

THE PRESBYTERY OF NEW HARMONY
105th STATED MEETING MINUTES
Presbyterian College, Clinton
May 21, 2022

PRESENT:

Ruling Elders: Celebration – Robert Callender; Cheraw First – Larry Zimmerman; Congruity – Leroy James; Ebenezer – Jacquelyn Rembert; Fraser Memorial – Louis Mays; Friendship – Lossie Matthews; G.W. Long Memorial – David Brooks; John Calvin – Joe Bittle; Melina – Linda Jackson; Myrtle Beach – Will Gravely, Brian P'Pool; New Bethel – Robert Luther Carmichael; New Covenant – Geneva Sharp; Summerton – Doris Benke; Sumter Second – Ronetta Moses; Trinity Surfside – Kathleen Fair; Wedgefield – Ron Price; Westminster – Gertrude Washington; Williamsburg – Kelly Atkinson.

Teaching Elders: Robert Bannan, Annette Brewer, Vikki Brogdon, Ella Busby, Frank Colclough, Steve Fitzgerald, Jarred Hammet, Carnell Hampton, Josie Holler, John Hopkins, Jennifer Kottler, Gavin Meek, Mary Ramirez.

Commissioned Pastors: Delcia Harper-Baxter, Othan Sharp, Chuck Staggs.

Guiding Council: Barbara Champagne, Dorothy McBride.

Certified Christian Educators: Avery Dickson.

Corresponding Members: Larry Hill, Sy Hughes, Joyce Lieberman, Alonza Washington.

NHP Leaders:

Visitors: Carrie Lewis.

Presbytery Staff:

Excused Teaching Elders: Bob Brearley, John Brearley, Christa Brewer, Pete Brzezinski, Jim Burton, Ashley Cheek, Tom Dendy, Jody Foster, Rodney Foster, Louis Imsande, Corey Ingold, Tom Langston, Jenni Marshall, Jane Osment, John Parks, Eva Ruth, Dan Sansbury, Nathan See, Mike Sorrell, Sam Sparks, Joan Yates.

Excused Commissioned Pastors: Jack Humphries, Marshall Ivey.

Excused Sessions: Chesterfield, Hartsville First, Latta, Morton, Mt. Lisbon, Trinity Mayesville.

ALSO EXCUSED (honorably retired minister members): Michael Allen, Richard Andrews, Sue Arledge, Alan Arnold, Judy Cettei, Art Chartier, Robert Chastain, Carol Dickerson, Snow Donmoyer, Malcolm Doubles, Michael Fleenor, Roger Gulick, Frank Holsclaw, Ray Howe, Thomas Johnson, Robert Ledbetter, Soo Hoon Lee, Gary Lowe, Robert Maclin, William Moore,

Don Muncie, Myong Paik, Rhett Talbert, George Wilkes, Robert Wilkes, William Wilson.

ABSENT Teaching Elders: Scott Andrews, Nick Cheek, Joshua Jang, Tony Larson, Peter Lee, Aaron Stevens.

Absent Commissioned Pastors: Davis Bessinger, William A. Johnson, Bob Sloan, Elijah Washington.

Absent Sessions: Bennettsville First, Carolina, Cousar Memorial, Fork, Georgetown, Goodwill, Grandview, Harmony, Hebron, Indiantown, Jefferson, Kentyre, Kingston, Korean American, Lake City, Manning, Marion, McColl First, Mizpah, Mt. Pisgah, Mt. Sinai, Mt. Zion, Murrells Inlet, New Harvest, Olanta First, Pageland Second, Parkwood, Patrick, Pawleys Island, Ruby, Salem Black River, Society Hill, St. Paul's, Sumter First, Swan Lake, Timmonsville, White Oak.

