

185th Stated Meeting
of the Presbytery of Southern New England
Zoom Teleconference
May 12, 2021

The Presbytery of Southern New England of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) held a Stated Meeting via Zoom teleconference on May 12, 2021, as authorized by the PSNE Bylaws, Section 16, “Electronic Meetings.”

The Presbytery was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by the Moderator, Elder Stephen Hart, who led the assembly in prayer.

QUORUM

A **QUORUM** was present. The Stated Clerk announced that the roll for this meeting was being formed through online pre-registration for the meeting.

ELECTRONIC MEETING ORIENTATION

The moderator recognized Erika Plank Hagan, the Presbytery Communicator and facilitator for this meeting, who reviewed the procedures for electronic meetings.

ATTENDANCE Ministers- 49
 Elders- 26
 75

MINISTERS PRESENT

As established by pre-registration, the following minister members were present:

Susan Asher	Shelley Donaldson	Dana Lindsley
Thelma Burgonio-Watson	Eileen Epperson	Melodie Long
Jocelyn Cadwallader	Jan Hawkins	Laurie McKnight
Andre Castillo	Thomas Hawkins	Nancy McLaren
Christine Caton	Scott Herr	Tracy Mehr-Muska
Stephen Clark	Byeta Hoover-Mulvany	John Merz
Terrlyn Curry Avery	Jessica Jones	Mark Montgomery
Alonso Dacunha	Ik Tae Kim	Patrick Notley
Richard Dannenfelser	Maria LaSala	Susan Olson

Deborah Packard	Steve Scovell	Shannan Vance-Ocampo
Jenny Peek	Cass Shaw	Mieke Vandersall
Susan Pfeil	Shanell T. Smith	Anne Weirich
Joan Priest	Christopher Tate	Kevin White
Rich Reifsnyder	Mary Thies	Candace Whitman
Paulo Ribeiro	Susan Trucksess	Heather Wright
John Sandel	Frances Unsell	
Jason Santalucia	David Van Dyke	

MINISTERS EXCUSED

The following minister members were excused: Greg Doll, Brandi Drake, Marilyn McNaughton, Samuel A. Schreiner III, and Lin Grace Rohr.

ELDER COMMISSIONERS

The following Elders represented the Churches of the Presbytery:

Ashaway: Babcock	
Barrington	
Brookfield: Valley	Margaret Das, Jill Heidel
Cumberland	Rick Gorvett, Lillie Koney
Darien: Noroton	
Farifield: First	
Fall River: Calvary	
Granby: Pioneer Valley	
Greenwich: First	Lori Niehaus, Charlene Roberson
Groton: St. Andrew	Jean DeGrooth
Hamden: New Haven Korean	
Hartford: First	Susan Labins
Milford: United	Nadine Logan
New Canaan: First	Armin Thies
New Haven: Connecticut Korean	
New Haven: First	James Cramer, Timothy McCloskey, Beth Aura Miller
Providence	Monica Vander Baan

Springfield: Martin Luther King	Rachelle Lee
Stamford: First	Christina McIntyre
Stamford: Turn of River	Fred Roberg
Warwick: Greenwood	Beth Fish
Warwick: Woodbury	A. Douglas Ray
Waterford: Crossroads	Jane Adams
West Hartford: Westminster	Nicole Aronson, Barbara Riihimaki
Westerly: Dunn's Corners	
Wilton	

PRESBYTERY ROUNDTABLE

The following Elder members and officers from the Presbytery Roundtable were present: Lisa Baker, Stephen Hart, Richard Hasbany, and Clare Schimpf.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Erika Plank Hagan, the Presbytery Communicator, was present, and served as the meeting facilitator.

VISITORS

Six (6) visitors registered for the meeting: Katia Dacunha, Dale Green, Kirk Louis, Courtney Steininger, Mary Webber, and Grace Woodward.

CHURCHES WITHOUT REPRESENTATION

Ten (10) Churches were without Elder Commissioner representation.

ADOPTION OF THE DOCKET

The Presbytery **VOTED** to adopt the docket as presented by the Stated Clerk.

ENROLLMENT AND INTRODUCTIONS

In accordance with the Presbytery's action in the consent motion below, the following ministers were seated as Corresponding Members:

The Rev. David A. Baer – Presbytery of Northeast New Jersey

The Rev. Dallas Ann Bradel – Presbytery of Northern New England

The Rev. Dr. SanDawna Gorman Ashley – Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys

The Rev. Christine Johnson Foster – National Capital Presbytery

The Rev. Robert Rodriguez – Disciples of Christ

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF LAND

The Rev. Anne Weirich (HR) acknowledged the Mashpee Wampanaug people, the original inhabitants of the land where she lives, on Cape Cod.

CONSENT MOTION

The Stated Clerk presented the consent motion, and the Presbytery **VOTED:**

- That the Presbytery grant excuses from attendance at the 185th Stated Meeting to those needing the same, but that the Presbytery suspend the reading of their names.
 - That the Presbytery grant excuses for early departures from the 185th Stated Meeting for those requesting the same by notifying the clerk in a timely manner by any means practicable, but that the Presbytery suspend the reading of their names. • That the Presbytery seat as Corresponding Members those ministers for whom a request is made at the beginning of the meeting.
 - That the Presbytery approve the minutes of the 184th Stated Meeting held on February 6, 2021 (action item #1 in the Clerk's Report).
 - That the Presbytery adopt the 2021-2022 Equalization Report provided as Ref. B-1 (action item #2 in the Clerk's Report).
 - That the Presbytery spread upon the minutes the report of the Treasurer (marked Ref. C, with numbered attachments, in the materials for this meeting).
 - That the Presbytery approve the 2021 Annual Terms of Compensation for Parish Clergy Report (marked Ref. H-5 in the materials for this meeting).
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Rev. B-1

**CLERK'S EQUALIZATION REPORT
May 12, 2021**

PIN Church	May 2020-2021 Commissioners	Active Members	PSNE Bylaws 2.2	Additional Comm.	May 2020-2021 Commissioners
4620 Ashaway: Babcock	4	49	2	1	3
1274 Barrington	4	72	2	1	3
10562 Brookfield: Valley	4	121	2	0	2
10027 Cumberland: Calvin	4	114	2	0	2
4581 Darien: Noroton	4	1524	3	1	4
4574 Fairfield: First	3	315	2	1	3
1779 Fall River: Calvary	3	26	2	1	3
4578 Granby: First	3	36	2	1	3
4576 Greenwich: First	3	781	2	1	3
3716 Groton: St. Andrew	3	86	2	1	3
10645 Hamden: New Haven Korean	3	307	2	1	3
4577 Hartford: First	3	91	2	1	3
4579 Milford: United	3	54	2	1	3
3719 New Canaan: First	3	385	2	1	3
10985 New Haven: Connecticut Korean	3	48	2	1	3
4580 New Haven: First	3	203	2	1	3
10939 Providence	3	137	2	1	3
10530 Springfield: MLK Jr. Community	3	40	2	1	3
4583 Stamford: First	3	445	2	1	3
4586 Stamford: Turn of River	3	25	2	1	3
4609 Warwick: Greenwood	3	304	2	1	3
4607 Warwick: Woodbury Union	3	99	2	1	3
9427 Waterford: Crossroads	3	75	2	1	3
4585 West Hartford: Westminster	3	262	2	1	3
4618 Westerly: Dunn's Corners	3	282	2	1	3
960 Wilton	3	275	2	1	3
Total	83	6156	53	24	77
Average minister attendance, May 2020-March 2021		52.5			
Average elder attendance, May 2020-March 2021		28.75			
Difference		23.75			
Additional allocations for May 2021-March 2022		24			

