

**Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley Assembly**  
**Being held jointly with Lackawanna Presbytery, Synod of the Trinity**  
**Approved Minutes of the Joint Assembly, Saturday, May 05, 2018**  
**Valley United Presbyterian Church, Waverly, NY**

Pre-meeting had a Workshop at 9:15-9:45 on *How to Run an Efficient Meeting* led by a member of Lackawanna Presbytery that was well received.

Moderator **Rev. Robert Peak** (First Pres. Johnson City) called the meeting to order with prayer at 10:00 am with Lackawanna Presbytery Moderator Rev. Roger Griffith (Moosic Presbyterian Church) who called their meeting to order. A greeting was made by Rev. Sharan Knoell Rosso of the host church and announcement of arrangements took place.

Introduction of first time Commissioners to PSV, Guests, and Seating of Corresponding Members took place for both Presbyteries. First time commissioner was Marilynn Zeafla RE Valley United. We welcomed new pastor Rev. Virginia Coakley from Dryden. We welcomed guests Aaron Whitney and Shawn Landon from United Binghamton who will be commissioned for the trip to Taize.

A quorum was attested to and declared – 13 churches were represented by Ruling Elder Commissioners; 25 Ministers; 4 Commissioned Lay Pastors, 4 Ruling Elders with vote due to office; and 8 Office staff and visitors. The Roll was taken by computers in the registration area for a total enrolled attendance of 53 for the Presbytery of Susquehanna's side.

**Roll:**

| CHURCH                 | May 05, 2018   | Feb 24, 2018       | Nov 18, 2017          | Sept 16, 2017    | May 20,2017           |
|------------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Afton                  |                | Lynn Reeves        | Lynn Reeves           |                  |                       |
| Andes                  |                | Jonathan Andrews   | Joi Brundege          |                  |                       |
| Bainbridge             |                | Mary Whitmore      | Paula Epply           | Cheryl Nages     | Paula Epply           |
| Binghamton, Immanuel   |                |                    |                       |                  |                       |
| Binghamton, John Hus   |                |                    |                       |                  |                       |
| Binghamton, Ross Mem'l |                |                    |                       |                  |                       |
| Binghamton, United     | Marilyn Myers  | Doug Jones         | Cynthia Burger        | Suzanne Northrop | Chris Burger          |
| Bovina Center          |                |                    |                       |                  |                       |
| Cincinnati             |                |                    |                       |                  |                       |
| Conklin                | Jack Bell      | Jack Bell          | Jack Bell             |                  |                       |
| Cortland, United       |                | Darlene Latten     | Carol Foster          |                  | Darlene Latten        |
| Cortlandville, Christ  | Dorothy Thomas | Kathleen Severtsen | Dorothy Thomas        | Sherry Dans      | Nancy Wheatley        |
| Charlotte Valley       |                | Ally Fiske         | Excused               | Nancy E Banker   | Excused               |
| Cabin Hill             |                |                    |                       |                  |                       |
| De Lancey              |                |                    |                       |                  |                       |
| Delhi First            |                | Kathleen Sullivan  | Joseph Maxwell        | Susan Little     | Beatrice Mooney       |
| Delhi United Ministry  | Fred Onasch    |                    | Otto Frederick Onasch |                  | Otto Frederick Onasch |
| West Delhi             |                |                    |                       |                  |                       |
| Deposit                |                | Alice Martin       | Alice Martin          | Alice Martin     | Michael Armstrong     |
| Dryden                 |                | Chuck Uttech       | Chuck Uttech          |                  | David Smith           |
| East Guilford          |                | Judy Ives          | Janet Lafayette       |                  | Sharon Havens         |
| Endicott Union         | Jane Park      | Jane Park          | Peggy Williams        | Jane Park        | Peggy Williams        |
| Endwell Northminster   | Junk Brooks    | Donna Cunningham   | Juni Brooks           | Kathy Close      | Diana Nogaret         |
| Garrattsville          |                |                    |                       | Joan Loeffler    |                       |
| Gilbertsville          |                |                    | Roger Halbert         | Dean VeenHoff    |                       |

