

**ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-NINTH STATED MEETING  
MINUTES OF SALEM PRESBYTERY  
FEBRUARY 9, 2021**

The One Hundred Twenty-Ninth Stated Meeting of Salem Presbytery, held on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 by Zoom, was called to order by the Presbytery Moderator, the Rev. Paul Sink at 9:00 a.m.

**ENROLLMENT:**

Commissioners		Commissioned Ruling Elders	10
Elders	55	Lay Pastors	4
Ministers	104	Certified Christian Educators	1
		Corresponding Members	1
		Administrative Staff	1
		Stated Clerk	1
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>177</b>
		(+Visitors - 16)	193

The following were present for this meeting of Presbytery:

**Ministers (104):**

Almeida, Margaret	Hazelrigg, Marti
Altwater Clifton, Lindsey	Hemrick, Jennie
Anderson, Amanda	Heyward, Will
Asher-Lawson, Marybeth	Horner, Fred
Barner, Taylor	Hoyle, Felicia Stewart
Bates, Timothy	Hoyle, William
Beach, Kathy	Jacobs, Dolly
Berry, Kent	Johnson, John
Blankinship, Joe	Johnson, Vicki
Bowers, Erin	Kerr, Russ
Broman-Fulks, Ken	Kirby, Barrie
Bruner, Olen	Kirby, Randal
Burleson, Thom	Lambeth, Jay
Cagle, David	Larsen, Eric
Campbell, Kathryn	Larsen, Emily Schlaman
Cannada, Jeremy	Layman, Debbie
Conley, Kevin	Lee, Charlie
Davee Lomax, Amanda	Lenger, Ruth
Dederer, Nancy Jo	Lingan, Jodi
Dew, Frank	Manchester, Inger
Dove, Keith	Marshall, Gordon
Duffield, Jill	McCain, Vicki
Dunnavant, Neill	McFarland, Bryan
Ealy, David	Milam, Judson
Elam, John	Milam, Travis
Engle, Terri	Mims, Ray
Fitchett, Judy	Moorefield, Susan
Fletcher, Patricia	Morrison, Kate
Fruits, Dana	Moss, Stephen
Glaser, Joanne	Mullen, Lisa Florence
Goodman, Kyle	Musser Gritter, Joshua
Griffin, R.C.	Musser Gritter, Lara
Hall, Randy	Otterbacher, Glenn
Hankins, Stephanie	Perkins, Sam
Harris, Randy	Pitts, Wes
Harrison, J. Evan	Priddy, Kim

Rhodes, Paul  
 Ridolfi, Paul  
 Rigel, Jessica  
 Riker, Cassandra  
 Rissmiller, Jim  
 Rummage, Brian  
 Sandlin, Mark  
 Sell, Caroline  
 Sell, Nathan  
 Senior, John  
 Sherrill, Butch  
 Simmons, Allison  
 Sink, Paul  
 Smith, Barbara  
 Smith, Jay  
 Smith, Jeff

Snipes, Steve  
 Sockwell, Jeff  
 Spangler, Laura  
 Steck, Stacey  
 Stevens, Courtney  
 Stevenson, Samuel  
 Taylor-Troutman, Andrew  
 Todd, Katie Barrett  
 Todd, Mason  
 Troyer, Elizabeth  
 Vazquez, Jorge  
 Walker, Dale  
 Wilson, Alicia  
 Wisner, Leigh  
 Wyche, Frank  
 Zehmer, Lee

**Ruling Elder Commissioners (55):**

Alamance  
 Alamance  
 Asheboro 1st  
 Baird's Creek  
 Bethany Graham  
 Bethany Statesville  
 Bethel  
 Burlington 1st  
 Burlington 1st  
 Church of the Cross  
 Clemmons  
 Clemmons  
 Community in Christ  
 Concord  
 Cooleemee  
 Covenant Greensboro  
 Covenant W-S  
 Fellowship  
 Greensboro 1st  
 Greensboro 1st  
 Greensboro 1st  
 Greensboro 1st  
 Griers  
 Guilford Park  
 High Point 1st  
 High Point 1st  
 Highland  
 Highland

