

The Presbytery of Philadelphia held its Stated Meeting at the First Presbyterian Church in Ardmore, Pennsylvania on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, at 12:40 P.M.

Prior to the meeting, the Presbytery took part in a pre-presbytery gathering with Reverend Dr. Carrie Mitchell of the Board of Pensions to hear about the upcoming changes to the Board of Pensions. Following this conversation, the Presbytery partook in lunch and fellowship.

The Presbytery at Worship

The Presbytery was called to order at 12:40 P.M. and convened with prayer by the Moderator, Elder Zandra Maffett (Valley Forge). Elders Maffett and Ballengee took a moment to acknowledge the land in which the Presbytery and its members, communities, and churches reside. Honoring the Native Peoples and their land – giving thanks for their stewardship of the land before us, as well as recognizing the pain and suffering of these people and this land.

The Presbytery began its gathering with worship. During worship, the Presbytery heard reflections on Seven Words of Light from Reverends Alex Evangelista (Church on the Mall), Sarah Cooper Searight (Swarthmore), Sameh Shaker (Validated Ministry), Mindy Campbell (Warminster, First), Jonathan Britt (Lansdowne, First), Peter Ahn (Olivet Covenant), and Eustacia Moffett Marshall (New River). The installation of Elder Jim Ballengee (Arch Street), Reverend Sarah Cooper Searight, and Reverend Ruth Faith Santana-Grace (Presbytery of Philadelphia) as Moderator, Vice-Moderator, and Executive Presbyter respectively, of the Presbytery. The body partook in the Lord's Supper. The offering collected during worship of \$2,916.00 was collected and dedicated to the Overbrook Presbyterian Church as they clean up and look to rebuild after a fire in their sanctuary. During worship, Elder Ballengee and Reverend Ruth Faith Santana-Grace (Executive Presbyter) took a moment to recognize Elder Maffett giving thanks for her service to the Presbytery as Moderator and to the larger denomination.

Following this, the body was welcomed by Reverend Jason Grimes (Ardmore, First). Reverend Grimes shared the arrangements for the day, a welcome, as well as recognizing both the congregation's organist's 25th anniversary with Ardmore as well as the preschool program celebrating its 75th anniversary.

At the conclusion of the welcome, Moderator Ballengee then called upon the Stated Clerk, Reverend Kevin Porter (Presbytery of Philadelphia, Stated Clerk) for his report.

From the **Stated Clerk** (Attachments A & S)
Reverend Porter submitted the following:

- Introduced the **Docket as amended** for approval. The **docket was approved as amended to move the Leadership Collegium Report before the Committee on Representation Report by the body.**
- Introduced the **Consent Agenda** (Attachment A) for approval. The Presbytery **approved the consent agenda as amended** to include the following names of Elders to be added to the Necrology Report.
 - Evelyn Tregaskis (Deep Run) January 27, 2022

- Evelyn Alexander Davis (Lombard Central) January 1, 2023
 - Kathryn G. Shaifer (Summit) January 19, 2023
 - Ruth Shoup (Wallingford) March 15, 2023
 - Ronald Grapin (Tree of Life) March 23, 2023
 - Harriot Malloy (Media) April 10, 2023
 - Delores Cave (New River) April 12, 2023
 - Philip Spencer (Media) June 10, 2023
 - Peggy Rincliffe Beatty (Swarthmore) July 15, 2023
 - Carol Young (Grace, Jenkintown) September 22, 2023
 - John Bosma (Media) September 25, 2023
 - Benjamin Talmadge Curtis, III (Media) October 9, 2023
 - Jessie Gilbert Chew (Swarthmore) December 26, 2023
- Introduced 1 Corresponding Member Reverend Dr. Carrie Mitchell (Coastlands). Upon motion and proper second, **the Presbytery voted to seat her as Corresponding Member.**

The body then welcomed New Minister Members to the meeting: Rev. Dr. Cheni Khonje serving at the Frist Presbyterian Church in Germantown, Rev. Kate Morgan serving at the First Presbyterian Church Springfield (Delco), and the Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson serving at the Abington Presbyterian Church.

Moderator Ballengee subsequently called upon any first-time Elder Commissioners, who were encouraged to message the office of the Stated Clerk to ensure inclusion of their names in the minutes. These Elder were:

- Jorrah MaKey – Holy Trinity-Bethlehem
- Craig Boddorff – First Pres Philadelphia

Elder Ballengee called upon Former Moderator Elder Zandra Maffett (Valley Forge) to give her report on behalf of the Leadership Collegium.

