totally inadequate and needs correction so that such abuse might never happen again to another vulnerable person in what was believed to be a therapeutic relationship with a clergy person in a position of trust.

Motion Approved That the Presbytery receives the report of the Pastoral Inquiry Commission and apologizes.

We therefore acknowledge that these failures caused the victim to lose faith in God and the Church to this day; and that, outside of the findings of the PJC team that ordered the second IC, the Presbytery failed to adequately defend and protect one of God's vulnerable children.

Motion Approved The Presbytery affirms and directs the following recommendations to be implemented.

- A. Prohibit therapeutic counseling or related services as specialized ministries authorized by the Presbytery unless operating under the formal supervision of a clinical practice or nonprofit organization licensed by New York State to provide such services, with regular supervision and an at least annual review process reported to the Committee on Ministry. Pastors should be aware of the appropriate limits and boundaries on pastoral counseling, including New York State guidelines.
- B. Establish a "standing rule" in the Presbytery requiring annual review of the Presbytery's sexual misconduct policy by the Sexual Misconduct Response Team, with a report to the Presbytery at the second meeting of the year.
- C. Establish a training program for all members of the Sexual Misconduct Response Team, Permanent Judicial Commission, Investigating Committees, or any other individuals or bodies involved in an inquiry alleging sexual misconduct; such training would be required at the start of any inquiry and led by a qualified professional who can address: (a) understanding the needs of victims of sexual misconduct, and how to address those needs with care, compassion, and sensitivity; (b) understanding the challenges in telling one's own story of experiencing sexual misconduct; (c) guidance in crafting and asking interview questions; (d) establishing clear boundaries; (e) understand the legal implications; and (f) requiring that any disposition of an allegation of sexual misconduct be reported to the whole Committee on Ministry at a regular stated meeting.
- D. Require presbytery staff and pastor members of the Presbytery to submit a copy of the certificate of their annual Sexual Harassment Prevention Training mandated by New York State to the Committee on Ministry by December 31 of each year; pastors who do not comply will not have their terms of call approved by the Committee on

- Ministry until such training is completed for each calendar year, and a list of pastors not in compliance will be compiled by the Stated Clerk and shared annually at the January Presbytery meeting.
- E. Require sessions of congregations to have in place both a sexual misconduct and a child protection policy, to review them annually, and to report such action to the Committee on Ministry (COM) by December 31 of each year (in a specific communication separate from the session minutes). A list of churches not in compliance should be kept by both COM and the Stated Clerk. Congregations that do not comply will not be eligible for grants for salary supplement funds from the Presbytery, and pastoral transitions will not be approved.
- F. Create or commission a brief (15 minutes) video for Sessions that conveys the importance of their role in creating a culture of healthy boundaries and a culture free from sexual harassment, misconduct, or abuse within their congregations.
- G. When there is an allegation of sexual misconduct, offer concrete, dedicated, ongoing spiritual support to the accuser and accused including, where appropriate, the pastors of each party.
- H. Urge the Presbytery of Long Island to support General Assembly overtures that permit retirement designations other than "honorably retired" for pastors.
- I. Direct, through language included in the position description, the General Presbyter/Stated Clerk of the Presbytery to provide for the implementation of these reforms.
- J. Direct the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery to secure a list of the remaining available persons who served on either the first or second IC in this case, and take all necessary action to prohibit them from selection for service on any future investigating committee. Such a list has been provided to the Stated Clerk, to the Moderators of the Presbytery, to the Trustees, and to the Presbytery office to be maintained in the permanent files of the Presbytery. For pastor members of the two previous ICs who are no longer members of the Presbytery, this report with the addendum will be sent to their current Presbytery of membership.
- K. If a report of sexual misconduct is made to the General Presbyter / Stated Clerk, that complaint shall be reported to the Sexual Misconduct Response Team, and an investigating committee shall be created.
- L. Noncompliance with these requirements—by pastors, sessions, or the Presbytery—will not be tolerated.

Motion Approved To ask the commissioners present at the September 24, 2022, Presbytery Stated Meeting to sign an apology letter to the victim as well as the two Pastoral Investigation committees.

Apology letter: We are commissioners and members of the Presbytery of Long Island who have read, heard, and acted to affirm the report of the Pastoral Inquiry Commission shared at the meeting of the Presbytery on September 24, 2022. We have heard what you experienced and endured. We confess our role as a Presbytery in the harm done to you. We are sorry. We are sorry for the abuse you suffered at the hands of a minister in this Presbytery. We are sorry that we inflicted and you suffered additional harm because, as a Presbytery, we failed in several ways and at several opportunities to hear your truth, provide accountability, or care for you. We know that this apology is insufficient to match your pain, but we pray that it might be one small part in God's healing work.

Music - Come and Fill Our Hearts

Break

<u>Necrology Presentation</u> – Jonathan Smith, Shavonne Smith, and Viola Cause performed a Shinnecock Indian Nation Drums Song.

Committee on Ministry Report was received - Elder Patricia Francis (Appendix E – pp 76-78)

<u>Committee on Preparation for Ministry</u> Report was received - Rev. Glorya Johnson (*Appendix F – pp 79-80*)

Board of Trustees Report was received - Rev. Jeff Prey (Appendix G – p 80)

Motion Approved The Presbytery approved the Trustee's recommendation that the sale/assignment of the contract for the South Street Manorville property to the Peconic Land Trust for \$565,000.00

Motion Approved The Presbytery approved the Trustee's recommendation of the land sale contract between the United Presbyterian Church and Point Community Church for \$1,700,000.00

<u>Advance Planning Team</u> Report was received – Rev. Matthew Means ByLaws First Reading (Appendix H – p 81)

<u>Hunger Mission Commission</u> – Springs East Hampton Food Pantry Dru Raley, and Deanna Tikkanen

B.R.E.A.D. (Bringing Racial Equity And Diversity) Elder Magalene McClarrin is pleased to announce plans for **Presbytery Day on October 29, 2022.** The theme will be "What Is Racism." Long Island Presbyterian Churches and sister ecumenical congregations will come together to participate in conversations around racial and social justice on Long Island, reflect on past harms to black Americans and Indigenous People, and focus on future pathways for a more just community.

225th General Assembly Commissioners Report and Overture Update

Theme: From Lament to Hope

Lamentations 5:20-21 "Why do you continue to forget us? Why have you abandoned us for so long? 21 Restore us, O LORD, and bring us back to you again! Give us back the joys we once had!

