

**COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY REPORT**

**September 24, 2024 United Church of Marion**

[From the meetings of 06/04/24, 07/23/24, 08/06/24, 09/03/24, and 09/17/2024]

**ITEMS FOR PRESBYTERY'S ACTION**

The Committee on Ministry recommends the Presbytery of Geneva VOTE to:

**Examine** Rev. Michael Capron (Presbytery of NorthEast New Jersey) and **approve** his transfer of membership to the Presbytery of Geneva, **empowering** the Stated Clerk to complete the required paperwork to complete the transfer effective September 24, 2024.

**Examine** Rev. Pamela Gnagy (HR, Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse) and **approve** her transfer of membership to the Presbytery of Geneva, **empowering** the Stated Clerk to complete the required paperwork to complete the transfer effective September 24, 2024.

[included in Consent Agenda]

**Approve** the following Administrative Commission to Install the Rev. John Woodring to the position of Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Bath, NY, on September 15, 2024, at 3pm at the First Presbyterian Church of Bath:

- TE Anita Milne (Waterloo, First), Moderator
- RE Donna Colvin (Pulteney, First)
- RE Dean Chatfield (Bath, First)
- RE Kerm Bossard (Spencer, Christ the King)
- TE Tom Montgomery (HR)
- TE Aaron Frank (Horseheads, First)

and welcome the following additional worship participant:

- Rev. Marilyn Hale (First Presbyterian Church of Portville, NY)

**Grant** the moderator or his designee the authority to make any necessary and appropriate changes to the Administrative Commission to Install; and

**Dismiss** the Administrative Commission with thanks, upon the completion of the Service of Installation.

[included in Consent Agenda]

**Approve** the following amendments to the Manual of Administrative Operations to task the Committee on Ministry with acting on behalf of the Presbytery to approve the formation and scope of Administrative Commissions to Ordain and/or Install:

VII. Committees

Committee on Ministry

Responsibilities

Ordered Ministry

- **Act on behalf of the Presbytery to appoint and approve the membership for ordination and installation administrative commissions and act on behalf of the presbytery to approve the date/time of the ordination/installation service and the celebration of the Lord's Supper (if requested).**

VIII. Commissions

Administrative Commissions

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Administrative commissions to ordain and/or install ministers of the Word and Sacrament shall be composed of at least three teaching elders and three ruling elders from different churches. The Committee on Ministry, in consultation with the candidate/pastor, shall ~~nominate to the presbytery~~ **appoint and approve the** membership for ordination and installation administrative commissions and ~~recommend the~~ **act on behalf of the presbytery to approve the** date/time of the **ordination/installation service and the celebration of the Lord's Supper (if requested)**. The presbytery Moderator or his/her designee shall preside.

[included in Consent Agenda]

**Approve** the proposed Presbytery of Geneva Minimum Salary Requirements and 2.6% cost of living adjustment for 2025.

## **ACTIONS TAKEN ON BEHALF OF THE PRESBYTERY**

The Committee on Ministry VOTED to:

Approve the transfer of membership of the Rev. John McDonald (AL) to New Castle Presbytery, effective September 3, 2024.

Appoint the Rev. Stewart Buisch (Presbytery of Western New York) as Moderator of Trinity Federated Church of Naples, NY, effective July 7, 2024; and, approve the Covenant for Services as a Covenanted Pastor between Rev. Stewart Buisch and Trinity Federated Church of Naples (part-time) at the following terms:

Salary	\$ 26,000
Housing	\$ 24,000
SECA Offset	\$ 3,825
Board of Pensions	\$ 19,500
Travel	all church mileage at current IRS rate
Study Leave	\$ 1,500
403b	\$ 100
Professional Expense	\$ 100
Medical Ded.	\$ 100
Medical Ded. fam.	\$ 100

## **ITEMS FOR THE PRESBYTERY'S INFORMATION**

The Committee on Ministry VOTED to:

Approve Form 6: Annual Review for Congregations without a called or covenanted pastor for the Prattsburgh Presbyterian Church for the calendar year 2023.

Approve Form 6: Annual Review for Congregations without a called or covenanted pastor for the Lyons Presbyterian Church for the calendar year 2023.

Approve Form 6: Annual Review for Congregations without a called or covenanted pastor for the Weston Presbyterian Church for the calendar year 2023.

Approve Terms of Call between the Ovid Federated Church and Rev. J. Robert Mellgard for the calendar year 2024.

Approve adding Rev. Cara Milne to the Pulpit Supply List.

Approve Form 2: Covenant for Pastoral Services between Rock Stream Presbyterian Church and CRE Carleen Frost for September 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024.

Approve Rev. Dan Russell to serve as the Session Moderator at FPC Watkins Glen on July 9, 2024.

Approve the Mission Discernment Profile for Hornell, United.

Approve the Mission Discernment Profile for Newark, Park.

Approve the Mission Discernment Profile for Watkins Glen, First.

Approve amended Form 2: Covenant for Pastoral Services with a CRE between Rock Stream Presbyterian Church and CRE Carleen Frost for September 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024.

Approve HR TE Jane Winter to Moderate the Sunday, Sept. 15, 2024, session meeting of the Moreland Presbyterian Church.

Approve HR TE John Milne to Moderate the Thursday, Sept. 19, 2024, session meeting of the First Presbyterian Church of Wolcott.

Approve recommending the Presbytery approve a 2.6% cost of living increase for 2025.

Approve the Installation Administrative Commission for Rev. John Woodring.

Approve the BoP Benefits Costs Interactive Spreadsheet.

Approve the Presbytery Of Geneva Requirements For Medical Coverage.

**STATEMENT FROM COM TO ADDRESS THE DISPARITY IN HEALTH CARE COSTS  
AMONG CHURCHES IN THE PRESBYTERY OF GENEVA:**

The changes in the Board of Pensions' health care plans for 2025 will result in drastic increases in medical coverage costs for many churches whose pastors have a spouse and/or dependent children but will result in reduced costs for other churches.

To alleviate this disparity, the Presbytery of Geneva has set up a designated account so that donations can be received and approved disbursements made to support churches as they provide required medical coverage for pastoral leaders' spouses, children, and/or families.

The Committee on Ministry is asking churches whose costs of providing health care coverage will be lower in 2025 to prayerfully consider contributing to this fund some or all of their savings.

A policy for how these funds will be managed and disbursed is being developed and will be announced later this fall.