

Presbytery of Central Carolinas
6th Stated Meeting
Threshold Church

Friday, April 26, 2024

06-01.

Altan Presbyterian Church

1. TE Robert Childs (Excused)
2. RE

Asheville Hope (Mission Group)

1. TE Drew McCarty - Evangelist

Banks Presbyterian Church

1. TE Eric Bartel, Stated Supply
2. RE Marlene Reed, Jim Hasty

Bensalem

1. TE John Stone, Stated Supply
2. RE Christopher Monroe

Benton Heights Presbyterian Church

1. TE Paul Saleeby
2. RE Jimmy Duncan, Paula Crook

Bethlehem

1. CP Josh Herrin
2. RE Amy Moore, Patricia Sloan

Cameronian

1. CP Phil Joines
2. RE

Centre Presbyterian Church

1. TE Logan Keck
2. RE Rick Wagner, Jim Kniffen

Christ Church – Anderson

1. TE Nate Wolcott
2. RE Nathan Turner, Dennis Burt

Christ Community Church - Montreat

1. TE Richard White, David Taylor
2. RE Dan Newcomer, Russell Boardman

Christ Fellowship Church – Southern Pines

1. TE Jim Thyne, Stated Supply
2. RE

Faith Liberation Community Church

1. VACANT
2. RE Betty Alexander

Garden Memorial EPC

1. TE Rob Chambers (Unexcused)
2. RE

Grace Church – Brevard

1. TE Brian Land
2. RE Joe Kirk

Grace Haven Presbyterian (Mission Group)

1. TE Jaye Morgan – Evangelist (Unexcused)

Greenville Presbyterian Church

1. TE Donovan Campbell
2. RE Chuck Marion, Genie McDill

Hendersonville Presbyterian Church

1. TE Rob McClellan, Charles Reed (Unexcused)
2. RE Caryl Mobley, Terre Lucas

House of Mercy (Mission Group)

1. TE Chad Smith, Evangelist

Indian Hill Presbyterian Church

1. Vacant
2. RE

Kershaw Evangelical Presbyterian Church

1. TE Kevin Hartley (Excused)
2. RE Tom Thomas Bryant, Michael Volpe

Lake Forest Huntersville

1. TE Mike Moses
2. RE Dave Gregory, Darrell Lipe, Mike Rashid, Allen Roes

Lake Forest West (Satellite)

1. TE Aron Gibson
2. RE Amy Eatmon

Lighthouse Evangelical Presbyterian Church

1. TE Any Schuster
2. RE Alex Kummerow

Living Life Church

1. TE Joshua Joohyung Jo (Unexcused)

McBee Presbyterian Church

1. TE Mark Dickinson
2. RE

McLean Presbyterian Church

1. TE Jamie Smith (Unexcused)
2. RE Absent

Garden Memorial Presbyterian Church

1. TE Rob Chambers
2. RE

Nell Townsend Presbyterian Church

1. TE Vacant
2. RE

New Cut Presbyterian Church

1. Vacant
2. RE Jamie Roberts, Tina Mangun

New Vision (Mission Group)

1. TE Peter Cha – Evangelist

Overbrook Presbyterian Church

1. TE Bill Wade
2. RE Bob Campbell

Riceville Valley Community Church

1. TE Howard Quach
2. RE

Rocky River Presbyterian Church

1. TP Vacant
2. RE

Rourk Presbyterian Church

1. CP: Michael Price
2. RE: Don Smith

Siler Presbyterian Church

1. TE: Michael Krauter
2. RE: Rosy Farrell, Dan Barry (Moderator-Elect), Brenda Price

St. Giles Presbyterian Church

1. TE Nate Atwood, Tim Carey
2. RE Thomas Davis

St. Matthew Presbyterian Church (Administrative Commission)

1. TE Vacant
2. RE

Storyhill Church

1. TE Michael Flake, Grey Segars
2. RE April Zuideneen, Chad Larrabee

The Village Church (Mission Group)

1. TE Scott Walters - Evangelist

Threshold Church

1. TE Gabe Swing
2. RE Chuck Engstrom, Jen Stretch

Valley Hope Community Church

1. TE Anthony Rodriguez
2. RE Ben Lillard, Randy Stephens

Walkersville Evangelical Presbyterian Church

1. TE Paul Rankin
2. RE Dennis Robinson, Ann Rose

Warehouse 242 Church

1. TE Mike Lawrie (Excused)
2. RE Jessica (Jess) Fischli, Joel Kuehn

Warrenton Presbyterian Church

1. TE Vacant
2. RE

Retired (Active) Teaching Elders

TE Michael T Boulware
TE James Braswell, Moderator
TE James "Bucky" Brown
TE Don Fortson
TE Brian Holt
TE James Lankford
TE Larry Pittman
TE Ken Thomas

