

**Elder Donald Adams, Moderator**  
**Rev. Kate Jones Calone, Stated Clerk**

**WE GATHER TOGETHER**

The Presbytery of Long Island of the Presbyterian Church (USA) held a Stated Meeting on Tuesday, January 30, 2024, with 95 in attendance, 63 of whom were voting members. A quorum was present. The meeting was called to order with a Prayer and a Call to Worship by Elder Donald Adams, Moderator, at 6:05 pm.

**Roll Call** - *Separate document*

**WELCOME GUESTS AND BEGIN OUR WORK**

The meeting started by randomly breaking into the "Breakout Rooms" to allow time for attendees to introduce themselves.

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

Rev. Kate Jones Calone, Stated Clerk, took a few minutes to thank the past Moderators, Rev. Joshua Jong, and Rev. Michael Smith, with a token of our appreciation and a Litany of Thanksgiving for the Service to the Presbytery.

**Worship**

Music - "Great is Thy Faithfulness" Carrie Underwood & CeCe Winans

Scripture - Deuteronomy 30:15-20 (NIV)

Meditation - Cross Roads

Moderator Donald Adams shared a meditation about the Presbytery and Churches being at a crossroads. He encouraged the Presbytery to listen to God's leading because God wants us to go past survival (GPS) and thrive!

**Approval of Docket**

**MSP** The Presbytery approved the docket of January 30, 2024

**Committee on Nominations Elder Jolynn Kendrick**

**MSP** The Presbytery approved the submitted slate of the Committee on Nominations

Board Of Trustees	Elder Natasha Hines	Deer Park	2026
Committee on Ministry	Rev. Wade Pond	Melville	2026
Committee on Preparation for Ministry	Rev. Scott Williams	Roosevelt	2024
Budgeting and Finance Committee	Diane Perry	Westhampton	2024
Shepherding Council			
member at large	Elder Isoken Irowa	Hempstead	2025
member at large	Rev. Jee Choi	New Hyde Park-Korean	2026
226th General Assembly			
	Rev. Kerry Riddle	West Islip	
	Elder Sandy Santana	Malverne Nueva Vida	
General Assembly Alternate			
	Rev. Karen Crawford	Smithtown	
	Elder Don Adams	Selden	

The members of the Permanent Judicial Commission (PJC) were elected at the previous Stated Presbytery meeting on September 30, 2023. To achieve balance and representation in each class and comply with Book of Order requirements for the PJC, we are recommending the following adjustments in the class years for those previously-elected members:

The following persons constitute the roster for 2024:

Class of '25	Rev. Janice Moore <i>Malverne</i> Elder Tom Hemmick <i>Mattituck</i>
Class of '27	Rev. Stephen Adkison <i>Shelter Island</i> Elder Sandy Santana IEPNA
Class of '29	Rev. Kymberley Clemens- Jones Elder Dennis Henderson Roosevelt
Former Member	Elder Diane Perry Westhampton

**Stated Clerk Report Rev. Kate Jones Calone** (*complete report Appendix A – pp 5-14*)

**MSP** The Presbytery approved the minutes of the Stated Meeting on September 30, 2023.

**MSP** The Presbytery confirms the election of corporate officers for 2024

Class of '24	Elder Bill Philips Center Moriches
Class of '25	Rev. Stephen Adkison Shelter Island President Elder Natasha Hines Deer Park
Class of '26	Elder Amelia Chin Oceanside Rev. Ida Rosario Brentwood Vice President Elder Candace Breen Selden

**Equalization**

**MSP** The Presbytery adopts the following plan to determine Session-elected elder commissioners to Presbytery meetings: Churches with over 200 members may elect two commissioners, and Churches under 200 members may elect one commissioner

**Holmes Camp & Retreat Center** (*Appendix A p7*)

**MSP** The Presbytery of Long Island approves the proposed Amendments to the bylaws of the Presbyterian Conference Association, Inc. (DBA Holmes Camp & Retreat Center)

**Report of Presbytery Staff and Pastor Members who did not report taking NYS Sexual Harassment Prevention Training as of December 31, 2023**

*Motion from the Stated Presbytery September 24, 2022*

*Recommendation 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.*

Arnold Emily F, Bhatti Iftikhar, Jennings Nancy S., Madrigal Alexander, Rohde Colby, Saunders Tracie, Stanton Norman, Thompson Holly Haile.

**Report of the Annual Non-Parish Clergy 2023** (*Appendix A pp 8-12*)**Report of the Teaching Elders as of 12/31/23** (*Appendix A p 13*)**Moderator Team Report** (*Appendix A p 14*)**Understanding Policy and Training Requirements**

Action at the last General Assembly added new policy and training requirements to the Book of Order that apply to presbyteries and congregations.

Policy Requirements in the Book of Order are Sexual Misconduct Policy, Harassment Policy, Child & Youth Protection Policy, and Antiracism Policy. The Book of Order also contains a new requirement for Family Medical Leave. Policies

should be reviewed annually (have a standing order). Review of policies should be reflected in Session minutes, and Session members and Deacons (and other key leaders) should be familiar with policies.

- Sexual Misconduct Policy - *Book of Order G-3.0106*
  - All councils shall adopt and implement..."
  - Each council's policy shall include requirements for boundary training, including sexual misconduct.
  - PC(USA) has a policy last updated in 2019 that might serve as a model
- Harassment Policy - *Book of Order G-3.0106*
  - All councils shall adopt and implement, including but more than sexual harassment.
  - PC(USA) Standards of Ethical Conduct  
([https://www.pcusa.org/site\\_media/media/uploads/oga/publications/ethical-conduct.pdf](https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/oga/publications/ethical-conduct.pdf))
  - Review NYS requirements for employer policies on sexual harassment
- Child and Youth Protection Policy - *Book of Order G-3.0106*
  - All councils shall adopt and implement
  - "Each council's policy shall include requirements for...child sexual abuse prevention training for its members at least every thirty-six months."
  - Consult the insurance company for guidance and resources
- Antiracism Policy - *Book of Order 3.0106*
  - PC(USA) Policy: Facing Racism (with accompanying study guide): <https://facing-racism.pcusa.org/item/40835/> A resource for inviting study and discussion that offers theological language and grounding
  - BREAD (Bringing Racial Equity and Diversity) Team is available for consultation and will be developing a Presbytery policy.
- Family Medical Leave - *Book of Order G-2.0804*
  - Terms of Call [Installed Pastors]: "The call shall include provision for a minimum of twelve weeks paid family medical leave..."
  - Committee on Ministry will be working on any specific guidance for our Presbytery.
  - Contact the Presbytery office or your Committee on Ministry liaison for any questions or support needed.

#### Training Requirements in the Book of Order

- Boundary Training
  - Book of Order: At least every 36 months for minister members of the Presbytery. CREs, pulpit supply list, inquirers in the ordination process, elders on Session (note: boundary training for pastors and CREs has been required in our Presbytery since 2020)
  - Must include the topic of sexual misconduct and financial boundaries
  - Ministers, CREs, inquirers: contact Presbytery for approved training
  - Sessions provide for its members (insurance co. resources may be a good starting point)
- Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Training
  - Book of Order: At least every 36 months for minister members of the Presbytery, CREs, pulpit supply list, inquirers in the ordination process, elders on Session
  - Ministers, CREs, and Inquirers: contact the Presbytery for approved training.
  - Congregations: specify in policy who needs to take training and what specific modules they need to take
  - Insurance companies offer online training

- New York State Sexual Harassment Prevention Training
  - Required annually for all employees (keep records)
  - Offered regularly online by PRC

**Shepherding Council** Rev. Rachel Vione (*complete report Appendix B - pp 15-18*)

**MSP** The Presbytery approved the submitted Nomination Committee slate.

Rev. Matthew Means   Huntington First

Rev. Lana Hurst       Glen Cove

### **First Reading – Recommended Bylaws Changes**

**Committee on Ministry** Rev. Katie Mulligan (*complete report Appendix C – pp 19 -23*)

**Committee on Preparation on Ministry** Rev. Bill Hoffman (*complete report Appendix D – p 24*)

**MSP** The Presbytery approves Rev. Emily Fowler's request to transfer her membership from the Cumberland Presbyterian Church (USA) to the PCUSA and into the Presbytery of Long Island.

**MSP** The Presbytery approves by a two-thirds vote an exemption from all required ordination exams for Rev. Emily Fowler, her having been ordained more than five years and having successfully completed the ordination examination requirements of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. [G-2.0505a (2)]

**Personnel** Rev. James Rea

Rev. James Rea thanked the Presbytery staff for all their work in the past months, and the Personnel Committee continues to look to fulfill the Stated Clerk/Bookkeeper position with a job description to be available soon.

**Board of Trustees** (*complete report Appendix E – p 25*)

**MSP** The Presbytery approves the sale of the E. Moriches property to the Iglesia Evangélica Jehova Shalom for the price of \$400,000 (\$200,000 of which is credited equity).

**MSP** The Presbytery affirms designating \$125,000 of the proceeds from the sale of the Manorville property for the renovation and restoration of the manse of the Shinnecock Presbyterian Church.