Note: The Bylaws of the Presbytery of Southern New England provide as follows (Section 2.2):

Each church which is a member of Presbytery shall be entitled to be represented in Presbytery by two (2) ruling elders elected to serve as Elder Commissioners. Churches reporting a membership of 1,000 or more at the end of the prior calendar year shall be entitled to be represented in Presbytery by three (3) elected Elder Commissioners.

When the number of resident ministers entitled to vote in the presbytery is greater than the number of elders so entitled, the imbalance shall be redressed in the following manner. Each year the Stated Clerk shall invite the sessions of a number of the particular Churches of the presbytery to designate one additional elder to serve as a Commissioner, such that there is a balance of elders and ministers entitled to vote. The Stated Clerk shall issue such invitations from year to year in such a manner that all of the particular Churches of the presbytery are afforded an opportunity for additional representation with equal frequency. In determining the

number of additional elder commissioners required, the Stated Clerk may consider the attendance of minister members at meetings of the Presbytery.

**Treasurer's Report
as of 3-31-2021**

Ref. C

Presbytery of Southern New England - Statement of Financial Position			
	Balance as of	Balance as of	Difference
	12/31/2020	3/31/2021	
Assets:			
<i>Cash</i>			
Checking Account for Operating Cash	146,516.06	185,681.62	A 39,165.56
Ministerial Relief Cash	20,424.53	20,429.57	5.04
Simsbury NCD - ING Savings Account	77,883.33	-	B (77,883.33)
<i>Investments</i>			
Fidelity Investments	891,117.32	-	C (891,117.32)
New Covenant Trust	-	997,184.67	
Accounts Receivable	159,290.30	157,627.90	D (1,662.40)
Fixed Assets	4,178.72	4,178.72	-
Accumulated Depreciation	(3,679.30)	(3,679.30)	-
Total Assets	1,295,730.96	1,361,423.18	65,692.22
Liabilities:			
PPP Loan	65,662.00	65,662.00	
Total Liabilities	65,662.00	65,662.00	-
Net Assets	1,230,068.96	1,295,761.18	E 65,692.22
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	1,295,730.96	1,361,423.18	65,692.22
A) Of the balance in the Checking Account the amount shown			
in the Dedicated Accounts Report for "Total Operating Cash Dedicated Accts." is restricted.			
B) Simsbury dismissal agreement settlement designated for New Church Development.			
C) New investment brokerage account set up with Fidelity Investments.			
D) Balance at 3-31-2021 includes Dismissal Agreement Balances of PCOG, Enfield: Calvary, and Newport: First			
and Springfield: Christ.			
E) Does not include the value of Church properties or charges against them.			

**Treasurer's Report
as of 3/31/2021**

Presbytery of Southern New England - Statement of Activities							
	2021	Year to Date	Annual	YTD			
OPERATIONS	Budget	Actual	Budget Bal.	25%			
Income							
General Mission	50,000.00	12,563.00	37,437.00	25%			
General Mission - prior year	0.00	0.00	0.00				
Interest on Operating Cash	0.00	12.38	12.38				
Presbytery Per Capita	234,210.00	55,313.95	178,896.05	24%			
Presbytery Per Capita Withheld Income	(15,000.00)						
GA/Synod Per Capita paid for churches that withhold	(6,000.00)						
Donations	0.00	483.69	483.69				
Total Income	263,210.00	68,373.02	216,829.12	26%			
Expense							
Ministries of the Presbytery:							
PIM	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00	100%			
Brazilian Fellowship	20,000.00	5,000.01	14,999.99	25%			
Social Justice	750.00	0.00	750.00	0%			
NEXT Church Support	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	0%			
New Initiatives/Emerging Ministries	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	0%			
Committees:							
Committee on Ministry	8,000.00	192.10	7,807.90	2%			
Committee on Preparation	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00	0%			
Nominations	200.00	0.00	200.00	0%			
Personnel	500.00	0.00	500.00	0%			
Roundtable	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	0%			
Trustees	10,300.00	2,343.09	7,956.91	23%			
Personnel:							
GP Salary & Housing w/ med deduct & SECA	85,318.00	22,701.50	62,616.50	27%			
GP BOP	31,358.00	7,869.84	23,488.16	25%			
Stated Clerk Salary	20,400.00	5,492.22	14,907.78	27%			
Stated Clerk - Additional service if needed	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	0%			
Chaplain to the Clergy	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	0%			
Communications Manager	20,992.00	5,651.63	15,340.37	27%			
Financial Manager	26,520.00	7,140.00	19,380.00	27%			
Treasurer - stipend	2,000.00	500.00	1,500.00	25%			
Staff & Office Operations:							
GP Auto/Professional Expense	6,000.00	915.38	5,084.62	15%			
GP Continuing Education	3,000.00	3,000.00	0.00	100%			
2021 GP General Assembly Expense	1,200.00	0.00	1,200.00	0%			
Stated Clerk Auto/Professional Expense	4,500.00	0.00	4,500.00	0%			
2021 Stated Clerk General Assembly Exp.	1,200.00	0.00	4,500.00	0%			
2020 GA Travel (overture advocate)	750.00	0.00	750.00	0%			
Office Operations	6,000.00	2,000.41	3,999.59	33%			
Equip. Replacement Reserve	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00	0%			
Total Expense	279,488.00	72,806.18	188,231.83	26%			
Net Income/Expense		(4,433.16)					
PER CAPITA PASS-THRU							
Designated Income:							
GA Per Capita		21,542.36					
Synod Per Capita		6,727.70					
Total Designated Income		28,270.06					
Designated Expense:							
GA Per Capita		0.00					
Synod Per Capita		25,304.17					
Total Designated Expense		25,304.17					
Net Per Capita Pass-Thru		2,965.89					
MISSION PASS-THRU							
GA General Mission	3,006.78		102,079.50	Total Revenues for the year			
Synod General Mission	879.64						
GA Special Mission	1,550.00		103,546.77	Total Expenditures for the year			
Synod Special Mission	0.00						
Total Mission Pass-thru	5,436.42		(1,467.27)	Net Gain/Loss			

Ref. C-2

*This is a donation from the Tate Foundation for Campus Ministry. To be distributed around our Presbytery.

