

DIGEST

ONE HUNDRETH SEVENTEENTH STATED MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF EASTERN VIRGINIA

January 26, 2019
Hilton Presbyterian Church
Newport News, Virginia

Moderator: Ruling Elder (RE) **Diane P. Griffin** (First Portsmouth)
Vice Moderator: Commissioned Pastor (CP) **William T. "Billy" Ricketts** (Providence)
Stated Clerk: RE **Q. John Tamm** (1st VAB)
Journal Clerk: Mr. **Raymond Rodrigues**

WORSHIP

- The Reverend **L. Monica Gould**, pastor of the Makemie Churches in Accomack County, preached a sermon titled, "Stir It Up!" based on Hebrews 10:24-25.
- Reverend **Clark DeSarro-Raynal**, pastor Hilton Church and Reverend Gould, led the celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.
- The offering for Church Professionals' Assistance Fund was 1,180.00

STATED CLERK

Ministerial Relations

Received the Reverend **Elizabeth M. Hilkerbaumer** from the Presbytery of Northern Iowa.
Received the Reverend Dr. **Brian J. Wells** from the Pittsburgh Presbytery.

Judicial

The **Stated Clerk** reported the censure of the Reverend **Francis E. Drake** a minister member of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia for the offenses of adultery and sexual abuse of another person involving sexual conduct in relation to any person when the conduct includes misuse of ordered ministry or position, contrary to the provisions of the *Book of Order* D-10.0400 4. c.

The **Permanent Judicial Commission** of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia, on January 10, 2019, agreed to an alternative form of resolution as recommended by the **Investigating Committee** in lieu of a censure hearing and determination in accordance with D-10.0202 j. (3) of the *Book of Order*. The censure is as follows:

Reverend Drake is temporarily excluded from the exercise of ordered ministry in accordance with the *Book of Order* D-12.0104 for a period of at least three years. The exercise of ordered ministry includes, but is not limited to preaching, teaching, administering the Sacraments, conducting worship services, including marriages and funerals, prayer meetings or ministries, the use of honorific titles and participation in Presbytery meetings. This also includes exclusion from the premises of First Presbyterian Church, Norfolk, VA.

He will not be reinstated until the satisfactory completion of a rehabilitation program under the supervision of the Commission on Ministry of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia.

GENERAL PRESBYTER, the Reverend **Elizabeth G. Hendricks** offered a prayer of intercession for the parties affected by the Judicial action.

PRESBYTERY COUNCIL (PC)

The Reverend **William G. Lamont**, moderator. The Presbytery approved the following:

MOTION: That the Presbytery receive the narrative report of the PC and approve the actions of the PC, which includes that the General Presbyter's request for sabbatical leave beginning on May 1, 2019 and ending July 31, 2019.

MOTION: That the Presbytery dismiss the Investigating Committee with the sincere thanks and appreciation of the Presbytery.

MOTIONS: That the Presbytery consider the following amendments to the *Book of Order*:
18-A. On Amending G-2.0401 Yes-85 No-03
18-B.1. On Amending G-2.0509 Yes-14 No-62
18-B.2 On Amending D-10.0401 Yes-68 No-13
18-C. On Amending G-3.0104 Yes-66 No-22
18-D. On Amending G-3.0306 Yes-77 No-10
18-E. On Amending G-3.0307 Yes-86 No-02
18-F. On Amending W-4.0202 Yes-86 No-02
18-G. On Amending D-2.0203b Yes-82 No-06
18-H.1. On Amending D-10.0401 Yes-80 NO-02
18-H.2 On Amending D-10.0401c (1) Yes-83 No-02

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY (COM)

The Reverend Dr. **Michael T. Condrey**, moderator

MOTION: The twelve actions of the COM were approved.

In Memoria

The Reverend **Clyde Herbert Johnson**, November 28, 2018 in Mechanicsville, VA.
Ministers introduced to the Presbytery

The Reverend **Gillian E. Weighton**, received from the Milwaukee Presbytery as the pastor of St. Andrew, Suffolk.

The Reverend Dr. **Brian J. Wells**, received from the Pittsburgh Presbytery as the designated pastor of Carver Memorial Church, Newport News.

SESSIONAL RECORDS REVIEW COMMITTEE

Ruling Elder **Jill Keifer**, Chair

MOTION: The Sessional Records Review Committee recommends to the Presbytery that the following records reviewed for the fourth quarter of 2018 be approved as indicated:

Records reviewed without exception: Denbigh United, King's Grant, Naomie Makemie, Franklin, Bethany, and Suffolk,

Records reviewed with exception(s): First Norfolk, Christ, Stone House, Wythe, and St. Andrew, Third

Records not received: First Church South Norfolk, Chesapeake

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Report to the Presbytery

Ruling Elder **William "Bill" Espich**, moderator

MOTION: The following names in nomination as indicated be elected by the Presbytery:

Presbytery Council, Class of 2021,

The Reverend **Deborah Dalton Dail.**

Synod Committee on Representation, Class of 2022,

The Reverend **Veronica M. Thomas.**

Presbytery of Eastern Virginia, Inc.

The Reverend Dr. **John E. Morgan** be elected President, Ruling Elder **Marc Steiner** (Green Acres) be elected Treasurer and for the Class of 2021, Ruling Elder **John Keifer** (Royster Memorial) be elected Trustee for the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia, Inc.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES/STEWARDSHIP TEAM (SMT)

The Reverend Dr. **John E. Morgan**, moderator.

MOTION: That the trustees of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia, Inc. and the Stated Clerk be appointed as trustees of **John Knox Homes, Inc.**, Norfolk, VA.

MOTION: That the Narrative Report be received and published in the minutes of this meeting.

NARRATIVE REPORT

At the November 28 meeting of the Stewardship Ministry Team we reviewed the Independent Accountant's Review Report & Adj. Journal Entries for 2017 with Douglas

Hall CPA. Mr. Hall reviewed all of our accounting and procedures for 2017 and found them to be in order. We are grateful for the fine work of Business Administrator **Regan Knutson** who has done an excellent job in streamlining and cleaning up our financial accounts and reporting.

A Small Church Grant Application was reviewed and approved at our meeting. In the future all financial requests for grants or loans, up to \$5000, from small churches will need to complete and return the application. Funds for these grants or loans will be provided from the Metcalf Trust. In addition, the SMT will also advise congregations making a request of other funding sources such as Synod grants, etc.

We continue to monitor and administrate several properties which are for sale or where there is some form of a lease to purchase-type arrangement.

The sale of Makemie Woods we are still in the process of working with the purchaser.

The extended time is due to the purchaser's financing issues which have been further complicated by the recent fire that destroyed one of the purchaser's other properties. The real estate agent is working with purchaser to move process forward.

COMMISSION ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY (CPM)

The Reverend **Virginia Snyder Campbell**, moderator, the Reverend **Garrett B. Bugg**, vice moderator.

MOTION: Kimberly Coyle (Bayside) was approved as a Candidate for Ministry.

MOTION: The Presbytery received the narrative report of the CPM.

ENROLLMENT REPORT

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| 42 | Ministers |
| 55 | Ruling Elders |
| 97 | Total voting members |
| 25 | Visitors |
| 122 | Total Registered |

NEXT MEETING

- Tuesday, April 30, 2019 10:00 am, First Presbyterian Church, 820 Colonial Avenue, Norfolk