



Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Boston

Zoom Meeting

September 14th, 2023

Meeting Packet



Notice of the Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Boston

Date/Time: Thursday, September 14 at 7:00 PM

Location: Zoom Meeting

To receive the link to enter this meeting, **you must register online in advance of the meeting**. Registration is now available. [Click here to register](#).

[This page on our website](#) includes instructions for participating in the meeting through Zoom, and also contains the registration link.

The meeting packet will be available one week before the meeting.

All teaching elders and ruling elders with the privilege of vote are expected to attend all presbytery meetings. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Stated Clerk, Kate Carlisle, at statedclerk@presbyteryofboston.org

Proposed Docket
Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Boston

		Length
6:45	Log-in and instructions for Zoom Presbytery Meeting	15
*7:00	Call to Order & Declaration of Quorum Opening Prayer Call for new business Approval of Minutes Introduction of New Elders Seating of Corresponding Members	15
	Acknowledging and Honoring Native Land In Remembrance	5
	Nominating Committee (Katie Cole)	5
	Worship	30
	Matthew 25 Moment - Hartford St. Presbyterian Church	5
	GLOW Update - Jen Slater	5
	Updating the Record (Kate Carlisle)	5
	Committee on Ministry (John Sweet)	10
	Committee on Preparation for Ministry (Drew Hanson)	5
	Treasurer (Lisa Carlin)	10
	Trustees (Ken Grant)	5
	Committee on Representation (Kathy Barnes)	5
	Personnel (Meagan Manas)	5
	Council (Ivy Jones Turner)	10
	Moderator's Report (Ivy Jones Turner)	5
	Clerk's Report (Kate Carlisle)	10
	New Business (only if requested at beginning of meeting)	
	Adjourn	
	* <i>Denotes Order of the day</i> (All other times are guidelines)	

Meeting Packet
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New England Glow is working very hard across the region to support youth and youth leaders in faith formation. “Our goal is to provide a safe, joyful space for youth to be themselves, take risks, grow in faith and explore how faith becomes loving, life-giving and liberating actions in our churches, communities and around the world.”

Joint Confirmation 2022/2023

New England GLOW’s second joint confirmation class ran from October 30, 2022 to May 20, 2023. We met virtually on Sunday evenings and had 2 in person classes (January 7 and May 20). We used the ["Commissioned to Change the World: Confirmation for the Matthew 25 Congregation"](#) curriculum. Joint confirmation class began with 4 weekly one hour zoom sessions and an in person half day retreat where we completed the *Commissioned to Change the World* curriculum. Then we spent 5 months completing a Faith in Action program with mentors from home congregations/communities. Each youth completed a Faith in Action project with their mentors in their community and we chose one Faith in Action project to complete as a whole group. During the second half of our time together we completed 8 mentor/large group sessions and monthly whole group zoom check ins. Leadership was shared across the participating churches.

On Saturday, May 20, we concluded our joint confirmation class and Faith in Action project with an in person worship and celebration of the confirmands. Because of the generous support of the congregations in the Presbyteries of Boston and Northern New England we were able to assemble 42 Birthday Boxes AND send a donation to the Birthday Wishes organization that will be used to purchase gifts for the children and youth that receive the Birthday Boxes! Congratulations to our 10 youth from Clarendon Hill Presbyterian Church, Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church, Hartford Street Presbyterian Church, Marturia Presbyterian Church and the Presbyterian Church in Burlington, MA. It was a pleasure journeying with these youth over the past 8 months and I look forward to our paths crossing again in the future.

Camp Wilmot Middle Weekend

New England GLOW coordinated the supervision for the Camp Wilmot Middle Weekend in July (the weekend between the 2 youth camps). Volunteers from Kearsarge Community Presbyterian Church, First Presbyterian Church Worcester, First Congregational Church in Winchester, Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church and Camp Wilmot former counselors helped to staff the weekend.

Joint Confirmation 2023/2024

We are at it again! Kearsarge Community Presbyterian Church and New England GLOW are teaming up to offer a regional confirmation class again this year.

We will be using "Changing the World: Confirmation for the Missional Church" curriculum. Joint confirmation class will run from October to May. We will meet regularly on zoom throughout the year. We will have 3 in person half day retreats (~November, February, and May) (location TBD). We will complete 1 Faith in Action project with mentors from home congregations/communities. We will complete 1 Faith in Action Project as a whole group. This class is open to any youth age 13 and up who would like to participate. Leadership will be shared across participating church communities. We are still working out the details so keep an eye out for updates! Click [here](#) to register. Registration deadline is Friday, October 20, 2023.