Aydelette, Clint  
 Shores, Robert  
 Pugh, Ruth  
 Miller, Jinx  
 Russell, Ben  
 Bass, Ronny  
 Burney, Jacqueline  
 Abernathy, Wayne  
 Sellers, David  
 Peeples, Kaylene  
 Ring, Jane  
 Welch, Anne  
 Rife, Hope  
 Bergner, Gena  
 Dodd, Leann  
 Finch, Ann  
 Gaylor, Laura  
 French, Greg  
 Kiser, Doris  
 McIntosh, Beau  
 Nelson, Tom  
 Redhead, John  
 Kimbro, Donna  
 Taylor, E. B.  
 Brockmann, Carolyn  
 White, Bonnie  
 Kamtman, Leslie  
 Templeton, Carol

Immanuel  
 Jamestown  
 John Calvin  
 Lexington 1st  
 Logan  
 Mocksville 1st  
 Mount Jefferson  
 Mount Tabor  
 Mount Vernon  
 New Creation  
 North Wilkesboro  
 Oak Ridge  
 Pittsboro  
 Reidsville 1st  
 Rumble Memorial  
 Saint Paul High Point  
 Shady Side  
 Shallowford  
 Sparta  
 Springwood  
 St. Andrews  
 Starmount  
 Stony Creek  
 Third Creek  
 Thyatira  
 Unity  
 Westminster

Brown, John  
 Wissmiller, George  
 Faust, Margaret  
 McGee, Phyllis  
 Woods, Elaine  
 Alexander, Fred  
 McPhatter, Richard  
 Chunn, Vanessa  
 Hunter, Rachel  
 Wright, Lynn  
 Lipscomb, Ellen  
 Carlson, John  
 Harris, Linda  
 Balsley, Tilda  
 Rives, Carol  
 Davis, Doris T.  
 Peoples, Jo  
 Hartle, Jack  
 Russell, Mac  
 Ingle, Cynthia  
 Heestand, Daryl  
 Buchanan, Jinny  
 Barker, Janet  
 Steele, Elizabeth  
 Lambert, Janet  
 Turner, Robert  
 Deaton, Nancy

**Commissioned Ruling Elders (10):**

Beard, James  
 Blankenship, Jerry  
 Braxton, Steve  
 Crunk, Sidney  
 Glaser, Timothy

Groff, John  
 Harley, James  
 Henderson, Nita  
 Moore, Sue  
 Terry, Frederick

**Lay Pastors (CREs without current commission) (4):**

Bates-Harley, LaQreshia A.            Flippin, J. Sue  
Browder, William                        Jenkins, Samuel

**Corresponding Members (1):** Lesane, Warren (Pby of Charlotte, and Executive and Stated Clerk, Synod of the Mid-Atlantic)

**Stated Clerk, Salem Presbytery (1):**                        Vaughan, David

**Presbytery Staff (1):**    Ratledge, Christine

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CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING PRAYER

The Moderator, the Rev. Paul Sink, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and constituted the meeting with prayer. Special instructions for participating by Zoom were given.

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MORNING WORSHIP

In observation of Black History Month, the Rev Timothy Bates and the Rev. Paul Sink led Salem Presbytery in worship. The Rev. Jimmie Hawkins, PMA's Director of the Office of Public Witness in Washington, DC, preached a sermon on One God - One People using the scripture readings from Joel 2 and Acts 2. Salem Presbytery was invited to participate in communion, Messrs. Bates and Sink serving as celebrants.

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QUORUM

The Stated Clerk, Elder David Vaughan, advised the Moderator that a quorum was present for conducting the business of Presbytery.

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APPROVAL OF DOCKET

The docket was presented by the Moderator of Salem Presbytery, the Rev. Paul Sink.

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**ACTION:**

1. Presbytery approved the docket.
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WELCOME AND REPORT FROM THE MODERATOR  
AND  
INTRODUCTIONS

The Moderator welcomed Salem Presbytery to the meeting and extended a special welcome to Elders attending Presbytery for the first time. Visitors and guests were also welcomed and recognized.

