

**Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley Assembly
Minutes of Saturday May 21, 2016
United Presbyterian Church, Walton**

The Assembly opened at 9:08 am with Worship led by **George Budine, Patty Wolff, Kimberly Chastain, and Lisa Ruth Mays** with a sermon from Exodus 33. An offering of \$380 was divided between the Pentecost Offering and a local project providing Backpacks to students.

Presbytery Moderator **Patty Wolff** (East Guilford and Central Delaware Trinity) called the business meeting to order with prayer at 9:31 am. A quorum was present – 22 churches were represented by Ruling Elder Commissioners, 23 Teaching Elders, 2 Commissioned Lay Pastors, 3 Ruling Elders with vote due to office and 12 visitors and host church helpers.

Host Pastor, Rev. Lisa Ruth Mays shared the wireless password and gave directions about the facilities, refreshments and lunch.

First time commissioners were introduced: **Joi Brundage** (Andes), **Libby Cudmore** (Oneonta First), **Barbara Dillingham** (Nineveh), **Michael Krusinski** (Walton) and **Becky Smith** (Stamford). Other visitors and returning commissioners were also introduced. Youth Triennium participants were introduced later during the commissioning.

The Roll was taken by computers in the narthex.

Roll:

CHURCH	May 21, 2016	Feb 13, 2016	Nov 21, 2015	Sept 19, 2015	May 30, 2015
Afton	Lynn Reeves	Lynn Reeves	Lynn Reeves		Lynn Reeves
Andes	Joi Brundage				Jim Andrews
Bainbridge	Excused	Cheryl Nages	Evelyn S. Baker	Paula Tillapaugh	Evelyn S. Baker
Binghamton, Immanuel					
Binghamton, John Hus					
Binghamton, Ross Mem'l					
Binghamton, United	Ann Garcia	Cynthia Burger	William Donohue	Suzanne Northrop	
Bovina Center			Mark Schneider	Thomas Hilson	
Cincinnatus		Fred Downs			
Conklin			Jack Bell		Douglas Moore
Cortland, United	Scott Gay	Darlene Latten		Carol Foster	Carol Foster
Cortlandville, Christ	Excused	Nancy Wheatley		Diane Batzing	Excused
Charlotte Valley	Nancy E. Banker				Nancy E. Banker
Cabin Hill					
De Lancey					
Delhi First	Renee Maxwell		Joseph Maxwell	Barbara Thompson	Renee Maxwell
Delhi United Ministry	Fred Onasch	excused	excused	Fred Onasch	Gideon Frisbee
West Delhi					Bruce Hoyt
Deposit	Alice Martin	Alice Martin	Alice Martin	Alice Martin	Alice Martin
Dryden		Sandy Dumond	David Smith	Excused	David Smith
East Guilford	Sharon Havens		Jan Lafayette	Sharon Havens	Sharon Havens
Endicott Union	Jane Park		Peg Williams	Susan Troy	Jane Park
Endwell Northminster	excused	Donna	Judith Potts-	Lynn Frehsee	Scott Kindig