Teaching Elders Serving Out of Bounds

TE Brian Martin, PastorServe
TE George Schwab, Prof. Erskine Seminary
TE Rachel Toone, Dean of Spiritual Life, Montreat
TE Christian Zebley, Missionarey
TE Nicole Unice

Candidates

Katie Piquette
Victor Leal

Observers

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|-------------------|---|
| Jared Barfield | Monroe NC |
| Scott Bulluck | Matthews, NC |
| James Cochran | Anderson, SC |
| Elizabeth Gibson | Virginia Beach, VA |
| Bobbie Jean | Goldsmith Iva, SC |
| TE Cron Gibson | Founder, Exec. Dir. Of Hopewell Ministry Center |
| Mary Robin Gibson | |
| Stephen Groves | Charlotte, NC |
| Dona Haney | Waxhaw, NC |
| Renee Hasty | |
| Elizabeth Hays | Starr, SC |
| Butch Hill | Waxhaw, NC |
| Anita Hill | Waxhaw, NC |
| Cyndie Howard | Mooreville, NC |
| Victor Leal | Huntersville, NC |
| Barry Loftis | Anderson, SC |
| Jane Lutz | Monroe, NC |
| Brent Lutz | Monroe, NC |
| Beth McDonald | Kershaw, SC |
| Stephen McKenzie | |
| Laura Morris | Hendersonville, NC |
| Frank Mummert | Matthews, NC |
| Chandler Owens | |

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Amy Russo | Charlotte, NC |
| Kimberly Sauer | Monroe, NC |
| Marion Snider | Anderson, SC |
| Shawn Stewart | Black Mountain, NC |
| Peggy Stone | Rockingham, NC |
| Dianne W. Sutphin | |
| Magda Thomas | Charlotte, NC |
| Robert Wallace | Hendersonville, NC |
| Larry Williams | Hermitage, PA |
| Carol Williams | Hermitage, PA |

- 06-02. The meeting was called to order by the Moderator, TE Jim Braswell at 1:00 PM and opened the meeting in prayer. The Moderator welcomed the members of the presbytery and invited the pastor, TE Gabe Swing of Threshold Church, to bring greetings from the host church on behalf of the Session and supplied instructions on the facilities and the hosts available to help in any manner to have a smooth meeting.
- 06-03. The Moderator invited TE Nate Wolcott, Chaplain, to lead the court in a time of opening Prayer & Worship.
- 06-04. Preliminary Matters were presented by the Moderator TE Jim Braswell and Stated Clerk TE Robert Howard.
- The Stated Clerk declared that there was a quorum with 38 Ruling Elder Commissioners and 34 Teaching Elders registered in attendance.
 - The Moderator addressed some needed changes in the Proposed Docket and asked if there was a motion from the floor to adopt the docket. The motion to adopt the updated docket was made, seconded, and approved unanimously by voice.
 - The Moderator entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the of the 5th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Central Carolinas.
 - Commissioners were reminded of the upcoming General Assembly June 18-20, 2024 and that registration is now open for “Early Bird” registration until May 16, 2024.
 - The Moderator also took to welcome to first-time commissioners and corresponding members.
- 06-05. A Video Presentation by Michelle Munger, Presbytery Information Technologies Specialist, was viewed explaining the new software the presbytery will be using called ChurchTrac. The video led the group through an orientation of how to register and use the software and the future web site updates being made available.
- 06-06. The Moderator recognized TE Robert Howard, Stated Clerk, who gave the following report. Three communications from the General Assembly entities are as follows:
- The PCC has received communication from the General Assembly of the churches that have not submitted their 2023 Annual Church Reports. These Sessions are asked to submit their reports immediately.
 - Banks Presbyterian Church

Marvin, NC

- Christ Community Church – Montreat Montreat, NC
- Christ Fellowship Church Southern Pines, NC
- Grace Haven Presbyterian Church (Mission) Lexington, NC
- House of Mercy (Mission) Asheville, NC
- Indian Hill Presbyterian Church Stanfield, NC
- Lighthouse Evangelical Presbyterian Church Mooresville, NC
- McBee Presbyterian Church McBee, SC
- Rocky River Presbyterian Church Calhoun Falls, NC
- St. Matthews Presbyterian Church St. Matthews, NC
- Contact: Scott Blanchette, IT Lead
 Evangelical Presbyterian Church
 5850. Lee Blvd, Suite 510
 Orlando, FL 32822
 (407) 930-4373
- The PCC has received a draft of the purpose for a Disaster Relief Mission from this committee included in the packet. Responses to the draft are sincerely appreciated.
- The PPC has also received a letter of information from the Benefit Resources of the General Assembly included in the packet. The PCC hosted a member of the Benefit Resources at the 5th Stated Meeting who reported on the resources available to members.

