

# DIGEST

## ONE HUNDRETH FIFTEENTH STATED MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF EASTERN VIRGINIA

July 24, 2018  
Wythe Presbyterian Church  
Hampton, 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** (1<sup>st</sup> VAB)  
**Journal Clerk:** Mr. **Raymond Rodrigues**

### WORSHIP

- The Reverend Jennifer M. Spivey preached a sermon titled "Shareholders of Grace," based on John 13:1-15.
- Reverend **T. Clinton Mitchell**, pastor Wythe Church and the Reverend **Martha E. Mitchell**, pastor of Simonsdale Church, Portsmouth, led the celebration of the Lord's Supper.
- The offering for the **YOUTH MINISTRY FUNDS** was \$1153.00

### MODERATORS

- RE Diane P. Griffin was the Moderator and CP William T. "Billy" Ricketts was the Vice Moderator.

The **Sacrament of Baptism** was administered by the Reverend Dr. **Donna M. DeSarro-Raynal** and the Reverend **Clark DeSarro-Raynal** at the Stated Meeting for **Clara Brown Mitchell**, daughter of the Reverends **Martha E. Mitchell** and **T. Clinton Mitchell**. The name of Clara Brown Mitchell as Baptized was placed on the register of Simonsdale Presbyterian Church, Portsmouth.

### PRESBYTERY COUNCIL (PC)

The Reverend **William G. Lamont**, moderator

The Presbytery approved the following:

**MOTION:** Approved the establishment of an Outdoor Ministry Scholarship fund to be modeled on the scholarship fund of New Castle Presbytery, (New Castle, DE).

**MOTION:** Approved the appointment of the Reverend **Leigh B. Gillis** to review particular forms and policies and make recommendations for updates by the Presbytery Council or Commission on Ministry.

### Presbyterian Foundation

Mr. **Olanda Carr**, the regional representative of the Foundation addressed the Presbytery and outlined the assistance that the Foundation could provide in various facets of stewardship. This includes investment strategies and fund raising. Mr. Carr is based in Charlotte, NC and has also made presentations to the Stewardship Management Team and member congregations.

### 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 second quarter of 2018 be approved as indicated:

Records reviewed without exception:

Providence, Knox, First Hampton, Yorkminster, Wycliffe

Records reviewed with exception(s):

Holmes, Lafayette

Records to submitted late by agreement:

Great Bridge

Records not received: Jamestown,

LaCrosse - none for 2017 or 2018 cycle

### PEACEMAKING COMMITTEE

Rev. **Alexander J. Creager** and Ruling Elder **Gerry Ellis**, Co-Moderators

- Since the last report to Presbytery, the Racial Dialogue Team members have continued to meet to listen to each other's ideas as well as plan ways to continue the discussion about race in PEVA. Five members of the team will attend the Crossroads Antiracism Training at Montreat Conference Center August 17th-19th.

- The committee approved a Community Ministries Grant application from King's Grant PC to facilitate a screening of Racial Taboo. About 50 people from multiple churches attended the event.

- The committee approved a request for support from **Miguel Petrosky**, a Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) currently serving in New Orleans and a member of Williamsburg Presbyterian Church. Miguel has committed "to better understand the intersections of my faith with society-

more specifically, to look at how the Christian conceptions of love, compassion and justice should encounter and respond to our current economic-political system here in the United States and abroad." To that end, Michael will be serving in Zambia from August 2018-July 2019.

- The committee will host International Peacemaker **Fabienne Jean** from Haiti. She will be accompanied by Interpreter **Cindy Correll**. Since April 2014, Fabienne has been coordinator of Hands Together Foundation of Haiti network.

#### **COMMISSION ON MINISTRY (COM)**

Report to Presbytery  
The Reverend Dr. **Michael T. Condrey**, moderator.  
The COM RECOMMENDED to the Presbytery the approval of thirteen actions related to minister assignments and pastor searches.

#### **Honorable Retirement**

The ministry of the Reverend **Albert G. Butzer, III** was recognized by the Presbytery with the retirement liturgy. Reflections on Reverend Butzer's career was offered by the Reverend Dr. **William C. Hedrick**.

#### **Introduced to the Presbytery**

The Reverend **Boone Deberry Clayton**, Associate Pastor, Denbigh United Presbyterian Church, Newport News and the Reverend **Caitilin Ness Hoy**, Chaplain, Williamsburg Landing, Williamsburg

#### **Pastoral Relations**

Received as a member of the Presbytery the Reverend Caitilin Ness Hoy from the Presbytery of the Peaks, Lynchburg, VA to serve as the Chaplain at Williamsburg Landing, the Reverend **Gillian Weighton** from the Presbytery of Milwaukee to serve as the Pastor of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Suffolk and the Reverend Dr. **David Atson Cagle** from the Presbytery of the James, Richmond, VA, to serve as the Interim Pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Virginia Beach. The Reverend **Elnoria Lofton Harrison** was ordained at Community Church, Portsmouth to serve as the covenant pastor of Squires Memorial Church, Norfolk.

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

**Motion:** The Presbytery received the narrative report of the SMT.

**Motion:** The Lynnhaven Presbyterian Church ("Church") located at 136 South Lynnhaven Road Virginia Beach, VA 23452 has applied for a loan from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Investment and Loan Program, Inc. The amount of the loan is \$760,000. The guarantee of this loan was approved by the Presbytery.

#### **COMMISSION ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY (CPM)**

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

**Motion:** The Presbytery received the narrative report of the CPM.

**Motion:** The Presbytery approved **Gordon Tubbs** (First Norfolk) as a candidate for ministry in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

#### **GENERAL PRESBYTER**

Received the Good News report of the Reverend **Elizabeth G. Hendricks** which included the description of the investiture of the Moderator as a Judge of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court of Portsmouth, VA. The General Presbyter also acknowledged the many congregations that conducted Vacation Bible School during the summer and the effectiveness of this ministry. The General Presbyter also held up the documentary film, presently showing in theaters, about the ministry of the late Reverend **Fred M. Rogers** (Pittsburgh Presbytery). She noted the inspirational and Christian message of "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood."

#### **ENROLLMENT REPORT**

45	Ministers
46	Ruling Elders
91	Total voting members
48	Visitors
139	Total Registered

#### **NEXT MEETING**

- Tuesday, October 23, 2018, at 1:00 pm, Green Acres Presbyterian Church, 3135 Hanley Ave., Portsmouth.