**Treasurer** Charlaine Apse (*complete report Appendix F- pp 26- 28*)

**Budgeting and Finance Committee** (*complete report Appendix G - p 29*)

**Foundations and Horizons Task Force** Rev. Peter Kelley (*complete report Appendix H – p 30-33*)

**Adjournment, Closing Prayer & Benediction** at 8:51 pm Moderator Elder Donald Adams

**The next meeting** Stated Meeting of the Presbytery will be held on Saturday, April 13, 2024, in West Islip

X

---

Rev. Kate Jones Calone  
Stated Clerk

Report of the Stated Clerk  
Stated Meeting of Presbytery - January 30, 2024

---

**Actions:**

The Stated Clerk presented the following motions:

**\*Motion 3:**

**That the Presbytery approve the minutes of the Stated Meeting on September 30, 2023**

**\*Motion 4:**

**That Presbytery confirms the election of corporate officers for 2024**

<b>Class of '24</b>	<b>Elder Bill Philips</b>	<i>Center Moriches</i>	
	<b>Vacant</b>		
<b>Class of '25</b>	<b>Rev. Stephen Adkison</b>	<i>Shelter Island</i>	<i>President</i>
	<b>Elder Natasha Hines</b>	<i>Deer Park</i>	
<b>Class of '26</b>	<b>Elder Amelia Chin</b>	<i>Oceanside</i>	
	<b>Rev. Ida Rosario</b>	<i>Brentwood</i>	<i>Vice President</i>
	<b>Elder Candace Breen</b>	<i>Selden</i>	

**Equalization**

*In accordance with the form of Government, G-3.0301, the Presbytery shall adopt and communicate to the sessions a plan for determining how many ruling elders each Session should elect as commissioners to the Presbytery, with a goal of numerical parity of ministers of the Word and Sacrament and ruling elders.*

The Stated Clerk has determined that the number of resident ministers of the Presbytery during the first week of January is 60. Accordingly, we propose that sessions of churches with over two hundred members will be entitled to elect two commissioners, and sessions with under two hundred members will be entitled to elect one commissioner each as per the most recent statistical report reported by the Presbytery, which will make the number of session-elected elder commissioners authorized to be sent to presbytery meetings 67.

**\*Motion 5:**

**The Presbytery adopts the following plan to determine Session-elected elder commissioners to Presbytery meetings:**

**Churches with over 200 members may elect two commissioners**

**Churches under 200 members may elect one commissioner**

**\*Motion 6:**

**Proposed Amendments to the bylaws of the Presbyterian Conference Association, Inc. (DBA Holmes Camp & Retreat Center)**

**Information**

1. **Report of the Annual Non-Parish Clergy 2023. (**
2. **Report of the Teaching Elders as of 12/31/23.**
3. **Moderator Team Report**

4. **Report of Presbytery Staff and Pastor Members who did not report taking NYS Sexual Harassment Prevention Training as of December 31, 2023**

*Motion from the Stated Presbytery September 24, 2022*

*Recommendation 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.*

Arnold Emily F, Bhatti Iftikhar, Jennings Nancy S., Madrigal Alexander, Rohde Colby, Saunders Tracie, Stanton Norman, Thompson Holly Haile.

5. **Roster of Names for the Permanent Judicial Commission**

The Permanent Judicial Commission (PJC) members were elected at the Stated Presbytery meeting on September 30, 2023. To achieve balance and representation in each class and comply with Book of Order requirements for the PJC, we are recommending the following adjustments in the class years for those previously elected members.

According to the Rules of Discipline, D-5.0206b, the Stated Clerk shall annually report the Permanent Judicial roster to the governing body.

The following persons constitute the roster for 2024:

Class of '25	Rev. Janice Moore <i>Malverne</i> Elder Tom Hemmick <i>Mattituck</i>
Class of '27	Rev. Stephen Adkison <i>Shelter Island</i> Elder Sandy Santana <i>IEPNA</i>
Class of '29	Rev. Kymberley Clemens- Jones <i>Member at Large</i> Elder Dennis Henderson <i>Roosevelt</i>
Former Member	Elder Diane Perry <i>Westhampton</i>

6. **Pastor Cluster**

We are currently working to revitalize these groups.

7. **Reminder to Sessions**

Session Annual Statistical Reports for 2023 are due by midnight on February 15, 2024. Call (631-499-7171) or email ([laurie@presbyteryofli.org](mailto:laurie@presbyteryofli.org)) the assistant to the Stated Clerk if you have any questions about the system.

8. **Training**

Look for Email and Registration on the Website

Elder - February 29, 7:30 pm Zoom

Deacons - March 7, 2024, 7:30 pm Zoom

Clerk - TBD

**Report of the Stated Clerk  
Stated Meeting of Presbytery - January 30, 2024**

---

**Proposed Amendments to the bylaws of the Presbyterian Conference Association, Inc.  
(DBA Holmes Camp & Retreat Center)**

Submitted to the Presbyteries of Long Island, Hudson River, and New York City for their approval, as required by Article IX Section 1 of the PCA bylaws.

**Proposed Amendments:**

**Article IV, Section 1**

**CURRENT:**

An Annual Meeting of the Corporation and of the Board will be held each year. The President or Vice President will moderate, and docketed business shall include the election of officers and annual reports. The Board of Directors shall hold regular meetings to conduct the business of the Corporation.

**PROPOSED** (*changes in italics*):

An Annual Meeting of the Corporation and of the Board will be held each year. The President or Vice President will moderate, and docketed business shall include the election of officers and annual reports. The Board of Directors shall hold regular meetings to conduct the business of the Corporation. *Meetings may be held in-person, by phone or video conference, or in a hybrid format, provided that all who attend are able to hear and be heard and have the ability and information necessary to participate in discussions and to vote.*

**RATIONALE:**

For annual meetings of non-profits to take place in remote or hybrid formats, the State of New York currently requires bylaws to explicitly allow for such.

**Article VI, Section 1**

**CURRENT:**

All uninvested funds of this Corporation shall be deposited in the Corporation's name in such bank as shall be designated by the Board of Directors and shall be subject to withdrawal only by checks, drafts, wire transfers or withdrawal slips signed by (a) any one of the following officers if less than the level established by the Board, or (b) by any two of the following officers if more than the level established by the Board,: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer.

**PROPOSED:**

*All uninvested funds of this Corporation shall be deposited in the Corporation's name in such bank as shall be designated by the Board of Directors and shall be subject to withdrawal only by checks, drafts, wire transfers or withdrawal slips signed by (a) any one of the following officers if less than the level established by the Board, or (b) by any two of the following officers if more than the level established by the Board, : President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer. All deposits, checks, notes, drafts, or demands for money, including without limitation digital and automatic and recurring charges as well as loans and lines of credit, shall be signed or authorized by such officer, officers, person or persons as the Board or the Executive Committee may from time to time designate."*

**RATIONALE:**

The proposed changes allow the board to institute strict financial controls, while allowing the flexibility to adapt to changing staffing models and the ever evolving world of digital banking and finances. The board has adopted a financial controls policy that takes effect with a change to the bylaws. This policy includes and significantly strengthens the controls formerly included in the bylaws.

## Report of Stated Clerk

## Presbytery of Long Island Stated Meeting – January 30, 2024

## 2023 ANNUAL REPORT RESPONSES FROM NON-PARISH AND HONORABLY RETIRED CLERGY

Validated Ministry

**Emily Arnold** is a full-time chaplain at Queens Cancer Center NYC H+H/Queens 82-68 164th St, Jamaica, NY. I work with people Jesus put first rather than last. "...I was hungry, and you gave me food; I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you welcomed me; I was naked, and you gave me clothing; I was sick, and you took care of me, I was in prison, and you visited me." (Mt 25:35-36) I believe that in providing no-cost spiritual care services to patients who cannot afford other psycho-social-spiritual supports, I have the gift of providing shelter and space in a world where many of my patients lack that. My involvement in the Presbytery consists of doing much pulpit supply this year and being a member of the executive presbyter search committee. *I hope to feel I have the time for pulpit supply soon! However, I continue to be thrilled to be a minister in Long Island. With joy, Emmie*

**Immanuel Bae** is a full-time chaplain at St. Francis Hospital, Roslyn, NY. My Ministry in the hospital conforms to the Biblical requirement of visiting and taking care of the sick and suffering. I attend a local church, Faith Korean Presbyterian Church of Long Island. I occasionally offer spiritual direction to those in the New York area who need it. *I wish all of you a happy and prosperous new year.*

**Jongmi Bae** No Report

**Robert Griffin** serves as the Chaplain for East End Hospice, Westhampton Beach, NY, serving the entire East End of LI. I am also serving as the solo pastor of the Amagansett Presbyterian Church. The Chaplain for East End Hospice is a pastoral care position ministering to nurses/ social workers/ administrators, their families, and friends. We are all called to be a compassionate and caring presence for those who are dealing with or themselves dealing with end-of-life issues.

**Aaron T. Hicks** I am currently employed full-time with Serge Global, an interdenominational mission organization with roots in the Reformed tradition. My title is Evangelist and Church-planter, and my position is Team Leader. Our mission headquarters are located at 101 West Ave. Suite 305, Jenkintown, PA 19046-2039. Phone: 215.885.1811. Email: [info@serge.org](mailto:info@serge.org). I am currently serving as lead pastor and church-planter with a new-church development here in Granada, Spain, and in that capacity, I am actively fulfilling several criteria of G-2.0503. However because of working overseas with an international mission and not physically present on Long Island, my current ministry position does not allow me to participate actively in Presbytery. Because we continue to maintain a relationship of support and accountability with Mattituck Presbyterian Church as well as Long Island Presbytery, I am requesting continuing status as a Member-at-Large of the Presbytery. I made two short trips back to the USA in 2023, one for the graduation of my son from Cornell University (in June), and the other to help conduct the funeral of a dear friend and member of Mattituck Presbyterian Church (in January) along with Rev. James Cubie. In addition to pastoring, I continue to teach Church History in two startup Christian schools here (Theological School of Granada and FOCO Bíblico of the Brethren denomination). I was also reelected this year to serve another term as president of the provincial ministerial association, "Granada Evangélica." *Our next extended furlough is scheduled for the summer of 2025 and we hope to be on Long Island*

*at that time and connect with many of our dear friends and colleagues. Thank you for your prayers and support as we continue to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ here in Spain.*