These funds have been was moved into the New Covenant Investment Account. In future reports they will show on the Investment Summary Report.

Ref. C-3

*Fidelity & ING Accounts were transferred to New Covenant Investment Account

CHURCH GIVING AS OF 3/31/2021						
		PRESBYTERY	PRESBYTERY	PRESBYTERY	PRESBYTERY	PRESBYTERY
		GENERAL MISSION	GENERAL MISSION	PER CAPITA DUE	PER CAPITA	PER CAPITA
PIN#	CHURCH	YEARLY PLEDGE	RECEIVED TO DATE	MONTHLY	DUE TO DATE	RECEIVED TO DATE
4620	Ashaway: Babcock	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 151.33	\$ 453.99	\$ 453.99
1274	Barrington	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 234.72	\$ 704.16	\$ 704.16
10562	Brookfield: Valley	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 376.78	\$ 1,130.34	\$ 1,130.34
10027	Cumberland: Calvin	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 355.16	\$ 1,065.48	\$ 370.00
4581	Darien: Noroton	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,555.20	\$ 13,665.60	\$ 13,665.60
4574	Fairfield: First	\$ -	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 948.11	\$ 2,844.33	\$ 2,844.33
1779	Fall River: Calvary	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 83.39	\$ 250.17	\$ 250.17
4578	Granby: First	\$ -	\$ 350.00	\$ 111.18	\$ 333.54	\$ 333.54
4576	Greenwich: First	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,476.80	\$ 7,430.40	\$ 7,430.40
3716	Groton: St. Andrews	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 305.74	\$ 917.22	\$ 917.22
10645	Hamden: Korean	\$ -	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 960.46	\$ 2,881.38	\$ 2,881.38
4577	Hartford: First	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 284.13	\$ 852.39	\$ 852.39
4579	Milford: United	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.74	\$ 602.22	\$ 335.46
3719	New Canaan: First	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,581.20	\$ 4,743.60	\$ 4,743.60
10985	New Haven: Korean	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 160.60	\$ 481.80	\$ 1,927.14
4580	New Haven: First	\$ -	\$ 3,375.00	\$ 626.92	\$ 1,880.76	\$ 7,881.00
10939	Providence	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 410.75	\$ 1,232.25	\$ 1,232.25
10530	Springfield: MLK	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 120.45	\$ 361.35	\$ 361.35
4583	Stamford: First	\$ -	\$ 4,245.00	\$ 1,423.70	\$ 4,271.10	\$ 4,271.10
4586	Stamford: TOR	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 126.63	\$ 379.89	\$ 379.89
4609	Warwick:Greenwood	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 945.01	\$ 2,835.03	\$ 37.00
4607	Warwick: Woodbury	\$ -	\$ 630.00	\$ 315.01	\$ 945.03	\$ 945.03
9427	Waterford:Crssrds	\$ -	\$ 1,619.27	\$ 234.72	\$ 704.16	\$ 704.16
4585	West Htfd:West	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 827.66	\$ 2,482.98	\$ 2,482.98
4618	Westerly:Dunns	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 861.63	\$ 2,584.89	\$ 2,584.89
960	Wilton	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 870.90	\$ 2,612.70	\$ 2,612.70
					\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL		\$ -	\$ 15,269.27	\$ 19,548.92	\$ 58,646.76	\$ 62,332.07

Ref. H-5
Committee on Ministry
May 12, 2021

Town/Church	Name	Position	Membership	Units/Hours	Sabbatical	Salary	SECA Employer	Housing/Utility/Manse	Contributions	Other allowances	Auto	Con Ed	Prof. Exp.	Other Exp.	SECA	Group Plan	Other/Bo-
Babcock: Ashaway	Hoover-Mulvany	Supply	57	22		\$15,505									\$2,470	\$1,000	
Barrington	Notley	Pastor	72 FT		2016	\$33,843	\$18,000	\$3,400	\$800	\$700	\$4,000				\$5,940		
Brookfield: Valley	Santaluca	Stated Supp	121	20		\$17,500	\$42,000	\$1,800	\$3,000	\$1,500					\$2,678		
Cumberland: Calvin	White	Pastor	116 FT		2025	- report missing -											
Darien: Norton	Doll	Pastor	1,524 FT			\$140,053	\$42,016			\$3,000	\$3,000						
Darien: Norton	Drake	Associate	1,524 FT			\$99,285	\$36,000				\$3,000				\$10,349		
Darien: Norton	Vacant	Associate	1,524 FT														
Grandy	Vacant		36														
Fairfield	Penza	Pastor	347 FT		2026	\$80,000	\$24,000								\$4,200	\$7,956	
Fall River: Calway	Saber-Assad	CRE	25	12		\$12,000	\$3,600										
Greenwich	Montgomery	Interim	825 FT			\$125,000	\$30,000			\$2,500	\$1,000	\$4,000	\$2,000	\$11,100			
Greenwich	Castillo	Associate	825 FT		2024	\$49,000	\$45,000			\$1,500	\$2,000	\$2,300	\$3,200	\$7,200			
Groton: St. Andrew	Vacant	Pastor	99														
Hamden: NH Korean	Kim, Dohoon	Pastor	307 FT			\$36,720	\$18,870	\$5,193	\$5,508					\$5,355			
Hardford: First	McLaren, Nancy	Pastor	105 FT		2025	\$70,000				\$1,000			\$4,000	\$5,355			
Hyannis	Dacunha	Pastor	35			\$25,000	\$15,000							\$3,774	\$998		
Milford: United	Scovell	Supply	54	25	2026	\$96,000	\$48,000			\$4,000	\$3,600	\$3,000	\$400	\$11,016			
New Canaan	Herr	Pastor	568 FT														
New Canaan	Vacant	Associate	568														
New Haven: 1 st	Cadwallader	Pastor	203 FT			\$61,996	\$18,599			\$250	\$2,500	\$1,250		\$6,166	\$1,118		
New Haven: CT Korean	Kim, Iktae	Pastor	60	24		\$9,050	\$26,992			\$1,500	\$1,000			\$5,931			
Providence	Packard	Interim	129														
Springfield: MLK	Curry Avery	Supply	40			\$55,202											
Stamford: 1 st	Van Dyke	Pastor	445 FT		2021	\$55,202	\$35,000	\$26,000				\$19,000		\$8,966			
Stamford: 1 st	Donaldson	Associate	445 FT		2024	\$22,102	\$40,600	\$12,000					\$4,000	\$5,715			
Stamford: TOR	Vacant	Pastor	25														
Warwick: Woodbury	DeMarco	Pastor	99	27	2024	\$30,766	\$20,600			\$500	\$1,000			\$3,930			
Warwick: Greenwood	Clark	Pastor	304 FT		2021	\$57,395	\$23,560		\$1,000	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$900		\$6,706	\$1,294		
Waterford: Crossroads	Long	Interim	76 FT			\$43,800	\$28,866			\$1,000	\$1,100			\$5,635	\$1,575		
Westley	Eberly	Pastor	274 FT		2021	\$30,741	\$49,873		\$2,400	\$1,500	\$2,000						
W. Hartford: Westminister	Emery	Pastor	268 FT		2022	\$66,588	\$30,000	\$1,449		\$3,000	\$3,000		\$3,000	\$3,000			
White	White	Pastor	277 FT		2019	\$63,000	\$36,000	\$6,000	\$2,124	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$3,500	\$1,200	\$9,700	\$1,268	\$1,200	