|                             |                  |                   |                   |                   |                    |
|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Hamden                      |                  | Karen Marshfield  | Excused           | Excused           | Karen Marshfield   |
| Hancock                     |                  |                   |                   |                   |                    |
| Hobart                      |                  | Ruth Dibble       |                   |                   |                    |
| Johnson City                | Glenna Coutts    |                   | Glenna Coutts     | Glenna Coutts     |                    |
| Laurens                     |                  |                   |                   |                   |                    |
| Lordville                   |                  |                   |                   |                   |                    |
| Marathon                    |                  |                   |                   |                   |                    |
| Margaretville/ New Kingston |                  |                   |                   |                   |                    |
| Masonville                  | Thomas Vance     | Judith Beers      | Jo Ann Aymar      | Wendy Caldiero    | Jo Ann Aymar       |
| Nichols                     | Andrea Seeley    |                   |                   | Andrea Seeley     | Andrea Seeley      |
| Nineveh                     |                  |                   | Glenn White       |                   | Barbara Dillingham |
| Oneonta First               |                  | Libby Cudmore     | Neal Miller       | Neal Miller       |                    |
| Oneonta First United        |                  | Linda Allen       |                   |                   |                    |
| Otego                       |                  |                   |                   |                   |                    |
| Owego                       | Leslie Anne King | Stuart Rogers     | Leslie Anne King  | Oliver, Joan      | Leslie Anne King   |
| Smithville Flats            |                  | Diane Merrill     | Joan Barker       |                   | Diane Merrill      |
| Stamford                    |                  | Fred Doyle        |                   | Dave Betz         |                    |
| Unadilla                    | Louise Lesh      |                   | John Truscott     | Louise Lesh       |                    |
| Walton                      | Susan Hammerslag | Susan Wildenstein | Michael Krusinski | Michael Krusinski | Michael Krusinski  |
| Valley United               | James E. Parks   |                   | Dale Barber       |                   |                    |
| Windsor                     |                  |                   |                   |                   |                    |
| Worcester                   |                  |                   | Judy McAdams      |                   |                    |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                | <b>13</b>        | <b>23</b>         | <b>25</b>         | <b>18</b>         | <b>18</b>          |

| Status   | CLERGY              | May 05, 2018 | Feb 24, 2018      | Nov 18, 2017 | Sept 16, 2017 | May 20, 2017 |
|----------|---------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| HR       | Amalfitano, Frank   |              | Deceased 1/7/2018 |              |               |              |
| HR       | Arnold, Earl        | Present      | Present           |              | Present       |              |
| HR       | Beattie, Douglas G  |              |                   |              |               |              |
|          | Bridges, Parrish    | Present      |                   |              |               |              |
| HR       | Bjorkman, Leonard   | Present      | Present           |              |               | Present      |
| CLP      | Budine, George      | Present      | Present           | Present      | Present       | Present      |
| CLP      | Carruth, George     | Present      | Present           | Present      |               |              |
|          | Chastain, Kimberly  | Present      | Excused           | Present      |               | Present      |
|          | Coakley, Virginia   | Present      |                   |              |               |              |
|          | Colton, Charles     | Present      |                   |              |               |              |
| CLP      | Davis, Shirley      |              | In-transit        |              |               |              |
| HR       | De Noyelles, Roger  |              |                   |              |               |              |
| HR       | Dittman, Sharon J   |              |                   |              |               |              |
| HR       | Downing, Barry      |              |                   |              |               |              |
|          | Elfond, Cheryl Ann  |              | Excused           | Excused      | Excused       | Excused      |
| CLP      | Fleming, Deborah    | Present      | Present           | Excused      | Present       | Excused      |
| HR       | Francis, Dale       |              | -                 | transferred  |               | Present      |
| EPIS     | Hamilton, Paul      |              |                   |              |               |              |
| UCC      | Hansen, Janet Adair | Present      | Present           | Present      | Present       | Present      |
|          | Hatch, Douglas      | Present      | Present           | Present      | Present       |              |
|          | Heckman, Lisa S.    | Present      | Present           | Present      | Present       | Present      |
| At-large | Heinle, Robert H    | Present      | Present           | Present      | Excused       | Present      |
|          | Helgeson, Rachel    | Present      |                   |              |               |              |
|          | Hooker, Christopher | -            | -                 | In transit   | Excused       | Excused      |
|          | Hooker, Sarah       | -            | Transferred       | In transit   | Excused       | Excused      |
|          | Horne, Douglas A    |              |                   | Present      |               | Present      |
|          | Jensen, Julie       |              | Transferred       | Present      | Present       | Present      |
|          | Johnson, David H.   | Present      | Present           | Present      | Present       | Present      |