**Christine J Hong** No Report



**Eun Joo Kim** No Report

**Amos Shin** No Report

**Jeehoon Song** For 2023, I have continued serving as the full-time Assistant Pastor for Discipleship, Small Group Ministry, and Administration at Open Door Presbyterian Church, located at 2999 Centreville Rd, Herndon, VA 20171. I have been at this Church since November 1, 2019. I have been serving as a pastor: preaching, teaching, counseling, and helping to administer the sacraments. I have also been involved in writing curriculum for our Church's small group ministry, helping with discipleship, and helping the members grow more missional in their everyday surroundings. I also help with the communications and administration at the Church - getting the word out to congregation members on the various events/activities at the Church, attendance reports, and facilities, and acting as a liaison between the English and Korean-speaking congregations. *I hope all is well with everyone in NY! Happy New Year! Blessings to you all.*

**RETIRED**

**Choong Sik Ahn** No Report

**Angela B. Archer** Enjoying Retirement

**Jeanne W. Baum** No Report

**Randall J. Broger** I am consistently talking about the meaning of religion and the love of God with everyone I interact with, from physicians to automobile dealers. I have recently been visiting life communities, i.e., assisted living, etc. Very few of them, if any, have any spiritual component built into their clients' communities. There are no on-site Religious Services, Bible Study, Discussion Groups, or Spiritual Consultation. The closest I came was in Jefferson Ferry the allowed Hospice Care in their advanced care facility. Everyone I interviewed thought it might be an item to consider. (And would I be interested). Not active in church activities. I actively support the PC (USA) Assistance Program with a yearly gift of \$500.00. I also support the Long Island Cares Foundation food program with the same amount yearly. The Lord has provided, so we must provide for others as well. Stay in touch with several active ministers, my Church (Ret), and retired ministers. My wife and I are having fun visiting retirement communities to see what they have to offer and at what cost. Each and every one will offer you a meal and a heartfelt tour of their facilities. I still work my garden. We (wife and I) go flowers, plant shopping and add to the beauty of our property. In the beginning of December, I was fortunate enough to be able to take my family (all 12) out to dinner to celebrate my wife Pat's birthday. We both spend an hour or so relaxing with a good book and a glass of wine about an hour before we prepare for dinner. We even have fun doing the weekly food shopping together. We even plan our meals together. We are both very active in the lives of our children and grandchildren. My youngest daughter has received various honors and has completed some major milestones in her life. That is a story in and of itself to save for another day.

**Susan Cardone** No Report

**Charles M. Cary** No Report

**James S. Crawford** I have led worship 15 times this year in 6 different churches and attended Presbytery meetings and one pastoral installation service. I enjoy walks with my wife and dog for fun, reading, and cooking.

**Tom M. Castlen** I have taught in the adult education program of Setauket Presbyterian Church and offered guidance in their racial equity and reparations study, preached and moderated one congregational meeting at

Setauket Presbyterian Church, participated in several national and local organizations bearing witness to justice, Peace, and the environment including financial contributions, letter writing, and phone calls. And upon invitation, I've engaged in conversations about the adaptive challenges facing Christianity and the Church. Post Covid, we have resumed travel to visit family, discover new places, and have returned to a vacation place we enjoy. We laugh a lot. *Greet each day with thanksgiving! Share the gift of love in this broken world. Be good to yourself at least once a day. Pax et bonum*

**William S. Causey** No Report

**Yvonne Collie-Pendleton** has been active in the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and the National Response Team (NRT). She has been engaged in a Worship Service for the PDA Annual Gathering and was a presenter for the Chicago Presbytery Teaching Elder/Commissioned Pastor Retreat, KCI Pastors Conference, and Women in Ministry Conference.

**George Gaffga** Lives in Sanatoga, PA, where he will occasionally preach and teach at the Crossroads Presbyterian Church in Limerick, PA. He enjoys walking, reading, being married for 52 years, living near his son and family, and collecting baseball cards.

**Kenneth E. Graham** Ken stays in touch by reading Presbytery emails and updates. For fun and enjoyment, I enjoy taking long walks. *Stay Well*

**Karen Sue Hybertsen** My major activity has been writing. I'm currently revising my manuscript titled Letter to a Comfortable Church: A Pastor's Journey with Romans. I worship remotely with my mother at The Table: La Mesa UCC in San Diego, and for fun, I enjoy gardening, quilting, reading, kayaking, and time with family.

**John W. Kloepfer** I moved to North Carolina in 2021, and my multiple myeloma and chemotherapy infusions every other week keep me from establishing a regular ministry. My ecclesiastical activities include keeping in touch with the Presbytery of Long Island and attending some Presbytery meetings here in Greer. For fun, I read and help watch our grandchildren. *I think of all my friends in Long Island Presbytery, both in the Committee on Ministry and the many churches I've served and helped.*

**Donald R. Knight** No Report

**Angus Ian Campbell Laing** stays active in the Ministry by working with prison ministries in Attica, NY, Greenhaven Correctional Facility in Stormville, NY, and continuing street kid outreach. He attends a men's weekly Bible study at First Presbyterian Church in Babylon while attending worship at First Presbyterian Church of NYC, Our Lady of Lourdes parish in Massapequa Park, and Church of Ascension NYC. For enjoyment, Ian enjoys reading, reviewing his life, and the privileges God has provided him with opportunities to extend simple acts of kindness to a few needy people.

**Elisabeth K. Simpson (Betsy)** Have participated as a lectionary reader at First Presbyterian Church Bethlehem, Bethlehem, PA. I have also assisted in serving communion at the same Church occasionally. First Presbyterian Church Bethlehem is the Church I generally attend since moving to Easton, PA, after retiring in October 2016. I also serve on the Executive Committee of the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship and the Executive Board of the Center and Library for Bible and Social Justice. At First Presbyterian Church Bethlehem, I attend and occasionally lead the adult study class, Hearts and Minds. 2-3 times a year, I volunteer to help at the Bethlehem Emergency Shelter. For fun, I enjoy frequent walks, exercise, reading, and spending time with friends and family. Since retirement, I have taken several trips to Ireland, Morocco, and Tanzania as well as family visits to California, Oregon, Virginia, Rhode Island, and Alabama. *Happy Thanksgiving, Christmas, and*

*New Year's. Retirement is wonderful, albeit very busy. I continue to find ways to work for Peace and justice, but also to explore this amazing creation. May you all find joy in your work and leisure.*

**Michael F. Smith** No Report

**Norman D. Stanton** No Report

**Robert B. Stuart** Has continued to preach and moderate session meetings at Springs Presbyterian Church each Sunday since the beginning of 2022. In ecclesiastical activities, I am an active member of the Presbytery's Cuba Work Group. We have been meeting by Zoom. In October of this year, I attended the Cuba Partners Network of our denomination, meeting at a conference center in Maryland. For fun, I enjoyed summer travel.

**Mark Tammen** My current involvement in Ministry is attending services at a local congregation that I can walk to. I spend my free time reading the NY Times cover to cover each day, biking 10 miles on a local bike path daily, and seeing our two older grandchildren at least weekly. *Thanks for the years we shared and your support and care for Anita and me.*

**Holly Haile Thompson** The Padoquohan Medicine Lodge, Inc., the grassroots prayer group for whom I am Founding Pastor, continues into its 29th year of outreach among our Shinnecock Tribal Community members. We support regular programs addressing Food Insecurity, the continuing sub-standard housing on the Reservation, educational and Cultural activities providing scholarship referrals and support along with Language Revitalization programs (some with SUNY Stony Brook) and annual Traditional Ceremonial Observances; the PML also continues to actively support justice work regarding LAND BACK, the Graves Protection Warriors' Society and Water Protectors — which is directly related to the Shinnecock Kelp Farmers' Cooperative who partner with PML and the Sisters of St. Joseph. I was pleased to offer Pulpit Supply for the First Presbyterian Church of Ogdensburg, NY: their long-time pastor, the Rev. Laurena W. Will had scheduled a Sabbatical for 2020 and was unable to fulfill that plan due to the Covid-19 crisis. During the summer of 2022, Laurena was able to take four months of her original Sabbatical. She invited me to preach and offer pastoral care with her congregation for 18 weeks beginning January 1, 2023. It was a very positive experience, involving weeks of culturally focused Ministry with the recurring theme of Racial Justice as members of the PCUSA who choose to grow in knowledge and awareness as people of faith. Our final Sunday consisted of guests in worship and in the Native Corn Soup/Fry Bread feast that followed in Ruth's Room — a fellowship space in the Ogdensburg Church. Guests included Indigenous People from the neighboring Akwesasne Mohawk community as well as Shinnecock Nation community members — we had Mohawk Corn Soup and Mohawk Fry Bread and Shinnecock Samp (winter corn soup) and Shinnecock Fry Bread prepared by my family members from both Nations. The relationship begun during these early weeks of 2023 will continue into the future as a Shinnecock baby is now a Member of the Ogdensburg Church. For ecclesiastical activities, I continue to serve on the PCUSA National Committees of Racial Equity Advocacy Committee (REAC) and the Native American Consulting Committee (NACC) and take part in the Synod of the Northeast Discernment Teamwork relating to the New Way Forward with our Synod Transitional Leadership. For fun, I enjoy caring for and celebrating five generations of my Shinnecock family and the four generations of my Akwesasne family as our communities continue to strive to address issues of Justice among our own Relatives and among our Neighbors. *Peace and Health be with you all.*

**Bruce S. Wagner** No Report

**Frederick H. Woodward** My wife and I have begun to split our time between Huntington and Sarasota, FL, where we attend Christ Church of Longboat Key. For fun, I enjoy grand-parenting, reading, journaling, beach walks, swimming, communing with friends at our koi pond, and photography.

**Ralph B. Wright, Jr.** As a retired pastor, I serve as Pulpit Supply for numerous churches, including FPC Port Jefferson, FPC Garden City, FPC Northport, Old Whaler's Church, Sag Harbor, NY, and currently serving on a Presbyterian Commission. I enjoy spending time with family here on Long Island and in Phoenix, Arizona. *We need to be messengers for Peace in a world that has become distraught and fragmented.*

**MEMBERS-AT-LARGE**

**Kyungsoo Choi** No Report

**Nancy S. Jennings** provides Pulpit Supply for the Presbytery this year, funerals, and weddings. I'm a Trustee at Union Theological Seminary and NYC Chair of Educational Policy Committee. For fun, I enjoy singing in the Westhampton Presbyterian Church choir and participating in their congregational life: Sacred Circle Dance and The Findhorn Foundation.

