

DIGEST

July 26, 2022
Second Presbyterian Church
Norfolk, Virginia

Moderator: Ruling Elder (RE) **Dianne F. Schoonover** (Yorkminster)
Vice Moderator: the Reverend Dr. **John E. Morgan**
Stated Clerk: Ruling Elder (RE) **Q. John Tamm** (1st VAB)
Journal Clerk: Mr. **Raymond Rodrigues**

WORSHIP

- The Reverend Dr. **Craig Wansink** preached a sermon titled, "Five Loaves, Two Fish, and Reliance on God" based on John 6:1-14.
- The Reverend **Catherine Hart Monroe**, associate pastor of Second Presbyterian Church and the Reverend Dr. Craig Wansink, pastor, Second Church, led the celebration of the Lord's Supper.
- The offering was for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

MODERATOR

- RE Diane F. Schoonover was the Moderator.

STATED CLERK

The report was published to the Presbytery in the packet and approved in the consent agenda.

PRESBYTERY COUNCIL (PC)

The Reverend Dr. **Wilbur C. Douglass, III** moderator.

The Presbytery approved the following:

MOTION: Approved the request of the congregation to dissolve and close the Ocean View Presbyterian Church, Norfolk.

MOTION: Approved the appointment by the Moderator of an administrative commission to accomplish the dissolution of Ocean View Church in accordance with G-3.0109b of the *Book of Order*.

MOTION: The Presbytery approved the actions taken by the Presbytery Council.

ONE HUNDRETH THIRIETH STATED MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF EASTERN VIRGINIA

SESSIONAL RECORDS REVIEW COMMITTEE

Ruling Elder **Jill Keifer** (Royster Memorial), Chair

MOTION: Approved the following report: The following church records had no exceptions: Lafayette, Jamestown, Knox, Yorkminster, Wycliffe, Providence. The following church had exceptions: First PC Hampton 28a and b. No records received from LaCrosse, Holmes, and Great Bridge.

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY (COM)

Report to Presbytery

RE **Roxie O. Holder**, moderator.

MOTION: The COM RECOMMENDED to the Presbytery the approval of thirteen actions related to minister assignments, pastor searches and commissioned pastors.

Pastoral Relations

-**Honorable Retirement:** the Reverend Dr. **Danny T. Klein** on June 5, 2022.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES/STEWARDSHIP TEAM (SMT)

Ruling Elder **Marc T. Steiner**, moderator.

The Presbytery approved the following:

MOTION: That the Presbytery receive the narrative report of the Trustees and approve the actions as follows:

1. On June 13, 2022, approved a Small Church Assistance grant for Community PC, Portsmouth for roof repair of \$5,000.00.
2. On June 13, 2022, approved a grant request from the Groves Memorial PC, Hayes, for \$10,000 from funds designated for use in Gloucester County.

NARRATIVE REPORT

The PEVA trustees have a continuing concern for the health of our congregations and for the Presbytery as a whole. Since the April PEVA meeting the trustees approved a Small Church Assistance grant for **Community PC, Portsmouth** for urgent roof repair. They also approved a grant request from the

Groves Memorial PC for \$10,000 from funds designated for use in Gloucester County to add to funds the church has raised for window and door repair/replacement.

The trustees have had bad news and good news regarding **Makemie Woods**. Unfortunately, the proposed sale reported at the April meeting fell through a few weeks later. However, recently the trustees received an offer and have executed a purchase agreement, as of July 13, with New Kent County. The agreement includes care for the Eco-Eternity Forest with the County assuming its oversight and management. As with any contract there is a due diligence period and various steps before closing. More information will be shared as the sale progresses.

The trustees have also been managing the former **Messiah** property in Norfolk on behalf of the New Horizons PC while its pending sale process continues.

COMMISSION ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY (CPM)

The Reverend **Emma L. Ouellette**, moderator.

MOTION: That the narrative report of the CPM be received by the Presbytery.

Narrative Report: The Presbytery presently has six inquirers to the ministry and twelve candidates for ministry. Four of the inquirers have graduated from seminary and ten of the candidates have graduated from seminary.

HUNGER MINISTRY TEAM

Motion: That the Presbytery receive and approve the narrative report.

NARRATIVE REPORT

HUNGER GRANTS AVAILABLE: If your church is seeking funds for food and hunger related ministries PEVA's Hunger Ministry Team has 2 grants available:

- Nickel-A-Meal (for direct food relief, application due Aug 31st, max of \$1,250,00 awarded)
- Church Community Hunger (limited to the community, not limited to food, ordinarily \$1,000 awarded)

The Hunger Team is encouraging PEVA Churches of all sizes to apply for these essential grants to assist those in your communities especially as we continue to

deal with the effects of the pandemic and the current rising gas prices and inflation.