Elder Magalene McClarrin - Giddings-Lovejoy Overture to the 225th GA: Apology to African Americans for the sin of slavery and its legacy.

The Race, Gender, and Justice Committee unanimously passed the Overture. It was pulled from the consent agenda by the committee because it was deemed too significant of a moment to include it with the other items on the Race, Gender, and Justice Committee report that would be sent to the GA. It was pulled so that the weight and gravity of the Overture would not be diminished. It allowed the entire general Assembly the satisfaction of uniting together for a clear and resounding YES vote, which it received.

The six Advocates of the Dismantling Racism and Privilege Team of Giddings-Lovejoy came from diverse areas of the country: Denver, Missouri, Baltimore, New York City, and Long Island. We spoke at the Race Gender and Justice Committee: We have committed as a group to stay in touch and work on promoting and continuing efforts to eradicate racism in our various locales, together as loving brothers and sisters in Christ.

Elder Mary Martin Sweet

At the Plenary sessions, we acted on more than 127 items of business, dealing with social issues-Immigration, gun violence, race, and gender justice, Environmental Justice/ Climate Change, GA budgets, Per Capita and Theology, Worship, & Education.

She served on Health, Safety, and Benefits Committee, where we discussed, discerned, and approved actions for furthering Mental Health Ministry in the PCUSA, Family Leave Policy, Affirming the Reproductive Justice Committee, Sexual Misconduct and boundary and child protection training.

She was blessed to be part of working with others from diverse backgrounds, tackling difficult and controversial issues to move our denomination forward in ministry, mission, and evangelism was a blessing and gave me hope in the midst of all that's going on in the world.

Rev. Peter Kelley

PC(USA) building was renovated to create a multi-purpose, state-of-the-art hybrid meeting space. Outside corporations and organizations can now rent the space for conferences and meetings, creating a new funding stream for the ministry.

On the Environmental Justice Committee, one significant Overture to approve was the recommendation of MRTI (Mission Responsibility Through Investment) to divest from 5 fossil fuel corporations: Chevron, Exxon/Mobil, Marathon Petroleum, Phillips 66, and Valero Energy. On Long Island, think Speedway when you hear "Marathon Petroleum." This marks the first time in denominational history that the Church took action to fully divest from companies that are out of compliance with our environmental standards.

The Assembly approved and sent to Presbyteries for ratification the abolition of the status of "Honorably Retired."

The denomination is doubling down on the Matthew 25 Initiative; it is not going away.

Stephanie Castlen

Ms. Castlen Is a Pittsburgh theological seminary student currently in her second year while simultaneously being an inquirer under the care of the Presbytery of Long Island

She was asked to go as a TSAD Theological Seminary Advisory Delegate. She was part of the International Engagement Committee to discuss the USA's stance on the war in Ukraine in the apartheid state of Israel and Palestine. It was amazing to see the passion of the writers of the overtures. Listening to the committees showed me that Jesus's words to love my neighbor are not static in the world; they are becoming more connected daily. These words inspire the PC (USA) to make international stances based on love, compassion, care, and empathy

Commissioning of Moderators Moderator Rev. Dr. Joshua Jong & Stated Clerk Rev. Mark Tammen presided at a service of installation for Rev. Michael Smith, 2023 Moderator -, and Elder Donald Adams, the First Vice-Moderator - Jonathan Smith, Shavonne Smith, and Viola Cause performed a Shinnecock Indian Nation Drums Song

Closing Prayer & Benediction Moderator closed the meeting with prayer and benediction at 12:15 pm.

Next meeting the next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery will be held on Sat., January 28, 2023, virtual.

Appendix A – pp 63-64

Report of the Stated Clerk Presbytery of Long Island Stated Meeting – September 24, 2001 – Shinnecock Southampton

Items for Actions:

The Stated Clerk presents the following motions:

- 1. *Motion That Presbytery approve the minutes of the Stated Meeting held on June 25, 2022
- 2. *Motion Dates for Presbytery Stated meetings 2023

Saturday, January 28, 2023 Saturday, April 22, 2023 Saturday, June 17, 2023

- Saturday, September 30, 2023
- 3. *Motion That the Presbytery receives the 2021 Necrology report (p6)
- 4. *Motion Nominating Report

Сомміттев	CLASS OF	RECOMMENDATION
Second Vice Moderator		Elder Ellen Gove Shelter Island
Committee on Ministry	2023	Elder Richard Coleridge Roosevelt
	2025	Rev. Johanna Mc Cune Wagner Setauket
	2025	Elder David Bracket Freeport
	2025	Elder Sean Moran Brookhaven
Board of Trustees	2025	Rev. Stephen Adkison <i>Shelter Island</i>
Committee on Preparation for Ministry	2025	Rev. Emily Arnold
Shepherding Council Member at Large	2024	Elder Jan Allen Spencer Huntington Station

5. To approve the Administrative Commission for the Rev. Johanna Wagner installation service on October 9, 2022, at 2:00 pm at First Presbyterian Church, Smithtown.

Rev. Joshua Jong, Moderator (New Hyde Park), Rev. Peter Kelley (Southold), Rev. Karen Crawford (Smithtown) Rev. Ashley McFaul-Erwin (Setauket), Rev. Mark Vernon Applewhite (Center Moriches) Elder Darlene Behrens (Port Jefferson), Elder Donald Adams First Vice Moderator (Selden) Elder Elizabeth Smith (West Islip), Elder Roxanne Kiefer Mollo (Setauket)

<u>Treasurer Report</u> (pp7-10)

Information

Moderatorial Team

Yaphank Administration Commission

Approved Elder Don Adams (Selden), Elder Jean Hrbek (Setauket), Elder Connie Pititto (Belmore) Chair - Rev. Wade Pond (Melville) and Rev. Candy Whitman (member at large)

August 8, 2022 action:

The Presbytery of Long Island, after discovering the Yaphank Church no longer had sufficient members to take legal actions, gave its Administrative Commission original jurisdiction authority so that it could take the actions on behalf of the Yaphank Church.

- From the Synod of the Northeast: The 2020 & 2021 minutes of the Presbytery of Long Island were approved without exception.
- **Board of Pension** Now is the time for you to review and change benefits offerings for 2023. Log on to Benefits Connect to make your selections and submit your Employer Agreement.