REPORT FROM NEW TRANSITIONAL GENERAL PRESBYTER  
Rev. Dr. Barbara A. Smith

The Rev. Dr. Barbara Smith presented her report and welcomed members and commissioners to this meeting.

The last time I reported to Salem Presbytery, I had been on board all of 10 days. As I prepare this report, I feel quite a bit more acclimated and want to say “thank you” for your grace as the learning curve continues!

For those of you I have had the pleasure of connecting with one on one by phone or by Zoom, I am grateful for your time and for your candor. It has been a privilege to hear your stories. These calls continue to be a high priority for me. But if you want to talk with me before I reach out to you, please call!

By now I have met with all the committees and teams (I think!) – some multiple times - and for your dedication and leadership I am grateful. If you aren’t currently serving on a committee or team, I invite you to prayerfully consider where you might feel led to volunteer your time and talent.

At this time, I want to highlight the work of the COVID response team. Their second letter since my arrival went out on January 26. I hope you have all seen it; if not, it can be accessed from the homepage of our Presbytery website. The team of Kyle Goodman, Paul Sink, Lindsey Altvater Clifton, and its newest addition, Beth Hooten, has had in depth, thoughtful discussions leading to the recommendation that church facilities continue to be closed to in-person indoor gatherings until at least May 1, 2021.

And because COVID and its mutations remain a constant threat, I continue to serve you remotely from my home office in Sarasota, Florida. Quite honestly, I’ve accomplished more in three months remotely than I could have in person since I don’t have to figure in travel time! I can stack calls right up against one another and move from meeting to meeting with the touch of a button thanks to Zoom.

And speaking of Zoom, I have initiated a Wednesday gathering – “It’s 5 o’clock somewhere.” In the few weeks since we began, we have had a mix of different people sign on to connect with one another across the presbytery. Through my calls with you, I have a few more ideas for gatherings for connection and support that will roll out soon!

I continue to be thankful for the opportunity to work side by side with you in the vineyard of Salem Presbytery. I pray that our work together will begin to heal some hurts and build transparency and trust so we can faithfully move into God’s intended future.

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STATED CLERK REPORT  
David Vaughan

**FOR INFORMATION:**

**Upcoming meetings of Presbytery - 2021**

Tuesday, May 11, 2021 - Virtual

Saturday, August 14, 2021 - Thyatira Presbyterian Church, Rowan County

Tuesday, November 16, 2021 - Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, Greensboro (co-hosted with UKirk Gso)

### **Annual Statistical Reporting**

As this report is prepared, we are nearing the conclusion (February 16, 2021) of the period in which particular church Clerks of Session can input their 2020 statistics. I will provide a brief update as a part of my report to Presbytery.

### **Session Minutes Reviews**

Due to the continuing public health crisis, I do not plan to review Session Minutes for 2020. In 2022, we will review your 2019, 2020, and 2021 minutes. The records review checklist is on the Clerk's Corner of the Salem website. Clerks of session are always welcome to contact me for guidance as needed.

### **Presbytery Minutes Review**

Salem's minutes have been successfully reviewed by the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic. (See accompanying letter.)

### **Synod Greetings**

In addition to the greetings, you will soon hear from Synod Moderator Hardy, I am attaching a letter with information from Synod Executive and Stated Clerk Rev. Warren Lesane, Jr.

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## GREETINGS FROM THE SYNOD OF THE MID-ATLANTIC

The Presbytery heard greetings from Synod Moderator and New Hope Presbytery CRE Felecia Hardy.

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### EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Rev. Kathy Beach, Moderator

The Executive Council (EC) met on December 10, 2020 and January 21, 2021.

Regular reports were received from Barbara Smith (Transitional General Presbyter) and David Vaughan (Stated Clerk).

### **For Information –**

#### **Actions taken on behalf of Presbytery** (*Manual, Section IV.08.b.iii*)

The EC acted on behalf of the Presbytery in the following matters:

- On the recommendation of the COR, EC elected Rev. Erin Bowers (High Point First) to the COM (2023) and Rev. Leigh Wisner (Forest Hills) to the COM (2022);
- Authorized the acceptance of a real estate contract to sell the former Christ (High Point) Church property to The Village Church at a gross price of \$325,000 and authorized Rev. Paul Sink, the moderator of Presbytery, to sign the necessary documents to effect this sale.