|              |                             |             |                |                |                |                |
|--------------|-----------------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Co-Clerk     | Kindig, Rebecca             | Present     | Present        | Present        | Present        | Present        |
| HR           | King, Marie                 |             |                |                |                |                |
|              | Rosso (Knoell), Sharan      | Present     | Present        | Excused        |                | Present        |
|              | Kwon, Peter                 |             |                |                |                |                |
| HR           | Mahler, John                |             |                |                |                |                |
| Clerk        | Martin, James F             | Present     | Excused        | Present        | Present        | Present        |
| Valid min    | Mattice, Taryn B            |             |                | Present        |                |                |
|              | Mays, Lisa Ruth             | Excused     | Present        | Excused        | Present        | Excused        |
| HR           | Miller, Dean                |             |                |                |                |                |
|              | Montfort, Mark              | Present     | Present        | Present        | Present        | Excused        |
|              | More, H Adelbert III        |             | Excused        |                | Excused        | Excused        |
| CLP          | Muller, Marsha              | Present     | Present        | Present        | Present        |                |
|              | Outterson-Murphy, Bobby     | Present     | Present        | Present        | Excused        | Present        |
|              | Peak, Robert T              | Present     | Present        | Present        | Present        | Present        |
|              | Piedmonte, Mark             | Present     | Present        | Excused        | Present        | Present        |
| HR           | Presby, Allen L             |             |                |                |                |                |
|              | Raube, Patricia             | Excused     | Excused        | Present        | Present        | Present        |
| HR           | Renton, Barbara A           | Present     | Excused        |                | Present        | Present        |
| HR           | Robinson, David C           |             |                |                |                |                |
|              | Schindler – see Vittorio    |             |                |                |                |                |
| At-large     | Schwartz, Barbara           |             | Excused        | Excused        |                | Present        |
|              | Shepard, Lynn               | Present     | Excused        | Present        | Present        | Present        |
|              | Suggs, Arthur M             |             |                |                |                |                |
| HR           | Thomas, Ronald              |             |                |                |                |                |
| ABC          | Vance, Tom                  | Present     | Present        | Present        | Present        | Present        |
|              | Vittorio Schindler, Garrett | Excused     | Present        | Present        | Present        | Excused        |
|              | Vittorio Schindler, Marena  | Excused     | Present        |                | Present        | Excused        |
|              | Walton-Leavitt, Cynthia     | Present     | Present        | Present        | Present        | Present        |
| HR           | Wemple Jr, Delbert          |             |                |                |                |                |
| HR           | Wilson, Carol               |             | Transferred    |                | Present        |                |
|              | Wolff, Patty                |             | Present        | Present        | Excused        | Present        |
| <b>Total</b> |                             | <b>24+4</b> | <b>19+4Clp</b> | <b>21+3Clp</b> | <b>20+3Clp</b> | <b>22+1Clp</b> |

