

PRE-MEETING INFORMATION FOR MARCH 16TH, 2021 STATED PRESBYTERY MEETING

REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK

The following are presented for information:

1. The next stated meeting of Albany Presbytery will be held on **Saturday, June 5, 2021**. This meeting will happen on Zoom. The meeting will convene for business at 10:00 a.m. and will adjourn around 1:00 p.m.

The meeting dates for the rest of 2021 are as follows: September 18, and November 3, 2021. The locations, times, and content of the meetings is TBD.

2. The membership of the Rev. Henry Kim was transferred to the Presbytery of San Fernando. The Stated Clerk, Temporary Presbyter, co-chairpersons of the Committee on Ministers and Congregations (COMAC), and immediate past co-chairperson of COMAC sent a letter to the Presbytery of San Fernando to express their discomfort with inconsistencies in the process. Copies of the letter were also sent to Office of the General Assembly and the Clerk of Session of the Brunswick Church.
3. **As required by G-3.0109, the Committee on Ministers and Congregations (COMAC) reported to the Stated Clerk that it exercised some of the commission powers that have been granted to it and took actions on behalf of the Presbytery. Those actions are duly reported to the Presbytery in the report from COMAC below.**
4. **As required by G-3.0109, the Board of Trustees reports to the Stated Clerk if they exercise some of the commission powers that have been granted to them and actions they have taken on behalf of the Presbytery. Those actions are duly reported to the Presbytery for information and inclusion in the minutes of the Presbytery. The Board of Trustees did not exercise any of their commission powers since the last Presbytery meeting.**

TEMPORARY PRESBYTERY REPORT

See separate report document posted to the website.

COORDINATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The following are presented to the Presbytery for information:

1. The Coordination Committee met by video conference call using Zoom Video Conferencing on January 14 and February 11, 2021. The Coordination Committee will meet next by video conference call on Thursday, March 11, 2021.
2. Discussions during the conference calls have centered primarily on communicating relevant information between committees and to Presbytery members in a timely fashion; coordination with those working on plans for future convocations and retreats; how to coordinate and support our churches during this pandemic period; and planning for the implementation of the Anti-Racism Task Force.
3. The Coordination Committee discussed when to resume in-person Presbytery meetings and whether or not all winter meetings in the future should be held virtually. The possibility of an outdoor gathering in September was discussed.
4. Due to the timing of the premeeting packet being released on March 6 and the meeting of the Coordination Committee scheduled on March 11, it is likely that a supplemental report will be posted to the Presbytery website after March 11.
5. The officers including Temporary Presbyter Bill Henderson and Immediate Past-Moderator Michael Burkley meet as the Executive Committee of the Presbytery about 1 week before each Coordination Committee conference call to discuss matters of concern; to plan for Coordination Committee meetings; and to help with the coordination and implementation of the vision, ministry, and mission of the Presbytery as authorized by the Coordination Committee and provided by Standing Rule III.B.
6. A team of people led by the Rev. Reilly have been gathering at the behest of the Coordination Committee to examine how our presbytery is structured and how our meetings are designed. Feedback on this meeting is welcomed and encouraged. The team hopes to have discussion times later this year to garner feedback from greater numbers of people.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTERS AND CONGREGATIONS (COMAC) REPORT

Due to the timing of the premeeting packet being released on March 6 and the meeting of the COMAC scheduled on the March 11, COMAC's full report will be posted to the Presbytery website on March 12.

COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION AND NOMINATIONS

The Committee presents the following to the Presbytery for information:

1. The Committee on Representations and Nominations met on Feb 10, 2021, via Zoom. The next regular meeting of the committee is scheduled for March 10, 2021, 6 days before the March Albany Presbytery Meeting. Due to this timing, there may be a supplemental report posted to the presbytery website.
2. The normal work of the committee is to nominate qualified and willing volunteers to the committees of the presbytery, as well as to assess the representation and diversity of persons serving in various leadership and volunteer positions within the presbytery.
3. Top priority for the committee is to find qualified candidates to serve on the personnel committee, as well as serve on the budget and finance committee. The committee also sees their role as integral to assisting in right-sizing presbytery committees and hopefully in changing the paradigm of committee service from duty or even onerous task to vital service in this pocket of God's kin-dom. What are we, as individuals and as a presbytery, excited to do and serve?
4. The committee asks the following questions to members of Presbytery: where and what is your passion or excitement found in service, either individually or as part of a larger body? What are your talents for service, what do you dream to be able to do as part of your faithful work and worship? Please reach out to the committee members with your thoughts on these questions.

The Committee presents the following to the Presbytery for action:

1. The Committee nominates RE Phil Garvey to Budget and Finance for a vacant position in the class of 2021, with option to renew.
2. The committee nominates the Rev. Chris Garrison (at large) to COMAC to the class of 2023.

COMMITTEE ON CHURCH MISSION REPORT

See separate report document posted to the website.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

The following are presented to the Presbytery for information:

1. The Personnel Committee is comprised of a three-person project team working for the express purpose of hiring the Albany Administrator. The committee has taken the job description drawn up three years ago by the Staffing Model Task Force, the job description that Bill Henderson was hired for, and the actual duties that the Temporary Presbyter reports doing for the Presbytery and are building one, realistic job description for the Administrator position. Our next steps are to workshop this job description and then publish it in order to begin receiving applications.
2. It is important for the Presbytery to be aware that when the Presbytery staff is settled, we will need to have a conversation about expectations for the staff. We have less staff members, who work less hours. None of our staff are full time. There will be things that will no longer be the responsibility of the staff. We will, as a community, need to determine what our essential functions are in order to discern together what tasks get reassigned to other leadership and what can get dropped. The Personnel Committee, in conjunction with the Coordination Committee and the staff will determine a process for having this conversation that will result in clear expectations and good boundaries.

The following are presented to the Presbytery for action:

1. The Personnel Committee joyfully presents Rev. David Bennett as candidate for Stated Clerk. He impressed the Personnel Committee with his knowledge, passion, demeanor, and professionalism. The committee is thrilled to present him to you and full heartedly endorse him for this position.

COMMITTEE ON LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The committee has no report for this meeting.

COMMITTEE ON BUDGET AND FINANCE REPORT

See separate report posted to the website, if available.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

The following are presented to the Presbytery for information:

1. The Board was informed of future church closings planned in 2021 and 2022.
2. The Board discussed information of the agencies of the General Assembly on the accelerating permanent closure of church buildings across the country, many impacted by the pandemic.
3. The Board appointed a team to review the recent history of the loan and grant program, as well as recommending changes to the overall process.
4. The Board and its legal counsel are reviewing a proposal to sell the manse of the Rensselaer Church.

WORSHIP

Worship will occur throughout this meeting, as we experiment with a “worshipful work” style of meeting. The offering will help fund the Pakistani American Fellowship and the Rev. Nadim Sadiq. Contributions can be made online at <https://albanypresbytery.org/donate/>. Include “March Presbytery Meeting Donation” in the memo field.