#### **Other actions taken:**

- Approved minutes of previous EC meetings and of the November 2020 meeting of Presbytery;
- Received word that the buyer of the former Presbytery office building has paid off the note in full;
- Endorsed (at no cost) the workshop with Todd Bolsinger for February 16, 2021;

- Endorsed Personnel Committee's plan to employ Christine Ratledge in the position of Administrative Assistant effective January 1, 2021;
- Elected Rev. Kathy Beach as the EC Moderator for 2021 and Rev. Jeff Sockwell as EC Vice-Moderator for 2021;
- Called for the May 2021 Presbytery meeting to be held on the ZOOM platform;
- Authorized the Hunger Committee to make international grants from funds available;
- Declined to create a Scripture, Prayer, and Evangelism Task Force;
- Approved the docket for the February meeting of Presbytery;
- Received word from BB&T that Salem Presbytery is no longer a guarantor for a commercial loan made in 2003 for Lake Norman Fellowship PC;
- Received regular, detailed financial reports from the Budget and Finance Committee;
- With regard to implementation of the Presbytery Plan adopted two years ago:
  - \* Delegated to Personnel Committee all personnel-related matters that are part of the modified plan;
  - \* Moved to approve (giving flexibility to the Implementation Team and others) the array of cluster groups within the parish structure;
  - \* Approved the responsibilities to be assigned to the parish Engagement Pastors.

**For Action –**

1. Dismissal of Lake Norman Fellowship to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC): Following a period of discernment as provided in the policy in place at the time, Lake Norman Fellowship's (LNF) Session asked, in 2011, to be dismissed to the EPC. This request could not be approved at that time only because Salem Presbytery was the guarantor on the loan the congregation had with BB&T. The Stated Clerk has been notified by the attorney for LNF that BB&T has released Salem from its guarantorship. This matter has been reviewed by Elder David Parker (Statesville First), an attorney, who finds the BB&T instruments to be in order. LNF has had no interaction with the Presbytery in a very long time. The Executive Council asks the Presbytery to dismiss Lake Norman Fellowship Presbyterian Church (known now as Lighthouse EPC) to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. If the Presbytery's action is in the affirmative, Moderator Kathy Beach will lead the Presbytery in a prayer of thanksgiving for the witness of the Lake Norman congregation.
2. The Executive Council asks the Moderator to recognize the Rev. Ken Broman-Fulks to speak before the Presbytery on behalf of the Implementation Team.
3. The Executive Council asks the Moderator to recognize the Rev. Jay Lambeth to speak before the Presbytery on behalf of the Budget and Finance Committee.
4. The Executive Council asks the Moderator to recognize the Rev. Kyle Goodman and the Rev. Kim Priddy, co-moderators of the Stewardship Committee, to speak before the Presbytery. They will introduce Elder Olanda Carr of the Presbyterian Foundation to speak.

**ACTION:**

2. Presbytery approved dismissal of Lake Norman Fellowship to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY  
Rev. Margaret Almeida and Rev. John Senior, Co-Moderators

The CPM requests that David Smithey, a member of North Wilkesboro Presbyterian Church and third-year student in the Master of Divinity program at Wake Forest University School of Divinity, be examined on the

floor of presbytery and charged with a blessing for his continuing journey in the ordination process as a candidate for Ministry of the Word and Sacrament.

The CPM also brings the following motion:

1. That Salem Presbytery examine David Smithey, a member of North Wilkesboro Presbyterian Church and a student at Wake Forest Divinity School, and that following his successful examination, he be enrolled as a Candidate for the office of Teaching Elder.

The CPM offers the following report from the most recent quarter of 2020:

1. Former CPM candidate Allie Utley was ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament on January 31, 2021, via Zoom.