"Changing the World: Confirmation for the Missional Church" was published by the Presbyterian Outlook. Find more information [here](#).

Camp Wilmot Fall Weekend

Mark your calendars and share with your youth or Presbyterian/faith-based community! First Congregational Church in Winchester, UCC, in collaboration with [New England GLOW](#), are offering an eco-centered, fall retreat for middle and high schoolers!

Theme: "Let the Earth Rejoice" (Ps. 96:11)

Location: [Camp Wilmot](#) in Wilmot, New Hampshire

Date: Friday, November 10 (evening) - Sunday, November 12 (late morning), 2023

Registration: [Google Form](#)

Cost: \$85 per participant* (scholarships are available if the cost is prohibitive)

This will be a wonderful chance for our youth to get to know their community *and* meet other folks connected with New England GLOW. We'll prepare and eat meals together, play games, spend time outdoors, make art, worship, and reflect on how we can deepen our connection with Creation. For more information contact Jen at newenglandglow.rym@gmail.com or Maeve at maeve.fccw@gmail.com

More exciting opportunities are in the works so please keep an eye out for them. If you would like to be part of the email list please reach out to Jen at newenglandglow.rym@gmail.com.

New England GLOW started its ministry in the fall of 2020 and over the past 3 years we have had some great leadership and now we are looking to grow the leadership team: We need youth and adults who are passionate about youth ministry to help us continue to be successful. A few areas we need help with are fundraising, leading or hosting events, and finding guest speakers. If there is an area you think you would be able to help with please let me know!

If there is something exciting happening at your church that New England Glow could partner on with you or support you in, we would love to hear about it. It is our vision to grow this ministry further into a collaborative, supportive, and life-giving ministry across the region.

Thank you so much for the support the Presbytery of Boston has given to this growing ministry in the region. If you have any questions, concerns, or feedback I would love to hear from you at newenglandglow.rym@gmail.com. Thank you!

Jen Slater



Respectfully submitted by John Sweet

I. For Action:

- At its April 13 meeting, COM approved initial contract length of 6 months beginning May 1, 2023 to October 31, 2024 with ability to renew and mentor, Rev. Amy Fowler, for CRE Samuel Caraballo with Primera Iglesia.

Motion to accept COM's recommendation for an initial contract length of 6 months with the ability to renew for Sam Caraballo with Primera Iglesia as CRE and the appointment of Rev. Amy Fowler as mentor.

II. For Information:

- Corrected Item:
 1. The inclusion of the Statement of Faith for Samuel Caraballo that was absent for the Stated Presbytery Meeting in March of 2023
- Transfers of TE from Boston Presbytery membership:
 1. Rev. Kevin Manuel released to the Presbytery of the Cascades in Oregon, effective December 15, 2022
 2. Rev. Chin Fang Chen released to New Covenant Presbytery in Texas, effective September 7, 2023
- Transfer of TE to Boston Presbytery
 1. COM approved the transfer of Rev. Reid from Genesee Valley Presbytery, effective September 7, 2023. Statement of Faith and Faith Journey are included
 2. COM approved Rev. Rachel Reid's ministry as a Hospice Chaplain at Norwell VNA & Hospice in Norwell, MA as a validated ministry.
- COM approved the following Terms of Call Renewals:
 1. A six-month extension of the contract between the Rev. Pamela Spence Bakker and the session of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church. She will continue as

Interim Pastor, on a half-time basis, from June 28, 2023, through December 28, 2023.

2. A one year extension of the contract between the Rev. Dr. Susan DeHoff and the session of the United Presbyterian Church of Whitinsville. She will continue as Temporary Pastor, on a three-quarter-time basis, from August 1, 2023 to July 31, 2024.
 3. A one year extension of the contract between the Rev. Tom Reid and the session of Newton Presbyterian Church. He will continue as Stated Supply, on a part-time basis, from July 1, 2023 to July 1, 2024.
 4. A one year extension of the contract between the Rev. Katie Cole and the session of Hartford Street Presbyterian Church. She will continue as Interim Pastor, on a full-time basis, from September 22, 2023 to September 21, 2024
- Mission Study for Hartford Street Presbyterian Church was reviewed and accepted at our June, 2023 meeting.
 - Authorized Trustees to make the expenditure of \$2000 to be taken from the presbytery's East Boston Fund for Continuing Education (held by COM) for expenses incurred for its 2022 Anti- Racism Spiritual Direction Workshop.