**Terri Ofori** No Report

**Anne Stewart-Miller** No Report

**Min Jung Park** No Report

**Tracie Saunders** No Report

**Candace Whitman** I have actively supplied preaching in the Presbytery this past year, writing from a Christian perspective for the public, and I am currently on an administrative commission. For fun and enjoyment, I'm blessed to work in the arts, and I love living near the beauty of the water.

**INACTIVE**

**Carol Maher** No Report

**THE REMAINDER OF THIS PAGE DELIBERATELY LEFT BLANK**

**Report of the Stated Clerk  
Presbytery of Long Island Stated Meeting – January 30, 2024**

---

**Teaching Elders as of December 31, 2023**

**Active Members (35)**

Adkison Stephen D  
Ahearn, Moira  
An Samuel  
Bhatti Iftikhar  
Carter, Dennis  
Choi, Jee Ho  
Coello, David  
Karen Crawford  
Cubie, James  
Easton, Chester J.  
Hoffmann, William  
Hurst, T. Lance - UCC  
Johnson, Glorja J.  
Jones Calone, Kathryn  
Jong, Joshua H.  
Kelley, Peter J.  
Lent, Paul  
Madrigal, Alexander  
Means, Matthew T.  
Moore, Janice  
Mulligan, Katie  
Pond, Wade  
Pratt, Adrian  
Prey, Jeffery D.  
Rea, James B., Jr.  
Riddle, Kerrylyn  
Rosario, Ida  
Roth, Marjory J.  
Roth, Russ W.  
Shin, Samuel C.  
Van Cleef, Ann - UCC  
Vione, Rachel Philipp  
Wagner Johanna McCune  
Williams, Scott B.  
Winters, Vanessa-UCC

**Validated Ministry (9)**

Arnold, Emily  
Bae, Immanuel  
Griffin, Robert  
Hicks, Aaron  
Hong, Christine J  
Kim, Eun Joo  
Rohde, Colby  
Shin, Amos  
Song, Jeehoon

**Retired (29)**

Ahn, Choong Sik  
Archer, Angela B  
Barnum, James W  
Baum, Jeanne W.  
Broger, Randall J.  
Cardone, Susan  
Cary, Charles M.  
Castlen, Tom M.  
Causey, William S.  
Collie-Pendleton, Yvonne  
Crawford James  
Gaffga, George E.  
Graham, Kenneth E.  
Graugh, Richard N  
Hybertsen, Karen  
Kloepfer, John W.  
Knight, Donald  
Laing, Ian  
Park, Sang K.  
Simpson, Elisabeth K.  
Smith, Michael F  
Stanton, Norman  
Stuart, Robert B.  
Tammen, Mark  
Thompson, Holly Haile

Wagner, S. Bruce  
Wood, Ronald  
Woodward, Frederick H.  
Wright, Ralph B., JR.

**Member at Large (9)**

Bae, Jongmi  
Choi, Kyungsoo  
Clemons-Jones Kimberley  
Jennings, Nancy S.  
Miller Stewart, Anne  
Ofori, Terry  
Park, Min Jung  
Saunders, Tracie A.  
Whitman, Candace

**Total 82**

**Report of the Moderator Team  
Stated Meeting of Presbytery - January 30, 2024**

---

The Moderator Team met on the following dates: 10/4/23, 11/15/23, 11/29/23, 12/13/23 and 1/24/24

**On 10/4/23, the Moderators approved the following motions:**

**MSP** to provide a grant of \$6900 to the Freeport church for the down payment on the purchase of a new furnace for the manse.

**MSP** To allow the mission funds of the Presbytery to be used for emergency needs from churches in the Presbytery until a designated fund is created for this purpose

Referred to the Foundations and Horizons Task Force the question of creating a fund to help congregations with emergency building needs and how to set up a process for churches to access such a fund

**On 11/15/23, the Moderators approved the following motion:**

**MSP** To send 2% of our Unified Mission support (\$2803) to the Synod of the Northeast for the general mission funds of the Synod, plus an additional \$1000 to the Small Church Residency fund and \$1000 to the Native American Church Initiative. This decision applies only to 2023, with a need to determine and establish for future years a standard guideline for our mission giving to the Synod.

**On 11/29/23, the Moderators approved the following motion:**

**MSP** To co-sponsor the December 15 conference, "Don't Blame the Poor: A Conference Addressing the Structural Causes of Poverty On Long Island and in New York State," to be held at the Suffolk Y JCC in Commack, including a \$200 contribution.

**On 12/24/2024 the Moderators approved the following motion:**

**MSP** to approve up to \$2500 in Presbytery funds to support a Spanish language course for Rev. Janice Moore (providing temporary moderator duties and occasional pulpit supply for the Nueva Vida congregation during a time of transition).

**THE REMAINDER OF THIS PAGE DELIBERATELY LEFT BLANK**

**Shepherding Report**  
**Presbytery of Long Island Stated Meeting – January 30, 2024**

**Action Item**

**Motion 6:** The Presbytery approves the submitted Nomination Committee slate.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE	CLASS OF
Rev. Matthew Means <i>Huntington First</i>	25
Rev. Lana Hurst <i>Glen Cove</i>	26

**First Reading – Recommended Bylaws Changes from the Shepherding Council****Information**

At its meeting on January 8, the Shepherding Council also:

- Received a report from the Foundations & Horizons Task Force and unanimously supported the direction of the task force to explore the possibility of a Presbytery-wide mission/study process
- Requested that the COM develop an Administrative Leave policy for the Presbytery
- Initiated a process for review of the Presbytery's Child & Youth Protection Policy
- Reviewed the list of current Administrative Commissions and asked to receive reports from active Administrative Commissions through the Committee on Ministry
- Heard about ongoing conversations between the Episcopal Diocese and the Presbytery

**Shepherding Report**  
**Presbytery of Long Island Stated Meeting – January 30, 2024 ZOOM**

Recommended Bylaws Changes from the Shepherding Council  
 First Reading–January 2024

Proposed amendment to Presbytery bylaws at:

Chapter IV: ORGANIZATION OF THE PRESBYTERY

A. Shepherding Council

...

3. Responsibilities

...

e. Nominate members to the Presbytery Nominating Committee, and strongly urge Clerks and Elders to serve on at least one Presbytery Committee for a period of 1-3 years, not to exceed a total of 6 years. ***The Shepherding Council shall ensure that members of the Nominating Committee represent the rich diversity of the church's membership and will fulfill the functions of the committee on representation articulated in Book of Order G-3.0103.***

Also at:

C. Support and Facilitation Network

The Support and Facilitation Network connects the different aspects of the Presbytery by facilitating the use of its various resources: clergy and lay leadership, staff, fiscal responsibility and stewardship, legal resources, and denominational polity and connect.

The Support and Facilitation Network shall consist of the following entities:

1. Constitutional structures mandated by the Book of Order and prescribed in the Bylaws of the Presbytery of Long Island:

a) Committee on Ministry

b) Committee on Nominations, *including the functions of the committee on representation (G-3.0103).*

~~c) Committee on Representation~~

~~c) Committee on Preparation for Ministry~~

e ~~d~~) Permanent Judicial Commission

...

1(b). The Committee on Nominations

Membership:

The Committee on Nominations shall consist of ~~at least six~~ **five** persons, divided into three equal classes, with terms of office of three years ~~and length of office~~. The membership shall ~~consist of one-third ministers, one-third laywomen, and one-third laymen~~ **be composed of ministers and ruling elders in numbers nearly as equal as possible**, who shall be nominated by the Shepherding Council and elected by the Presbytery. ~~The chairperson and vice chairperson shall be nominated annually by the Shepherding Council and elected by the Presbytery. The Presbytery representative to the Synod Permanent Committee on Nominations shall be a member ex officio with vote.~~ **The chairperson shall be elected by the members of the Nominating Committee.**

**The Shepherding Council shall ensure that members of the Nominating Committee give full expression to the rich diversity of the church's membership and fulfill the functions of the committee on representation articulated in Book of Order G-3.0103.**

...

~~1(c). The Committee on Representation~~

~~Membership: The Committee on Representation shall consist of three persons, divided into three classes, and shall be constituted in accordance with the Form of Government.~~

Also at:



D. Presbytery structures as mandated by the Bylaws of the Presbytery of Long Island:

...

~~6. Committee of Counsel~~

~~7. Investigation Committee Pool~~

~~8. Support Pools~~

~~9. Task Force on Records and Review~~

~~10. Task Force on Bylaws, Bills, and Overtures~~

...

## 2. Advance Planning Team

"Membership: The Advance Planning Team shall consist of ~~six~~ **at least three** persons..."

## 3. Personnel Committee

"Membership: The Personnel Committee shall consist of ~~five~~ **at least three** persons..."

## 4. Budget and Finance Committee

"Membership: The Budget and Finance Committee shall consist of ~~six~~ **at least three** persons..."

## 5. Sexual Misconduct Response Team

***The Sexual Misconduct Response Team shall consist of three persons nominated annually by the Committee on Nominations and elected by the Presbytery, without a term limit.***

***Responsibilities: The Sexual Misconduct Response Team responsibilities will include an annual review of the Presbytery's sexual misconduct policy, establishing a training program for any individuals or bodies acting on behalf of the Presbytery related to an allegation of sexual misconduct, being available for spiritual support requested by either party or their pastors when there is an allegation of sexual misconduct, and encouraging in the Presbytery and its congregations a culture of healthy boundaries free from sexual harassment, misconduct, or abuse.***

## 6. Committee of Counsel Pool (remedial cases D-6.0302)

The pool will consist of six persons (equal numbers of Minister and ruling elders) to serve in cases where the Presbytery is required to appoint a Committee of Counsel.