Minutes

The following Churches HAVE submitted their 2021 Minutes: (since the June meeting)
Bellmore, Hempstead, and Mattituck

The following Churches HAVE NOT submitted their 2021 Minutes:

Amagansett, Balwin, PIPH Brentwood, Brookhaven, Cutchogue, Freeport, Garden City, Glen Cove, Great Neck/Faith, Greenlawn, Islip, Malverne, Malverne Nueva Vida, Merrick, Mineola, New Hyde Park Korean, Oceanside, Remsenburg, Selden, Southampton-Shinnecock, Valley Stream Asian, Yaphank

Session Minutes still Missing from Previous Year:

Malverne Nueva Vida, Mineola, PIPH Brentwood, Southampton-Shinnecock and Remsenburg

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Appendix B- p 65

Report of the Stated Clerk - Necrology 2021 Presbytery of Long Island Stated Meeting - September 24, 2001 - Shinnecock Southampton

Memorial for Elders who died in 2021

Church	Name of Elder	Ordination Date	Date of Death
Babylon	Robert Riddle		01/07/2021
Babylon	Charlotte Olsen		04/12/2021
Center Moriches	R Winifred Thomason	03/19/1989	06/05/2021
Deer Park	Kathleen Egidi	02/03/1977	05/21/2021
Huntington Old First	Kathy Porter	03/13/1994	11/06/2021
Huntington Old First	David Lange	05/21/1995	11/22/2021
Malverne	Arthur Czarnomski		
New Hyde Park	Albert Bernauer	02/01/1980	04/01/2021
Northport	Barbara Sanderson		10/02/2021
Northport	Carole Gandy's	03/11/2021	11/06/2021
Northport	Robert Shevlin	1/18/1987	02/17/2021
Northport	Jessie Clark Shaw		02/23/2021
Northport	Charlene Cosman		03/20/2021
Oceanside	Lester Bragg	01/25/1970	01/10/2021
Port Jefferson	Gordon Davis	02/05/1978	06/29/2021
Sag Harbor	Barry Vaughn	02/03/1965	01/24/2021
Sag Harbor	Patricia Behrens	02/02/1986	08/10/2021
Sag Harbor	Linda Reiser	01/08/2006	11/30/2021
Sag Harbor	Esther Ricker	01/30/1977	08/04/2021
Setauket	Elio Zappulla	02/03/1980	11/07/2021
Shelter Island	Lynn Franklin		07/01/2021
Southold	Herb Adler Jr.	1997	11/25/2021
Southold	John Nickes Jr.	2010	01/12/2021
Westhampton	John Comba	02/04/1962	03/03/2021
West Islip	Patricia Marino	03/21/2010	03/05/2021
West Islip	Robert Meyer	01/18/1963	04/09/2021
Yaphank	Gary Ralph	01/27/85	10/22/2021

Appendix C – pp 66-69



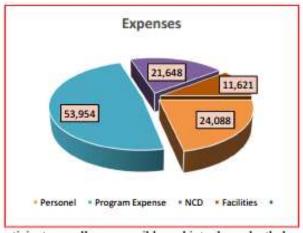
Treasurer's Report

August 31, 2022

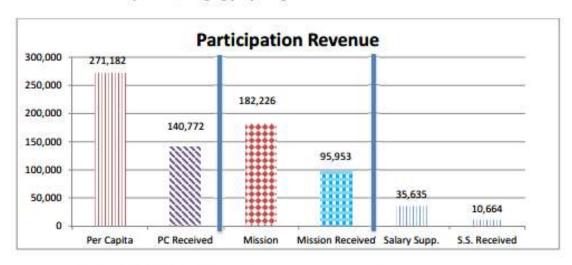
This Month
Income 40,792.95
Expenses 121,761.28
Cash Flow (80,968.33)

Year-To-Date 1,818,922.97 1,131,784.69 687,138.28





Per Capita is actually the opportunity for each of us to participate equally, responsibly and interdependently by sharing the cost of mission. It's the opportunity to share in our mission of performing ecclesiastical, legislative and judicial functions that identify a reformed church, and at the same time, strengthen the sense of community for all Presbyterians, bringing people together to discern the mind of Christ.



Per Capita Percent Achieved Mission Giving Percent Achieved Salary Supplement Percent Achieved 51.91% 52.65% 29.92%

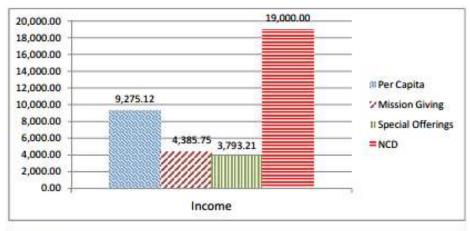
Our financial cushion is slowly dwindling. Our commitment to giving has been very short, and as you can see we are well below where we should be. Please make every effort to bring your account current. Some of our member churches are suffering financially, so it would help the Presbytery if our other members were a little more diligent with their accounts. If anyone needs to discuss church financials, please reach me at finance@presbyteryofli.org.

Presbytery of Long Island

Monthly Operations Report

AUGUST, 31, 2022

	Month	YTD
Income	40,792.95	1,818,922.97
Expenses	121,761.28	1,131,784.69
Cash Flow	(80.968.33)	687.138.28





	Month	V-T-D	Investment Portiono		
Per Capita	9,275.12	140,772.38	Fund	Net Income	Value
EP Reimbursement	242.20	1,464.51	General Fund	165.81	81,924.44
Misc Income	0.00	36.62	Special Mission Fund	40.17	29,907.28
Church Dissolution	3,500.00	28,000.00	Peace Making & Justice Fund	56.18	45,437.35
Proceeds From Sale of 42 Hauppauge	0.00	1,329,675.14	Lake Success Investment	895.01	7,285,952.77
Per Capita & Income	13,017.32	1,499,948.65	Mission Endowmwnt Fund	130.75	71,298,92
Unified Mission	4,385.75	95,952,89	Grace PC Fund	399.56	605,812.42
			Revolving Loan Fund	137.05	101,266.22
NCD Income			Hauppauge Road Fund	114.37	56,387.70
NCD Donations	19,000.00	152,500.00	Good Shepherd Endowment Fund	d 207.30	108,801.89
Glenwood Table	0.00	0.00	Susan Summerville Fund		45,488.64
Glenwoodf Life Center	0.00	00.00	Lake Success Cash	329.07	132,240.76
NCD Total Income	19,000.00	152,500.00		2,546.07	3,564,518.39
Global Mission Income			Portfolio YTD	Γ	
Cuba Ministry Income	0.00	6,740.00	Income 48 754 62	24 62	
El Salvador Income	0.00	4,000.00	*	13.17	
Global Partners Income	0.00	10,740.00			
Restricted Giving					
Presbyterian Women	0.00	725.82			
Salary Supplement	296.67	10,664.36			
Pass Thru Donations		5,600.00			
Total Restricted Giving	296.67	16,990.18			
PC(USA) Special Offerings					
OGHS	2,499.92	20,239.21			
Pentecost	1,293.29	3,172.70			
Peace & Global Witness	0.00	939.42			
Christmas Joy	00.00	8,899.92			
PC(USA) Disaster	0.00	6,935.00			
PC(USA) Extra Commitment	0.00	2,605.00			
Total PC(USA) Income	3,793.21	42,791.25			
Unapplied Cash Payment	0.00	0.00			
TOTALINCOME	40.792.95	1.818.922.97			