CHURCH	May 21, 2016	Feb 13, 2016	Nov 21, 2015	Sept 19, 2015	May 30, 2015
		Cunningham	Sinicki		
Garrattsville	Joan Loeffler		Joan Loeffler	Joan Loeffler	
Gilbertsville	Shirley Keene	Winona Slaughter	Roberta Halbert		
Hamden	Karen Marshfield	Wayne Marshfield		Karen Marshfield	Karen Marshfield
Hancock					
Hobart					
Johnson City	Glenna Coutts	Glenna Coutts	Glenna Coutts		Glenna Coutts
Laurens	Excused				Charles Bollinger
Lordville				Callie Brunelli	Carolyn Brunelli
Marathon				Joanne Rienhardt	
Margaretville/ New Kingston					
Masonville	Excused	Wendy Caldiero	Kathryn Carvin		Jo Ann Aymar
Nichols	Excused	excused	excused		Andrea Seeley
Nineveh	Barbara Dillingham		Ken Krugaluk	Dominick Sandoli	
Oneonta First	Libby Cudmore	Shirly Fiorvanti	Eleanor Hickein	Eleanor Hickein	Eleanor Hickein
Oneonta First United		Rebecca LaBarr	excused		Rebecca LaBarr
Otego					Linda Ryder
Owego	Leslie Anne King	Leslie Anne King	Leslie Anne King		Leslie Anne King
Smithville Flats	Diane Merrill	Diane Merrill	Joan Barker		Dianne Merrill
Stamford	Becky Smith	excused	Frederick Doyle	Excused	
Unadilla	Chris Bomba	Brian Danforth		Chris Bomba	David Johnson
Walton	Michael Krusinski	Marsha Muller	Daniel Patsos	Cathy Backus	Marsha Muller
Valley United	Dale Barber		Marilynne Zeafla	Dale Barber	Dale Barber
Windsor					
Worcester			Judy McAdams	Judy McAdams	Judy McAdams
TOTAL	22	19	23	20	30

Status	CLERGY	May 21, 2016	Feb 13, 2016	Nov 21, 2015	Sept 19, 2015	May 30, 2015
HR	Amalfitano, Frank					
HR	Beattie, Douglas G					
HR	Bjorkman, Leonard	Present		Present		Present
UMC /HR	Buddle, Duane	Present				Present
CLP	Budine, George	Present	Present	Present		Present
CLP	Carruth, George		Present	Excused	Present	Present
	Chastain, Kimberly	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
CLP	Davis, Shirley	Present	Excused	Excused		Excused
HR	De Noyelles, Roger					
HR	Dittman, Sharon J					
HR	Downing, Barry					
	Elfond, Cheryl Ann	Excused	Excused	Excused	Excused	Excused
CLP	Fleming, Deborah	Excused	Present	Excused		
HR	Francis, Dale					
EPIS	Hamilton, Paul	Present	Present		Present	Present
UCC	Hansen, Janet Adair	Excused	Present	Excused		Present
	Hatch, Douglas		Present	Present	Present	Present
	Heckman, Lisa S.	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
at large	Heinle, Robert H		Present	Present		Present
	Hooker, Christopher	Present	Excused	Excused	Present	Present

Status	CLERGY	May 21, 2016	Feb 13, 2016	Nov 21, 2015	Sept 19, 2015	May 30, 2015
	Hooker, Sarah	Excused	Present	Excused	Present	Present
	Horne, Douglas A	Excused	Present		Present	Present
FMC	Jansen, Michael	Present				
	Johnson, David H.	Present	Present	Present	Present	Excused
	Kindig, Rebecca	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
HR	King, Marie					
	Rosso (Knoell), Sharan	Present	Excused	Present	Excused	Excused
ABC	Krembs, Michael					
	Kwon, Peter					Present
HR	Mahler, John					
Clerk	Martin, James F	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
Valid min	Mattice, Taryn B				Present	
	Mays, Lisa Ruth	Present	Excused	Present	Present	Present
HR	Miller, Dean					
	Montfort, Mark	Present	Present	Present	Present	Excused
	Moore, Carl			Present	Excused	Present
	More, H Adelbert III	Excused	Excused			
HR	O'Hara, Diarmuid					Present
	Peak, Robert T	Present	Present	Present		Present
	Piedmonte, Mark	Present	Excused	Present	Excused	Present
HR	Presby, Allen L					
	Raube, Patricia	Present	Excused	Present	Present	Present
HR	Renton, Barbara A				Present	
HR	Robinson, David C		Present	Present	Excused	Present
	Schindler – see Vittorio					
at large	Schwartz, Barbara	Present	Present	Present	Excused	
	Shepard, Lynn	Excused	Present	Present	Present	Present
	Suggs, Arthur M					
HR	Thomas, Ronald					
	Tyler, Emrys	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
ABC	Vance, Tom	Excused	Present	Present	Present	
	Vittorio Schindler, Garrett	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
	Vittorio Schindler, Marena	Present	Present		Present	Present
	Walton-Leavitt, Cynthia	Present	Present	Excused	Present	Present
HR	Wemple Jr, Delbert					
	Wilson, Carol	Excused		Excused	Present	Present
	Wolff, Patty	Present		Present	Present	Present
Total		23+2Clp	21+3Clp	21 +1Clp	24 +2Clp	30+3Clp