When the Presbytery receives a remedial complain, the Moderator, the Stated Clerk or Ecclesiastical Officer, the General Presbyter shall appoint two persons from this pool.

## 7. Investigating Committee Pool

The pool will consist of six persons with knowledge about misconduct issues, including legal expertise and counseling on the ramifications thereof; shall be as equally divided as possible between men and women and shall be composed of at least one minister member of the Presbytery and active members of the churches of the Presbytery. No member of a committee appointed shall concurrently serve on the Committee on Ministry or the Personnel Committee or the Permanent Judicial Commission. Nominations to the Investigating Committee shall be made by the Committee on Nominations of the Presbytery. An Investigating Committee appointed shall elect from its own members a chairperson for a term not exceeding one year.

When the Presbytery receives a disciplinary complaint, the Moderator, the Stated Clerk or Ecclesiastical Officer, the General Presbyter shall appoint an Investigating Committee consisting of three members from this pool.

#### **8. Support Pool**

The Support Pool shall consist of six persons. These persons shall be nominated by the Committee on Nominations.

- a. Three persons of this pool shall be persons with knowledge and experience dealing with sexual misconduct issues. In individual cases of sexual misconduct members of this team may be appointed to stand with the victim(s) of misconduct as the judicial process unfolds.
- b. Three persons from this pool will serve as support persons to any party to a disciplinary case (accuser, (In non-misconduct case), accused, witnesses)

#### **9. Task Force on Records and Review**

Shall be coordinated by the Stated Clerk.

#### **10. Task Force on Bylaws, Bills, and Overtures**

Shall be coordinated by the Stated Clerk.

THE REMAINDER OF THIS PAGE DELIBERATELY LEFT BLANK

Report of the Committee on Ministry  
 Presbytery of Long Island Stated Meeting – January 30, 2024

**No Items for Actions:**

**At its meeting on September 12, 2023**

**Contracts and Terms of Call**

**MSP** The Committee approved the renewal of the Temporary Supply Pastor contract between the Session of the **Iglesia Evangelica Presbiteriana Nueva Vida and Rev. Alexander Madrigal** from October 1, 2023, to September 30, 2024 - Terms are as follows:

Time	Part-Time (20h)	Tax-Deferred Invest. (403 B) <i>paid by Church</i>	NA
Cash Salary	\$ 0	Tax-Deferred Invest. (403 B) <i>withheld by Clergy</i>	NA
Housing Allowance	\$ 24,633	Automobile Expense Reimbursement	IRS standard rate
SECA Tax	\$1,884	Pastoral Ministry Expense Reimbursement	\$500
Pension & Medical	\$2,094	Continuing Ed Expense Reimbursement	\$1000
		Continuing Education days	14 days, including 2 Sundays
		Vacation days	30 days, including 4 Sundays
NYS Sexual Harassment Prevention Training required annually			TBD
Boundary Training is required every three years.			TBD
Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Training required every three years			TBD

**MSP** The Committee approved the **Extended Pulpit Supply Pastor Agreement between the Session of the Yaphank Presbyterian Church and Rev. David Coello** for the period from September 1, 2023, through December 24, 2023. Rev. David Coello will be paid \$300 weekly.

**Information**

**MSP** to approve **CRE Magalene McClarrin** to administer the Sacrament of Communion at the Churches where she serves as pulpit supply.

**MSP** To approve the Installation Commission for **Rev. James Cubie and the Mattituck Presbyterian Church**, 12605 Main Rd, Mattituck, NY 11952, on Sunday, October 1, at 10:00 am Rev. Michael Smith, HR Moderator, Long Island Presbytery, Shinnecock, Rev. Kate Jones Calone, Interim General Presbyter, Long Island Presbytery, Rev. Ralph Wright HR, Rev. Peter Kelley, First Presbyterian Church, Southold, Elder Patricia Francis, Chair, Committee on Ministry, Elder Tom Hemmick, Mattituck Presbyterian Church, Elder Karen Murray, First Presbyterian Church, Southold, Elder Sean Moran, Old South Haven : Also included in the service Rev. Elizabeth Brookens-Sturman, Brambleton Presbyterian Church, Brambleton, Virginia, Rev. Dr. J. Ben Sloan, Eastminster Presbyterian Church, Columbia, South Carolina, Rev. Dan Baumgartner, The Cove (PCUSA), Santa Rosa, California

**MSP** to approve **Rev. Emily Fowler** for pulpit supply and to serve communion, and to refer her to CPM for conversation and process regarding transfer of her membership to the PC(USA)

**MSP** to add **David Brackett and Pat Hanly** to the pulpit supply list for preaching but not the sacraments

**At its meeting on October 10, 2023**

**Contracts and Terms of Call**

**MSP** The Committee approved the renewal of the **Temporary Supply Pastor contract between the Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Greenlawn and Rev. Ann Van Cleef** from October 11, 2023, to October 10, 2024,

**Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Long Island January 30, 2024**

Time	Part-Time (20h)	Tax-Deferred Invest. (403 B) <i>paid by Church</i>	\$ NA
Cash Salary	\$ 3,232.24	Tax-Deferred Invest. (403 B) <i>withheld by Clergy</i>	\$ NA
Housing Allowance	\$ 32,400	Automobile Expense Reimbursement	\$ NA
SECA Tax	\$ 2,532.16	Continuing Ed Expense Reimbursement	\$ NA
Pension	\$ NA	Continuing Education days	1 Week
Death & Disability	\$ NA	Vacation days	4 Weeks
Medical	\$ NA	Family Leave	
Dental	\$ NA	Moving Expenses	NA
Temp Disability	\$ NA		
NYS Sexual Harassment Prevention Training required annually		UCC	9/26/23
Boundary Training is required every three years		UCC	2/15/21
Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Training required every three years		UCC	3/15/21

**MSP** The Committee approved the renewal of the **Temporary Supply Pastor contract between the Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Glen Cove and Rev. Lana Hurst from November 1, 2023, to October 31, 2024, Terms are as follows:**

Time	Part-Time (20h)	Tax-Deferred Invest. (403 B) <i>paid by Church</i>	\$ 2,400
Cash Salary	\$ 44,750	Tax-Deferred Invest. (403 B) <i>withheld by Clergy</i>	\$ NA
Housing Allowance	\$ 14,400	Automobile Expense Reimbursement	\$ NA
SECA Tax	\$ 4,524.98	Continuing Ed Expense Reimbursement	\$ 2,000
Pension	\$ 5,231.75	Continuing Education days	2 Weeks, including 2 Sundays
Death & Disability	\$ 615.50	Vacation days	4 Weeks, including 5 Sundays
Medical	\$ 9,959.76	Family Leave	12 Weeks paid
Dental	\$ 641	Moving Expenses	NA
Temp Disability	\$ 307.75		
NYS Sexual Harassment Prevention Training required annually		PLI	10/25/2023
Boundary Training required every three years.		PLI	10/25/2023
Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Training required every three years		TBD	

**Information**

**MSP** The Committee approved the renewal of the **Extended Pulpit Supply Pastor Agreement between the Session of the Presbyterian Church in Elmont and Minister Sharon Austin-Barrow from October 31, 2023, 2023, through January 31, 2023.** Minister Austin-Barrow will be paid \$2,240 per month for her service.

**Information**

**MSP** The COM approved the **dissolution of the Installation Commission for Rev. James Cubie and the Mattituck Presbyterian Church, 12605 Main Rd, Mattituck, NY 11952, on Sunday, October 1, at 10:00 am.**

**At its meeting on November 14, 2023****Contracts and Terms of Call**

**MSP** The Committee approved the renewal of the **Extended Pulpit Supply Pastor Agreement between the Session of the Community Presbyterian Church of Merrick and Rev. Joan Finck from November 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024.** Rev. Joan Finck will be paid \$850 bi-weekly for her service. She will not Moderate Session.

**MSP** The Committee approved the renewal of the **Extended Pulpit Supply Pastor Agreement between the Session of the Yaphank Presbyterian Church and Rev. David Coello from January 8, 2024, to June 30, 2024.** Rev. David Coello will be paid \$300 weekly for his service and moderate the Session.

**Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Long Island January 30, 2024**

**MSP** The Committee voted to re-commission **Ruling Elder Magalene McClarrin to be Commissioned Ruling Elder** within the Presbytery of Long Island from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

**MSP** The Committee approved the Call of the **Rev. Jonathan Rodriguez to be Installed Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of East Hampton**, effective January 8, 2024, subject to the Congregational meeting on December 10, 2023.

**MSP** the Committee approved the Terms of Call with the required amendments. - Terms are as follows:

Time	Full-Time (40h)	Tax-Deferred Invest.(403 B) <i>paid by Church</i>	\$ 3,797
Cash Salary	\$ 70,500	Tax-Deferred Invest.(403 B) <i>withheld by Clergy</i>	NA
Housing Allowance	NA	Automobile Expense Reimbursement	\$ 2,500
SECA Tax	\$ 8,185	Pastoral Ministry Expense Reimbursement	\$ 2,000
Pension	\$ 9,238.23	Continuing Ed Expense Reimbursement	\$ 1,750
		Continuing Education days	14 days, including 2
Death & Disability	\$ 1,086.85		Sundays
		Vacation days	30 days, including 5
Medical	\$ 31,519.00		Sundays
Dental	NA	Family Leave	12 weeks paid
Temp Disability		Moving Expenses	as needed
NYS Sexual Harassment Prevention Training required annually			TBD
Boundary Training is required every three years.			TBD
Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Training required every three years			TBD

**MSP** The Committee voted to re-commission **Ruling Elder Gustavo Sanchez to service at the NCFD Mission Emmanuel, Remsenburg, for the period January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024**, permission to administer the Sacraments, to perform marriages as allowed by New York State law, and to have voice and vote at Presbytery meetings.

