

The Report of the Cabinet

The Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley

September 16, 2017

The Presbytery Cabinet met on June 22, 2017 and September 5, 2017 at the United Presbyterian Church of Binghamton.

At its **June** meeting, Cabinet:

- Received the May Financial Report.
- Authorized the Moderator to appoint a Task Force to consider how we can best conduct examinations for the commissioning of Lay Pastors, drawing representatives from the Committee on Lay Preaching, the Committee on Ministry, and the Committee on Preparation for Ministry.
- Approved an application from the First Presbyterian Church of Nichols for \$4,000 in Church Development Funds to rebuild handicapped ramps.
- Approved a usage agreement with the Berean Bible Church for use of the Mission Center at 12 Whitney Way. They will use it twice a week and contribute \$450 per month to defray utility and maintenance costs.
- Had a fruitful dialogue with the Rev. Harold Delhagen, Synod Leader of the Synod of the Northeast concerning visioning for the future concerning the future direction of presbyteries and their ministry.

At its **September** meeting, Cabinet:

- Received the July Financial Report and the report of the Treasurer.
- Received the draft 2018 Presbytery Budget as prepared by the Finance Committee. The draft budget will be shared with the Presbytery Assembly in September with a vote scheduled for November. There are still several budget items to be finalized.
- Approved a Congregational Development Grant up to \$2,000 for the partial funding of the Holy Cow Ministries Assessment Tool. This assessment is part of the congregation's mission study.
- Confirmed an earlier email vote by the Cabinet, acting as Trustees of the Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley, to approve the sale of the building of the former Athens Presbyterian Church (in the bounds of Lackawanna Presbytery) by the Valley United Presbyterian Church. The building is to be sold to the Athens Area School District for \$300,000.
- Voted to continue the use of David Mattice as our Realtor for the sale of the Mission Center and to relist the property on the MLS with a sale price of \$190,000. Cabinet received the good news that the assessment of the Mission Center has been reduced from \$477 to \$326 following a request of the Presbytery to the town assessor.
- Agreed to participate in a Financial Assessment process offered by the Presbyterian Foundation.

- Acting as Trustees for the Presbytery, the Cabinet voted to approve the sale of the Luce Center (the former United Methodist Church), 6 Court Street, Hobart, NY 13788 by the United Ministry of Delhi to Delhi PAC LLC in the amount of \$50,000. The proceeds of the sale will be placed with the church's investments at the Presbyterian Foundation. It is our understanding that this sale also requires the approval of the United Methodist Conference. It is also our understanding that Delhi PAC LLC (local group of investors) plans to use the building for community services.
- Received an oral report from those attending a recent gathering of representatives from three neighboring presbyteries (Cayuga-Syracuse, Northern New York, and Utica). These representatives have been exploring possible ways of sharing mission, program, and staff. A formal letter to each participating presbytery is being drafted.

David H. Johnson, Chair of Cabinet