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

ELDER (“equalized”)	May 21, 2016	Feb 13, 2016	Nov 21, 2015	Sept 19, 2015	May 30, 2015
Scott Kindig – Cabinet	Present				
Beatrice Mooney - Committee Chair	Present	Present			
Joan Oliver -- Cabinet	Present				
Wildenstein, Judith – PWP Rep.	Present	Present	Present	excused	
Total	4	2	2	0	0

Staff & Host church volunteers: Marsha Muller, Jodi Jamieson

Visitors: David Banker, Lillie Carrigan-Bauer, Abigail Dove, Jo Ann Gray, Susannah Hall, Shawn Landon, Marilyn Myers, Julian Wanjama, Enid Carter, Frederick Doyle

Total Tally of Presbytery Commissioners

Teaching Elders Present:	23	Churches Represented by a Ruling Elder:	22
Corresponding Members:	0	Corresponding Member (ruling elder):	
Total Teaching Elders:	23	Commissioned Lay Pastors Present:	2
Teaching Elders Excused:	10	Other Voting Ruling Elders Present:	4
Teaching Elders Absent w/o Excuse:	8	Total Ruling Elders Present:	28
APA Members:	0	Commissioned Lay Pastors absent w/o excuse:	
Visitors+ Host Church Volunteers:	12	Commissioned Lay Pastors Excused:	2
Total Enrolled Attendance	63	Churches Requesting Excuse	6
		Churches Not Represented:	25

Introduction of New Business, Approval of the Agenda

No new business was brought forward.

The **Agenda**[#1] was approved with a change to the Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda reports:

[#4] **Committee on Lay Preaching**

[#7A] **Revised Position Description for Treasurer -- Removed**

[#7B] **Revised Position Description for Stated Clerk -- Removed**

[#10] **Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery**

[#11] **Stated Clerk**

[#11A] **Annual Statistical Summary 2015**

[#12] **Nineveh Session Letter**

[#15] **Minutes of February 13, 2016**

[#17] **Financial Position March 31, 2016**

[#18] **Statement of Activities March 31, 2016**

[#19] **Mission Giving/ Per Capita Financial Report March 31, 2016**

and the **Consent Agenda** [#2] was approved with removal of revised Position Descriptions of Treasurer and Stated Clerk.

Committee on Nominations -- Garrett Schindler(Bovina) gave the report and after opportunity for nominations from the floor, Presbytery elected:

- **Joan Oliver** (RE, Owego) **Cabinet** Class of 2018
- **Scott Kindig** (RE, Northminster) **Cabinet** Class of 2018
- **Rebecca Kindig** (TE, United, Binghamton) **Ordination Exam Reader**
- **Kimberley Chastain** (TE, United, Binghamton) **Ordination Exam Reader**
- **Jane Park** (RE, Union, Endicott) **Ordination Exam Reader**
- **Joan Wise Hostetter** (RE, Owego) **Ordination Exam Reader**

- **David Johnson** (TE, United, Cortland) **Alternate Ordination Exam Reader**

2 Synod commissioners and a Young Adult Delegate to Synod are needed.

Marena Vittorio Schindler (TE, Andes) was elected as Synod Commissioner

our other Synod commissioners are **Lisa Heckman** (TE, Owego) and **Nadine Stenson** (RE, Oneonta United)

A **motion was approved** to authorize the Nominating Committee and Cabinet to fill the remaining Synod positions.

Committee on Ministry

Presbytery **approved** an exception (in G-2.0504c), to permit **the Rev. Rebecca Kindig** to be eligible to be called as the half-time associate pastor at **Binghamton United Presbyterian Church**.