From the **Leadership Collegium** (Attachment L)

At this time Elder Maffett gave her report on behalf of the Leadership Collegium. She framed her report with Hope and highlighted the following:

- Thriving and Equipping Summit for Smaller Congregations at Lutheran Seminary that happened in the fall as well as the Fall Fest which focused on equipping our leaders and congregations in Public Witness and Response
- There was the installation of the Reverend Tim Dooner at the Valley Forge Presbyterian Church and in the spring will be the commissioning of the Reverend Anna Grant-Borden at the Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church
- The exciting new Shared Ministry of the Northminster and Bensalem Presbyterian Churches who will be sharing one pastor, Reverend Dr. Marianne Morgan, who will serve as pastor of both.

At this time Elder Maffett called upon Reverend Ruth Faith Santana-Grace who lifted up the Overbrook Presbyterian Church. On the evening of January 15, 2024, the Overbrook Presbyterian Church had a fire

in their sanctuary. Overbrook's pastor Reverend Dr. Adam Hearlson (Overbrook) shared a few words of the support of both the leadership of the Presbytery as well as the surrounding congregations, including but not limited to Penn Wynne and Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Churches. Reverend Dr. Hearlson also thanked the many in the Presbytery and surrounding area who have reached out via email and phone calls offering support. At this time Reverend Santana-Grace shared her thoughts on the tragic event, as well as prayed for Reverend Dr. Hearlson, the leadership, staff, members, and Overbrook community impacted by this fire.

At the conclusion of the prayer, Moderator Ballengee called upon Elder Megan Acedo (Beacon), chair of the Committee on Representation to bring her report.

From the **Committee on Representation** (Attachment R)

Elder Acedo began her report by lifting-up the COR and the diversity in our presbytery and how it shows through our leadership.

At the conclusion of her report, Elder Ballengee called upon Vice-Moderator Reverend Sarah Cooper Searight to shepherd us through the last part of the meeting. She subsequently called upon Reverend Ruth Faith Santana-Grace (Executive Presbyter, Presbytery of Philadelphia) for her report.

From the **Executive Presbyter**

During her report, Reverend Santana-Grace lifted up the following:

- The presbytery viewed a video lifting up the Ministers Members of the Presbytery as well as those Elders who joined the church triumphant in the year 2023. At this time Reverend Kevin Porter (Stated Clerk) lifted up the passing of former Executive Presbyter of this Presbytery the Rev. Dr. Ed Gehres.

Then Reverend Sarah Cooper Searight (Swarthmore) and the leadership came forward to bring a report on behalf of the Committee on Personnel.

- Mr. Jim Wagner (Director of Business Administration) took a moment and spoke about the Presbytery Office Accounting Manager Andrea Cameron, who is retiring after 27 years of service to the Presbytery. He lifted up her faithful tenure and service to the church and Presbytery.
- At this time Reverends Ruth Faith Santana-Grace and Kevin Porter took a moment to recognize Administrative Assistant Reverend Cassie Heintz (Validated Ministry) and her 10th anniversary of service to the Presbytery.
- Continuing her report Reverend Ruth Faith Santana-Grace highlighted the season of gratitude and light we are in. She reflected on the mission before us as we lean into 2024, which is to magnify the witness of our congregations. This mission is not only through feeding the hungry, clothing, housing those experiencing homelessness but also is to equip our leaders and churches to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world in concrete ways.

Seeing as there was no new business, Vice-Moderator Reverend Sarah Cooper Searight made a **motion, with proper second that was approved to adjourn the meeting with prayer, with the Presbytery reconvening on Tuesday, April 30, 2024 at a time and location to be determined.**

The meeting was closed with prayer at 3:23 P.M.

The next stated meeting of the Presbytery to be held on Tuesday, April 30, 2024 at the Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church at a time a to be determined.

The financial offering of \$2,916.00 was collected and dedicated to the Overbrook Presbyterian Church.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next Stated Meeting of Presbytery will be

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

At the Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church at a time to be determined

2024 Stated Meetings of the Presbytery of Philadelphia

Tuesday, January 23, 2024

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

Saturday, July 27, 2024

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Philadelphia January 23, 2024

Attendance Report:

134 Total Participants, 29 Visitors, 41 Total Elders, 64 Ministers.

Attendance

- 3 Elder Officers – Zandra Maffett (Valley Forge, Moderator), Jim Ballengee (Arch Street, Vice-Moderator), Julia Hill (Yeadon, Temporary Clerk)
- 2 Former Moderators – Bob Kenworthy (Wallingford), and Michael Henry (Valley Forge)
- 1 Committee Moderator – Megan Acedo (Beacon), Committee on Representation
- 1 Commissioner to the 2022 General Assembly – Dave Huting (Philadelphia, First)
- 1 Staff – Jim Wagner (Business Administrator)
- 33 Elders Representing Churches
- 64 Total Ministers**
 - 63 Ministers of this Presbytery
 - 1 Corresponding Members – Reverend Dr. Carrie Mitchell (Coastlands)