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, the chair, the Rev. Chris Tate, **PLACED IN NOMINATION** the Rev. Jocelyn Cadwallader for election as Moderator, and Elder Nicole Aronson (West Hartford: Westminster) for election as Vice Moderator. There were no nominations from the floor. Upon a motion properly made and seconded, the Presbytery **VOTED** to **CLOSE NOMINATIONS** and **ELECT** the slate presented by the Nominating Committee.

WORSHIP

The assembly was led in worship by the General Presbyter, the Rev. Shannan Vance-Ocampo. The Presbytery installed Jocelyn (J. C.) Cadwallader as Moderator and Nicole Aronson as Vice Moderator, with the outgoing Moderator, Elder Stephen Hart (Stamford: First) propounding the constitutional questions. The Stated Clerk offered the Necrology Report and led the assembly in a prayer of thanksgiving for these colleagues who died since the last Annual Meeting:

Ministers of Word and Sacrament: the Rev. Dr. Jeffrey C. Wood.

Ruling Elders:

Joanne Anderson (New Haven: First)

Robert Hoch (Wilton)

Jack Blessing (Wilton)

Barbara Hutton (West Hartford: Westminster)

Joseph B. Brearley (Ashaway: Babcock)

Irene Lagergren (Barrington)

Charlotte Rush Brown (New Canaan: First)

Carole Lang (Groton: St. Andrew)

Kay E. Crider (Ashaway: Babcock)

Mattie Hatcher Long (New Haven: First)

Myrle Lila Smith Dean (Warwick: Greenwood
Community)

Joan Schaefer (Barrington)

Bernita Sundquist (West Hartford:

Jack Fix (Groton: St. Andrew)

Westminster)

Howard Greene (New Canaan: First)

Gary VanDyke (Barrington)

Kathryn Haigh (Fairfield)

Following the conclusion of worship, the newly installed Moderator, the Rev. Jocelyn Cadwallader, assumed the chair.

GREETINGS FROM THE SYNOD LEADER

The Rev. Dr. SanDawna Ashley, the Synod Leader, brought greetings from the Synod of the

Northeast. She reflected upon the mission statement of the Presbytery of Southern New England: “Empowering congregations and individuals to share the good news of Jesus Christ at home and throughout the world.” She noted the call of the church to live the faith of the church in the world in a way that draws others to God, and she gave thanks for the ministry of the Presbytery in doing just this—particularly the Presbytery’s commitment to oppose systemic racism and inequality. She spoke about the work of the Synod in supporting the work of its presbyteries, and providing space for the cross-pollination of ideas between them. She noted the Synod’s work through the Early Ministry Institute to support those in their first years in ministry. She reaffirmed the Synod’s work through the New Way Forward, to identify and bring forward those who had not been invited to share their gifts for ministry.

GREETINGS FROM MLK COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Rev. Dr. Terrlyn Curry Avery, the pastor of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Community Presbyterian Church of Springfield, brought greetings from that congregation. She spoke about the arson attack on the church’s building in December, and invited members of the assembly to imagine hearing the news of this attack, and experiencing the support of the larger community. She also spoke about the Department of Justice’s decision to charge the arsonist with a hate crime, highlighting the racial motivations behind this crime, and the sense of threat felt by members of the congregation, the majority of whom are African American, underscored by the conviction of former police officer Derek Chauvin for the murder of George Floyd. She invited members of the assembly to situate themselves with respect to the call for social justice present in the gospel. Dr. Curry Avery challenged the assembly with the question, “Who do you want to be in your daily life as it relates to racial reconciliation, equity, and justice? ... As children of God, you want to manifest the love of Jesus Christ.”

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

The Rev. Joan Priest, the co-chair of the Committee, delivered their report. She presented Mr. Kirk Louis, a member of the Providence Presbyterian Church and a student of Union Presbyterian Seminary in Charlotte, to be examined for candidacy. (He is also the spouse of the Rev. Shavon Starling-Louis, a former member of PSNE.) Mr. Louis made an introductory statement about his faith and sense of call to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament, after which the floor was opened for questions.

Following a period of examination, and upon a motion properly made and seconded, the Presbytery **VOTED** to **ARREST** the examination. Mr. Louis excused himself to the Zoom waiting room. Upon the

recommendation of the Committee, the Presbytery **VOTED** to **RECEIVE** Mr. Louis as a candidate for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament. Mr. Louis was welcomed back into the meeting, and the Moderator led the assembly in a service of reception, which concluded with a scriptural charge and prayer.

RECESS

The Presbytery observed a recess.

REPORT OF THE ROUNDTABLE

Elder Stephen Hart (Stamford: First), a member of the Roundtable, **PLACED IN NOMINATION** the Rev. Chris Tate to serve as chair of the Nominating Committee for 2021-2022. There were no nominations from the floor. The Presbytery **VOTED** to **CLOSE THE NOMINATIONS**, thereby **ELECTING** Mr. Tate.

REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK

The Rev. David Baer, the Stated Clerk, reported the following as information.

1. The *Book of Order* requires that the stated clerk report the roster of those members of the permanent judicial commission whose terms have expired within the past six years annually to the council (D-5.0206b). These members are listed below, with their class years:
 - Rev. Julie Emery (2017)
 - Rev. Eileen Epperson (2017)
 - Elder Robin Mahan (2019)
 - Rev. David Van Dyke (2019)
 - Rev. William Goettler (2021)
 - Rev. Patrick Notley (2021)
2. The Clerk of Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich reported that, as ordered by the Permanent Judicial Commission, on December 15, 2020, she read into the minutes the full Decision and Order of the Permanent Judicial Commission read before this Presbytery on February 6, 2021. The minutes of the Presbytery will accordingly reflect that the orders of the Permanent Judicial Commission in this matter have been completely carried out.

(The recommendations for Presbytery action were approved as part of the Consent Motion at the beginning of the meeting.)

REPORT OF THE GENERAL PRESBYTER

The Rev. Shannan Vance-Ocampo expressed gratitude to those committee members and chairs ending their term of service on the Presbytery's committees, especially during a very challenging year of remote meetings, as well as the outgoing Moderator, Elder Stephen Hart.