06-07. The Executive Council finalized and sent the Pastoral Letter to Presbytery of Mid-America concerning the reception of the Memorial Presbyterian Church and Pastor Greg Johnson. The letter suggested referring to the General Assembly for further guidance in this decision. Presbytery of Mid-America at its April 2024 meeting has delayed any actions and sent two Overtures, not yet available to the PCC, to the G.A. The Overture from New River Presbytery was included in the Presbytery Packet for help in preparing those who will be attending the General Assembly in June 2024.

06-08. The Executive Council also acted on obtaining property insurance arising from the closing of churches in the PCC. Two churches, Park Avenue PC and Troy PC, will be closing in 2024 and one will be deeding the property to the PCC soon. The issue of obtaining insurance on the property will be an expense for the PCC until the Presbytery votes on what to do with the property.

06-09. The Executive Council also received a report from the Ministry Committee who is seeking to finalize a draft procedure for Receiving Congregations from other Denominations. There is presently one church, Eureka Presbyterian Church, Carthage, NC, who has applied to join the EPC and Varennes Presbyterian Church, Iva, SC, who is in the discovery phase of the process.

06-10. The PCC has received motions from two Church Sessions that will need to be addressed later in the meeting.

- The Session of Valley Hope Community Church, Swannanoa, NC overture to concur with the Presbytery of the Pacific Northwest proposed changes to the Book of Order Chapter 8-2. C.; 8-3. B. 2. and Book of Worship 3-3. J.

- The Session of Lighthouse EPC motion that the Presbytery of Central Carolinas remove the secret ballot voting for approval of Pastoral Candidates following Examinations on the floor of Presbytery. This proposal will be addressed by the court at the beginning of the Ministerial Committee's Report.

06-11. The Attendance and Parity report for today's meeting is still short of two Ruling Elder Commissioners for every Teaching Elder at each Presbytery meeting.

Finally, the Stated Clerk reported that the PCC has 17 Church Session who have not submitted Session Minutes for 2021, 2022, and 2023 and are out of order.

- Altan
- Banks
- Bensalem
- Benton Heights
- Cameronian
- Christ Fellowship
- Faith Liberation Community Christian Church
- Grace - Brevard
- Indian Hill PC
- Lake Forest PC
- Lighthouse PC
- Nell Townsend PC
- Overbrook PC
- Rocky River PC
- St Matthews PC
- Warehouse 242
- Warrenton PC

There will be a Clerk of Sessions training during the dinner hour Friday evening. A motion to receive the Stated Clerk's report was made, seconded and approved unanimously.

06-12. The Moderator recognized RE Dan Barry, Moderator – Elect and Chair of the Stewardship Committee, to bring that committee's report. RE Dan Barry reported that the 2024 YTD finances of the PCC are in a good place. An update of the Church Property issues of closing churches and the cost involved with insurance and upkeep until a decision is made by the PCC was explained to the court. A motion to receive the report was made, seconded and approve unanimously by voice vote.

06-13. The Moderator called RE Amy Russo and Scott Stewart to bring a Report of the Missions Committee (Global Focus) The Missions Committee recommends that the PCC is ready to take on adopting a people group who have need of hearing the Gospel of Jesus Christ and offer the following motion:

Motion: "In accordance with the mission of the EPC to fulfill the great commission and aligned with our call as a presbytery to make bold efforts to live into that mission to Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the utter most part of the

world, the Presbytery of Central Carolina Mission Team recommends the adoption of the Western Punjab people of Pakistan, as an Engage 2025 effort and in partnership with EPC World Outreach.”

The motion did not need a second, coming from committee, and put to the court by the Moderator. The vote was made by asking people to stand in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously. RE Amy Russo moved that the Mission Committee be received. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