**This Call is fully funded by the Presbytery of Long Island - Terms are as follows:**

Time	Full-time (40h)	Tax-Deferred Invest.403 B <i>paid by Church</i>	\$ 1,000
Cash Salary	\$ 43,375.00	Tax-Deferred Invest.403 B <i>withheld by Clergy</i>	\$ NA
Housing Allowance	\$ 37,710	Automobile Expense Reimbursement	Standard IRS Rate
SECA Tax	\$ 6,230	Pastoral Ministry Expense Reimbursement	\$ 500
Pension	\$ 7,506.78	Continuing Ed Expense Reimbursement	\$ 1,500
Death & Disability	\$ 883.15	Continuing Education days	2 weeks, including 2 Sundays
Medical	\$	Vacation days	4 weeks, including 5 Sundays
Dental	\$ 633.48	Family Leave	
Temp Disability	\$ 441.58	Moving Expenses	NA
NYS Sexual Harassment Prevention Training required annually		Presbyter of Long Island	10/25/2023
Boundary Training is required every three years		Presbyter of Long Island	10/25/2023
Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Training required every three years			TBD

**MSP** The Committee voted to re-commission **Ruling Elder Mario Fernandez to service at the Primera Iglesia Presbiteriana Hispana de Brentwood for the period January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024**, permission to administer the Sacraments, to perform marriages as allowed by New York State law, and to have voice and vote at Presbytery meetings.

**This Call is fully funded by the Presbytery of Long Island - Terms are as follows:**

Time	Part-time (20h)	Tax-Deferred Invest. (403 B) <i>paid by Church</i>	NA
Cash Salary	NA	Tax-Deferred Invest. (403 B) <i>withheld by Clergy</i>	NA
Housing Allowance	\$ 14,630	Automobile Expense Reimbursement	Standard IRS Rate
SECA Tax	NA	Pastoral Ministry Expense Reimbursement	\$ 300
Pension	NA	Continuing Ed Expense Reimbursement	\$ 300
Death & Disability	NA	Continuing Education days	2 days
Medical	NA	Vacation days	2 weeks
Dental	NA	Family Leave	NA
Temp Disability	NA	Moving Expenses	NA

NYS Sexual Harassment Prevention Training is required annually	Presbyter of Long Island	10/25/2023
Boundary Training is required every three years	Presbyter of Long Island	10/25/2023
Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Training required every three years		TBD

**MSP** The Committee approved the renewal of the **Temporary Supply Pastor contract between the Session of the Brentwood Presbyterian Church and Rev. Ida Rosario** from January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024 - Terms are as follows:

Time	Part-Time (20h)	Tax-Deferred Invest. (403 B) <i>paid by Church</i>	\$ 7,200
Cash Salary	\$ NA	Tax-Deferred Invest. (403 B) <i>withheld by Clergy</i>	\$ NA
Housing Allowance	\$ 16,759	Automobile Expense Reimbursement	Standard IRS Rate
SECA Tax	\$ 1,282	Pastoral Ministry Expense Reimbursement	\$250
Pension	NA	Continuing Ed Expense Reimbursement	\$ 2,000
Death & Disability	NA	Continuing Education days	2 weeks, including 2 Sundays
Medical	NA	Vacation days	30 days, including 5 Sundays
Dental	NA	Family Leave	12 weeks paid
Temp Disability	NA	Moving Expenses	NA
NYS Sexual Harassment Prevention Training is required annually	Presbyter of Long Island	10/25/2023	
Boundary Training is required every three years.	Presbyter of Long Island	10/25/2023	
Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Training is required every three years.		TBD	

### Information

**MSP** The Committee approved the transfer of membership of the **Rev. Jonathan Rodriguez** into the Presbytery of Long Island from the Presbytery of New York City

### At its meeting on December 12, 2023

#### Contracts and Terms of Call

**MSP** The Committee voted to re-commission **Ruling Elder Richard King to service at the Cutchogue Presbyterian Church for the period January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024**, permission to administer the Sacraments, to perform marriages as allowed by New York State law, and to have a voice and vote at Presbytery meetings. Terms are as follows:

Time	Part-time (20h)	Continuing Education days	2 weeks, including 2 Sundays
Cash Salary	\$ 34,256.52	Vacation days	4 weeks, including 5 Sundays
NYS Sexual Harassment Prevention Training required annually	Presbyter of Long Island	10/25/2023	
Boundary Training is required every three years	Presbyter of Long Island	10/25/2023	
Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Training required every three years		TBD	

**MSP** The Committee approved the Terms Call of the **Rev. Adrian Pratt as the Designated Pastor of the Bridgehampton Presbyterian Church and the Springs Community Presbyterian of East Hampton**, effective January 1, 2024, until April 30, 2025. - Terms are as follows:

Time	Full-Time 30h BPC / 10h SPC	Tax-Deferred Invest. (403 B) <i>paid by Church</i>	\$ 5,360 BPC
Cash Salary	\$ 30,457 BPC / \$30,000 SPC	Tax-Deferred Invest. (403 B) <i>withheld by Clergy</i>	\$ NA
SECA Tax	\$ 7,746 BPC	Automobile Expense Reimbursement	\$ 1,500
Pension	\$ 40,000 BPC	Pastoral Ministry Expense Reimbursement	\$ 500 BPC
Death & Disability	\$ TBD	Continuing Ed Expense Reimbursement	\$ 1,750 BPC
Medical	\$ TBD	Continuing Education days	14 days, including 2 Sundays
Dental	\$ TBD	Vacation days	30 days, including 5 Sundays
Temp Disability		Family Leave	12 weeks paid
Free Use of Manse	\$ 30,000 BPC	Moving Expenses	NA
Full Utilities	\$ 10,000 BPC		
NYS Sexual Harassment Prevention Training required annually	PLI	10/2023	
Boundary Training is required every three years.	PLI	10/2023	
Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Training required every three years			

**Information**

**MSP To Elect Rev. Katie Mulligan as Moderator**

**MSP To Elect Rich Schneider as Vice Moderator**

**MSP To allow Elder Doris Moore and Elder Jean Junkers from the **New Hyde Park Presbyterian Church** to extend their terms on Session for an additional year. (session vote 11/12/2023)**

**MSP To allow Elder Diane Imbert and Elder Nadine Summers from the **Islip Presbyterian Church** to extend their term on Session one additional year.**

**MSP To allow Elder Ernie Bayha, Elder Fran Kelly, Elder Lily Kelman-Nelson, Elder Charles Leschinski, Deacon Rich Kelly, and Deacon Mary Leschinski from the **Community Presbyterian Church of Merrick** to extend their term on Session/Deacon Board one additional year.**

**MSP Rev. Janice Moore** (Malverne) will Moderate the Session of the Iglesia Evangélica Presbiteriana Nueva Vida in Malverne.

**THE REMAINDER OF THIS PAGE DELIBERATELY LEFT BLANK**

November 28, 2023 CPM Meeting via Zoom

**ACTION ITEM:**

**Motion 8**                      **Committee on Preparation for Ministry moves that Presbytery approve the request of Rev. Emily Fowler to transfer her membership from the Cumberland Presbyterian Church (USA) to the PCUSA and into the Presbytery of Long Island.**

**Motion 9**                      **Committee on Preparation for Ministry moves that the Presbytery approve by a two-thirds vote an exemption from all required ordination exams for Rev. Emily Fowler, her having been ordained more than five years and having successfully completed the ordination examination requirements of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. [G-2.0505a(2)]**

Committee Reports for Information to the Presbytery:

1. Second Consultation held with Rev. Emily Fowler, an ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church (USA) requesting to transfer her membership to the PCUSA. In addition to two consultations, CPM reviewed her educational transcripts, ministry experience, credentials and evidence of good standing in her current denomination, CPE certifications, and prior ordination examination requirements, as well as other information.  
**Committee approved two Action Items 1 & 2 above to present to Presbytery for a vote.**
2. Discussion on possible preparation requirements for non-PCUSA Ordained Pastoral Candidates serving in pastoral roles within the Presbytery.
3. Discussion on changing pastoral leadership landscape and possible effects on CPM work.
4. Review liaison assignments and hear liaison reports on people under care.
5. Set Meeting dates for 2024 – Every two months, dates/times to be set before January 1.

January 24, 2024 CPM Meeting via Zoom

NO ACTIONS ITEMS FOR PRESBYTERY

Committee Reports for Information to the Presbytery:

1. Annual Consultation with Commissioned Ruling Elder Candidate Jason Neal (Old South Haven Presbyterian Church). Discussion was held on his current progress in terms of the Dubuque Seminary distance CRE program and desire to continuing moving toward commissioning when completed. CPM affirmed its commitment to work alongside Jason as he moves toward that goal.
2. Reviewed CPM liaison responsibilities and assignments. Heard liaison reports on people currently under care. Designated CPM Representative to Shepherding Council.
3. Discussion on COM use of Presbytery Grant and Loan funds in support of people under care of the committee moving toward ordination or CRE commissioning.
4. Meeting dates for 2024: Tuesdays, 9:30am to 12:30pm - January 23, March 19, May 28, July 23, September 24, November 26.



**Items for Actions:**

**Motion 10:** to proceed with the sale of the E. Moriches property to the Iglesia Evangélica Jehova Shalom for the price of \$400,000 (\$200,000 of which is credited equity).

**Motion 11:** to affirm designating \$125,000 of the proceeds from the sale of the Manorville property for the renovation and restoration of the manse of the Shinnecock Presbyterian Church.

*\*Note: Because the Presbytery currently does not have in place guidelines for the use of proceeds from the sale of property, and to demonstrate the Presbytery's support for the ministry of the Shinnecock congregation, the Trustees ask the Presbytery to joyfully affirm these funds previously designated by the Trustees, should the congregation pursue renovation of the manse. Additional funds may be needed, as the final cost of the manse renovation project is subject to the required scope of the work and the contractor selected. At the invitation of the congregation, the Presbytery also will assist the congregation in applying for grant funds for this project.*

**At its meeting on January 24, 2024**

- The trustees voted to bring the above motion to the Presbytery.
- Amelia Chin agreed to continue as the representative to the Budget and Finance Committee.
- That if a congregation with a vacant manse wishes, as a ministry, to offer their manse to a member of a congregation in the Presbytery who is in need, the Trustees recommend that the agreement be for no longer than a year, that the respective responsibilities of the church and the occupant are clear, and that the church first check with their Town to ask if the ministry is a permissible tax-exempt use.