Ms. Vance-Ocampo spoke about taking a class offered by Susan Beaumont, entitled, "How to Lead When You Don't Know Where You're Going." She read a portion of Ms. Beaumont's remarks about "liminality," defined as "a quality of ambiguity or disorientation that occurs in transitory situations or spaces when a person or a group of people is betwixt and between something that has ended, and a new situation has not yet begun." Ms. Vance-Ocampo noted the difficulties for the Presbytery and its churches, and the losses suffered throughout the nation and the world, during the last year and a half, and the attendant sorrow. She also noted the creativity and innovation in our ministry during this time, emphasizing that God is "calling us to go forwards." We are not alone, she insisted, but accompanied by one another, part of not just the Presbytery and the Presbyterian Church, but the church universal. Nonetheless, we are in a liminal space!

Ms. Vance-Ocampo drew attention to the Roundtable's ongoing conversations about "what's next." She commended the portion of her written report that expresses the Roundtable's current guidance on a return to in-person gatherings around the Presbytery. In-person gatherings will serve to build up relationships, but we plan to continue to offer hybrid meetings, to increase opportunities for participation around the Presbytery. The first in-person meeting of the Presbytery (in either September or November, conditions permitting) will include an extended time of worship for remembrance, and to lay hands upon those who were ordained during the pandemic. This meeting will also include an extended time of fellowship and community building.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

The report of the Committee on Ministry was given by the Rev. Candace Whitman. Upon the recommendation of the Committee, the Presbytery VOTED to RECESS into examination teams, for the purpose of examining candidates for membership. Following a period of examination, the examination teams reported their recommendations to the Presbytery. The Presbytery **VOTED**:

- To **RECEIVE** the Rev. Dallas Bradel as a member of PSNE serving in a validated ministry upon her dismissal by the Presbytery of Northern New England. (Ms. Bradel is serving as interim senior pastor at First Church of Christ Longmeadow, a congregation of the United Church of Christ, in Longmeadow, MA.)

- To **RECEIVE** the Rev. Christine Johnson Foster as a member of PSNE serving in a validated ministry upon her dismissal by National Capital Presbytery. (Ms. Foster will be serving in a chaplaincy position at HopeHealth Hospice and Palliative Care in Rhode Island.)
- To **RECEIVE** the Rev. Robert Rodriguez, a minister in the Disciples of Christ, as a *temporary member* of PSNE for the duration of his service at Turn of River Church, in accordance with Book of Order G-2.0506.
- To **APPROVE** the terms of the temporary pastoral relationship between the Turn of River Presbyterian Church in Stamford and the Rev. Robert Rodriguez, as follows:

Effective Salary Annual cash salary (\$704 bimonthly/\$1408/month)	\$ 16,896
Housing allowance (\$513.13 bimonthly/\$1026.26/month)	\$ 12,315.12
Deferred income	\$
Manse amount (30%)	\$
Housing escrow	\$
Total Effective Salary	\$ 29,211.12
Pension (11% of effective salary)	\$
Major Medical (25%)	\$
Dental	\$
Vision	\$
Death and Disability (1%)	\$
Social Security (7.65%) (\$93.12bimonthly/\$186.24/month)	\$ 2,234.88
Total Taxes/Benefits	\$ 0
Continuing Education/Study Leave, Book Allowance, Professional Expenses combined	\$ 0
Travel allowance (\$100bimonthly/\$200/monthly)	\$ 2,400.00
Total Professional Allowances	\$ 0
Total Package	\$33,846
Vacation, Continuing Education/Study Leave (combined)	
Vacation (1 week/3months of service) Study (4 days /3 months of service)	(As Negotiated)
Service to Larger Church (meetings, mission trips, etc.)	(As Negotiated)

Ms. Whitman introduced Elder Dale Green (Groton: St. Andrew), a candidate for the Ministry of Word

and Sacrament, for examination for ordination. Mr. Green is currently serving as a chaplain at Lawrence and Memorial Hospital in Groton. Following a period of examination, the Presbytery **VOTED** to **ARREST** the examination. Mr. Green was excused to the waiting room. The Presbytery **VOTED** to **APPROVE** the examination, to **ORDAIN** Mr. Green to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament, and upon his ordination, to **ENROLL** him as a member of the Presbytery serving in a validated ministry.

Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Ministry, the Presbytery **VOTED** to **VALIDATE** the following ministries:

Last Name	First Name:	Position Title:	Employer
Ahn	Shin	Professor of Religious Studies	Pai Chai University, Korea
Carvalhaes	Claudio	Associate Professor of Worship	Union Theological Seminary, NY
Craig-Snell	Shannon	Professor of Theology	Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary
Crocco	Stephen	Library Director	Yale Divinity School
Dacunha	Rev Alonso dacunha	Pastor	Brazilian Presbyterian Fellowship
Davis	Jennifer	Director of Supervised Ministries	Yale University
Davis	Stephen	Professor of Religious Studies; Head of Pierson College	Yale University
Dinkler	Michal Beth	Associate Professor of New Testament	Yale Divinity School
Epperson	Eileen	Principal and Founder (sole proprietorship since 2000)	Spiritual Center Coaching
Goettler	William	Associate Dean	Yale Divinity School
Holleck	Tiffany Nicely	Co-Pastor; and Hospice Chaplain	St.Peter's Lutheran Church/Broad Reach Hospice
Jungkeit	Steve	Senior Minister	First Congregational Church of Old Lyme
Keys	Erin		Greenwich Center for Hope and Renewal
Koons	Patricia	Executive Assistant	MassMutual

LaSala	Maria	Spiritual Care Coordinator (Chaplain)/ Lecturer at Yale Divinity School	Whitney Center, Yale Divinity School
Mahaney	Deborah	Interim Minister	Congregational Church of South Dennis, UCC
McNaughton	Marilyn	Nurse Case Manager	VNA of Care New England
Mehr-Muska	Tracy	Minister for Mid and Later Life	Asylum Hill Congregational Church
Merz	John	CEO	Advancing Connecticut Together
Meyerhoffer	Anne Marie	Member-at-Large	Seeking next interim position
Olson	Susan	1)Associate Director 2) Pastor	1)Yale Student Accessibility Services 2)First Congregational Church of Lyme
Peek	Jenny	Associate University Chaplain	Yale University
Pierce	David	Pastor	Four Corners Community Chapel
Porizky	Mark	Staff Chaplain	Westerly Hospital
Priest	Joan	Bridge Pastor	St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
Roh	Dae Joon	Dean of Students	Washington Theological Seminary
Rohr	Lin Grace	Director of Angel House	Housing Assistance Corporation
Schreiner	Samuel	Executive Director	Friends of Forman Christian College
Shaw	Cass	President & CEO	Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport
Shippee	Arthur	Adjunct Ass't Prof.	Queens College, Lang College
Smanik	Virginia	Pastor	Hampton Congregational Church
Smith, PhD	Shanell T.	Founder/CEO	Shanell T Smith Consulting, LLC
Stanton	Cynthia	Spiritual care Coordinator	Norwell VNA and Hospice
Swenson	Christa	Senior Pastor	Mystic Congregational Church UCC
Vance-Ocampo	Shannan	General Presbyter	PSNE