06-14. **Order of the Day:** Church Equipping Session – Church Planting: Parent, Partner or Patron. RE Elizabeth Gibson, Chair of the Northampton Church Planting Network, addressed the court on the possibilities of church planting and why it should become a priority. RE Elizabeth Gibson introduced her husband, TE Cron Gibson, who led the court in a discussion on why church planting became important in his own ministry history and the results that came from God’s work through those efforts. TE Anthony Rodriguez of Valley Hope was invited to give a brief history of how Valley Hope was a church plant by Christ Community Church – Montreat and now after a decade the Session began dedicating giving a small portion of their receipts to church planting and the benefits Valley Hope has received from that commitment. TE Mike Moses was invited by TE Rodriguez to bring the next portion of the presentation on church planting. TE Mike Moses asked TE Bill Wade of Overbrook and TE Logan Keck of Centre to help in a discussion of their involvement in taking up the challenge of becoming involved in church planting by seeking ways of partnering and contributing to church. TE Elizabeth Gibson announced and invited churches and individuals to the planned prayer walks on August 19th, 2024, in Swannanoa, NC and on August 20th, 2024, in Spartanburg, SC. These prayer walks are for the purpose of asking God to create an interest in those areas for an EPC church plant. The final part of the presentation was organized into three small groups to help churches discuss how they might take part in church planting through parenting a new church, partnering with a church planter or supporting financially a church plant.

06-15. The Moderator recognized the time of recess for Fellowship & Dinner and led the court in prayer for God to bless the food and the fellowship of the members gathered. A Worship and Celebration of the Lord’s Supper was observed at 7:00 PM with TE Gabe Swing leading in preaching the Word of God and administering the Lord’s Supper. The evening intercession focus was on the work of the Missions Committee work through the PCC. The offering was designated to the Barnabas Fund of the Presbytery of Central Carolinas. A prayer ministry and fellowship were made available after the close of the service for those in need of encouragement and intercession.

Saturday, April 27, 2024

06-16. At 8:30 AM Moderator TE Jim Braswell called the court to order and led the court in prayer to begin the business of the day. Chaplain Candidate Katie Piquette was invited to lead the court in a morning devotional message to satisfy the requirement for those seeking to be ordained in the EPC. Candidate Piquette preached from the Gospel of

Mark, Chapter 8 and her sermon focused on the calling to trust in Jesus in the mist of uncertain times and occasions of doubt. At the conclusion the Moderator entertained a motion to sustain this portion of the examination. A motion from the floor to sustain this portion of the examination (G. 12-2. D.) of Candidate Piquette was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.

06-17. RE Carol Williams, Presbytery of the Alleghenies, was invited to the stage and introduced by the Moderator as a member of the Ad-Interim Committee on “*Pastoral Letter of Racial Lament and Hope.*” RE Williams brought an introductory video of the members of the committee who shared their work and hopes in writing this draft Pastoral Letter of Racial Lament and Hope. The need to speak on the issue of racism was the impetus for this draft and it is with humility. The collective purpose is to foster a unity through lament and hope that the committee offers this letter as a resource for our church members. The committee offers this draft and expects feedback from the Presbyteries of the EPC for further perfection. RE Williams invite the court to break into small groups using the following four questions to guide group discussion:

1. How does this letter help you understand and address racism?
2. Is there anything that is particularly encouraging?
3. Is there anything that is particularly troubling?
4. How do you see this letter helping the EPC?

RE Williams asked representatives to bring the groups’ reactions and themes discussed in the group. There were various opinions shared about the draft and its success and failure in addressing issues individuals found or felt were not adequately expressed. Scripture and theological research were excellent and could have been more developed. Some felt that the paper was heavy on “white privilege” and had some air of Marxist thought not uniting and maybe further divisive. Others expressed the idea of lamentation was a good start to dealing with uniting in Christ in witnessing to the evil of racism. The Moderator thanked RE Carol Willaims for coming and leading the court in a review of this draft from committee.

06-18. RE Anita Hill was recognized by the Moderator to bring the report from Church Development Committee. RE Hill invited TE Rob McClelland, Church Health Coordinator, to give a report on the work of the Church Health Trainees and their work in the Presbytery.

Women’s Retreat:

On April 6th, the women of our presbytery had a Regional Women’s Gathering at Lake Forest/Huntersville with a focus on “Helping Women Deal with Difficult Situations in our World”. A little over 40 women attended from many of our churches. The event was a success.

Small Church Network (SCN):

Corrina Gambrel has taken a call in at Cyrus Springs which is in the Coastal Presbytery. TE Mark Dickerson has agreed to step into will now lead the Small Church Network.

The committee asked Mark Dickinson to serve on the CDC and he agreed pending presbytery approval.

A networking dinner for small churches will be held during the April presbytery meeting at the Friday night dinner. Join us at Threshold once you pick up your dinner. Elizabeth Gibson will join us for a discussion regarding how to engage small churches in Church Planting.

Church Health:

We are following up with churches regarding the Missional Posture Assessment that attendees of presbytery completed in January. We found that it is beneficial for entire sessions to complete the assessment to get a broader and more complete view of the status of the church. We have contacted many pastors to see if they would like to proceed with this next step.