### **David Smithey - Spiritual Journey**

I was born and raised in Rowan County, North Carolina. Modest, hardworking, Christian parents raised me. I attended a Christian School and graduated from Gardner-Webb University with a bachelor of science degree in Physical Education. I aspired to be a high school baseball and football coach. I knew I wanted to teach and serve as a positive role model for young people and encourage young people to be their very best people. Over time, the opportunities to teach and or coach in the public-school system never materialized. Instead, I accepted a job that I consider to be my first experience with the ministry; I served as an Instructor with an agency whose goal was to provide training and education for adults with developmental disabilities.

After serving as an Instructor for adults with developmental disabilities, I had the opportunity to interview for a position at New Hope Baptist Church in Hickory, North Carolina. A good friend of mine, whom I met while coaching baseball at one of the high schools in Wilkes County, had moved to Hickory and found himself on a search committee for a youth pastor for his church. After their search had hit some roadblocks, he contacted me to inquire about my youth ministry interest. I ended up meeting with the committee and then became the Minister for Students and Families at New Hope Baptist Church.

I served New Hope Baptist Church for four years to the day beginning on August 1, 1995. I completed my final day of ministry there on August 1, 1999. My reason for leaving was to accept a new position at North Wilkesboro Presbyterian Church as Youth Director. I served North Wilkesboro Presbyterian from August of 1999 until November of 2017. During that time, I worked alongside five different pastors, David Heil, Tom Miller, Ben Trawick, Rob Evans, and Susan Moorefield. I was supported and encouraged by each of these pastors, and I learned so much about ministry from them.

During Susan Moorefield's time as the Interim Pastor at North Wilkesboro, I began to feel God tugging at my soul for a change. That summer, we ended up doing a local mission project with a Wilkes County residential care facility. During one of our workdays, the agency director approached me about my interest in working with teenagers in foster care. I was excited because I thought it was the new thing to which God was calling me. I accepted the position.

After one year, the program I was hired to oversee collapsed, and I felt incredibly lost. I was discouraged because I wanted to do ministry, but it seemed all doors were closed. I was laid off and completely lost. In the early morning hours of the next day, I couldn't sleep and picked up my Bible to read. The first verse I read was Isaiah 43:19; I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and streams in the desert. I responded, ok, God, I'm ready for the new thing. After encouragement from Dr. Moorefield, I visited Union Presbyterian Seminary; I applied, was accepted with a full scholarship, sold our house in twenty-four hours, and

was offered a home to live in rent-free through an extended family member. My wife found a job five minutes from the house. We adopted our son Richard whom we had been fostering for approximately two years. So, here I am today in my second year of seminary, enjoying each day as a gift and always remembering God's promise to make a way in the wilderness and streams in the desert. I am humbled and excited to see the ways God provides for my family and me and look forward to revealing God's plan for my life and the lives of my family.

**ACTION:**

3. Salem Presbytery examined and welcomed David Smithey as a candidate for Ministry of the Word and Sacrament in Salem Presbytery.

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**EXAMINATIONS**

Rev. Bill Hoyle and Rev. Debbie Layman, Co-Moderators, Jim Norris, Clerk

The following individual has met with our committee and been examined by her written and verbal answers. Our committee recommends approving her for service in our Presbytery.

**Faith Journey**

**Rev. Joanne Glaser**

I have been 'Presbyterian' from the womb. The church, especially the Presbyterian church, has literally always been a part of my life. Sunday School and VBS and Youth Group and Children's Choir and Church Camp and Communicants Class filled my childhood. I can never remember being 'forced' to go to church activities, I was always drawn to the things of the church even becoming involved in the wider church through Presbytery youth events.

The biggest influences in my faith formation were those who worked for the church I attended - DCE's and Ministers of Music and the Pastor. What they taught me was a faith that pervaded every part of one's life and a faith that resulted in full time service to the church.

While I grew to High School age and considered what I was going to do with my life I strongly considered going to school to become a DCE, but that avenue just never worked out and I ended up at a Presbyterian College where I filled my elective schedule with religion classes as I received my degree in Chemistry and Biology and became a Medical Technologist.

I had met my husband to be in High School, but our paths diverged and eventually we ended up together 6 years later after we had both become involved in our careers. We married and he was a lifelong Presbyterian like me, and we began to attend the Presbyterian church where he grew up and his family still attended. Through God's leading we became very active in the church and carried out many different responsibilities in the years we were there. As I look back, I realize this was God's training ground for roles God would call me to later in life.