Account	Month	V-T-D	SYNOD Mission		
GA Per Capita	0.00	183,805.37	Salt & Light		1,200.00
SYNOD Per Capita	0.00	85,769.51	Iglesias Evangelica	1,166.67	9,333.36
			PIPH Brentwood	200.00	4,000.00
			Unified Mission	4,117.25	36,537.33
EP Salary	8,985.84	76,379.64			
EP Benefits	4,279.71	36,856.05	Glenwood Table	2,639.49	73,431.68
EP Continuing Education	0.00	634.00			
EP Travel	418.91	1,836.57	Glenwood Life Center		382,85
Admin Salary & Benefits	7,262.86	86,979,98	Mission Emmanuel	9,010.25	67,865.21
Treasurer Salary & Benefits	2,390.25	21,313.21	New Hyde Park	4,659.70	37,771.60
Bookkeeper	750.00	6,000.00	Amagansett	5,338.60	6,838.60
Worker's Comp.	0.00	3,708.00	NCD Expenses	21,648.04	186,289.94
TOTAL PERSONNEL	24,087.57	207,707.45			
			Cuba Ministry Expense	0.00	14,000.00
Building Equipment & Supplies	0.00	390.00	El Salvador Expense	0.00	4.700.00
Cleaning	00.0	2,430,00			
Inlities	867.05	9 103 37	Presbytery Meeting Offering	0.00	0.00
Mount Evanses	7 93 7 85	89 480 41	Salary Supplement	00.00	0.00
Boott	000000	20,000,00	Candidate Grant Fund	000	0.00
WEIL TO THE TOTAL OF THE TOTAL	00.000.1	20,000,02	Pass Thru	0000	50,000.00
Total racilities	11,020.60	130,173,76	Youth Triennium	0.00	0.00
Office Supplies	377 54	3 474 53	Total Restricted Expenses	0.00	50,600.00
Company of the Compan	50 000	00 400 6	85		
Omice Equipment & Srvice Miscellaneous	675.03	3,764.69	Presbyterian Women	00.00	747.82
EP Cell Phone	147.51	1,128.01	3000	10000	10 574 71
Administration	1,195.08	10,085.64	Pentacost	1,718 29	2,928,50
11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	0.652	200000000	Daystar	200.00	1,500.00
Committee Expenses	0.00	1,677.62	Peace & Global Witness		704.56
Resource Center	3,036.00	24,288.00	Christmas Joy		8,899.92
Church Dissolution		15.00	PC(USA) Disaster		6,935.00
Presbytery Meeting Expenses	1,107.19	1,785.30	PC(USA) Extra Commitment	50.00	2,400.00
Vital Congregations	9,811.14	82,869.05	Selected Giving		-1,350.00
COM Expenses	0.00	250.00	PC(USA) Special Offerings	5,138.21	41,592.19
Short Term Church Loans	40,000.00	40,000.00			
Program Expense	53,954.33	150,884.97	Taxes	000	0.00
5%		ex.	Unapplied Cash Bill Payment	000	2,890.69
Glen Cove Manse Expense	0.00	0.00	Payroll Expenses	0.00	2,890.69
92		313	TOTAL EXPENSES	121 761 38	1 131 784 69

The report of the Pastoral Inquiry Commission may include subject matter and discussion around topics such as sexual abuse and misconduct. We acknowledge that this content may be difficult, so we encourage commissioners and visitors to care for their safety and well-being. (pp11-16)

Report to the Presbytery of the Pastoral Inquiry Commission

September 2022

I.Biblical-Theological Statement

"... As [God] who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct; ... Tend the flock of God that is in your charge, ... not under compulsion but willingly, ... not for sordid gain but eagerly. ... not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock. ... You know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness."

1 Peter 1:15; 5:2-3; James 3:1, NRSV

"For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another." Galatians 5:13 NRSV

"The Bible neither covers up nor ignores sexual assault. In fact, biblical law shows how the Lord takes up the cause of the victim and the vulnerable. Deut 22:25-27 safeguarded the survivor of sexual assault from being unjustly blamed or ignored. In ancient Israel, this law established a pattern, an ethical framework by which God's people could discern specific situations that it didn't specifically address. And like all of God's laws, it reveals [God's] character."

• "God is not silent. What the Bible teaches about sexual assault," Katie McCoy, Assistant Professor of Theology in Women's Studies at the College at Southwestern, *Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, SBC, December 11, 2017*

"It is the policy of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) that all church members, church officers, non-member employees, and volunteers of congregations, councils, and entities of the church are to maintain the integrity of the ministerial, employment, professional relationship at all times." *Presbyterian Church (USA) Sexual Misconduct Policy and Its Procedures, June 25, 2019.*

Our faith is foundationally incarnational, and having been created in the image of God we are called to embody love of our neighbor in word and deed. It is never permissible or acceptable for a church member, officer, employee, or volunteer to engage in sexual misconduct.

II. History

This Pastoral Inquiry Commission (PIC) was convened in September 2021, nearly 20 years after two investigating committees failed to deal adequately with accusations presented to them regarding the sexual abuse of a teenager during individual counseling sessions of therapy. The PIC was created by the Moderators of the Presbytery pursuant to the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), G-3.0109(b)(6), which authorizes an administrative commission "making pastoral inquiry into persons accused of sexual abuse of another person (D-10.0401c)

when jurisdiction in a judicial proceeding against such persons has ended due to death or renunciation of the accused; such inquiries shall not be understood as judicial proceedings but shall seek to reach a determination of truth related to the accusation and to make appropriate recommendations to the designating council." Accordingly, although we are not an investigating body, we engaged in a time of discovery to understand the nature of the events, reviewed the Presbytery's prior process in this matter, and prayerfully discerned our response. This report seeks to capture our determination of the truth and the recommendations we make to the Presbytery of Long Island.

