

**SUMMARY OF MOTIONS**

April 25, 2023

**A. STATED CLERK REPORT**

**\*1. MOTION:** That Chairs of Presbytery agencies and committees, not otherwise members of Presbytery for this meeting, be given privilege of the floor with voice but not vote.

**Motion Made \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_**

**\*2. MOTION:** That churches based on the 2021 Statistical Report and the parity rules be authorized to elect ruling elder commissioners to presbytery meetings as follows:  
Churches with 2000-2500 members (5 elders each) – First Norfolk  
Churches with 1001–1500 members (3 elders each) –Williamsburg  
Churches with 501–1000 members (2 elders each) – Bayside,  
First Virginia Beach, Great Bridge, St. Andrew  
Racial Ethnic Churches (2 elders each) – Carver Memorial, Community Portsmouth,  
First United, New Horizons  
Churches authorized additional elder based on number of pastors (less than 501 members) – Denbigh United, Second Norfolk.  
Remaining churches authorized one elder commissioner.

**Motion Made \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_**

**\*3. MOTION:**

**A. ACTIONS:**

BY ACTION OF THE PRESBYTERY OF EASTERN VIRGINIA, AT ITS STATED MEETING OF JANUARY 23, 1999, HELD AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA, IN MATTERS IN DEBATE BEFORE PRESBYTERY, EACH SPEAKER IS LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES, WITH SPEAKERS ALTERNATING BETWEEN THOSE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION AND THOSE OPPOSED. Presbytery is reminded that, according to Robert’s Rules of Order, speakers may not speak more than twice on an issue, and the second time only after everyone has had an opportunity to speak once.

**B. MINISTERS: ORDAINED/DECEASED/RECEIVED/DISMISSED/INSTALLED/DISSOLUTIONS/RETIRED SINCE January 2023 REPORT**

-Ordained: the Reverend Joel Matthew Phillips, on February 19, 2023, at First Church, Norfolk.

-Deceased: None

-Received: On February 2, 2023, received from the Lehigh Presbytery, Allentown, PA the Reverend Elizabeth C. “Betsy” Baker-Smith as honorably retired.  
On February 2, 2023, Received from the Lehigh Presbytery, Allentown, PA the Reverend Dr. Gerritt W. “Skip” Baker-Smith as honorably retired.

-Dismissed: None

-Installed: the Reverend Jaechul “Jay” Pi, Lynnhaven Church, Virginia Beach on March 26, 2023.

-Dissolutions: None

-Honorably Retired: None

**Motion Made \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_**

C. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. On January 30, 2023, a letter of thanks to the Pastor and the Clerk of Session of First United Church, Norfolk for hosting the 132nd Stated Meeting of the Presbytery.
2. On February 2, 2023, a request from the Pastor of Grace Covenant Church, Virginia Beach, for a sabbatical leave.
3. On February 2, 2023, a letter from the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Florida, Chipley, FL, enclosing the obituary for the Reverend Dr. Kerry Knox Westerwick, a former member of the Presbytery.
4. On February 2, 2023, a letter from the Covenant Pastor of Groves Memorial Church, Hayes, requesting a waiver in accordance with the provision of G-2.0404 of the Book of Order.
5. On March 17, 2023, a letter from attorney Daniel Dickinson, III, requesting that the Presbytery provide the closing date of Ocean View Church, Norfolk, for probate purposes.
6. On March 24, 2023, a letter from the Reverend Dr. Wilbur C. Douglass, III, requesting honorable retirement, effective July 1, 2023.
7. On April 7, 2023, a letter from Richard Hahn, President of the Ocean View Business Association (OVBA), Norfolk, requesting that the Presbytery consider the transfer of the real estate of the former Ocean View Church, to an organization named *Narada Haus*.
8. On April 11, 2023, a letter to Richard Hahn, President of the OVBA, advising him that the property of the former Ocean View Church, was under a contract for sale to a Christian organization, that would use the property as a church.

D. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONS (\*MOTION # 3 CONSENT AGENDA)

1. Report and Minutes of the Commission to Ordain Joel Matthew Phillips.

/s/ Moderator, the Reverend Elizabeth G. Hendricks, Moderator of the Commission  
/s/ Clerk, Ruling Elder David Breen

2. Report and Minutes of the Commission to install the Reverend Andrew Patrick Whitehead as the Pastor of Hidenwood Presbyterian Church, Newport News.

The benediction was made by Reverend Whitehead.

/s/ Moderator Dianne F. Schoonover, moderator of the Commission  
/s/ RE Leslie Brooks, clerk of the Commission

3. Report and Minutes of the Commission to install the Reverend Jaechul "Jay" Pi as the Pastor of Lynnhaven Presbyterian Church, Virginia Beach.

The installation prayer was given by Reverend Hendricks.

/s/ Moderator, the Reverend Dr. Jeffrey S. Bell  
/s/ Clerk, the Reverend Elizabeth G. Hendricks

4. Administrative Commission to Ocean View Presbyterian Church, Norfolk.

Commissioned Pastor Sidnia B. "Sid" Etherington, moderator (Lafayette)  
The Reverend James A. Goodbow  
Ruling Elder Kelley Gangwer (Wycliffe)

The Administrative Commission voted to assume Original Jurisdiction, by electronic vote on August 30, 2022.

There is a tentative offer from a religious organization to purchase the church property. Negotiations and legal review are ongoing.