My husband and I moved several times, each time finding the local Presbyterian Church to join and always becoming active in the church. By now we had three children and assured their involvement in the church as well.

In my forties my high school dream of become a DCE came to fruition as I found myself working as the part time Educator for the church we were attending. I admit I took to that work like a duck to water! I took classes and trainings to try to better learn and hone my

work. I became very close to the Pastor as we worked together and helped him with various ministerial duties - again in retrospect realizing God was training me for what would come next.

We moved again, this time to a very rural area with a very small Presbyterian Church that we joined. We hadn't been there long when a problem between the minister and the church (which was part of a 3 church Parish) developed and the church (and the Parish) found itself without a Pastor. It was my first experience with small rural churches and quickly realized they had no idea of what to do when the Pastor left. Through what I had learned in my previous church working with the pastor I was able to help them with putting together bulletins and finding pulpit supply. But pulpit supply for small rural churches, especially ones as rural as these, is problematic and this is when I found myself doing pulpit supply for these Parish churches. On Sunday my husband and I would load up our three children (who by now weren't 'children' but Youth!) and travel to three churches and lead three worship services - my middle daughter often providing the piano playing so the congregations could sing.

When the churches found a temporary supply, I found myself being called to do pulpit supply for churches all over the extended area. I decided if this was the direction God was taking me, I should get some 'training' and entered the Lay Pastor Classes offered by the Presbytery. During this time of schooling, I was approached by two of the churches where I had been providing supply to see if I would become their 'permanent' supply. After much prayer, fear and trembling, I agreed.

By this time, I was working full time as the Medical Coordinator and Instructor for the local college in a town 90 minutes from these two churches I had agreed to serve and still attending the Lay Pastor classes. This is when I really realized what God can truly do in your life.

My two oldest children, independent of one another and surprising to their parents, began attending Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. My daughter had always thought I needed to go to seminary, but I had many great reasons why this wasn't possible.

I ended up losing my job and before I knew it I was in seminary with my two children - while still serving the two churches. It was an intense time but through God's energy I was able to complete seminary, the churches added another church, and I became the full-time ordained pastor to three churches.

It was quite the experience serving three churches that were an hour apart, each active in their ministry to their communities. I found I could not only serve as pastor but could also do the Christian Education work I enjoyed so much. I decided at this point to work for my Christian Education Certification which I earned. I loved the work but after so many years of doing so much and working literally all the time, I realized I was getting too old to continue this type of schedule and be able to serve in the way the churches needed and what they had come to expect.

I filled out a PIF and began the search for one church to serve.

Meanwhile my children had all moved to the North Carolina area and through God's grace, God called me to a church in North Carolina - a small church where I could end my career with a congregation of loving, caring committed individuals who gave me that 'respite' I needed after the intense work I had been doing the previous 15 years.

I became active with the Presbytery Christian Education Committee, Presbyterian Women and PNC training that I truly enjoyed.

From this time in North Carolina my husband found a little farm - in the middle of all three of my children (and grandchildren) and God led me to the decision it was time to retire.

I know there is much in my future God is lining up for me, and I look forward to what lays ahead in retirement and in the service of our Lord.

### **Faith Statement**

**Rev. Joanne Glaser**

The Apostle's Creed sums up best what I believe. I believe that God is a triune God who is revealed in three forms in order for us to better understand the awesome love and power as the creator, redeemer and sustainer of all. I believe as Father, God loves and protects, disciplines and cares for each one as a perfect parent loves and cares for their child. I believe that as God the son, God appeared incarnate in the person of Jesus of Nazareth, who came born of the Virgin Mary to show to us in the form of humanity the true love of God, showering compassion on those around him. Jesus the Son then became the sacrifice for all sinners fulfilling the promises of the Old Testament and restoring our relationship as sinners washed 'white as snow'.

I believe that Jesus was resurrected as an assurance to all believers that we will be resurrected in him to live with God for all eternity. I believe that after Jesus ascended to heaven, he sent the Holy Spirit to dwell with us to give us the strength and ability to do God's will, for comfort and support in times of struggle, and to help lead us to a truer understanding of the triune God.