In 1991, a family experiencing conflict was referred by their Pastor to the Rev. Roger Smith, a minister member of the Presbytery of Long Island who ran a private pastoral counseling office under the name The Family Center, practicing family systems therapy and using space in church buildings in the Presbytery. The family met with Smith together from 1991 to April 1992. Smith then suggested that the family's then-teenage daughter meet with him separately. These one-on-one meetings occurred from May 1992 to November 1993 and led to a pattern of sexual misconduct and abuse perpetrated by Smith.

During individual sessions with Smith, the victim recounts numerous sessions involving emotional manipulation, inappropriate touching, and even genital penetration. The rooms in which these meetings occurred were sometimes isolated and locked by Smith, who insisted that their sessions were important work for the victim to deal with post traumatic stress disorder.

Late November 1993, the victim informed her pastor that she was being abused by Smith. She felt traumatized and in pain, but was not looking for police involvement; she just wanted to "keep this predator from abusing others." She severed her relationship with him. Smith confirmed the abuse to the victim's pastor via telephone in December 1993. On March 15, 1994, Smith sent a letter to the victim's pastor addressing Smith's counseling with the victim. After his signature he typed: "Note: I stopped seeing client because my feelings for her became excessive. I made this known to client, you and my superior. It was mutually agreed, although reluctantly on my part, that our relationship should terminate." On a separate page marked with the same date, Smith's further statements included:

Please share this with [victim].

Self-honesty does not come easy. I am doing this for myself as well as [victim]. While this was occurring I loved [victim] intensely. I was ready to die for [victim].... If you want more call...please only share with [victim] what you feel will not hurt her. I am grateful for your efforts and your prayers...

Traumatized therapist

[signature]

Next to the words "traumatized therapist" is a handwritten notation that reads: "This is not said in jest. I am shocked by what has occurred. Seriously and deeply."

A meeting took place on September 22, 1994, attended by the Interim Executive of the Presbytery, victim's Pastor, Smith, the victim, and her therapist. The victim had

shared with her therapist the letter of confession written by Smith, and the Interim Executive Presbyter "privately acknowledged" to her therapist that he suspected the victim had been raped, confirming what the victim told her therapist. Additionally, in a letter to the victim's pastor postmarked January 5, 1995, the Interim Executive Presbyter stated both that "boundaries of professional ethics and behavior" had been crossed and that "any reasonably minded observer would have labeled the action sexual misconduct."

In mid-late 1994, the Interim Executive Presbyter at the time arranged for an agreement between the victim and Smith, certified by the Interim Executive Presbyter, that required Smith to return a designated amount in counseling fees, forbid future contact between Smith and the victim or the victim's family, stipulated that the victim would not pursue this matter further, instructed that Smith's future work as a pastoral counselor be done under supervision of a qualified family or pastoral counselor, and compelled Smith to get personal counseling. With the permission of this agreement made through the Presbytery, it appears that Smith continued his counseling practice for at least some period of time after this agreement.

Smith violated the condition of the agreement when he attended a conference where the victim's parents also were in attendance. By violating the agreement, Smith created additional conflict between the victim and her parents. This only deepened her pain and trauma.

In June 1999, the Presbytery of Long Island adopted a Sexual Misconduct Policy, subsequent to the PC(USA) 's 1994 adoption of a policy and, according to the record, partly in response to these events.

On May 15, 2001, the chair of the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry contacted the victim, encouraged her to make a formal allegation, and assured her that she would receive justice. In May 2001, the victim filed a formal allegation against Smith. An investigating committee was formed ("the first IC"). The first IC's brief final report on April 1, 2002, states that it spoke to "every relevant witness." Although not referenced in the report, a handwritten notation on the second portion of the March 15, 1994, letter from Smith says "Rec'd by IC01-1 6/25/01." The first IC declined, however, to file charges, writing: "While the credible evidence indicated that an offense may have been committed by the accused, it is the decision of this Investigating Committee that the charges could not be reasonably proved and sustained during a trial of this matter." The victim recalls feeling during her interview with the first IC that it was very confrontational, that her veracity was being challenged, and that there was no offering of care or comfort to her. Additionally, during the first IC's proceedings, there was no mention of her therapist's letter, which noted the Interim Executive Presbyter's suspicions that rape had occurred, being received by a member of that IC. Based on recollection of some IC members, the rationale apparently was suggested by a lawyer on the IC. The victim did not receive a summary of the IC's findings, only that no charges would be filed.

The victim filed an appeal with the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery on February 11, 2002, citing specific parts of the Rules of Discipline and the Sexual Misconduct Policy. Members of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Presbytery ("PJC") reviewed the letter of appeal and concurred, issuing a decision in May 2002. In sustaining the petition, the designated representatives of the PJC commented that the first IC's report did not identify or evaluate the

nature, availability, or credibility of potential witnesses, and some aspects of the Presbytery's sexual misconduct policy were not followed, such as making a summary of the IC's findings.

In May 2002, a second investigating committee was formed ("the second IC"). The second IC did not speak to Smith directly, because he had been "advised by counsel and friends" not to meet with them; the record indicates, however, that one member of the second IC had "several lengthy telephone conversations" with Smith. Though finding that "the bounds of sexual impropriety were crossed several times according to an informal letter written by the accused" and concluding that "[i]nappropriate behavior of some magnitude was exhibited by the accused against the accuser in the 1993/4 time period," the second IC nonetheless determined in May 2003 that it "cannot find sufficient, provable evidence to file charges." Additionally, the second IC found that the 1994 agreement was "imperfect" but "signed by both parties and seems to have fundamentally been followed by the accused and, therefore, stands as a legal resolution in this case."

In September 2021, a Pastoral Inquiry Commission ("PIC") was created by the moderator team, at the suggestion of the General Presbyter, to consider steps toward healing and repair for the victim. (Smith died in 2011.) Between September 2021 and June 2022, the PIC reviewed the record, met at least monthly, listened to the victim and her pastor, and interviewed members of the two previous investigating committees who were reachable and willing, as well as other presbytery staff and leaders from the time period of the original investigations

III. Truthtelling

We begin with confession as both the Church of Jesus Christ and the Presbytery of Long Island and apologize to the victim. We are sorry that in addition to the pain caused by Smith, the wounds she carries result from failures of the very institution that she trusted and turned to in a time of crisis. We recognize and acknowledge that the Presbytery did not have a sexual misconduct policy in place at the time that allegations were first made. We are aware that people's understanding of and sensitivity to the harm of sexual misconduct was sometimes not as fully developed as it is today. Nevertheless, when a young woman came to the Presbytery seeking support, spiritual nurture, and redress after a pastor member of the Presbytery, by his own admission, violated the boundaries of both ministry and counseling, the Presbytery failed to recognize or address the serious harm done to her.