Via	Charles	1: Executive Director 2) Minister	1) Crossing Thresholds Inc. 2) Talmadge Hill Community Church
Weber	Burkhard	Director, Spiritual Care Education	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Whitman	Candace	Pastor	Fishers Island Chapel
Wright	Heather	Pastor of Care and Connection	Stanwich Congregational Church

Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Ministry, the Presbytery **VOTED** to **APPROVE** the following terms of call for temporary pastoral relationships:

- Between the Rev. Jason Santalucia and the Valley Presbyterian Church of Brookfield, effective February 14, 2021, for a period of six months:

Hours per week	20 (half time)	
Cash Salary	\$ 8,750	(\$17,500 annually)
Housing	\$ 8,750	(\$17,500 annually)
Total Effective Salary	\$17,500	
Pension (8.5% of Effective Salary)	\$1,487.50	(\$2,975 annually)
SECA Supplement (7.65% of Effective Sal)	\$1,338.75	(\$2,677.50 annually)
Auto allowance	\$1,500	(\$3,000 annually)
Continuing education	\$ 750	(\$1,500 annually)
Total Compensation	\$22,576.25	(\$45,152.50 annually)
Paid vacation	2 weeks	(4 annually)
Paid education leave	1 week	(2 annually)

- Between the Rev. Deborah Packard and Providence Presbyterian Church, effective June 1, 2021, for a period of twelve months:

Cash Salary	\$ 33,874
Housing	\$ 44,216
Total Effective Salary	\$ 78,090
Pension (11% of Effective Salary)	\$ 8,590
Major Medical (25%)	\$ 19,522

Death and Disability (1%)	\$ 781
Social Security	\$ 5,974
Total Taxes/Benefits	\$ 34,867

Continuing Education/expenses	\$ 3,300
Travel	\$ 1,000
Total Compensation	\$117,257

Vacation/study leave	6 weeks
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- Between the Rev. Melodie Long and Crossroads Presbyterian Church of Waterford, effective August 1, 2021, for a period of twelve months:

Cash Salary	\$ 44,676
Housing	\$ 28,866
Medical Deductible	\$ 1,575
SS offset	\$ 5,748
Car allowance	\$ 1,000
Total Effective Salary	\$ 83,065

Pension (11% of Effective Salary)	\$ 9,137
Major Medical (25%)	\$ 20,766

Continuing Education/expenses	\$ 1,100
Total Compensation	\$114,068

Vacation/study leave	6 weeks
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Upon a motion from the Committee, the Presbytery **VOTED** to **CONFER** upon the Rev. Frances Unsell the status of Honorably Retired, effective March 27, 2021. Ms. Unsell is retiring from her position as President of the Development Center. Ms. Whitman offered a prayer of thanksgiving for Ms. Unsell's ministry. The Rev. Mary Thies (HR) noted many of the highlights of Ms. Unsell's career and offered personal words of appreciation for her ministry in the Presbytery. Ms. Unsell addressed the Presbytery as well, thanking those who have supported her through the years.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (Continued)

The Rev. Chris Tate, the chair of the Nominating Committee, continued the presentation of their report. On behalf of the Committee, Mr. Tate **PLACED IN NOMINATION**:

- Roundtable Co-Chairs: Rev. Julie Emery, and Elder Mildred McNeill (Hartford: First), class of 2022
- Committee on Preparation for Ministry Co-Chairs: Rev. Deborah Packard, and Rev. Joan Priest, class of 2022
- Personnel Committee Chair: Rev. John Merz, class of 2022
- President of the Corporation: Rev. Andre Castillo
- Committee on Ministry:
 - Rev. Stephen Scovell, class of 2022
 - Elder Mary Webber (New Haven: First), class of 2023
 - Rev. Nancy McLaren, class of 2024
 - Rev. Jinny Smanik, class of 2024
 - Elder Susan Labins (Hartford: First), class of 2024
- Committee on Preparation for Ministry:
 - Elder Shirley Dudley (Hartford: First), class of 2023
 - Rev. Susan Power Trucksess, 2022
- Personnel Committee:
 - Rev. Mary Thies, class of 2022
- Roundtable (At-Large):
 - Elder Lisa Baker (Springfield: MLK), class of 2024
 - Elder Rachelle Lee (Springfield: MLK), class of 2022
- Committee on Emerging Ministries:
 - Rev. Jessica Jones, class of 2024

There were no nominations from the floor. Upon a motion properly made and seconded, the Presbytery **VOTED** to **CLOSE NOMINATIONS**, thereby **ELECTING** the slate presented by the Nominating Committee.

The Nominating Committee expressed its gratitude to those whose terms of service to the Presbytery have concluded:

Rev. Bill Goettler

Elder Dick Hasbany

Elder Stephen Hart

Rev. Anne Marie

Meyerhoffer

Rev. Kibbie Laird

Rev. Patrick Notley

Rev. Laura Opsahl

Elder Clare Schimpf

Rev. Georgia Ann Snell

Elder Pat Wales

Rev. Candace Whitman

Elder Nancy Woodington

ANNOUNCEMENTS

On behalf of the Anti-Racism and Equity Team, the Rev. Jenny Peek invited members of the assembly to participate in summer book discussion groups: *Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race* by Debby Irving and *White Awake: An Honest Look at What it Means to be White* by Daniel Hill.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to transact, Presbytery **ADJOURNED**, and was led in a closing prayer by the Moderator, Rev. J. C. Cadwallader, at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. David A. Baer, Stated Clerk

2020 Presbytery Statistical Report

Presbytery Southern New England
Address PO Box 388, Chester, CT 06412
Phone 860-388-0874 **Fax** 860-581-4023
Email info@psne.org
Web Site www.psne.org



Membership			
Prior Active Members	6330	Adjusted membership	6327
Gains		Losses	
Certificate	36	Certificate	43
Youth Professions	71	Deaths	83
Professions & Reaffirmations	65	Deleted for any Other Reason	217
Total Gains	172	Total Losses	343
Total Ending Active Members	6156		
Baptisms		Average Weekly Worship Attendance	2440
Presented by Others	24	Female Members	3699
At Confirmation	13	Friends of the Congregation	875
All Other	1	Ruling Elders on Session	222
		Do you have Deacons? Yes / No	23 / 2
Age Distribution of Active Members		People with Disabilities	
25 & Under	986	Hearing impairment	89
26 - 40	941	Sight impairment	44
41 - 55	1234	Mobility impairment	176
56 - 70	1253	Other impairment	175
Over 70	1153		
Total Age Distribution	5567		
Christian Education			
Birth - 3	98	Grade 7	76
Age 4	57	Grade 8	63
Kindergarten	57	Grade 9	59
Grade 1	64	Grade 10	69
Grade 2	72	Grade 11	69
Grade 3	76	Grade 12	75
Grade 4	85	Young Adults	141
Grade 5	66	Over 25	585
Grade 6	83	Teachers/Officers	183
		Total Christian Education	1978
Racial Ethnic			
Asian/Pacific Islander/South Asian	159	Native American/Alaska Native/Indigenous	4
Black/African American/African	244	White	4559
Middle Eastern/North African	34	Multiracial	36
Hispanic/Latino-a	31		
		Total Racial Ethnic	5067
Financial Data			
Annual Income	13,046,675	Mission Expenses	1,183,214
Annual Expenses	12,947,579	Personnel Expenses	7,703,220
		Facilities Expenses	2,308,276