**At its meeting on November 30, 2024**

- **MSP** to approve the use of the Southold Old Manse for the Stepping Stones project.
- **MSP** to engage Lynda Hickey to monitor the vacant Glenwood manse until further notice.
- **MSP** to order an appraisal for the E. Moriches property.
- **MSP** to move forward with steps toward a sale of the E. Moriches property, consulting with Pastor Jose Martinez of purchaser Iglesia Evangelic Johova Shalom and Attorney Jim Rissler, with the Trustees to have final approval on the sale amount.

Report of the Treasurer  
Presbytery of Long Island Stated Meeting – January 30, 2024, ZOOM

**Presbytery Of Long Island  
Balance Sheet**

			Nov. 30, 2023	Dec. 31, 2023
Un Restricted	Checking	Operating	(344,791.35)	(314,918.08)
Un Restricted	Merrill Lynch	General Fund	91,231.24	93,210.39
		-5%	(253,560.11)	(221,707.69)
Presbytery Designated	Checking	Vital Congregations	(295,567.72)	0.00
Unknown	Checking	Commack Building Sale	513,943.38	218,375.66
Unknown	Checking	Sale of Manorville Property	372,664.20	372,664.20
Unknown	Merrill Lynch	Revolving Loan Fund	116,751.22	119,852.27
Unknown	Merrill Lynch	Hauppauge Road Fund	583,582.97	597,387.14
		27%	1,586,941.77	1,308,279.27
Presbytery Designated	Checking	Presbytery Mission	61,464.68	77,779.34
Presbytery Designated	Merrill Lynch	Special Mission Fund	33,186.39	34,254.18
Presbytery Designated	Merrill Lynch	Mission Endowment	80,407.34	82,170.82
Presbytery Designated	Merrill Lynch	Good Shepherd for mission	122,708.38	125,657.53
Presbytery Designated	Checking	Salary Supplement	38,942.67	43,299.81
Presbytery Designated	Checking	Candidate Grant Fund	23,651.83	23,651.83
Presbytery Designated	Checking	Candidate Loan Fund	12,896.15	12,896.15
Presbytery Designated for NCD	Checking	NCD	56,220.81	55,269.22
Presbytery Designated for NCD	Merrill Lynch	Lake Success Invest NCD	2,436,377.61	2,511,520.93
		61%	2,865,855.86	2,966,499.81
Restricted	Checking	Peacemaking	7,274.22	7,805.10
Restricted	Checking	Cuba	6,703.30	6,703.30
Restricted	Checking	El Salvador	2,794.67	2,794.67
Restricted	Merrill Lynch	Peace Making Fund	51,439.97	52,802.53
Restricted	Merrill Lynch	Susan Sommerville	49,344.00	50,666.38
Restricted	Presby Fnd	Revolving Loan Fund	45,183.14	45,473.57
Restricted	Checking	Dekan Buckley Memorial	1,828.27	1,828.27
		3%	164,567.57	168,073.82
TOTAL			4,363,805.09	4,221,145.21
belongs to Grace Presbyterian	Merrill Lynch	Grace PC Fund	641,780.19	659,940.29
Pass-Through	Checking	GA UMS, Special Offering,	944.34	6,715.57
Pass-Through	Checking	Pass-Through	0.00	0.00
		14%	642,724.53	666,655.86
			5,006,529.62	4,887,801.07

**2024 Budget.**

I continue to make changes to the chart of accounts to make it easier to understand where money comes from and how it is used.

Basically, there are three separate Profit and Loss reports. I have only included two. What is paid for from the Per Capita and Mission money that stays with the Presbytery.

Programs like Salary Supplement and NCD are paid from both money that comes in during the year and from Restricted funds.

Pass through Income and expenses like Cuba, El Salvador, Presbyterian Women, and donations that go to the PC(USA) Special Offerings, Disaster Relief, and Extra Commitments. This section has no budget, and the money that comes in goes out except for Cuba and El Salvador, where the money is held until spent.

**First Per Capita and Mission Money**

	<b>Actual 1/26/24</b>	<b>2024 Budget</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Budget</b>
<b>Income</b>				
<b>40000 Per Capita and Mission Income</b>				
40001 Per Capita	38,023.86	268,961.00	267,633.55	249,682.56
40002 Unified Mission Support	16,225.39	159,448.00	145,468.43	182,226.34
<b>Total Per Capita and Mission Income</b>	<b>54,249.25</b>	<b>428,409.00</b>	<b>413,101.98</b>	<b>431,908.90</b>
<b>41000 Presbytery Income</b>				
41001 Reimburse EP		0.00	609.97	750.00
41002 Donations for Presbytery Expenses		0.00	609.46	0.00
41003 Presbytery Misc. Income		0.00	3,388.13	5,500.00
41006 Transfers from Investments		0.00		288,827.01
<b>Total 41000 Presbytery Income</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>4,607.56</b>	<b>295,077.01</b>
<b>42000 Presbytery Program Income</b>				
42004 Clergy Retreat		0.00	1,200.00	2,500.00
<b>Total 42000 Presbytery Program Income</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,200.00</b>	<b>2,500.00</b>
<b>44000 Presbytery Property Sales</b>				
44002 Brookville Property			372,664.20	0.00
44003 East Moriches Rent to Sale	3,500.00	42,000.00	42,600.00	0.00
<b>Total 44000 Presbytery Property Sales</b>	<b>3,500.00</b>	<b>42,000.00</b>	<b>415,264.20</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>57,749.25</b>	<b>470,409.00</b>	<b>834,173.74</b>	<b>729,485.91</b>

<b>Expenses</b>				
<b>Denominational Expenses</b>	<b>7,302.40</b>	<b>153,496.00</b>	<b>133,375.74</b>	<b>160,075.29</b>
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>26,481.94</b>	<b>351,739.12</b>	<b>316,340.37</b>	<b>316,829.17</b>
<b>Facilities</b>	<b>3,422.00</b>	<b>58,622.00</b>	<b>75,275.09</b>	<b>34,000.00</b>
<b>Administration</b>	<b>314.71</b>	<b>20,700.00</b>	<b>65,179.67</b>	<b>26,650.00</b>
<b>Presbytery Committees &amp; Program Expense</b>	<b>3,236.00</b>	<b>52,432.00</b>	<b>103,426.20</b>	<b>42,932.00</b>
<b>Support to Congregations</b>	<b>7,618.34</b>	<b>50,945.00</b>	<b>59,882.27</b>	<b>26,500.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>48,375.39</b>	<b>687,934.12</b>	<b>753,479.34</b>	<b>606,986.46</b>
<b>P&amp;L</b>	<b>9,373.86</b>	<b>(217,525.12)</b>	<b>80,694.40</b>	<b>122,499.45</b>

**Restricted Programs Salary Supplement and NCD**

<b>45000 Presbytery Restricted Program</b>	<b>Actual 1/26/24</b>	<b>2024 Budget</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Budget</b>
45001 Salary Supplement	1,630.00	12,000.00	18,436.04	15,000.00
45002 Candidate Grant Income		500.00	464.56	2,000.00
45003 NCD General Donations	19,000.00	309,571.00	228,000.00	34,500.00
<b>Presbytery Restricted Program Income</b>	<b>20,630.00</b>	<b>322,071.00</b>	<b>246,900.60</b>	<b>51,500.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Salt & Light		5,000.00	0.00	10,000.00
Other Mission Projects			1,000.00	0.00
Salary Supplement Expense	403.20	4,838.40	5,682.80	15,000.00
Candidate Grant Fund		500.00	375.00	1,200.00
Mission Emmanuel	11,580.29	142,096.00	136,087.22	11,000.00
Glenwood Life Center	9,287.04	62,150.00	32,446.93	31,000.00
New Hyde Park	2,356.72	98,324.50	28,351.68	30,000.00
<b>Presbytery Restricted Program Expenses</b>	<b>23,627.25</b>	<b>312,908.90</b>	<b>202,943.63</b>	<b>98,200.00</b>
<b>Profit &amp; Loss</b>	<b>(2,997.25)</b>	<b>9,162.10</b>	<b>43,956.97</b>	<b>(46,700.00)</b>

It's possible that Salt & Light and Other Mission Projects will stay in this category, and we will use restricted funds that are held at Merrill Lynch. The Special Mission Fund, Mission Endowment, and Good Shepherd for mission total \$242,083.

Charlaine Apse  
Treasurer

**Report of the Budgeting and Finance Committee & Treasurer  
Presbytery of Long Island Stated Meeting – January 30, 2024 ZOOM**

At the Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Long Island on September 30, 2023

**MSP** The Presbytery directed the Treasurer and the Budget and Finance Committee to research the reasons for the decline in per-capita.

I have been working on the question asked at the last meeting that seemed to me to be about the correlation of membership decline to per capita decline.

I finally decided on this spreadsheet.

Year	Year Used for Per Capita	Membership	% Decrease in Membership	Per Capita Ask	Per Capita Received	% not received	Churches that did not pay Per Capita	Churches that underpaid Per Capita
2019	2017	8011		\$304,818.55	\$276,416.50	9%	2	10
2020	2018	7677	4%	\$282,615.32	\$261,615.32	7%	6	6
2021	2019	7682	0%	\$281,182.72	\$245,003.61	13%	8	9
2022	2020	7600	1%	\$271,396.16	\$216,453.87	20%	8	15
2023	2021	7115	6%	\$275,843.90	\$230,034.09	17%	10	11
2024	2022	6732	5%	\$262,745.00				

It seems to me that the 2 year lag might have more to do with the 2023 and possibly the 2024 per capita. Based on some of the conversations I have had with churches the bigger problem is churches are not filling out their year-end statistical report and/or not cleaning the membership rolls.