HR = Honorably Retired, at large = at large member, valid min = validated ministry, gov body = serving governing body of the church; other denominational affiliations: UCC = United Church of Christ, UMC = United Methodist Church FMC = Free Methodist Church, ABC = American Baptist Church

| <b>ELDER (“equalized”)</b>     | <b>May 05, 2018</b> | <b>Feb 24, 2018</b> | <b>Nov 18, 2017</b> | <b>Sept 16, 2017</b> | <b>May 20, 2017</b> |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Glenna Coutts-Cabinet VM       | See church          | Present             |                     |                      |                     |
| Joanne Gray - Cabinet          | Present             | Present             |                     |                      |                     |
| Scott Kindig – Cabinet         | Present             | Present             | Present             | Present              | Present             |
| Neal Miller – Cabinet          | -                   | Off                 | See church          | See church           |                     |
| Marsha Muller -- COM co-chair  | See CLP             | See CLP             | See CLP             | See CLP              | Present             |
| Joan Oliver -- Cabinet         | Present             | Present             | Present             | See Church           | Present             |
| Wildenstein, Judith – PWP Rep. | Present             | Present             | Present             | Present              | Present             |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>4</b>            | <b>6</b>            | <b>3</b>            | <b>2</b>             | <b>4</b>            |

**Corresponding Members: 0**

**Staff, Visitors, & Host church volunteers: 8** Chris Burger, PSV Co-Stated Clerk, Christine Rogalski PSV Office Admin, Barbara Quick Nichols, Aaron Whitney Binghamton United, Shawn Landon Binghamton United, Diane Olmstead Outreach Coordinator, Stuart Rogers Owego & COM, Cynthia Burger, Binghamton United.

**Total Tally of Presbytery Commissioners**

|  |    |   |    |
|--|----|---|----|
| Teaching Elders Present:                 | 24 | Churches Represented by a Ruling Elder:     | 13 |
| Corresponding Members (Teaching Elders): | 0  | Corresponding Member (Ruling Elder):        | 0  |
| Total Teaching Elders:                   | 24 | Commissioned Lay Pastors Present:           | 4  |
| Teaching Elders Excused:                 | 4  | Other Voting Ruling Elders Present:         | 4  |
| Teaching Elders Absent w/o Excuse:       | 5  | Total Ruling Elders Present:                | 22 |
| APA Members:                             | 0  | Commissioned Lay Pastors absent w/o excuse: | 1  |

|  |           |                                   |    |
|--|-----------|-----------------------------------|----|
| Staff, Visitors, Host Church Volunteers: | 8         | Commissioned Lay Pastors Excused: | 0  |
|  |           | Churches Requesting Excuse:       | 0  |
| <b>Total Enrolled Attendance:</b>        | <b>53</b> | Churches Not Represented:         | 34 |

The meeting was then suspended for a time of joint worship. Worship was led by elders and ministers from both Presbyteries. Rev. Sharan Knoell Rosso, TE at Valley United gave the message “One in the Spirit” based on Psalm 133, a thanksgiving for the ministry of both Presbyteries. An offering of \$701.25 was collected which will go to CHOW for Children, a food ministry in Waverly.

### Joint Business

The PSV COM brought forward an action item from report [#07]

Motion to transfer Sharan Knoell Rosso from Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley, Synod of the Northeast, to Lackawanna Presbytery, Synod of the Trinity, effective the date that General Assembly action approves the transfer of the Valley United Presbyterian Church in Waverly NY to Lackawanna Presbytery in June, 2018.

The Lackawanna Presbytery moved to receive Sharan Knoell Rosso from Susquehanna Valley Presbytery if the way be clear.

There was discussion of thanks for Sharan’s ministry and thanks for both Presbytery’s support and encouragement in the discerning process during the merger of the three congregations split between the two Presbyteries and for which Presbytery they felt God was calling them to at the end. There was also gratitude expressed to Valley United for following God’s call. And there was gratitude to God for calling us all to new things and for giving us the ability to do it with grace and love.

The motion from PSV’s COM was called to a **vote and CARRIED**.

The motion from Lackawanna Presbytery was called to a **vote and CARRIED**.

The Stated Clerk’s from both Presbyteries agreed to carry out the transfer when the way is cleared at General Assembly.

At 11:00, the joint meeting was separated and the Presbyteries each went to their own rooms to conduct their business.

After we gathered in the new space...

### Introduction of New Business, Approval of the Agenda:

Moderator Robert Peak declared that Co-Stated Clerk Becky Kindig was the parliamentarian for the day.