Presbytery Wide Cereal Drive Update - Christ, Community Portsmouth, First Portsmouth, Hidenwood, Knox, Lafayette, Providence, Roster Memorial, Third, PEVA staff and many individuals donated 3,050 bowls of cereal and oatmeal for the PEVA-Wide Cereal Campaign. Thank you to all who participated! The cereal was delivered the week of June 20th to the Southeastern Food Bank and the Peninsula food banks and will be used within the week for the mobile pantries, summer school distribution and other programs for those in need.

Grace Covenant PC - provided 100 bagged lunches for People in Need Ministries (PIN) on Sunday, May 15th, and served a dinner meal at Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Virginia Beach.

Groves Memorial PC - received a Church Community Hunger Grant. Their goal was to provide food to the areas of Gloucester County, VA that needed assistance. They assisted the homeless ministry of Gloucester, where 28 meals were prepared and delivered to the clients at their motel rooms, where they were lodged due to Covid issues.

Hidenwood PC - kicked off a recycling program with NextTrex (<https://recycle.trex.com/>). If you visit Hidenwood PC, you might see the white recycle bins in the church building. Those that donate plastic film to NextTrex are helping to keep thousands of pounds of waste out of landfills and helping NextTrex to continue to make eco-friendly outdoor products. If Hidenwood PC collects enough plastic, they could win a free Trex bench! Visit https://www.plasticmarkets.org/jsfcontent/NexTrex_Info_Sheet-Community_jsf_1.pdf to learn more about the community challenge and learn what plastic items are recyclable.

First PC, Norfolk - volunteers of all ages came together on a Wednesday night in early May to pack 40,000 meals for Rise Against Hunger. The meals will be distributed across the world.

Williamsburg PC- held a Food Drive to supplement "Summer Meals for Kids" on Sat , May 21s. They collected 1,000 lbs. of food and drink such as water, fruit juices, Granola bars, fig bars, cheese crackers, fruit strips, fruit cups, apple sauce cups, and chips. They have also partnered with "From His Hand" and Newtown Methodist Church to prepare lunches for over 200 children in the James City County/Williamsburg area. These children would go hungry in the summer months without assistance because they are recipients of free meals at school.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY (GA)

The commissioners to the GA were the Reverend Dr. **Garrett B. Bugg**, Ruling Elder **Jessica A. Fitzgerald** (Third), Ruling Elder **Clyde Parker** (Community Portsmouth), and the Reverend **Helen Louise "Lou" Ventura**. By appointment of the Moderators, Ruling Elder **Roxie O. Holder** (New Horizons) was the moderator of the General Assembly Policies & Procedures Committee. The report of the commissioners has been posted on the Presbytery's website.

A brief summary of the GA follows: This GA was different from others (2020 was essential business online only, 2022 was committees in person, plenaries online)

- The 222nd GA (2016) had 141 Items of Business (IOBs), approved 56 via the Consent Agenda, and therefore handled 85 in plenary.
- The 223rd GA (2018) had 144 IOBs, approved 80 via the Consent Agenda, and therefore handled 64 in plenary.
- The 225th GA (2022) had 196 IOBs, approved 127 via the Consent Agenda, and therefore handled 69 in plenary.

Some of the key issues and decisions were:

- Statistical Report Changes
- Israel and the Palestinians
- Fossil fuel investment divestment
- Unification and National Structure by appointment of a commission to oversee and facilitate the unification of the Office of the General Assembly (OGA) and the Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA) into a single agency.
- Immigration to the United States

GENERAL PRESBYTER'S GOOD NEWS

The Reverend **Lyndsey McCall-Gilliam** and Certified Christian Educator **Amanda Pine** were honored by the Presbytery for their leadership of the Presbytery's youth programs for the last five years, with certificates of appreciation and gifts from the Presbytery. Significant events included a trip to Purdue University for the Triennium and trips to Montreat, Camp Hanover and Massanetta Springs Retreat Center.

The General Presbyter noted that it is Massanetta Springs' 100th Anniversary this year.

The Makemie Woods Camp site is in the process of being sold to New Kent County which will maintain the property as a public park.

The General Presbyter recognized the 100 years of ministry of Ocean View Church and received a church pennant for the Presbytery.

A 20-foot truck, driven by Jessica and Ray Fitzgerald, full of gently used clothing, disposable diapers, children's books, and food kits are on their way to the Eastern Shore today to support Migrant Farm Workers. Your beautiful generosity is making a difference in the lives of people in our region.

ENROLLMENT REPORT

44	Ministers
54	Ruling Elders
98	Total voting members
9	Visitors
107	Total Registered

NEXT MEETING

- Tuesday, October 25, 2022, at 10:00 am, Bethany Church, Zuni