The first failure occurred when the allegations were addressed by presbytery leadership with an agreement executed in isolation, without process, investigation, transparency, or oversight. The agreement operated to constrain the victim's options for seeking further accountability and support, while still permitting Smith to offer counseling services. Its language and circumstances suggest a priority on quick and quiet resolution, rather than meaningful engagement with the victim's experience.

The subsequent failures involving the two Investigating Committees are baffling in scope and substance. Neither IC received sufficient orientation/training on process, including about the need for appropriate sensitivity, emotional boundaries, or the dynamics of sexual misconduct and the potential for abuse in therapeutic settings. Both

ICs seemed to possess enough evidence to make a charge, including the March 1994 letter from Smith, which an ensuing PJC would have tested with a proper trial. Our review encountered an overwhelming general amnesia among previous Investigating Committee members as well as Presbytery of Long Island staff, despite the extreme rarity of two Investigating Committees established over one allegation.

Although we recognize that this case arose in a time when the process for investigating sexual misconduct was inadequate and not yet clearly established, and this case helped move the Presbytery of Long Island to adopt still-evolving policies more effective in response, the Presbytery nevertheless failed to address the harm experienced by the victim or meaningfully prevent any future harm by Smith. Presbytery staff transitions at the time created gaps in knowledge and process.

The victim seeks a formal apology as well as the Presbytery's acknowledgment that its leaky system of supervision and accountability was totally inadequate and needed correction, in line with her stated goal that such abuse might never happen again to another vulnerable person in what was believed to be a therapeutic relationship with a clergy person in a position of trust.

We therefore acknowledge that these failures caused the victim to lose faith in God and the Church to this day; and that, outside of the findings of the PJC team that ordered the second IC, the Presbytery failed to adequately defend and protect one of God's vulnerable children.

IV. Recommendations for the future

- A. Prohibit therapeutic counseling or related services as specialized ministries authorized by the Presbytery, unless operating under the formal supervision of a clinical practice or nonprofit organization licensed by New York State to provide such services, with regular supervision and an at least annual review process reported to the Committee on Ministry. Pastors should be aware of the appropriate limits and boundaries on pastoral counseling, including New York State guidelines.
- B. Establish a "standing rule" in the Presbytery requiring annual review of the Presbytery's sexual misconduct policy by the Sexual Misconduct Response Team, with a report to the Presbytery at the second meeting of the year.
- c. Establish a training program for all members of the Sexual Misconduct Response Team, Permanent Judicial Commission, Investigating Committees, or any other individuals or bodies involved in an inquiry alleging sexual misconduct; such training would be required at the start of any inquiry and led by a qualified professional who can address: (a) understanding the needs of victims of sexual misconduct, and how to address those needs with care, compassion, and sensitivity; (b) understanding the challenges in telling one's own story of experiencing sexual misconduct; (c) guidance in crafting and asking interview questions; (d) establishing clear boundaries; (e) understand the legal implications; and (f) requiring that any disposition of an allegation of sexual misconduct be reported to the whole Committee on Ministry at a regular stated meeting.

- D. Require presbytery staff and pastor members of the Presbytery to submit a copy of the certificate of their annual Sexual Harassment Prevention Training mandated by New York State to the Committee on Ministry by December 31 of each year; pastors who do not comply will not have their terms of call approved by the Committee on Ministry until such training is completed for each calendar year, and a list of pastors not in compliance will be compiled by the Stated Clerk and shared annually at the January Presbytery meeting.
- E. Require sessions of congregations to have in place both a sexual misconduct and a child protection policy, to review them annually, and to report such action to the Committee on Ministry (COM) by December 31 of each year (in a specific communication separate from the session minutes). A list of churches not in compliance should be kept by both COM and the Stated Clerk. Congregations that do not comply will not be eligible for grants for salary supplement funds from the Presbytery, and pastoral transitions will not be approved.
- F. Create or commission a brief (~15 minutes) video for Sessions that conveys the importance of their role in creating a culture of healthy boundaries and a culture free from sexual harassment, misconduct, or abuse within their congregations.
- G. When there is an allegation of sexual misconduct, offer concrete, dedicated, ongoing spiritual support to the accuser and accused including, where appropriate, the pastors of each party.
- H. Urge the Presbytery of Long Island to support General Assembly overtures that permit retirement designations other than "honorably retired" for pastors.
- I. Direct, through language included in the position description, the General Presbyter/Stated Clerk of the Presbytery to provide for the implementation of these reforms.
- J. Direct the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery to secure a list of the remaining available persons who served on either the first or second IC in this case, and take all necessary action to prohibit them from selection for service on any future investigating committee. Such a list has been provided to the Stated Clerk, to the Moderators of the Presbytery, to the Trustees, and to the Presbytery office to be maintained in the permanent files of the Presbytery. For pastor members of the two previous ICs who are no longer members of the Presbytery, this report with the addendum will be sent to their current Presbytery of membership.
- K. If a report of sexual misconduct is made to the General Presbyter / Stated Clerk, that complaint shall be reported to the Sexual Misconduct Response Team and an investigating committee shall be created.
- L. Noncompliance with these requirements—by pastors, sessions, or the Presbytery—will not be tolerated.