I believe that God has chosen us and called us to live out the purpose God has for us in this world. As we are chosen, we are also gifted through the Holy Spirit to be able to be able to carry out the tasks set before us. We are called to be in community through Christ's church, for it is with the people of God that we truly receive God's blessings and purpose.

I believe the sacraments are God's gift to the church to be as the Church fathers proclaimed – a visible sign of the grace we receive from a loving God. The Sacraments seal the church as a unique community bound together by the mystery of these acts.

I believe that while we may not understand all that happens in our lives, we are in the hands of a sovereign God who will always love us and love us abundantly.

Salem Presbytery welcomed Rev. Glaser by participating in a Liturgy of Welcome.

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### COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

Rev. Amanda Anderson and Rev. John Johnson, Co-Moderators

Rev. Amanda Anderson presented the following report on the work of the Commission on Ministry.

#### **I. COMMISSION ACTION REPORTED FOR THE INFORMATION OF PRESBYTERY**

##### **A. SECURING A STATED SUPPLY CONTRACT**

1. Concurred with the Session of **Saint Paul Presbyterian Church**, High Point, North Carolina, in securing a Stated Supply contract with the **Reverend Angela Roach Roberson** from October 4, 2020 to September 26, 2021.

##### **B. STATED SUPPLY RENEWAL**

1. Concurred with the Session of **Vandalia Presbyterian Church**, Greensboro, North Carolina, in renewing the Stated Supply contract with the **Reverend Paul Ridolfi** for a period of one year beginning February 1, 2021.

2. Concurred with the Session of **Baird's Creek Presbyterian Church**, Vilas, North Carolina, in renewing the Stated Supply contract with the **Reverend Keith Freeman** for a period of one year beginning January 1, 2021.
- C. PARISH ASSOCIATE RENEWAL
1. Concurred with the Session of **Rumple Memorial Presbyterian Church**, Blowing Rock, North Carolina, in renewing the Parish Associate agreement with the **Reverend Stephanie Hankins** for a period of one year beginning December 21, 2020.
- D. VALIDATED MINISTRY APPROVAL
1. Approved the Validated Ministry of **Reverend Stephanie Hankins** as campus minister at Appalachian State University.
- E. VALIDATED MINISTRIES RENEWAL
1. Approved the renewal of Validated Ministries for **Rev. Kent Berry, Rev. Lynn Kunkle, Rev. Tom Nesbit, Rev. Glenn Otterbacher, Rev. Rebecca Todd Peters, Rev. Francis Rivers Meza, Rev. Erich Thompson, and Rev. Alicia Wilson.**
- F. SABBATICAL REQUEST
1. The COM approved the sabbatical request of the **Rev. Dana Fruits, Mocksville First.**
- G. DISSOLUTION OF PASTORAL RELATIONSHIPS WHERE BOTH PARTIES AGREE:
1. Dissolved the Pastoral relationship between the **Reverend Lindsey Altvater Clifton** and **Forest Hills Presbyterian Church**, High Point, North Carolina, effective February 14, 2021, pending the affirmative vote of the Forest Hills congregation, so that she may accept a call in Leigh Presbytery.