We are planning Refocus Workshop meetings. The purpose of this gathering is to assist churches in aligning perception with reality through self-discovery assessments, hands-on learning, and group interaction. The desired outcome is for the church to understand its current health status and evaluate next steps to improve overall church health.

Our first workshop is scheduled to be at Siler Presbyterian the evening of September 26th. If you and your session are interested in joining us for this event, please contact Anita Hill.

We conducted training for our Church Health Coaches in Hendersonville on 3/16. Work continues to train health coaches and engage additional churches. We will continue our training on 4/25 and 4/26. Robert Wallace and David Taylor agreed to serve as coaches.

TE Rob McClelland asked that the Presbytery receive their report. The Moderator requested that the report be received by unanimous consent. The Motion was approved.

06-19. TE Logan Keck was invited to give the report of the Church Planting Committee. TE Keck gave a brief overview of the work the Church Planting Committee has undertaken in securing and building networks to help in future church planning. TE Keck invited TE Drew McCarty to give a brief overview of the work he is undertaking as an Evangelist with the Asheville Hope Mission Group. TE Keck explained, from the Book of Order, the difference between a "Mission Group" and a "Mission Church."

- **A mission group** is the first stage in the development of a mission church. A mission group may be initiated by a Church court or by groups from outside the denomination recognized by a presbytery. Mission groups fall under the oversight of an appropriate committee or commission of a Church court. (G. 5-3)
- **A mission church** is constituted by the presbytery and is distinguished from a local church in that it has no permanent governing body and must be governed or supervised by others as defined below. Its goal is to be established as a local church as soon as this can be done in good order. Mission churches enjoy the same status as local churches in relation to civil government. (G. 5-4)

On behalf of the Planting Church Committee, TE Keck offered the following motion:

Motion: The Church Planting Committee moves that the PCC would change the status for Asheville Hope from a “Mission Group” to a “Mission Church” and that the following individuals would serve as the Administrative Commission (G. 5-4. A. 3):

- TE Drew McCarty, Evangelist, Moderator
- TE Anthony Rodriguez, Valley Hope Church
- TE Brian Land, Grace Church, Brevard
- TE Howard Quach, Riceville Valley Community Church, Clerk
- RE Robert Wallace, Hendersonville Presbyterian Church
- RE Joe Kirk, Grace Church – Brevard
- RE Ben Lillard, Vally Hope Church

The Administrative Commission has oversight of Asheville Hope Mission Church:

- Which includes the responsibility to receive members into the mission church as prescribed in G-8. Mission churches shall maintain membership rolls in the same manner as, but separate from, other local churches. (G. 5-4. B. 1)
- Instruct that the members of Asheville Hope Mission Church are entitled and subject to the benefits of discipline as described in the Book of Discipline. (G. 5-4. B. 2)
- And shall record and submit its minutes to the Presbytery for review in the same manner as a local church. (G. 5-4. C.)

The motion did not need a second from the committee and the floor was open to discussion. Hearing no discussion, the Moderator moved the question. The motion was approved unanimously.

06-20. Report from the Missional Director—TE Brian Land reported that he has been working with Rob McClelland, Church Health Coordinator, and RE Elizabeth Gibson Northampton Church Planting Network, which resources church planting in the Presbytery of New River, The Presbytery of Coastal Mid-Atlantic and the Presbytery of Central Carolinas on the problem of the pipeline in look and developing future leaders. TE Brian Land has taken the opportunity to meet with students interested in Church Planting at Reformed Theological Seminary in Charlotte NC in that endeavor. The General Assembly is also working to establish regional church planting coordinators in each of the presbyteries of the EPC. TE Brian Land moved the following motion:

Motion: That RE Elizabeth Gibson of the Northampton Church Planting Network be appointed as the Presbytery of Central Carolinas’ Regional Church Planting Coordinator.

The Moderator asked if there was a “second” from the floor. The Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

06-21. RE Amy Russo was acknowledged to bring a report from the Missions Committee (Local Focus). RE Russo led the court in brief prayer for World Outreach workers laboring in

hard places as well as prayers for those unsaved in our local area. RE Russo welcomed and introduced Mrs. Valarie Smith and Mrs. Susan Crace who lead “Mothers of Preschoolers at Threshold. They two mothers spoke of the vital and important role this ministry plays in reaching and supporting the families in the community. RE Russo asked that the Presbytery receive their report. The Moderator entertained a motion that the report be received by unanimous consent. The Motion was approved.

06-22. Concurrence of Ascending Overture from the Presbytery of Pacific Northwest.