My Journey of Faith

By Samuel L. Caraballo

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?—Micah 6:8

By God's grace, I was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico on February 18, 1979. I am the oldest of two children born to Rev. Dr. Samuel Caraballo Sr. and Ms. Ivette Hernandez. Shortly after I was born, my father became an ordained minister in the "Iglesia Evangelica Unida," the branch of the United Church of Christ in Puerto Rico. My mother worked as a social worker in the island's public school system. Villa Prades, a small hard-working community on the outskirts of San Juan, was where I spent most of my childhood.

During my years in Villa Prades, I was known as the Pastor's kid. Rightly so, the church was involved in all community events, and my father was expected to help lead those initiatives. These years played a formative role in my faith. It was in that community where I trusted Jesus as my Savior at the age of ten during a youth rally in our church (April 9, 1989), and eventually was baptized by my father on November 15, 1991.

During my adolescent years, I moved to New England to pursue a college degree at the University of Massachusetts. While at UMass, I became a member of Congregation Lion of Judah in Roxbury, Mass, serving as a Youth Leader, Music director, and Worship Leader for ten years. During my college years, I also had the opportunity to serve as Worship Pastor for Straight Ahead ministry, an organization that ministers to incarcerated youth under the custody of the Department of Youth Services in Massachusetts (DYS).

After the birth of my first daughter Natalia in 2008, I felt a call to pastoral ministry and decided to attend Yale Divinity School in preparation for such a call. My daughter Natalia was born with Down syndrome and Autism. That experience motivated me to focus my theological training on the nexus of science, ethics, and disability. Yale was a fruitful training experience. At the end of my time in New Haven, I was awarded the John A. Wade Prize for the greatest originality in expository preaching. I also had the opportunity to serve as a Ministry Fellow and Advisor at the Forum for Theological Exploration in Decatur, Georgia. Most importantly, I felt reassured by God, my professors, and my peers of my calling to formal Christian ministry.

At present, I continue serving God as a student at Harvard Medical School and a minister at Primera Iglesia Presbiteriana Elim. My plan is to continue serving the Lord in a pastoral role within the Hipsanic community in Massachusetts. Also envisioning myself serving God in the field of bioethics, helping marginalized communities address the challenges posed by medicine, technology and science.

Rev. Rachel Reid
Biographic Information

I grew up in Erie, PA, the eldest of three children. I was baptized in my father's family church, Faith Lutheran Church. We moved around a lot when I was really little, but when we finally settled down, we started attending the Presbyterian church down the street, Harborcreek First Presbyterian. I was heavily influenced in my faith and vocational journey by that church. I was encouraged to participate in worship services from a young age, serving as a lay reader, choir member, and by the time I was in late high school, a member of session and occasional preacher. The Holy Spirit put the right people and experiences in my path and from a young age, and I felt that God was calling me toward ministry.

I went to Westminster College in New Wilmington, PA where I studied Christian Education and Music. After graduating in December 2016, I moved to Indianapolis, IN where I worked part-time as their Christian Education Coordinator for a year and a half. I knew my time in Indiana would serve as a break from being a student and as a steppingstone experience before attending seminary. I began studying at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary in August 2018 and graduated with my MDiv in May 2021. Through those few years, I met my husband, Dan Reid. I had tried meeting people in the community who were not as involved in a religious institution, and I fell in love with a church musician who has an MDiv from Yale Divinity School.

During the summer of 2020, I worked as a chaplain intern at Norton Hospital in Louisville, KY. CPE was a transformative experience for me. I had been struggling with my role in the congregational church, and wondered how I could continue doing ministry in a way that I felt was true to who I am. Chaplaincy seemed to be the perfect fit for me. I could be with people intentionally, one-on-one, through some of the most difficult moments of their lives. It was a hard experience, but one that forever changed me.

After graduation, I was ordained in the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A in the Whitewater Valley Presbytery in Indiana, where I was under care all through seminary. Dan and I moved to Rochester, NY where he pursued his Master of Music in Choral Conducting and I spent two years as a chaplain resident at University of Rochester Medical Center. During this time, I also tried to be as active in the Genesee Valley Presbytery as possible: I provided pulpit supply often, attended Presbytery meetings and particular meetings for newcomers, and tried to be a part of the Committee on Pastoral Care but it was dissolved shortly after I volunteered.

Dan and I have moved to Braintree, MA. I work as a hospice chaplain for Norwell VNA and Hospice on the South Shore, and Dan is starting his Doctor of Musical Arts degree at Boston University this fall. We are excited to explore the greater Boston area and I look forward to getting to know the Boston Presbytery!

