

THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
September 19, 2020

FOR PRESBYTERY ACTION:

1. That the Presbytery **EXAMINE** Stephen Scovell, a candidate under care of Newton Presbytery, for ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament, and that pending the **APPROVAL** of such examination, **REQUEST** that the Presbytery of Newton ordain Mr. Scovell to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament and upon his ordination, **DISMISS** him to PSNE; and further, that upon his dismissal by the Presbytery of Newton, the Rev. Stephen Scovell be enrolled as a member of PSNE. His statement of faith is included as Ref. H-1.

2. That the Presbytery **APPROVE** the call of the First Presbyterian Church of Milford to the Rev. Stephen Scovell as Pastor, should the way be clear, subject to the following terms of call:

Cash salary	\$ 25,000
Housing allowance	\$ 15,000
SECA	\$ 3,773.58
TOTAL EFFECTIVE SALARY:	\$ 43,773.58
Accountable Reimbursements	\$ 2,000
TOTAL COMPENSATION	\$ 45,773.58

3. That the Presbytery **EXAMINE** the Rev. Gregory Penza for membership and, pending **APPROVAL** of his examination, **RECEIVE** him as a member of PSNE upon his dismissal by the Presbytery of Philadelphia. His statement of faith is included as Ref. H-2.

4. That the Presbytery **APPROVE** the call of the First Presbyterian Church of Fairfield to the Rev. Gregory Penza as Pastor, subject to the following terms of call:

Cash salary	\$ 80,000
Housing allowance	\$ 24,000
TOTAL EFFECTIVE SALARY:	\$ 104,000
Benefits Plan Dues	\$ 38,480
Accountable Reimbursements	\$ 4,200
Social Security	\$ 7,956
TOTAL COMPENSATION	\$ 154,636

5. That the Presbytery **EXAMINE** the Rev. Raymond Scott Herr for membership and, pending **APPROVAL** of his examination, **RECEIVE** him as a member of PSNE upon his dismission by the Presbytery of Plains and Peaks. His statement of faith is included as Ref. H-3.

6. That the Presbytery **APPROVE** the call of the First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan to the Rev. Raymond Scott Herr as Pastor, subject to the following terms of call:

Cash salary	\$ 96,000
Housing allowance	\$ 48,000
TOTAL EFFECTIVE SALARY:	\$ 144,000
Benefit Plan Dues	\$ 53,280
Accountable Reimbursements	\$ 12,000
Social Security	\$ 11,016
TOTAL COMPENSATION	\$ 220,296

7. That the Presbytery **EXAMINE** the Rev. Erin Keys for membership and, pending **APPROVAL** of her examination, **RECEIVE** her as a member of PSNE upon her dismission by National Capital Presbytery.

8. That the Presbytery **EXAMINE** the Rev. Mark Montgomery (United Church of Christ) for *temporary* membership and, pending **APPROVAL** of his examination, **RECEIVE** him as a temporary member of PSNE for the duration of his service as the Interim Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich. His statement of faith is included as Ref. H-4.

9. That the Presbytery **CONCUR** in the invitation of the First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich to the Rev. Mark Montgomery to serve as Interim Pastor, subject to the following terms:

Cash salary	\$ 125,000
Housing allowance	\$ 30,000
TOTAL EFFECTIVE SALARY:	\$155,000
Benefits Plan Dues	\$ 49,600
Social Security	\$ 10,785
Continuing Ed	\$ 1,000
Travel	\$ 2,500
Professional Expenses	\$ 4,000
Other	\$ 2,000
TOTAL COMPENSATION	\$224,885

10. That the Presbytery **EXAMINE** the Rev. Melodie Long for membership and, pending **APPROVAL** of her examination, **RECEIVE** her as a member of PSNE upon her dismissal by the Presbytery of Winnebago. Her statement of faith is included as Ref. H-5.

11. That the Presbytery **CONCUR** in the invitation of the Crossroads Presbyterian Church of Waterford to the Rev. Melodie Long to serve as Interim Pastor, subject to the following terms:

Cash salary	\$ 43,800
Housing allowance	\$ 28,866
Medical deductible	\$ 1,575
Pastoral SS offset	\$ 5,635
Pastor car allowance	\$ 1,000
TOTAL EFFECTIVE SALARY:	\$80,876
Pension Benefits	\$ 8,896
Medical Benefits	\$20,219
Continuing Ed	\$ 1,100
TOTAL COMPENSATION	\$111,091

12. That the Presbytery **EXAMINE** the Rev. Mieke Vandersall for membership and, pending **APPROVAL** of her examination, **RECEIVE** her as a member at large of PSNE upon her dismissal by the Presbytery of New York City. Her statement of faith is included as Ref. H-6.

13. That the Presbytery **EXAMINE** the Rev. Anne Weirich for membership and, pending **APPROVAL** of her examination, **RECEIVE** her as a member at large of PSNE upon her dismissal by the Presbytery of Muskingum Valley. Her statement of faith is included as Ref. H-7.

14. That the Presbytery **EXAMINE** the Rev. Richard Crocker for membership and, pending **APPROVAL** of his examination, **RECEIVE** him as an Honorably Retired member of PSNE upon his dismissal by the Presbytery of Northern New England. His statement of faith is included as Ref. H-8.

15. That the Presbytery **APPROVE** the dissolution agreement between the Rev. James Mahan and Turn of River church and **DISSOLVE** the pastoral relationship between Rev. Mahan and TOR, effective September 15, 2020.

With great regret, the Session of the Turn of River Presbyterian Church voted on July 27, 2020 to request that the PSNE work with the Rev. Jim Mahan to bring his call to serve as Pastor to the Congregation to a close. This is after many years of faithful service, and with regret as the Rev. Mahan's health has declined significantly.

A letter representing the agreement of the three parties to the call: the Rev. Mahan, the Congregation and the Presbytery, will be finalized prior to September 15.

16. The Committee **PLACES IN NOMINATION** the Rev. Susan Pfeil for election to the Sexual Misconduct Response Team for 2020-2021. (Ms. Pfeil's name was inadvertently omitted from the Committee's report in May.)

17. That the Presbytery **AMEND** the "Guidelines for Ministerial Relief Fund Monies" as follows: in the first paragraph, addressing eligibility to receive funds, following the words "continuing members," insert the text ", inquirers, or candidates". The purpose of this change is to allow relief funds to be used to meet the needs of the presbytery's inquirers and candidates, as well as minister members.

FOR PRESBTYERY INFORMATION

1. Approved the Rev. Joan Priest as moderator for Turn of River Church effective immediately.
2. Approved the First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich to form a Pastor Nominating Committee.
3. Dissolved the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Kathryn Laird and the First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan.
4. Received Covenants of Closures for the Reverends Tom Groome (Fairfield First), Kathryn Laird (New Canaan), Carol Merritt (New Canaan) and Jason Santalucia (St. Andrew's).
5. Conducted exit interviews with the Reverends Tom Groome (Fairfield First), Kathryn Laird (New Canaan), and Carol Merritt (New Canaan).
6. Granted permission to the Rev. Gregory Keosaian, a member of Palisades Presbytery, to labor within the bounds of PSNE from August 1, 2020, through July 31, 2021.
7. Approved the stated supply position for Valley Presbyterian church.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Candace Whitman, co-chair

Elder Clare Schimpf, co-chair