

**Report of the Stated Clerk
February 11, 2025**

For action:

- 1) That the Presbytery receive the resignation of the Rev. Dr. Stacy C. Smith from the Commission on Ministry, effective January 9, 2025, with thanks for her service.

For information:

- 1) At the Stated Meeting on February 8, 2024, I provided notice to the Presbytery that a written statement of an alleged sexual misconduct by a minister member of the Presbytery was received on November 4, 2023. An Investigating Committee, formed in accordance with Church Discipline and PSNE bylaws, was charged with the investigation. The IC now reports the following determination, as required by D-7.1401 in the *Book of Order*:

February 1, 2025

*Presbytery of Southern New England
2080 Boulevard
West Hartford, CT 06107*

Dear Presbytery of Southern New England:

We, the undersigned members of the Investigating Committee 2023-02, have investigated the written statement received by the stated clerk on November 4, 2023. Based on the available evidence, we have determined no charges will be filed.

In Christ's Peace,

*T.J. DeMarco
Bea Hoover-Mulvany
Barbara Riihimaki
Bob Spangler*

- 2) At the Stated Meeting on October 23, 2024, I provided notice that an Investigating Committee (2024-01) had been formed in response to a written statement alleging a disciplinary offense on the part of a minister member of the

Presbytery, received October 7, 2024. A member of that IC needed to step off for personal reasons. Once a replacement was found, the IC began its work on January 8, 2025.

- 3) In General Presbyter Rev. Dr. Shannan Vance-Ocampo's absence, I have responded to an invitation from the Rhode Island State Council of Churches to confirm our desire to re-establish our ecumenical relationship with them.
- 4) Please submit the completed 2025 Pastoral Compensation Worksheet for all calls by February 15. Both the 2024 and 2025 pastoral compensation reports will be available at the May meeting.
- 5) Session Clerks and Moderators have received information about Annual Statistics Reporting. Those reports should be submitted to the portal by tomorrow, February 12. Please let me know if you are having any difficulty with that.
- 6) The Commission on Ministry and I have a number of items that remain outstanding, including a survey to check in with ministers in validated/ specialized ministry, on the at-large role, and retired ministers; and scheduling a date for a gathering of Clerks of Session with minutes review. Please keep an eye out for those important communications.
- 7) Five items referred by the 226th General Assembly still require Presbytery action. We will have the opportunity to learn and ask questions about three of those tonight: 24-A, 24-C, and 24-M. I recommend that Presbytery act on the other two items tonight: 24-I, on overture concurrences, and 24-K, reports to civil authorities; but that we wait until the May Stated Meeting to act on items 24-A, 24-C, and 24-M. The full packet of GA business, including those items already handled at the October meeting, is included in the meeting materials.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Kate Carlisle, Stated Clerk