Summary Membership Report for 180-680 2020

<u>Location</u>	<u>Pin #</u>	<u>Church Name</u>	<u>Begin. Total</u>	<u>Adj. Member.</u>	<u>New Member.</u>	<u>Cert. Gains</u>	<u>Youth Profess.</u>	<u>Profess./ Reaffirm.</u>	<u>Cert. Losses</u>	<u>Death Losses</u>	<u>Deleted Losses</u>	<u>End Total</u>	<u>Diff</u>
Ashaway	4620	Babcock	49	0	49	1		1			2	49	0
Barrington	1274	Barrington Valley	76	0	76		2	1	4	3		72	-4
Brookfield	10562	Valley	122	0	122	0	0	3			4	121	-1
Cumberland	10027	Calvin	115	0	115	1				2		114	-1
Darien	4581	Noroton	1475	0	1475	8	33	24	2	8	6	1524	49
Fairfield	4574	First	307	0	307	1	6	11	7	3		315	8
Fall River	1779	Calvary United	27	0	27	0	0	0	0	1	0	26	-1
Granby	4578	First	36	0	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	36	0
Greenwich	4576	First	802	0	802	3	15	6	0	9	36	781	-21
Groton	3716	St Andrew	99	0	99	0	0	1	0	3	11	86	-13
Handen	10645	New Haven Korean	311	0	311	9	0	0	13			307	-4
Hartford	4577	First	92	0	92	0	0	0	0	1	0	91	-1
Milford	4579	United	65	0	65	0	0	0	1	2	8	54	-11
New Canaan	3719	First	512	0	512		7		5	9	120	385	-127
New Haven	10985	Connecticut Korean	52	0	52	3	0	0	7	0	0	48	-4
New Haven	4580	First	203	0	203	2		1		1	2	203	0
Providence	10939	Providence	133	0	133			4				137	4
Springfield	10530	M L King Jr Community	39	0	39	2			1			40	1
Stamford	4583	First	461	0	461	0	0	0	1	7	8	445	-16
Stamford	4586	Turn of River	41	0	41	0	0	0		3	13	25	-16
Warwick	4609	Greenwood Community	306	0	306	2	8	1	1	9	3	304	-2
Warwick	4607	Woodbury Union	102	0	102	1				4		99	-3
Waterford	9427	Crossroads	76	0	76	0	0	0	0	1	0	75	-1
West Hartford	4585	Westminster	268	0	268	0	0	0	0	4	2	262	-6
Westerly	4618	Dunns Corners Community	279	0	279	3		12	1	11		282	3
Wilton	960	Wilton	282	-3	279	0	0	0	0	2	2	275	-4
Totals			6330	-3	6327	36	71	65	43	83	217	6156	-171

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Summary Membership

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Summary Finance Report

Location	Pin	Church Name	Annual Income	Annual Expenses	Mission	Personnel	Facilities
Ashaway	4620	Babcock	87134	87134	4150	41875	72130
Barrington	1274	Barrington	329984	176018	15404	132043	20504
Brookfield	10562	Valley	220973	176939	7879	120755	30593
Cumberland	10027	Calvin	182569	171412	48549	134569	27181
Darien	4581	Noroton	3951075	3920048	440438	2494279	301753
Fairfield	4574	First	696051	628826	7784	374348	195354
Fall River	1779	Calvary United	29741	27362	900	15000	8738
Granby	4578	First	36136	35577	3202	17961	14414
Greenwich	4576	First	1735000	1818000	77000	1187000	265000
Groton	3716	St Andrew	233306	227064	12854	134373	60325
Hamden	10645	New Haven Korean	673576	670669	117909	262746	82424
Hartford	4577	First	182000	165000	9503	138000	27000
Milford	4579	United	106130	123418	3000	79007	19962
New Canaan	3719	First	837250	919000	32600	492500	163450
New Haven	10985	Connecticut Korean	134486	106027	4780	63533	24728
New Haven	4580	First	456498	484459	34401	181468	222384
Providence	10939	Providence	169232	178090	15975	116473	14841
Springfield	10530	M L King Jr Community	55242	34855		17750	8177
Stamford	4583	First	1309321	1270916	208230	589757	490334
Stamford	4586	Turn of River	42364	54892	1000	18115	11968
Warwick	4607	Woodbury Union	78510	120435	3600	95220	0
Warwick	4609	Greenwood Community	428518	459762	75932	278716	66948
Waterford	9427	Crossroads	164937	172595	19433	125465	23843
West Hartford	4585	Westminster	426445	438884	22791	330760	60566
Westerly	4618	Dunns Corners Community					
Wilton	960	Wilton	480197	480197	15900	261507	95659
Totals			13046675	12947579	1183214	7703220	2308276

Covid-19

This past year has been unlike any I have ever experienced in ministry. I know that this sentence is the same for each of you! I grieve the ongoing loss of life, community, family and social disruption along with the ongoing global chaos that has come to all of us in one form or another. The pandemic is far from over as it accelerates in many parts of the world, and vaccination rates continue to be low in many parts of our country. I want to encourage everyone to be sure that you get vaccinated and continue to maintain practices of wearing a mask and physical distancing in public spaces as an act of love and care for others. As Jesus calls us to abundant life, it is our role as people of faith to do all we can to ensure it for others. As those who are part of the global Christian community, I encourage you to read this important [article](#) written by the Rev. Jed Koball, who is one of our mission co-workers in Peru, South America where he discusses the vaccine roll out and inequalities in the world.

I want to say how in awe I am of the many ministries of this Presbytery and how each one has found ways to continue moving forward, trying new modalities of worship and gathering, building community and doing ministry. There has been a diverse set of “solutions” throughout the Presbytery, as our ministries are diverse. Each response though, has come out of deep faithfulness, dedication to ministry and love of others. Despite the hardships, it has been a joy to walk alongside each of you this past year.

If there is any way you or the ministry you are a part of needs a conversation, resourcing, or has a Covid-19 learning to share, please let me know. We are here to serve you.