We asked churches to tell their Per Capita story; we got 7 responses.

Three Churches include the Per Capita in their budgets, four relay on what people give to Per Capita one of these will pay when they have the money.

A few admitted they had stopped paying years ago because of unhappiness with the Presbytery, but have since started giving again.

Some churches try to educate their congregation about Per Capita and some think the Presbytery should help with this.

### Progress Report to the Presbytery

We were initially created to consider how to allocate potential proceeds from one particular property in the Presbytery. But we recognized that (a) this is not the only property that has come or will come under the Presbytery's umbrella, and (b) the Presbytery receives or hold assets other than real property. This led us to some larger questions: what values more broadly guide any allocation of assets within the Presbytery, and who decides? As we have met together and listened to a variety of voices within the Presbytery, those larger questions have prompted additional areas of our exploration, including:

- the structure of the Presbytery, who has a seat at different tables where decisions are made, and where we lodge responsibility for discerning and directing our values, mission, and ministry priorities;
- the decision-making process within the Presbytery for ensuring that the use of our assets matches our values, mission, and ministry;
- existing funds and their purpose/restrictions;
- where and how we empower justice work within the Presbytery;
- reparative action, and what that looks like in our particular local context;
- the need to create guidelines for assets that enhance transparency and equity.

#### I. What We Have Done

- Regular meetings as a Task Force
- One-on-one follow-up with individual members and ministries of the Presbytery following our initial presentation
- Driven by questions raised and feedback received from the April 2023 Presbytery meeting and subsequent dialogue with Presbytery members, reconsidered the scope of our ministry
- Met with the Shepherding Council on 10/23/23 to report on Task Force progress / what has been learned and received approval to continue in new directions
- Conversations with other mid-council leaders and studying of other Presbytery documents related to asset management
- Visited the Sisters of St. Joseph campus in Brentwood, paying special attention to learning about how they have repurposed church buildings and grounds to new, community-based ministry with a vision for the future
- Held a day-long retreat studying the tasks before us and reworking recommendations for the Presbytery (structure, asset management, financial structure, decision making, etc.)
- Met with the Shepherding Council on 1/8/2024 to share a summary of this report, including gauging support for a Presbytery-wide mission study. The Shepherding Council unanimously approved of the direction of the task force and will gladly receive our recommendations at a future meeting, before taking them to the Presbytery for action

## II. Hard Truths We Have Learned

Every credible source for statistical measurements (Public Religion Research Institute, [www.prrri.org](http://www.prrri.org); Pew Research Center, [www.pewresearch.org](http://www.pewresearch.org); etc.) documents significant and steady decline in mainline Protestant denominations including the Presbyterian Church (USA), with additional steady increases in the average age of adherents. There are negative trends in both worship attendance and membership rolls. The Covid-19 Pandemic accelerated previously existing downward trends in attendance and financial stewardship in congregations, as well as an increasing cultural attitude emphasizing a more consumerist, transactional ("What's in it for me?") perception of congregational participation. Congregations that might have been struggling in certain areas before the Covid-19 Pandemic now face existential threats to their future sustainability. As the Task Force has pursued our research and learning, we are led to ask, "How many congregations in the Presbytery are consistently running deficit and potentially unsustainable ministry funding patterns (budgets)?" Our educated guess is that number may approach a hefty majority.

These factors prompt us to ask, "Is this a matter of the church meeting your needs, or is it about joining in the mission of God's people to meet the world's needs?" How should the community of Presbyterians practicing their faith on Long Island plan to be the body of Christ for the remainder of the 2020's? Are we hearing from the Lord a beckoning to move beyond the pervasive culture of fear and scarcity and toward the leap of faith in God's provision to help us reclaim the church's mission and vision for the world Christ came to save?

## III. Are We a Matthew 25 Presbytery?

*"I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance and that you are now doing more than you did at first."* Revelation 2:2 NIV

Am I my brother's keeper? Am I my sister's shoulder? Who are we? What is our relationship with God and with others? What and where is our place in the world, on Long Island, as God's body? As a collective of 55 churches, NCDs, and fellowships, what is our mission? We choose to be Presbyterians; what defines us? Drives us? Moves us? Commits us?

Who are we? Are we the peacemakers, who seek the peace of Christ in our relations with one another, uplifting and partnering with sister churches as a presbytery to engage in congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty?

What is our relationship with God and others? We are called to live justly, to be clothed with mercy, and to walk in humility beside God, for we are His hands, feet, eyes, ears, mind, and heart. We are to be Christ's imitators; we are to *"faith it"* until we make it" into God's kingdom.

What and where is our place in the world, on Long Island? We are one of 95 mid-councils in the PCUSA that identifies as a Matthew 25 presbytery; we have 6 identified Matthew 25 churches in our Presbytery: Community Presbyterian (Malverne), First Presbyterian of Southold, Montauk Community, Setauket, Westminster United, and Yaphank. 7 additional churches have food pantries, Babylon, Brentwood, Center Moriches, East Hampton Springs, Roosevelt, Selden, West Islip, along with some of our other churches that donate to local food banks in their communities. Yaphank uses their manse to house veterans, while Setauket has the Open Door Exchange furniture bank, and Baldwin uses their manse as home to a Burmese family of four with the two children attending local schools.

We are here for such a time as this. But we cannot fully embrace Matthew 25 without *all of us* putting the energy and time into creating vital congregations that are alive and that recognize the reality that God's beloved community is one of diversity and differences. We cannot be a Matthew 25 presbytery without embracing the poor, not as being "the other" but being a part of who we are in Christ Jesus. We cannot be a Matthew 25 body of believers without standing in the breach for the oppressed, the denied, those whose civil rights and fair treatment are withheld. We cannot remain silent in the face of the raised, lunatic, and ungodly voices of hate and exclusion that denounce anything that is not like them. We turn our backs on God when we are mute in the face of hateful, dehumanizing rhetoric, where words like "vermin" and "replacement theory" no longer have the sting of death but become acceptable ideas and normal language. We turn our backs on God when we deny everyone the right to vote or when we let stand the notion that there is only one way, a binary way, that we are to see ourselves and others.

We must be that solid three-legged stool that supports building a vital community of believers who are active members in dismantling structural racism and eradicating systemic poverty. We cannot be a vital Church without the love of God shed abroad in our hearts that compels us to love all of God's people, who are made in His image. We only need to look in the mirror and see whom the Lord loves unconditionally despite the flaws, misshapen intentions, and weak faith we see looking back at us. How can we reconcile the justice and fairness we demand for ourselves if we deny others the same? We cannot seek to raise people out of poverty without recognizing and doing something about the system that erects obstacles and barriers hindering their upward mobility and dignity. We cannot expect a person to pull themselves up by their bootstraps when they don't have boots. We cannot eradicate structural racism and white supremacy without acknowledging that race is a social construct, created to perpetuate one group to be highly favored over others. Nor can we be misled and bamboozled into thinking that being poor is an inherent condition for brown and black people. Racism and white supremacy have assigned color as the arbiter of who is valued and who is not, who gets the choice pickins' from the table, and more importantly, who sits at the table. Are we a solid three-legged stool or a pulverizing pew of indifference and fear?

It takes our entire Presbyterian village to engage in revitalizing our worshiping communities, eradicating poverty, and dismantling the chokehold racism and white supremacy have on our society, our Island. So, what does it mean for the Presbytery to commit to Matthew 25 as a Presbytery? What has been the experience of the congregations in our Presbytery that have identified as doing Matthew 25 work, and what can we learn from them? What could encourage and support more congregations in making a Matthew 25 commitment?

God accuses us of robbing Him when we do not cheerfully and willingly give our tithes and offerings. We may tithe and give even more than a tenth, but what about our offerings? We rob God of our offerings when we fail to give our time, talents, gifts, and bodes: when we choose to be pew warmers and not people of action; when we spend time complaining about the church and not being the church; when we hold on tight to what we consider precious while regarding God's earth as our dumping ground to do with it as we wish; when we fail to love the person who is not part of our circle and turn our heads and noses up at the ones who are dirty,



tattered, and torn by life circumstances. We rob God when we refuse to be stewards of the blessings He gives us: we may not be able to run a marathon, but we can hand out cups of water to those who run; we may not have the wherewithal to visit those in hospitals, nursing homes, but we can send a personal note or card, or make a short phone call and pray with the person. We may not have the money to contribute to the food pantry, but we have the hands and feet to serve those who visit the pantry. We all can do something as God's stewards of His bounty to each of us. God is a God of abundance not of scarcity. He demands we give our all to Him for He gives us out of His abundance daily. A closed fist cannot give life nor hold on to anything for long, but an open hand welcomes gifts of hope, love, sharing, while it gives away as much as it receives; there is never lack in God's kingdom for God looks beyond our faults and supplies our needs.

We have not finished the race. We ALL can be the faithful children, whom God has called us to be by doing more and living into a life of service and a lifestyle of greater stewardship. For stewardship *is* revitalizing our congregations, dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty. We can finish the work God has ordained for us, the Presbytery of Long Island, to do as His body. For the Lord speaks to us: "*Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have found your deeds unfinished in the sight of My God. Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast and repent.*" Revelation 3:2-3 NIV

So, let's face the mirror of truth and reality, and ask, "Mirror, mirror, on the wall, who are we after all?"

#### IV. Anticipated Next Step

We will be meeting and talking with potential facilitators for a Presbytery-wide mission study in order to make a recommendation to the Shepherding Council that includes a proposed scale, scope, budget, and timeline. Our intention is to bring that to the Presbytery at the April meeting for action.

Submitted by the members of the Foundations & Horizons Task Force:

Rev. Peter Kelley

Commissioned Ruling Elder Magalene McClarrin

Rev. Matthew Means

Elder Steve Bodden

Elder Luci Duckson-Bramble

Staff: Kate Jones Calone, Charlene Apsel