There was an introduction and call for any new business.

The Ethiopian Partnership report [#05b(2)] was added as well as Addendum to COM report [#07a].

The Docket [#01] was then **APPROVED**.

A Consent Agenda including the receiving of Stated Clerk Report [#04] and Treasurer’s reports [#06], [#06a], [#06b], [#06c], [#06d] was **APPROVED**. The minutes of the last Assembly meeting [#03] were removed from the consent agenda to correct an error. They will be presented at the September meeting.

### Cabinet Reports [#05]:

George Budine, Cabinet Chair, gave the Cabinet Report. He called attention to the Central New York Presbytery’s Partnership event in Syracuse NY April 12-14 which will have as keynote speaker the Rev. Jan Edmiston, co-moderator of the 222 General Assembly.

He then brought forward three action items.

Motion to nominate members to serve on the nominating committee. Class of 2019: Cynthia Walton-Leavitt, Karen Marshfield. Class of 2020: Dave Johnson and Joanne Aymar. Cynthia Walton-Leavitt to serve as chair.

After an opportunity for nominations from the floor and having none, the motion was brought to a **vote and CARRIED**.

Kimberly Chastain has resigned from the PJC, and was the chair. The Cabinet brought the nomination of Pat Raube to fill her term. Some discussion was had as to who would call a meeting if need be with no acting chair. The protocol is that the Stated Clerks would convene the first meeting and the group would elect a chair just as if the chair rotated off at the end of a term. The motion was brought to a **vote and CARRIED**.

Janet Adair Hanson is retiring from Christ Church in Cortlandville. Being a UCC pastor, and now not serving a church in the PCUSA in our Presbytery, she needs to step down as one of the co-chairs of COM. The Cabinet brings forth the nomination of Lisa Ruth Mays who is already on COM to fill her term as co-chair. There was some discussion and clarifying questions asked and answered. The motion was brought to a **vote and CARRIED**, thanking Janet for her service and wishing her an enjoyable retirement.

**Addendum to COM report [#07a]:** At this time, Janet Adair Hanson from COM asked to bring forward the nomination of Parrish Bridges to the COM to fill the now empty seat for the class of 2019, instead of waiting until New Business. The moderator granted the request. Parrish was a former member of Susquehanna Valley and he has recently moved back to the area. He is now the interim at Walton starting May 1<sup>st</sup>. The motion was brought to a **vote and CARRIED**.

**Christian Nurture Report (CN) [#05a]:**

Chair Mark Piedmont from Gilbertsville/ Garretttsville, brought several announcements and a commissioning.

- Youth mission trip in July to Heifer global village at Shepherd Spring Camp in MD, an experience of what it is like to live in a developing community. Fliers were made available and he asked to please help spread the word for young people. Information is also on web site. The cost is partially funded by the Nurture team.

- Camperships have been increased this year to cover increased costs at camps. See web site for details and application. Funding is 3 tiered with most funding for Presbyterian camps.

- Taize trip coming soon. Bobby Outerson-Murphy is leading and a couple participants who are going were present. Aaron Whitney and Shawn Landon, both from Binghamton United. They all expressed that they were grateful for the support of the presbytery to make that happen. Mark gave a Commissioning prayer for their journey. Joanne Gray, from Owego and Presbyterian Woman, gave a check for \$100 per person for the trip.

**Ethiopian Mission Partnership Team (EMPT) [#05b], [#05b(2)]:**

Junietta Brooks from the team gave a report updating us on their work. Their book collection for Ethiopian seminaries collected over 1000 books. The solar light project is going well and more can be donated for \$250.00 each. A new missionary Carolyn Kurtz is working with the project. Dot Thomas, Lynn Reeves, and Junietta Brooks went to the EMISNET conference in Portland hearing about woman's leadership roles in Ethiopia. They are requesting prayers for the violence in Ethiopia right now and for prayers for the new leader who was elected. They are also putting together plans for a trip to Ethiopia for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of missionaries to Ethiopia. People can see Junie for more details.