Presbytery **approved a motion** to permit the **Binghamton United** congregation to appoint the session as the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee.

Presbytery commissioned the following Ruling Elders to **preside at the Lord's Supper at the specified churches**:

Cheryl Nages and Paula Tillapaugh at Bainbridge First

Marsha Muller at Walton United and the Presbytery List of congregations needing Ruling Elders commissioned to Eucharistic Service ('the ES list')

Lynn Reeves at Afton and at congregations of the ES list.

Michelle Brackin, Fred Downs, Karen Marshfield, John Truscott at congregations of the 'Eucharistic Service' list.

Presbytery empowered the Committee on Ministry to act on the Assembly's behalf when adding or removing congregations to the list of congregations for which Commissioned Ruling Elders can preside at the Lord's Table ('the ES list'), with the understanding that the Committee on Ministry will report such action at next Assembly.

By motion and second, Presbytery appointed an Administrative Commission to Install the **Rev. David Johnson** as the Pastor of **Cortland United** Presbyterian Church on Sunday June 26, 2016, consisting of the following: **Chris Burger**, RE **Binghamton United** - Chair; **Janis Martin**, RE **Cortland United**; **Pat Raube** TE Endicott, Union; **Kimberly Chastain**, TE **Binghamton United**; **Lisa Heckman** TE, **Owego**.

For the Ethiopian Partnership Ministry Team (**EPMT**), Lynn Reeves explained the flyer information and reported on the conference at Lincoln Nebraska. 2019 will mark 100 years of Presbyterian mission in Ethiopia after the arrival of Dr. Thomas Lambie in Dembi Dollo.

Presbytery recessed for a 5 minute break until 10:32 a.m.

The **Cabinet Report** was given by **Emrys Tyler** who reported on his own upcoming moving schedule as he and Sarah respond to a call to move to Colorado this summer. Emrys will return for the Fall Cabinet and Presbytery meeting and anticipates a transfer to Western Colorado Presbytery.

The **Treasurer Position Description** was referred back to Cabinet for revision and updating.

Tom Bonne (RE, Cortland United) was elected to serve on Presbytery Nominating Committee in the class of 2019, beginning January 1, 2017.

After amendments adding 'Provide orientation to General Assembly Commissioners' and 'Provide orientation for Investigative Committees' and under Evaluation adding 'if applicable, the Head of Staff', and under Terms and Conditions of service: remove the Personnel sub-committee role (leaving the selection process to the Nominating Committee) Presbytery **approved** a revised position description for the **Stated Clerk**.

Presbytery **approved** reducing the listing price of the former **Mission Center building** in Bainbridge by \$25,000 each month, to a lowest point of \$199,000 on 1 September.

The Justice in Mission Ministry Team (**JIMMT**) gave a presentation about an event of Peacemaking and reconciliation between Hindus and Christians in Odisha State, India. Saima and Hemant Tandi spoke and showed slides of the gathering. There was also a display in the fellowship hall.

By general consensus, the **Order of the Day was moved** until after Vice-Moderator **George Budine** spoke about the changes in the New Beginnings program as the General Assembly drops staff support after the last 6 years and refers churches to the Disciples of Christ (which originated the program). Reflecting on Nehemiah 8 and Psalms 22, 48 and 143, and the experience of churches that are growing, he led Presbytery in an exercise of praise and worship and encouraged us to look at our participation from God's perspective and consider how we can encourage our churches in worship and revitalization in the future.

Presbytery joined in commissioning 18 youth from 7 churches (Gilbertsville/Garrattsville, Owego, Northminster, Endicott, Binghamton and Walton) along with chaperones and sponsors to the **Youth Triennium** gathering at Purdue July 18-24.

Good News and announcements were shared from a dozen people and churches, and Presbytery adjourned with prayer before lunch at 12:04.

The next Stated Assembly is Saturday, September 17, 2016, Union Presbyterian Church, Endicott