

**COUNCIL**  
**Presbytery of Cincinnati**  
**December 12, 2018**

Present: Class of 2018: Elder Joellen Grady, Rev. Maurice Mitchell, Rev. Nancy Ross-Zimmerman; Class of 2019: Rev. Adam Fronczek, Elder John Martin, Rev. Tyler Pettigrew; Class of 2020: Elder Bill Bogdan, Rev. Carol Ferguson, Elder Bob Northcutt, Rev. Russell Smith; Representatives: Rob Heidenreich (Trustees)

Excused: Class of 2018: Elder Frank Martin, Class of 2019: Elder Carol Burnett

Absent: Representative from Personnel

Officers Present: Elder Bob Young, Rev. Adam Fronczek, Rev. Lisa Stenner, Elder Couper Gardiner

Ex-Officio Present: Dr. Nancy Kahaian, Rev. Melana Scruggs (via Zoom)

On December 12, 2018, at 6:00 PM, a stated meeting of the Presbytery Council was called to order with prayer at the presbytery office by Lisa Stenner, Council Moderator.

**Dwelling in the Word**

Luke 1:46-55 was read by two voices, then people shared what struck them. How do we participate in the birth anew? Nancy Ross-Zimmerman and Tyler Pettigrew shared an idea about using the Reading-Lockland property to provide affordable housing in that community and to continue to provide community/worship space, classrooms for children for summer programs, and a large kitchen.

It was moved to approve the agenda with the addition of discussion of the new Facebook page, under Committees, Work Teams, Task Forces.

**Seconded and approved.**

**Approval of Minutes**

**It was moved, seconded, and approved that the minutes of the October 17, 2018 minutes be approved.**

Lisa Stenner asked Council to consider again the Covenant written together at the last meeting:

As teaching and ruling elders in the Presbyterian Church (USA), we, the members of Council of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, joyfully covenant:

- To follow Jesus Christ faithfully and encourage others to be faithful
- To bring the very best of ourselves in service to God
- To be fully present with each other and the task at hand

- To pray for one another, our congregations, and our Presbytery
- To honor one another by listening carefully, giving each person consideration, and responding in truth and love
- To hold in confidence shared concerns and personal information thereby cultivating trust, respect, faith and love among our members
- To use the gifts we have been given to engage the work to which we have been called
- To support, pray, and be present to one another in moments of challenge and disagreement
- To honor our Reformed heritage which states that the Holy Spirit works best when the whole group discerns together, knowing that we also believe that Jesus Christ alone is Lord of the conscience
- To trust the Spirit's guidance as we prayerfully seek the will of God in all things for the greater good of the Church, for the sake of the Kingdom, and for the glory of Christ our Lord.

It was **moved, seconded, and approved** to accept the covenant with the changes.

### **Reports from Officers and Staff**

1. Chair of Council (Lisa Stenner)

**No report**

2. Moderator (Adam Fronczek)

**No report**

3. Vice-Moderator (Bill Bogdan)

**No report**

4. Stated Clerk (Melana Scruggs)

**No report**

5. Treasurer (Couper Gardiner)

**No report**

6. General Presbyter (Nancy Kahaian)

#### Responsibilities of the Role in Recent Months

- Continue to meet with TEs, REs, validated ministries and ministers, the HRs, and other leaders in the Presbytery
- Maintain a resource presence and direction for Committees and Commissions of the Presbytery
- Continue to work with other leaders re: Presbytery meetings, Campus Ministry, resourcing pastors and elders and other leaders
- Do the work related to connections with the five agencies of the PC(USA) and their relevant service to minister members

- Plan for Tuesday morning Bible Study for Pastors and Preachers and write the weekly electronic newsletter “The Cincinnati Sampler”
- Participate in the ministries and functions related to Executive Service with other GP/EPs
- Accept invitations to preach/worship and attend events at congregations in the presbytery
- Serve as an interfaith and ecumenical representative of the Presbytery of Cincinnati
- Provide pastoral care to minister members and their families
- Hosted the Presbytery Staff Christmas Party at my home

### **Reminders to Council Regarding Presbytery Initiatives**

- **Nancy Kahaian will be away from the office** from Monday, December 24, 2018 through Tuesday, January 2, 2019
- **Orientation for Elected Leadership** – to be scheduled for Saturday, January 5, 2019 from 10AM-12NOON at Blue Ash PC with the following format:
  - **10AM-10:30AM** Welcome/Intros/Fellowship Building
  - **10:30-11:00AM** Overview of the Presbytery of Cincinnati
  - **11:15-11:45AM** Meeting with Committee Groups (rooms TBD)
  - **11:45AM-12NOON** Bible/Prayers/Q&A/Thanks
- **MLK Event for Sunday, January 20 at Carmel PC:** Worship with Preacher: Verna L. Williams, Interim Dean and Nippert Professor of Law, University of Cincinnati. Service is at 4pm followed by a meal.
- **Presbytery Meetings 2019:**
  - Saturday, February 16, 2019 at Westwood-First, Cincinnati (Saturday Day Workshop Meeting)
  - Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at Calvin, Amelia (Tuesday)
  - Saturday, August 17, 2019 at First, Fort Thomas (Sat AM only)
  - Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at Mt. Auburn, Cincinnati (Tuesday)
- **Campus Ministry** – collaborative efforts between Council, COM and Trustees; another meeting needs to be scheduled to proceed with a proposal for 2019
- The **Personnel Committee granted its permission** for GP to carry-over two weeks of vacation leave into 2019 (or provide for its reimbursement).

Nancy presented a draft of the February Presbytery meeting. The workshops will be sent out to churches after the first of the year. Registrations will be due by Feb. 5. It was **moved, seconded, and approved** to allow the General Presbyter, Moderator, Vice-Moderator, and Stated Clerk to make any changes to the docket as needed.

No report from Trustees.

### **Reports from Committees, Work Teams, Task Forces, Related Groups**

1. Carol Ferguson has created a Facebook page to replace the current page. The new page would be managed by the Presbytery. Registration for the February workshops could be sent through the Facebook page.

Carol Ferguson and Nancy Kahaian will manage the page.

Carol asked people to share and like the page. She will prepare a form that churches can request items to be shared.

It was **moved, seconded, and approved** to launch the new page in January 2019 and remove the current Facebook group and that Carol Ferguson and Nancy Kahaian will manage the page.

2. Walk the Talk Work Group Report from Bill Bogdan – this is the final report of the group. Six events for the year, four presbytery meetings, one fun event, and a mission networking event.

Presbytery Office Work Team report from Bob Young – six churches have expressed an interest in sharing space to host the Presbytery Office. They will do site visits in January.

One Hopeful Fund report from Tyler Pettigrew – recommendation for process of making the shift to be shared at the February meeting of Presbytery.

### 3. Local Mission Partnerships

Grant Requests:

a. From Practical Grace Non-Food Pantry requesting \$12,000. This has been funded in the past.

It was **moved, seconded, and approved** to grant the request for funding.

b. From Cornerstone requesting \$2,640 to serve meals.

Union Presbyterian and Community of Faith share in this ministry.

It was **moved, seconded, and approved** to grant the request.

4. Outdoor Ministry and Christian Education Scholarship Mission Team –  
No report

5. Presbyterian Youth Committee – Winter retreat for middle school and high school youth at Lakeside, Feb. 1 at 7pm to Feb. 2 at 3pm. \$25 and scholarships available.

**Concluding Worship and Adjournment**  
**Meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.**

### **FUTURE MEETINGS**

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, January 16, 2018, 6:00 PM at Blue Ash.