We continue to update our Covid-19 resource page as things continue to shift and change. Please refer back to it frequently for updated information:

<https://psne.org/resources/covid-19-pandemic/>

Anti-Racism and Equity

I want to express my gratitude to Jenny Peek and Kirk Louis for their able leadership through Year 1 of our Anti-Racism and Equity Committee. They have been doing intensive learning alongside our consultant, Jessica Vazquez Torres. As we move into the summer the committee is branching out to learning circles around the Presbytery. The Roundtable will be considering next steps with Jessica at our June 2021 meeting. This is essential work for the life and present-future of this Presbytery in faithfulness to Jesus Christ. So much of our lives is in the grip of white supremacy and the unfaithful cultural and personal habits it creates. However, this life is not where we are called to as the Church. In reality, we are called to break that culture as it is one of harm that is

visited upon many people and communities. I am eager for our next steps with *Crossroads Anti-Racism Organizing and Training*. We are deeply blessed to be able to work with them and have Jessica's many gifts in ministry present in the Presbytery.

Synod of the Northeast

Our larger Synod community is going through a time of transition. Our new Transitional Leader for the Synod, the Rev. Dr. SanDawna Gaulman Ashley will be with us at this meeting. She provided one of our post-Easter worship services this year, which is housed on the Presbytery YouTube channel. I am so glad SanDawna is here and in ministry with us. There will be much transition coming up in the next few years in the Synod and I look forward to PSNE being a part of that.

Thank You

I want to extend my thanks to everyone who has served in the Presbytery this past year. We have asked a lot of you, and committee and Presbytery service this year has been very different than imagined. I want to especially thank the Rev. Anne Marie Meyerhoffer, the Rev. Candy Whitman, and Elder Clare Schimpf who led our Trustees and COM respectively. All three are concluding their service and Anne Marie and Candy are off to new adventures in ministry in new Presbyteries. I will miss working alongside each of them and am grateful for the difficult tasks they took on this year and led with much faithfulness and skill.

I would also like to extend my thanks to the staff of the Presbytery, all of whom have gone over and above duty this last year in this unprecedented time. We have a great staff in this Presbytery and I hope you agree with me and will also thank them!

I look forward to our next year in ministry together. This is a liminal season where we are slowly moving out of one experience and into the next. We are not exactly sure what is in store for us. I am sure though, of God's faithfulness, the clear prophetic call to be disciples of Jesus and the constant companionship of the Spirit that is always dancing in front of us, beckoning us into the next new place.

Peace and Blessings,



Rev. Shannan Vance-Ocampo, General Presbyter

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
ANNUAL REPORT
2020-2021

This past year COM celebrated the strength of our churches, even during COVID-19, as there were many successful transitions in our Presbytery, installations via Zoom, and PNCs and IPNCs moving forward in their mission despite the restrictions. We felt privileged to walk with churches and support them as needs arose.

We are grateful to the members of COM who faithfully attended monthly meetings via Zoom, and in many cases, we had a 100% participation. We heard from many, and experienced it ourselves, that it was difficult to build bonds and relationships, especially for new installed and transitional pastors. We trust that in the near future in-person fellowship will resume.

A summary of COM activity for 2020-21 is as follows:

- We ordained Rev. Jessica Jones and Rev. Stephen Scovell
- We welcomed to installed ministry, Rev. Nancy McLaren (Hartford First), Rev. Scott Herr (New Canaan First) Rev. Gregory Penza (Fairfield First)
- We welcomed those transferring to our Presbytery: Rev. Erin Keys, Rev. Mieke Vandersall, Rev. Anne Weirich, Rev. Richard Crocker
- We welcomed to transitional ministry: Mark Montgomery (Greenwich First), Rev. Melodie Long (Crossroads)
- We honorably retired: Rev. Frances Unsell, and Rev. James Mahan
- Grieved the passing of Rev. Jeffrey Wood
- Worked with churches in their pastoral relations: Turn of River Church, Crossroads, St. Andrew's, Greenwich First, New Canaan First, Valley, Fairfield First
- Said good bye to and conducted exit interviews where appropriate for: Rev. Thomas Groome (Fairfield), Rev. Carol Merritt (New Canaan), Rev. Jimmy McPherson (Noroton), Rev. Dr. Ruth Herron, Rev. Sandra Kim, and Rev. Adele Crawford

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Candace Whitman

Elder Clare Schimpf

Presbyterian Promise Annual Report to the Presbytery of Southern New England 2020-2021

Presbyterian Promise's twentieth year as an organization advocating for LGBTQ+ equality and welcome in this Presbytery was unexpectedly challenging. It was also in some ways unexpectedly rewarding.

As 2020 got underway, Presbyterian Promise was prepared for its usual outreach at the LGBTQ+ True Colors Conference and the Pride festivals across PSNE territory. We had a beautiful and meaningful new logo. We were ready with interactive coloring posters that a board member had discovered at the Next Church Conference. We planned to invite folks from our supporting churches to join Presbyterian Promise board members and engage with LGBTQ+ people, their parents, and allies. We had an inventory of rainbow and trans scarves, reminders that God loves all the beautiful, exuberant children. But Covid happened and everything stayed packed in boxes.

Instead of the usual we struggled to find ways to go virtual. We joined churches and organizations in learning the arduous art of improvisation, struggling to work creatively and effectively in this new environment. We created several short videos that were broadcast as part of the virtual True Colors Conference and several of 2020's virtual pride festivals.

Further, we learned about some of the emerging survival needs among LGBTQ+ people and we began to explore how to partner with organizations that are addressing those needs. During 2020 we worked with The Triangle Community Center in Norwalk to support its food pantry and Gay Santa programs.

This connection with community service providers reminded us profoundly that 2020 has been a bitter year for many. Covid has been devastating in so many ways, as has the ongoing effects of racism. We remember our siblings at Martin Luther King Jr. Community Presbyterian Church in Springfield and the loss of their building to arson.

Presbyterian Promise ended this strange year on a high note. At our annual meeting in April, Rev. Jane Adams Spahr helped us celebrate our history, and we welcomed Rev. Ashley DeTar Birt to host a workshop, "Replacing Tables with Rainbows." Rev. DeTar Birt is Program Coordinator of Beloved Arise, Co-Moderator of the Board of Directors for More Light Presbyterians, and blogger for the NEXT Church blog, Believe Out Loud. Her visionary and

practical workshop in April is available on the PSNE You Tube site at [\(263\) Presbyterian Promise Annual Meeting - April 2021 \(Replacing Tables with Rainbows - Rev. DeTar Birt\) - YouTube](#)

We said farewell at the meeting to our retiring Ralph Jones, one of our founders, our long time treasurer, and our all-around go-to person.

We start 2021 full of hope and energy. We are all packed and ready, among other things, to go out once again to table and be a welcoming voice of Christian love and faith. Please accompany us.

Dick Hasbany and Keith Rhoden Co-Moderators