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Upon hearing from the Stated Clerk, the Rev. Gavin D. Meek, that a quorum was present, **the Moderator, Elder Dorothy McBride**, declared it so and **called the 105th Stated Meeting of Presbytery of New Harmony to order with prayer at 1:45 pm on the campus of Presbyterian College, Clinton, SC in room 102 in Neville Hall.**

The Moderator requested that the Stated Clerk review the proposed **Docket** and the **Omnibus Motion** from the Guiding Council and, on its behalf, move adoption, which he did; the motion did not need a second, as it came from "a committee of the whole." The Omnibus Motion was as follows (reports in the appendix of these minutes):

Approve all the actions of the Presbytery of New Harmony which took place in the following Stated Meetings using ZOOM technology:

- **August, 18, 2020**
- **November 14, 2020**
- **February 20, 2021**
- **May 15, 2021**
- **August 17, 2021**
- **November 16, 2021**
- **February 26, 2022**

Receive the following attached written reports and approve the following therein:

- **Stated Clerk** including the reports on two separate issues:
 - 1) the report concerning **case 2022-1**, that on May 16, 2022, **the Investigating Committee reported that it has concluded its investigation and determined that there are no charges to be filed.**
 - 2) the **Rev. Jennifer Hope Kottler** has fulfilled the Constitutional requirement found in G-2.0505b, having "furnish the presbytery with

evidence of having surrendered membership in any and all other Christian churches with which the minister has previously been associated." This is the **final requirement and makes complete** her transfer to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) as Teaching Elder and Minister of Word and Sacrament and her membership in the Presbytery of New Harmony.

- **Guiding Council**, including Recommendations 1 and 2 concerning, respectively, approving the Covenant with the Presbyterian Communities of SC and a change in the Guiding Council's description to state that it is the Immediate Past Moderator who moderates the Guiding Council should the EP/SC not be present;
- **Committee on Ministry (COM)**, including the following recommendation: In accordance with the request of the Rev. Johanna Wint, a minister member in good standing, be released from ordered ministry as a Teaching Elder / Minister of the Word of Sacrament in accordance with G-2.0507 and with thanks for her many years of service to the Presbytery of New Harmony and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
- **Committee on Preparation (CPM);**
- **Camp Pee Dee Administrative Commission;**
- **John Calvin Administrative Commission; and**
- **New Harvest Administrative Commission.**

The Moderator stated that a second was not needed since this recommendation came from the Guiding Council, a "committee of the whole." There were no requests to remove any items from the Omnibus Motion, therefore, the Moderator called for a vote. After the vote, the Moderator stated that the recommendation passed, and thus declared the **Docket and Omnibus Motion approved.**

The Moderator requested that the first-time Ruling Elder Commissioners be introduced. There were no new **Corresponding Members** to be seated.

The Moderator recognized the **Stated Clerk, Rev. Gavin D. Meek** who made a brief report, reminding the presbytery that the Investigating Committee in case 2022-1 reported that it has concluded its investigation and determined that there are no charges to be filed.

The Moderator then recognized the **Moderator of the Guiding Council, the Rev. Gavin D. Meek**, who called attention to the report in the Commissioners Handbook. He then reviewed the presbytery's design and all the changes that have occurred in NHP committee structure given that it was approved right before the pandemic.

The Moderator the recognized the **Rev. Josie Holler, Moderator of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM)** and who made a wonderful presentation on the need for all

presbyters and Sessions to be on the lookout for those who God may be calling to ordained ministry as a Minister of Word and Sacrament.

The Moderator then introduced the Good News from Our Congregations, a time on the Docket when Ruling Elders share Good News from their congregations; there were about ten who shared.

Following an opportunity for brief announcements, thanking all those who provided leadership, made reports and participated, and announcing that the next Stated Meeting will be **Tuesday, August 16, 2022 at First, Bennettsville**, the **Moderator declared** that all the business for the 105th Stated Meeting was finished and asked if there was any objection to adjourn. Hearing and seeing none, the Moderator **declared it so ordered by unanimous consent**.

The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer at 2:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Rev. Gavin D. Meek,
Stated Clerk and Transitional Executive Presbyter**