The Moderator recognized TE Anthony Rodriguez who brought to the floor a motion for the PCC to concur with the Presbytery of Pacific Northwest’s Ascending Overture to the General Assembly 2024. TE Anthony Rodriguez informed the court that the Session of Valley Hope met on March 11, 2024. Having examined the overture coming out of the Presbytery of the Pacific Northwest and finding its reasoning to be both theologically justified, consistent with our polity, and pastorally wise, The Valley Hope Church Session makes the following motion:

Motion: The Session of Valley Hope Church wishes to move that the Presbytery of the Central Carolinas concur with the Presbytery of the Pacific Northwest to amend the Book of Order with the following Ascending Overture approved by the P-PNW to the 2024 General Assembly in Memphis, TN.

[Begin Ascending Overture]

Proposed Ascending Overture to the EPC GA 2024 from the Presbytery of the Pacific Northwest

Whereas the Book of Order offers no path into church membership apart from verbal/ written "evidence of true commitment to Jesus Christ... and determination to live ...,"

Whereas, the covenant community includes baptized individuals, who are developmentally disabled, unable to profess faith and promise commitment,

Whereas, the words of Jesus Christ (John 9) clarify that infirmity, deformity and the like, may stem from the common curse, the suffering individual not at fault, the condition not a consequence or punishment of his/her sin, but for the glory of God,

Whereas our Lord Jesus teaches us to know God as a Father who delights to give good gifts to his children far more abundantly than we can imagine (Matthew 7, Ephesians 3),

Whereas, in 1 Corinthians 11 the Apostle Paul more specifically defines "unworthy" participation in the Lord's Supper as "getting drunk" and/ or eating so much that one humiliates the poor "who have nothing to eat,"

Whereas the Westminster Confession of Faith 10.3 not only considers, "elect infants, dying in infancy," to be among the regenerate, but also, "elect persons, who are incapable of being outwardly called by the ministry of the word,"

Be it resolved that the Book of Order be amended by adding the italicized words below to the citations listed:

Book of Government, Chapter 8-2C

The Session shall satisfy itself that each applicant for membership demonstrates evidence of true commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and determination to live as becomes a follower of Christ. It is appropriate for the Session to ask for testimonials of a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and a sharing of one's growth in faith. *In the case of baptized, covenant children and adults, who are developmentally disabled, unable to demonstrate the above-listed evidence, the Session may consider them as members in good standing, admitting them to the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.*

Book of Government, Chapter 8-3B.2

Persons may be received into active membership in the following manner:

a. By profession of faith

Ordinarily the person(s) being received on profession of faith shall make that profession in a public service of worship in the presence of the congregation. If not previously baptized, each person shall be baptized in accordance with the Book of Worship as it deals with adult baptism. If already on the baptized roll, the person shall be transferred to the active roll. *The Session may receive into active membership any baptized covenant child or adult, who is developmentally disabled, unable to cognitively and verbally profess faith.*

b. By reaffirmation of faith

Persons who have previously made a profession of faith who apply for active membership may be unable to secure a certificate of membership or may wish to reaffirm their faith.

c. By transfer of membership

Persons may be received by transfer of membership from another Evangelical Presbyterian Church or from some other body recognized as a part of the true Church. The Session may not deny membership for any reason not related to profession of faith and obedience.

Book of Worship, Chapter 3-31

Baptized children may be admitted to the Lord's Supper provided they have appeared before the Session and professed their faith in a manner acceptable to the Session. At its discretion, the Session may admit such persons to full membership. *Also at its discretion, the Session may admit to the table developmentally disabled persons who have been deemed members in good standing.*

[End Ascending Overture]

- 06-23. Special Order: Motion from the Session of Lighthouse Church
The Moderator reminded the court that the next item on the docket designates 15 minutes to discuss a motion from the Session of the Lighthouse Church. The Moderator recognized TE Andy Schuster who presented the motion to the court concerning the process of voting on candidates during the period of examinations.

Motion: The Session of Lighthouse EPC unanimous request that the Presbytery of Central Carolinas remove the secret ballot voting procedure for approval of Pastoral Candidates following Examinations on the floor of Presbytery.

There was some discussion over the proposal. The Moderator recognized those who spoke of the advantages and disadvantages to any changes. TE Don Fortson was recognized by the Moderator who proposed the issue be sent to the Ministerial Committee for discussion and that the committee would bring a recommendation to the Presbytery at the next Stated Meeting. The Motion to refer to committee from the floor and a second was recognized by the Moderator. After some discussion over the motion to refer the Moderator asked the court if it was ready to vote. Hearing no objections the question was put to a vote.

Substitute Motion: That the Presbytery of Central Carolinas refer this matter of whether to use ballots in voting on Candidates seeking to be ordained to the Ministerial Committee for study and to have a recommendation for the court at the next Stated Meeting.