**Justice in Mission and Ministry (JIMM) [#05c]:**

Len Bjorkman gave the JIMM report. States that their funds have been put to good use, all the hunger funds will go to backpack program in Dryden. Virginia Coakley from Dryden gave some details about that project her church is involved with. Bobby Outterson-Murphy announced training at United Ministries in Delhi on May 22 6:00-9:00 pm for the Days of Action in Albany for the Poor Peoples Campaign and gave some details about what the Poor Peoples Campaign is about.

**Committee on Ministry(COM) [#07], [#07a]:**

The COM had several items to report and an Action Item

- COM took a moment to recognize the service of Rev. Janet Adair Hansen as she retires. Janet was praised for her service to the Presbytery for 18 years and we again wished her well in retirement.

- George Budine announced the church support workshops coming up on May 19th at United Ministries in Delhi, 9-2 and June 2, church support 102 at United Pres in Binghamton.

Janet Adair Hansen made the motion from COM for the installation commission for Rev. Virginia Coakley at Dryden May 20th at 4pm.. They will be:

Moderator Rev. Robert Peak (First Presbyterian Johnson City)  
Rev. David Johnson (Cortland, United PC)  
Rev. Kimberly Chastain (Binghamton United PC)  
Rev. Dr. Janet Adair Hansen (Cortlandville, Christ Community)  
RE Michelle Brackin (Dryden, First PC)  
RE Junieta Brooks (Endwell, Northminster PC)  
RE Timothy Hale (Endicott, Union PC)  
RE John Scott, Clerk of Session (Dryden, First PC)  
Rev. Barton Kelso, honorably retired PCUSA

The motions was brought to a **vote and was CARRIED.**

### **Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM):**

Chair Mark Piedmonte, TE reported that it is time for Ordination Exam Readers.

TE Lisa Heckman has agreed to the nomination and Mark asks for a RE. Cynthia Walton Leavitt suggests Janet Schwengber. Dave Johnson reminds everyone that everything is done online now. You don't have to go anywhere. You do need to do the on-line training. We each had to do 2 exams. Cynthia nominates George Budine. He accepts and is added to slate.

CPM made motion to approve TE Lisa Heckman and RE George Budine to be this year's Ordination Exam Readers. Mark Piedmont will be the Alternate. The motion was brought to a **vote and was carried.**

### **New/Unfinished Business:**

None since the report of [#07a] was moved to the end of the Cabinet Report.

### **Sharing of Good News and Announcements:**

-Barbara R, Bainbridge, celebrating 225 anniversary this year.

-Cynthia Walton-Leavitt Ecumenical advocacy days.

-Len Bjorkman, opportunity to have an international peacemaker again. He happens to know 2 of them, one from Palestine and one from Syria. There are more from other places.

-Janet Adair Hansen's retirement celebration we all will be invited to probably June 27.

-Rachel Helgelson, Spiedie Fest, arts and music camp at Northminster this summer.

-Doug Hatch Marathon, only 11 months to next Maple festival.

-JoAnn Gray PW event July 27, the mission trip person is coming, and they will have a lunch with her and everyone is welcome.

-Diane Olmstead, Johnson City, women worship weekend, begins with dinner Friday.

-Christine Rogalski, our Office Admin for PSV, is on baby watch for her oldest daughter, so she may be out of the office for a couple weeks.

-Prayers for all the people going to GA.

After sharing of Good News, Christine Rogalski asked people to please fill out the Presbytery Assembly Survey on line and to turn in name tags. The Moderator gave instructions for lunch and encouraged everyone to mix at tables with people from Lackawanna Presbytery.

Motion to adjourn was made. The Presbytery **adjourned** with prayer led by Moderator Robert Peak at 12:11 pm.

The next Presbytery Assembly will be held at the Unadilla First Presbyterian Church on Saturday September 29, 2018.

Notes recorded by Lynn Shepherd, recording clerk.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Becky Kindig, Co-Stated Clerk

Minutes approved 9/29/2018, Attested by \_\_\_\_\_

Rebecca M. Kindig, Co-Stated Clerk