5. The Administrative Commission (AC) to Squires Memorial Presbyterian Church, Norfolk.  
Ruling Elder Gary Reese, moderator (Providence)  
Commissioned Pastor Sidnia B. "Sid" Etherington, (Lafayette)  
The Reverend Dr. Wilbur C. Douglass, III  
Ruling Elder Kim McCormick (First Portsmouth)

The Commission took control and responsibility for the church finances on January 11, 2023. The only remaining obligations are the utilities. Utilities are being invoiced to and paid by the Presbytery.

There is a tentative offer from a religious organization to purchase the church property. Negotiations and legal review are ongoing.

6. Administrative Commission to La Crosse Presbyterian Church, Hampton.

The Reverend Dr. Donna M. DeSarro-Raynal, moderator  
The Reverend Dr. Christian R. Shearer  
Ruling Elder Bruce Knight (Kirkwood)

On October 25, 2022, an Administrative Commission was appointed, in accordance with G-3.0109b of the Book of Order, in response to a request from the Session of Lacrosse Memorial Presbyterian Church, Hampton, Virginia to review the sustainability and, if necessary, to implement the dissolution of the Lacrosse Memorial congregation. The Moderator was authorized by the Presbytery to appoint three members to the Commission.

On March 26, 2023, at a stated meeting of the Congregation, moderated by Dr. DeSarro-Raynal, the congregation voted to request that the Presbytery dissolve the Congregation in accordance with the provisions of the Book of Order, G-3.0301.

#### E. ANNUAL STATISTICAL SUMMARY REPORT FOR 2022

The Presbytery of Eastern Virginia submitted its annual statistical report to the Office of the General Assembly (OGA) and the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic for the year ending December 31, 2022. The 47 particular churches had 11,473 total active members, a decrease of 219 members from 2021.

The following churches had overall gains in membership in 2022:

First Church Hampton, First Church Norfolk, Knox, Lafayette, Naomi Makemie, Green Acres, St. Andrew, Grace Covenant, Christ, Wycliffe, and Providence.

Notable Baptism statistics are Kings Grant 8, Jamestown 7, First Church Virginia Beach 7, and Grace Covenant 6. Jamestown's had the highest number of baptisms compared to membership.

The Clerk of Session of Wycliffe Church, Virginia Beach, submitted a complete statistical report on December 3, 2022, the day that the OGA statistical website "opened." This is appreciated very much by the staff of the OGA and the Presbytery.

## **B. PRESBYTERY COUNCIL (PC)**

**1. MOTION:** The Presbytery Council recommends to the Presbytery the election of:

Nominations Committee

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey S. Bell  
Rev. Dr. Michael T. Condrey  
RE Linda Marley Smith (Simonsdale)

**Motion Made \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_**

**2. MOTION:** That the Presbytery approve a gift of \$65,000.00 to Massanetta Springs Camp & Conference Center, Harrisonburg, VA.

**Motion Made \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_**

**\*3. MOTION:** That the Presbytery approve the actions taken by the Presbytery Council and receive the narrative report.

**Motion Made \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_**

**C. COMMISSION ON MINISTRY (COM)**

**1. MOTION:** The Commission on Ministry moves that the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia approve the following Policy on Boundary Training and other sexual misconduct prevention measures.

Background: This section on Prevention will become part of a revised presbytery sexual misconduct policy which is being drafted. If the proposed Amendments to the Constitution regarding boundary training are passed by a majority of presbyteries, as expected, then the presbytery will be required to have a policy on boundary training.

**Motion Made \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_**

**\*2. MOTION:** That the Presbytery approve the actions taken by the COM.

**Motion Made \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_**

**D. COMMISSION ON PREPARATION FOR THE MINISTRY (CPM)**

**\*1. MOTION:** That the narrative report of the CPM be received by the Presbytery.

**Motion Made \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_**

**E. NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

**1. MOTION:**

That the Presbytery elect the following:

SYNOD of the Mid-Atlantic Commissioner, Class of 2025

The Rev. Dr. Lawrence L. Willis

**Motion Made \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_**

**F. COMPASSION, PEACE, AND JUSTICE MINISTRIES**

**\* 1. MOTION:**

That the Presbytery receive the report of the Hunger Ministry Team, the Peacemaking Committee, and the Racial Dialogue Team.

Motion Made \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

**G. SESSIONAL RECORDS REVIEW COMMITTEE**

**\* 1. MOTION:** That the Presbytery approve the report for the First Quarter of 2023.

Motion Made \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

**H. CONGREGATIONAL VITALITY TEAM(CVT)**

That the narrative report be received.

**I. BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**\* 1. MOTION:** That the Presbytery approve use of \$250,000 from the assets of dissolved congregations held in the Temporarily Restricted Fund, to create a designated restricted fund for Property Management to cover expenses of PEVA’s former church properties until they are sold or re-purposed and to cover costs of un-budgeted urgent capital needs of other PEVA property. The fund would be replenished over-time from the assets of dissolved congregations up to the original amount of \$250,000. The fund will be managed by the Board of Trustees.

Background: Presbytery’s CPA suggested creation of a temporarily designated fund would be a better way to plan and account for expenses of PEVA properties.

Motion Made \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

**\* 2. MOTION:** That the Presbytery approve the action taken by the Trustees

Motion Made \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_