The motion to refer was approved by a voice vote.

- 06-24. Report of the Ministerial Committee – RE Butch Hill. The Moderator recognized RE Butch Hill who introduced the candidate to be examined, Ms. Katie Piquette who obtained a M.Div. from Denver Seminary and seeks to be ordained as a Hospital Chaplain with the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Asheville, N.C. TE Butch Hill invited TE George Schwab to lead the Court in examining the candidate.

TE George Schwab asked Katie Piquette to share about her Christian experience and growth, her sense of call to the Gospel ministry, and her motive for seeking ordination in the EPC (G. 12-2. B.) Hearing of her faith and growth, TE George Schwab moved that the testimony portion of the exam be closed pending questions from the floor. The motion

was seconded from the floor. The Moderator asked if there were any questions. Hearing none the motion was placed before the Court.

Motion: That the testimony portion of the exam of Candidate Katie Piquette be closed and this portion of the exam would be sustained.

The Motion was approved by voice vote.

TE George Schwab moved to the next part of the exam (G. 12-2. C) and asked Katie Piquette the following questions for the Bible Content portion of the Exam. List the Ten Commandments. Discuss six judges from the book of Judges. What was the sin of Jeroboam? List in order all the books of the New Testament. Describe the temptation of Jesus. List some parables of Jesus. Did Paul write the Pastorals? Explain the counter evidence. Thinking of 2 Timothy 3:16, how is Scripture useful?

TE George Schwab made a motion.

Motion: That the Bible Content portion of the exam be closed, and this portion of the exam would be sustained pending questions from the floor.

The Moderator acknowledge a second from the floor and opened the floor to further questions for the Candidate. Hearing none. The Motion was approved by voice vote.

TE George Schwab asked the Candidate if she affirmed the view of Scripture found in Chapter 1 of the WCF? The Candidate answered in the affirmative. She was also asked what exceptions she has to the *Westminster Confession of Faith* and Catechisms. The Candidate gave not exceptions.

TE George Schwab made a motion.

Motion: That the Exception portion of the exam be closed, and this portion of the exam would be sustained pending questions from the floor.

The Moderator acknowledge a second from the floor and opened the floor to further questions for the Candidate. Hearing none. The Motion was approved by voice vote.

The Candidate was asked the following questions in theology and Sacrament. Do you subscribe to the Essentials of the Faith of the EPC without any reservations? Is Jesus the only way of salvation? What is your view on infallibility and inerrancy? Explain your view of Dispensationalism & if you hold this view. Discuss biblical passages that teach the authority of Scripture. Describe the Trinity. Which comes first in the *Ordo*, faith or regeneration? Why? Who should be allowed at the Lord's Table? Explain your eschatology. Being satisfied with her response, TE George Schwab made a motion.

Motion: That the Theology and Sacrament portion of the exam be closed, and this portion of the exam would be sustained pending questions from the floor.

The Moderator acknowledge a second from the floor and opened the floor to further questions for the Candidate. Hearing none. The Motion was approved by voice vote.

The next part of the exam covered Church History. The Candidate was asked to give answer to the following questions. What is the history behind the Apostle's Creed? What was it addressing? Who was Ulrich Zwingli? What sets the Reformed tradition apart from other movements? When did the EPC come into existence? In your view, what is distinctive about the EPC's paper on women's ordination? Tell us the story of Andrew Brunson.

Being satisfied with her response, TE George Schwab made a motion.

Motion: That the Church History portion of the exam be closed, and this portion of the exam would be sustained pending questions from the floor.

The Moderator acknowledge a second from the floor and opened the floor to further questions for the Candidate. Hearing none. The Motion was approved by voice vote.

TE George Schwab moved to questions on Polity asking the following: Who is the chair of the church development committee? Who has primary responsibility for preparing a budget? Who has primary responsibility for overseeing a worship service? Who has primary responsibility for moderating the Session meeting? Why is it important for a Session to make provision for courses of instruction to train Ruling Elders before they are ordained? Should a funeral always focus on the hope of the resurrection? How would you do this? Why should the Session call for days of prayer and fasting?

Being satisfied with her response, TE George Schwab made a motion.

Motion: That the Polity portion of the exam be closed, and this portion of the exam would be sustained pending questions from the floor.

The Moderator acknowledge a second from the floor and opened the floor to further questions for the Candidate. Hearing none. The Motion was approved by voice vote.

Finally, questions on the Office of the Minister and the Word were put before the candidate. Those questions included: How would you counsel a suicidal person? How would you counsel a teen struggling with gender dysphoria? Tell us about the presence of evil in your work.

Being satisfied with her response, TE George Schwab made a motion.