Inquiry Commission

Rev. Dr. Peter J. Kelley – *Chair* Rev. Elisabeth K. Simpson Elder Janet Allen Spencer Rev. Kathryn Jones Calone Rev. Ralph B. Jr Wright

Appendix E – pp 76-78

Report of the Committee on Ministry Presbytery of Long Island Stated Meeting – September 24, 2001 – Shinnecock Southampton

At its meeting on July 12, 2022

Contracts and Terms of Call

- 1. The Committee approved a renewal of the Commissioned Ruling Elder contract between the session of Westminster United Presbyterian Church, West Islip, and Elder Kerry Riddle for the period August 15, 2022, through August 14, 2023, at the following terms (half-time or 20 hours/week): Cash Salary, \$16.133; Housing Allowance, 20,000; Tax-deferred Investment, NA; Pension and Medical Dues, Minister's Choice Plan (pension, death, long-term and temporary disability) 3,614; Additional Insurance, NA; SECA Tax Reimbursement, 2,764; Automobile Expense Reimbursement, church business mileage at IRS standard mileage rate; Pastoral Ministry Expense Reimbursement, 250; Continuing Education Expense Reimbursement, 875; Vacation, 30 days, including 5 Sundays; Continuing Education Time, 14 days, including 2 Sundays.
- 2. The Committee approved a change in terms of call from manse use to housing allowance for the **Rev. James Barnum, Pastor, Bellmore Presbyterian Church,** contingent upon the approval of the congregation, effective August 1, 2022, as follows: Cash Salary, \$29,120; Housing Allowance, 40,000; Tax-deferred Investment, 25,000 (2,500 from Church, 20,500 from pastor, 2,000 over 50 catch-up); Pension and Medical Dues, Pastor's Participation Plan, 34,825; Additional Insurance, Dental PPO, member and spouse, 1,025, and Vision, member and spouse, 92; SECA Tax Reimbursement, 5,287; Automobile Expense Reimbursement, church business mileage at IRS standard rate; Pastoral Ministry Expense Reimbursement, 1,900; Continuing Education Expense Reimbursement, 1,750; Vacation, 37 days, including 6 Sundays; Continuing Education Time, 14 days, including 2 Sundays; Paternity Leave, NA; Moving Expenses, NA

Information

 Approved Nancy Remkus as EPSP agreement at Sag Harbor, with the start date of July 12, 2022 – December 31, 2022

At its meeting on August 9, 2022

Contracts and Terms of Call

- 1. The Committee approved the Temporary Supply Pastor contract between the Session of **Old South Haven Presbyterian Church, Brookhaven, and the Rev. Glorya J. Johnson** at the following terms (15 hours/week): Cash Salary, \$8,530; Housing Allowance, 19,200; Tax-Deferred Investment, 2,820; Pension and Medical Dues, 0; Additional Insurance, 0; SECA Tax Reimbursement, 2,121; Automobile Expense Reimbursement, church business mileage at IRS standard rate; Pastoral Ministry Expense Reimbursement, 188; Continuing Education Expense Reimbursement, 656; Vacation, 35 calendar days, including 5 Sundays; Continuing Education Time, 14 calendar days, including 2 Sundays; Maternity Leave, NA; Moving Expenses, NA. The terms are below presbytery minimum.
- 2. The Committee approved the Temporary Supply Pastor contract between the Session of Iglesia Evangelica Presbiteriana Nueva Vida de Malverne and the Rev. Alexander Madrigal for the period October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023, at the following terms (half-time, or 20 hours/week): Cash Salary, 0; Housing Allowance, \$23,460; Tax-Deferred Investment, NA; Pension and Medical Dues, Pension, 1,994; Additional Insurance, NA; SECA Tax Reimbursement, 1,795; Automobile Expense Reimbursement, church business mileage at IRS standard rate; Pastoral Ministry Expense Reimbursement, 500; Continuing Education Expense Reimbursement, 1.000; Vacation, 4

weeks, including 4 Sundays; Continuing Education Time, two weeks; Paternity Leave, NA; Moving Expenses, NA. The terms are below presbytery minimum.

3. The Committee approved the Temporary Supply Pastor contract between the Session of the **First Presbyterian Church, Southampton, and the Rev. Anna Saxon** for the period August 17, 2022, through November 16, 2022, at the following terms (Full-time): Cash Salary and Manse Allowance, \$74,410 *; Tax-Deferred Investment, NA; Free Use of the Manse (annual fair rental value 33,000); Full Utilities, heat, electricity, and water + Cable TV, internet, and phone, (approximate annual cost 8,000); Pension and Medical Dues, NA; Additional Insurance, NA; SECA Tax Reimbursement, 8,828; Automobile Expense Reimbursement, church business mileage at IRS standard rate + round-trip mileage from IL to NY; Pastoral Ministry Expense Reimbursement, NA; Continuing Education Expense Reimbursement, NA; Vacation, October 6-10, 2022 + one additional Sunday in November; ** Continuing Education Time, NA; Maternity Leave, NA; Moving Expenses, NA. The terms are annualized. * includes \$965/month to reimburse health insurance (taxable). ** Mileage between IL and NY is taxable income.

Information

- Betsy wrote a document to help Churches with the Pros and Cons of owning a manse.
 Approved the document Manse Ownership to be added to the Presbytery website.
- Approved the Salary Supplement of \$6,108 (\$509 a month) for the year starting September 1, 2022 August 31, 2023, with Old South Haven/Brookhaven
- Approved Southampton's MIF with the recommendation to reevaluate the real manse value.
- Approved East Hampton's MIF with the recommendation to reevaluate the real manse value.
- Approved to move Rev. Candace Whitman to Member at Large

At its meeting on September 19, 2022

Contracts and Terms of Call

- 1. The Committee approved the terms of call for the Rev. Samuel An, Associate Pastor of Arumdaun Presbyteria Church, Bethpage, and Pastor for their English Ministry, effective November 1, 2022, as follows (full-time): Cash Salary and Housing Allowance, \$82,500; Tax-deferred Investment, NA; Pension and Medical Dues, Pastor's Participation Plan, 30,525; Additional Insurance, NA; SECA Tax Reimbursement, 6,311; Automobile Expense Reimbursement, 2,400; Pastoral Ministry Expense Reimbursement, 1,200; Continuing Education Expense Reimbursement, actual costs; Vacation, per church policy; Continuing Education Time, per church policy; Maternity/Paternity Leave. per church policy; Moving Expenses, full and reasonable. The terms are below presbytery minimum.
- 2. The Committee approved the renewal of the Temporary Supply Pastor contract between the session of the **Roslyn Presbyterian Church and the Rev. Marjory J. Roth**, for the period October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023, at the following terms (3/4 time or 30 hours/week): Cash Salary and Housing Allowance, \$60,450; Tax-deferred Investment, 5,000; Pension and Medical Dues, Pastor's Participation Plan, 25,198; Additional Insurance, NA; SECA Tax Reimbursement, 4,624; Automobile Expense Reimbursement, church business mileage at IRS standard rate; Pastoral Ministry Expense Reimbursement, 375; Continuing Education Expense Reimbursement, 1,312; Vacation, 30 days, including 5 Sundays; Continuing Education Time, 14 days including 2 Sundays; Maternity/Paternity Leave, per presbytery guidelines; Moving Expenses, NA.
- 3. The Committee approved an Extended Pulpit Supply Pastor Agreement between the session of **Christ's First Presbyterian Church, Hempstead, and the Rev. Monica DaCosta** for the period October 2, 2022, through December 31, 2022. She will be paid \$600 per week, or \$31,200 annualized.