Churches Represented by Elders

Bethel: Brenda Tucker-Boykins
 Cedar Park: Nelson Bagby
 Christ's Community: Tracy Johnson
 Church on the Mall: Barry Jamison
 Doylestown: Dave Sager
 Germantown Community: Diana Taylor
 Germantown, First: Peter Smith, Randy Clever
 Holy Trinity-Bethlehem: Jorrah Mackey
 Jeffersonville: Elisabeth Moise
 Media: Joe Hare, Beth Kalemkarian, Jo Snead,
 Betsy Podrebarac
 Oak Lane: Joan Clerk
 Olney, Frist: Ken McKeown

Overbrook: Sharon Parker
 Oxford: June Higgins, Lloyd Higgins
 Philadelphia, First: Graig Boddorff, William
 McLarin, Susy Christensen
 Pottstown, First: Jane Sample
 Swarthmore: Marna Elliott, Carl Adams,
 Maxwell Smith, Patrice Smith
 Tree of Life: Allan Buchta
 United Ghanaian Community: Gina Baah
 Warminster, First: Carol Wagenheiser
 Wayne: Pamela Jensen, Scott Laird
 Yeadon: Marva Scotland

Churches Not Represented by Elders

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|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Abington | Grace, Jenkintown | Olivet Covenant |
| Ambler, First | Gwynedd Square | Parkland |
| Anchor | Holmes | Church of Pakistan |
| Arch Street | Ivyland | Penn Wynne |
| Ardmore, First | Japanese Christian | Podowon |
| Aston | Kensington, First | Port Kennedy, First |
| Beacon | Lansdowne, First | Rhawnhurst |
| Bensalem | Lawndale Holy Grace | Ridley Park |
| Berean | Lenape Valley | Roxborough |
| Bethesda | Leverington | Salt and Light |
| Bryn Mawr | Levittown, Frist | Southwestern |
| Calvary-Wyncote | Llanerch | Springfield-Flourtown |
| Carmel | Lombard Central | Springfield, First |
| Central- Norristown | Lower Providence | Suh Kwang |
| Chambers Memorial | Marple | Summit |
| Chestnut Hill | Mayfair | Supplee |
| Christ's Riverview | Memorial | Tabernacle United |
| Concord Liberty | Middletown | Temple |
| Crossroads | Morrisville | Thompson Memorial |
| Darby, First | Mount Airy | Thomas M. Thomas |
| Deep Run | Neshaminy-Warwick | Memorial |
| Eddington | New River | Valley Forge |
| Elkins Park | Newtown | Wallingford |
| Falls of Schuylkill | Newtown Square | Wissahickon |
| Forest Grove | Norristown, First | Wissinoming |
| Fox Chase | Norriton | Woodside |
| Frankford | Northampton | Wynnefield |
| Gladwyne | Northminster | |
| Glenolden | Old Pine | |

Ministers Present

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|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Ahn, Peter | DeVries, Leigh |
| Baah, Isaac Yaw | DiRaddo, R; James W. |
| Barge, Randy L. | Dixon, Troy Janel |
| Bateman, Rebecca | Dooner, Timothy |
| Blore, Christen | Dwyer, Judith |
| Boell, R; Robert P. | Evangelista, Alex |
| Bonwell, Raymond | Fall, Susan |
| Brackett, Judith | Farrell, Lisa |
| Britt, Jonathan | Fitch, Diane Jamison |
| Cagle, David | Grant-Borden, Anna |
| Campbell, Mindy | Grimes, Jason |
| Choi, Wonjae | Gross, Strother |
| Colee, Laura | Hearlson, Adam |
| Colwill, Sarah | Heintz, Cassandra Leigh Paulk |

Hill, Kirby Lawrence
 Holland, Christopher
 Kearney, Roberta
 Khonje, Chenyangu
 Kirkpatrick, Rebecca
 LaCroix, François L
 MacCullough, Bruce W.
 Marshall, Eustacia Moffett
 Martin, Peter
 McShane, R; Pamela J.
 Mingle, Edward G.
 Morgan, Kathryn
 Morgan, Marianne
 Morse, Daniel
 Mullis, Baron
 Olson, Kari
 Porter, Kevin
 Pottorff, Franklyn
 Pulsifer, R; J. Michael