Motion: That the Office of the Minister and the Word portion of the exam be closed, and this portion of the exam would be sustained pending questions from the floor.

The Moderator acknowledge a second from the floor and opened the floor to further questions for the Candidate. Hearing none. The Motion was approved by voice vote.

Having sustained all the portions of the examine according to the Book of Order (G 12-2. A.– D.), TE George Schwab moved the following:

Motion: That the exam as a whole be closed pending questions from the floor and the Court move to vote on the ordination of Candidate Katie Piquette.

The Moderator acknowledge a second from the floor and opened the floor to further questions for the Candidate. Hearing none. The Motion was approved by voice vote.

Candidate Katie Piquette and all family and friends who were in attendance were excused from the meeting so that the court could discuss the Candidate and her examination. After discussion, ballots were passed out to the Commissioners to fill out and the vote on the Candidate were marked, gathered and tallied buy the Ministerial Committee. The Committee reported that the vote was in the affirmative on the ordination and installation of Candidate Katie Piquette to the Office of Word and Sacrament. Candidate Piquette was welcomed back into the room and informed of the affirmative vote.

06-25. Service of Ordination. Ms. Katie Piquette was directly ordained by the PCC to serve, Out of Bounds, as a Hospital Chaplain with the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Asheville, N.C. (G. 13-6. A. & B.) RE Butch Hill invited TE Rachael Toones to propound the Ordination Vows (G. 13-2. A.) to Candidate Katie Piquette. Answering in the affirmative, RE Butch Hill asked the Candidate the Installation Questions (G. 13-6. B. 1. & 2.)

- Are you willing to take charge of the work to which you have been called, agreeable to your declaration when accepting the call?
- And do you, relying upon God for strength, promise to discharge it to the duties you have accepted?

Having affirmed her willingness to take charge of the work and duties, Ms. Piquette was asked to kneel. The Moderator invited anyone from the floor to come forward and lay their hands on the Candidate during the prayer of ordination. After the Court prayed over her, RE Butch Hill stated the following (G. 13-3. C.): By the authority of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and the Presbytery of Central Carolinas, I declare that Katie Piquette has been ordained to the office of Teaching Elder, and that she has been duly and properly installed as Chaplin at the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Asheville, N.C., in accord with the Word of God and the laws of this Church. As such, Teaching Elder Katie Piquette is entitled to be given support, encouragement, honor, and obedience in the Lord. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

06-26. TE Butch Hill moved the following:

Motion: That the Terms of Call for TE Katie Piquette to serve as Chaplain with the Veterans Affairs (VA) Hospital, Asheville, N.C., and acknowledge that she has

been endorsed by the General Assembly Chaplains Work and Care Committee – (CWCC)

| | |
|-----------------|----------|
| Terms of Call: | |
| Annual Salary | \$57,000 |
| Yearly Vacation | 2 Weeks |

The Motion did not need a second coming from the Ministerial Committee and was approved by voice vote.

06-27. Omnibus Motion. TE Butch Hill presented to the court moved an Omnibus Motion that included the following items.

[Begin Omnibus Motion]

1. Approve request to be excused received from TEs and CP's: TE Doug Vinez, TE Josh Schatzle, TE Joe Carvajal, CP Jamie Smith, RE Warren Dumford, Candidates Under Care; Katie Macturk, Thomas Davis
2. Approve request from Churches to be excused: McLean Presbyterian, Ellerbe, NC
3. Approve the following Teaching Elder Changes:
 - a. Approve TE Rob Chambers, Pastor at Garden Memorial to Retired, active status effective May 22, 2024.
 - b. Approve TE Steve Wilkinson, Pastor at Troy Presbyterian to Retired, active status effective May 1, 2024.
 - c. Approve Transfer of CP Corrina Gambrell to Presbytery of Coastal Mid-Atlantic as Commissioned Pastor for Cypress Springs EPC, Cameron, NC effective March 31, 2024.
4. Approve TE Donovan Campbell, Greenville Presbyterian, as Interim Moderator at Rocky River EPC. Effective March 31, 2024.

[End of Omnibus Motion]

06-27. TE Jim Braswell, Moderator led the court in its expression of appreciation to the host church– Threshold. The Moderator entertained a motion from the floor close the Sixth Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Central Carolinas with a charge and prayer. A Motion to adjourn with prayer and a charge was made, seconded and approved unanimously. The Moderator invited TE Nate Walcott, Chaplain, give the charge and prayer and lead the Court in singing the Doxology. The Moderator declared the meeting adjourned.

**Seventh Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of the Central Carolinas
Siler Presbyterian Church, Wesley Chapel, NC
September 27-28, 2024**