## II. COMMISSION ACTIONS TAKEN ON BEHALF OF PRESBYTERY

- A. COMMISSIONED RULING ELDERS/LAY PASTORS (SECURING CONTRACT)
1. Concurred with the Session of **Fifth Creek Presbyterian Church**, Statesville, North Carolina, in securing the Commissioned Ruling Elder/Lay Pastor contract with **William A. Bates** for a period of one year beginning November 1, 2020.
  2. Concurred with the Session of **Third Creek Presbyterian Church**, Cleveland, North Carolina, in securing the Commissioned Ruling Elder/Lay Pastor contract with **Jerry L. Blankenship** for a period of one year beginning October 15, 2020.
- B. COMMISSIONED RULING ELDERS/LAY PASTORS (RENEWAL)
1. Concurred with the Session of the **Second Presbyterian Church**, Mocksville, North Carolina, in renewing the contract of **Frederick N. Terry** to serve as their Commissioned Ruling Elder–Lay Pastor for a period of one year beginning November 1, 2020.
  2. Concurred with the Session of **Unity Presbyterian Church**, Woodleaf, North Carolina, in renewing the contract of **Sue Moore** to serve as their Commissioned Ruling Elder-Lay Pastor for a period of one year beginning January 1, 2021.
  3. Concurred with the Session of **Immanuel Presbyterian Church**, China Grove, North Carolina, in renewing the contract of **James Beard** to serve as their Commissioned Ruling Elder for a period of twelve months beginning March 1, 2021.
  4. Concurred with the Session of **Cooleemee Presbyterian Church**, Cooleemee, North Carolina, in renewing the contract of **John Groff** to serve as their Commissioned Ruling Elder for a period of twelve months beginning September 1, 2020.
- C. TRANSFER MINISTER OUT OF SALEM PRESBYTERY
1. That the **Reverend Alexandra Mauney** be transferred to the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area effective January 28, 2021
  2. That the **Reverend Lindsay Altvater Clifton** be transferred to Lehigh Presbytery effective March 1, 2021

D. MODERATOR OF SESSION

1. That the **Reverend Larry Durham** was appointed Moderator of Session for **Bethesda Presbyterian Church**, Ruffin, North Carolina.

E. MINISTER TRANSFERRING TO SALEM PRESBYTERY

1. That the **Reverend Joanne Glaser** be transferred from the Presbytery of the Western North Carolina to Salem Presbytery, effective December 3, 2020.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE ACTION OF PRESBYTERY

A. RETIREMENT OF TEACHING ELDER

1. That the **Reverend Olen Bruner** be granted the status of Honorably Retired effective January 1, 2021.
2. That Salem Presbytery recognize the **Reverend Olen Bruner**, with a service of Honorable Retirement.

**ACTION:**

4. Salem Presbytery approved granting of the status of Honorably Retired to the **Reverend Olen Bruner**, effective January 1, 2021, and participated in a Liturgy of Retirement.

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PEACE AND JUSTICE

Rev. Wes Pitts and Rev. Jess Rigel, Co-Moderators

The new co-moderators paid special tribute to the Rev. Frank Dew and the Rev. Stuart Taylor for their faithful leadership to Peace and Justice over the past years.

The co-moderators drew the Presbytery's attention to the continuing Matthew 25 initiative and highlighted some upcoming electronic gatherings. They also provided the Presbytery with links to online resources of the North Carolina Council of Churches and the work of the PC(USA) with regards to the inequities of cash bail.

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COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION

Rev. Sam Perkins, Moderator

The Rev. Sam Perkins presented the report and requested action on the nominee for Personnel.

**For Information:**

1. **MINISTERS AND ELDER COMMISSIONERS ARE STRONGLY URGED TO NOMINATE INDIVIDUALS FOR SERVICE ON PRESBYTERY COMMITTEES.** A flyer describing committees of Presbytery, together with a nominating form, is a part of this meeting's packet.

**For Action:**

1. The Committee on Representation nominates the following for service on Presbytery committees:

**Commission on Ministry Central:**

Class of 2023 - Rev. Lisa Mullen, Covenant

**Executive Council:**

Class of 2023 - Elder Betsy Harrington, Greensboro First

**Property Management Task Force:**

Class of 2023 - Mr. David Parker, First Statesville  
Ms. Betty Rissmiller, Faith Greensboro  
Mr. Rusty Tysor, Elkin  
Mr. Kirby Wood, Alamance

**Campus Ministries:**

Rev. Kate Morrison, John Calvin  
Ms. Kathryn Aldridge, Forest Hills  
Rev. Stacey Steck, Thyatira

**ACTION:**

13. Salem Presbytery approved the slate of nominees for service on the committees as they are listed.

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ADJOURNMENT AND BENEDICTION

The Moderator announced the date of the next Presbytery meeting, May 11, 2021. It will also be held by Zoom. The Moderator adjourned the meeting at 12:15pm with the benediction.

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Recorded by:

David Vaughan  
Stated Clerk