2022-78 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Long Island September 24, 2022 – Shinnecock
Information
• Approved to allow Kirsty Dickson-Maret to be on the Pulpit Supply List and be able to administer the administer the Sacrament of Communion.
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Appendix F – pp 79-80

Report of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry Presbytery of Long Island Stated Meeting – September 24, 2001 – Shinnecock Southampton

NO ACTIONS ITEMS FOR PRESBYTERY

July 30, 2022 CPM Meeting - Westminster PC - West Islip

Committee Reports for Information to the Presbytery:

1. Committee conducted final consultation with Candidate Under Care, Kirsty Dickson-Maret. She preached for the committee, followed by CPM feedback and discussion about her process of preparation, exegetical work, delivery, and pastoral concerns in sermon development. Conducted final review of her seminary and Field Education experiences, future goals, sense of call, and gifts for ministry. Reviewed her transcripts and reports from her theological educational institutions. Heard and reviewed her statement of faith and listened to her responses to questions and feedback. Note that she has passed all required denominational exams for ordination. She will be completing her required unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) during the summer of 2022, and this is the sole remaining requirement for her to have successfully completed the Candidacy process.

After consideration of all her work, the committee, acting on behalf of the Presbytery, voted unanimously and with celebration to declare Kirsty Dickson-Maret certified and ready to receive ordination and accept a call to ministry upon successful completion of CPE. The committee granted her permission to circulate her Personal Information Form (PIF) effective immediately.

(NOTE): The CPM has since received confirmation of Kirsty's successful completion of one unit of Clinical Pastoral Education. All requirements for ordination have now been met.

2. Committee conducted final consultation with Candidate Under Care, Kerry Riddle. She preached for the committee, followed by CPM feedback and discussion about her process of preparation, exegetical work, delivery, and pastoral concerns in sermon development. Conducted final review of her seminary and pastoral experiences as the Commissioned Ruling Elder at the Westminster Presbyterian Church – West Islip. Discussed her future goals, sense of call, and gifts for ministry. Reviewed her transcripts and reports from her theological educational institutions. Heard and reviewed her statement of faith and listened to her responses to questions and feedback. Kerry has successfully completed all requirements of the preparation process for ordination, including four of the five required ordination exams, with the exception of the Biblical Exegesis Exam. She is scheduled to take that final exam in September 2022.

After consideration of all her work, the committee, acting on behalf of the Presbytery, voted unanimously and with celebration to declare Kerry Riddle certified, ready to receive ordination, and accept a call to ministry upon successful completion of the Biblical Exegesis Ordination Exam. The committee granted her permission to circulate her Personal Information Form (PIF) effective immediately.

3. After discussion, the committee decided that its ongoing work with Elder Caren Heacock of the Mattituck Presbyterian Church in the process of discernment to explore and deepen her gifts for ministry and facilitate how that ministry might compliment the overall ministry of the Mattituck Church be drawn to a close.

Recommendations were sent to Committee on Ministry, and this information was communicated to Caren with thanks for her working with us over the past fifteen months.

4. Received updates from CPM liaisons on CRE/Inquirers/Candidates under care.

September 1, 2022 CPM Meeting via Zoom

Committee Reports for Information to the Presbytery:

- 1. Committee conducted preliminary consultation with PCUSA Elder Carol Steptoe, who is also an ordained African Methodist Episcopal Church Minister. Discussion about her relocation from Queens to Long Island and ways that she might possibly serve within the Presbytery. Listened to her prior work and intentions for ministry moving forward. She is in a discernment process at this time and further discussions can take place as needed in the future. No specific actions taken and she is not presently in a formal relationship with CPM or the Presbytery of Long Island.
- 2. Annual Consultation with Inquirer Stephanie Castlen of First Presbyterian Church-Smithtown. She has successfully completed her first year of formal studies at Pittsburgh Presbyterian Theological Seminary. She reported on areas of growth and challenge during this time. She also served as a Theological Student Advisory Delegate to the 2022 PCUSA General Assembly. The committee is pleased with her progress and affirmed continuing with Stephanie as an Inquirer Under Care.
- 3. Received updates from CPM liaisons on CRE/Inquirers/Candidates under care.
- 4. Next meeting Thursday, November 3 at 11:00 am via Zoom

Appendix G – p 80 Report of the Board Trustees Presbytery of Long Island Stated Meeting – September 24, 2001 – Shinnecock Southampton

Items for Actions:

- 1. Trustees recommend that the Presbytery approve the sale/assignment of the contract for the South Street Manorville property to the Peconic Land Trust for \$565,000.
- 2. Trustees recommend the Presbytery approve the land sale contract between the United Presbyterian Church and Point Community Church for \$1,700,000.

Information

- 1. Trustees continue to work with various property issues, matters related to manses, and legal issues as they come to us. At present, these are handled discretely and will be brought to Presbytery for such action as is required, should such action be necessary.
- 2. We continue to remind all congregations to submit all property or building use requests and matters to the Trustees for review and approval preferably before a contract is signed.

Appendix H – p 81

Report of the Advance Planning Presbytery of Long Island Stated Meeting – September 24, 2001 – Shinnecock Southampton

1st reading for vote of By-Laws changes

Motion: BY-LAWS

CHAPTER II: MEETINGS OF THE PRESBYTERY

A. Time and Place of Meetings

Ordinarily, the Presbytery shall have four stated meetings per year. : the last Saturday in January, the last Tuesday of March, or the second Tuesday after Easter (whichever fits best into the liturgical calendar), the last Tuesday in June, and the last Saturday in October, plus the Visioning Retreat or other Presbytery-wide event. The places and dates of the meetings for any given year will be recommended by the Advance Planning Team and approved by the Presbytery.

CHAPTER IV:

C. Support and Facilitation Network

1. <u>Upon the discretion of the Committee Chair/Moderator</u>, When times of natural disaster, pandemic, or weather do not allow the community to gather in person, the Presbytery, Committee, or other Presbytery entity may meet electronically so long as all participants can hear and participate in the meeting. (see Electronic Meeting Policy)

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