Pyrch, Cheryl
 Robinson, Graham
 Rossi, Ashley
 Sahotra, Ishfaq
 Santana-Grace, Ruth Faith
 Searight, Sarah Cooper
 Searight, William
 Shaker, Sameh
 Sheetz, Julia J.
 Shin, Joyce
 Stavrakos, P. Todd
 Steinnagel, Schaunel
 Sulyok, Peter
 Terry, Greg
 Thompson, Brenton E.
 Wagner, Elizabeth
 Willcox, M. Courtenay
 Wotring, Timothy
 Zambrana, Mary Kruse

Ministers Excused

Ashford, Stephanie Templin
 Auxter, Mark S.
 Bell, Anita Miller
 Biederman, Robert N.
 Brown, Carla Jones
 Bruce, Christine A.
 Diller, John
 Ferguson, Laura
 Hecht, Kathy
 Lawrence-Caldwell, Melanie

LeClyuse, Megan
 McPheeters, Douglas W.
 Neff LaRue, Lori
 Nelson, Karen R.
 Pedersen, Rachel
 Poteet, Michael
 Rhodes, Rachel
 Roman, Kelly
 Thompson, Sudie Niesen

Also excused were all those who are Retired who were not in attendance in accordance with Presbytery of Philadelphia Bylaws Section 1.3(B).

Ministers Absent

Aikins, Kathryn
 Arlyck, Matthew
 Ballard, Brian
 Balsan, Ryan Edward
 Bass, Jade King
 Betz-Bogoly, Cynthia
 Blake, Rebecca
 Bonner, James Edward
 Brecht, George T.

Callaway, Christine
 Carpenter, J. William
 Cavicchia, Cara
 Choi, Mina
 Cornelius, Taylor
 Craver, Thomas L.
 Davis, Gerard
 Day, Katie
 Earley, Barry J.

Ehman, John W.
 Evans, Michael J.
 Eyre, Robert
 Ezunkpe, Komlan
 Farrell, Paul
 Ferris, Jason R.
 Fetting, Jonathan
 Fong, Joanne Shum
 Foote, Jerry Kay

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|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Ford, Stephen T. | Kroupa III, George | Rodgers, Andrea |
| Ford, Wanda Larman | Larkin, David | Rogers, Robert J. |
| Frenzel, Jeannine | Lee, Jieun | Ross, Robert |
| Friend, Elizabeth B. Ford | Lee, Ki Nam | Rusert, Abigail Visco |
| Garcia, Raymond E. | Lee, Sung Dae | Russo, Brian |
| Golderer, William | Lester-Abdalla, Alexander | Sanchez, David E. |
| Gomez-Saravia, Gadiel | Lyndaker-Studer, Mark | Sexton, Pauline |
| Greyling, Jacobus P. | Mairena, Adan | Sharif, Kurshid |
| Grunseich, Michelle | Markel, John S. | Shendge, Manisha |
| Hankel, Heidi | Martin, Joan | Shevel, Katherine |
| Hausser, Sherri | Massengill, Samuel E. | Shimada, Peter |
| Hearlson, Christiane Lang | McClain, Keith | Shortlidge, Heather |
| Heckman, Bailey | McKinney Jr., William P. | Smyrl, Peter |
| Hessel, Beth | Miller, Richard | Snyder, John A. |
| Hill, Faith | Morganti, Steve | Somerville, Margaret |
| Hoagland, Donald Clark | Myers, Jeffrey T. | Speck, Jonathan |
| Hoglund, Douglas C. | Na, Amy | Stiffler, Flo Guynn |
| Holmes, Julie | Na, Kang-Yup | Stratton, Ruth Ellen |
| Holt, Charles | Norfleet, Agnes | Stroup, Maria A. |
| Ireland, Kevin | Norse-Thomas, David | Sweet, John D. |
| Irizarry, Jose | Ofosu-Donkoh, Kobina | Thomas, James |
| Jacob, Andrew | Palmer, Langdon B. | Thomas, Jeanne |
| Jacob, Robert A. | Park, Anne | Thompson, Lewis Casey |
| James, Cean | Park, Tae Moon | Tung, Arthur C. |
| Jones, James Alexander | Pearce, Patricia | Twitchell, Aaron |
| Kauer, Manuela | Pleim, Kurt | Wallace, Mark I. |
| Khan, Shahbaz | Poland, David M. | Watson, Deborah |
| Kibben, Margaret G. | Price, Donald | Williams, Faith |
| Kim, Byung Il | Rappaport, Lydia | Wood, H. Stanley |
| Kosinski, Lori Zang | Reisner, James | Yu, In Kon |
| Krajian, Joyce | Rhone, Rhonda | |