Rev. Rachel B. L. Reid
Statement of Faith

I believe in God, the loving and omniscient Mother and Father of all creation.

I believe in Jesus Christ, fully human and fully divine, God's only begotten Son, our forgiving Lord and Savior. Jesus walked among us, feeling our joy and pain, healing our bodies and spirits. He died on the cross and was resurrected from the dead, and reigns with God for the continuance of God's kingdom. Jesus died, was resurrected, and ascended for the forgiveness of sin.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, breath of God, who dwells among and within us. I believe the Spirit furthers the Church of Christ in relationships between people, connecting hearts and minds and missions through gifts that are unique to each of us. I believe the Spirit is freely given to me, as a member of the Body of Christ and as an individual, to better know God and feel comforted by God's presence.

I believe in the Triune and mysterious God, who is above all and in all and through all. This same omnipotent God cares for me and loves me, and I can develop a personal relationship and journey with this God.

I believe in the power of two sacraments: Communion (the Lord's Supper) and Baptism. These sacraments, when rightly administered, are signs and seals of the covenant of grace with God. In our one Baptism, by water and the Holy Spirit, we and our community of faith commit to supporting one another in the daily calling of dying to self and righteous living in Christ. In welcoming all to the table for Communion, we participate in Christ's reconciling work in the world by remembering Christ's life, death, and resurrection. The grace exhibited by the sacraments comes not from the substance of these symbols, but from the power of the Holy Spirit.

I also believe in a body of believers called "church," not for their laws and buildings, but for their loving ministry. Church is not meant to be perfect; Church is meant to be seeking God constantly for healing, and to be helping others seek the healing power of Christ. Church consists of the community of believers in all times and spaces.

I believe that Church is a body of many cultures, backgrounds, and beautifully interwoven stories. Churches, like families, encounter conflict. Conflict in the Church ought to break one's heart to act and strive for speaking truth in love.

I believe the Church serves the community locally, nationally, and globally, regardless of faith and creed. I believe the Church is called to the reconciling work of Jesus Christ in the world, empowered by the Holy Spirit, to see God's justice flow like mighty streams.

I believe that God is Love, and ultimately calls us to love God and one another; this is our greatest calling, desire, and commandment. Nothing can separate us from the love of God. With seriousness and gratitude, faithfulness and humility, we accept and respond to this call in the beautiful name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Rev. Rachel B. L. Reid
Job Description

Hospice Chaplain at Norwell Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice

I was excited to be hired as a Hospice Chaplain for NVNA and Hospice, my first day was 8/7/2023. In my time as a chaplain resident at UPMC, I spent some time intentionally working on units that dealt with death/dying. It is deeply meaningful work for me to be present with grieving families and those who are transitioning from this life to the next. I work as a member of the greater hospice team and will be supporting nurses, social workers, and other chaplains at the company. There are four full-time chaplains in total, and we each cover a particular region of the South Shore; I will be focusing primarily on the northern region, caring for patients in Braintree, Quincy, Milton, and Randolph area, where I live.

My role is to support patients and family in their spiritual needs, whether that is providing sacraments that they may require at end of life, arranging for patients to receive visits from their clergy, providing emotional or spiritual support in visits or over the phone, praying with patients, offering comforting presence, or helping families through their grieving process. I document these visits and provide a care plan for each patient/family's spiritual well-being. I may also be asked to be a part of patient's funeral services. I will be a part of monthly memorial services to honor those patients who have died. I work with people of all faith backgrounds, but through my own lens as a Presbyterian. I do not work to convert others to Christianity, but support all in their faith journey, whatever that looks like. I am honest about my own beliefs, when asked. I help nurture an atmosphere of memory, offering space for patients and loved ones to tell their life stories and reflect on what has been most meaningful for them.

I report to the Spiritual Care Coordinator, Rev. Cynthia Stanton who, coincidentally, is a member of the Southern New England Presbytery. I work both independently and collaboratively; I make my own schedule and plan my own visits, but I also work with other team members in providing the best care possible. I work 40 hours per week, 8:30 AM-5:00 PM. I receive health benefits, retirement funds, and PTO in this position. NVNA is a non-profit, leading hospice agency in this region with about 200 patients at this time.



For Information:

Brent O'Neill

CPM certified Brent O'Neill ready to receive a call in April.

Chase Grogan

In July, CPM moved to waive the Clinical Pastoral Education requirement for Candidate Chase Grogan. On top of the professional and financial difficulties that CPE would cause him, we believe that he has received enough supervised clinical education through his work at Roxbury Presbyterian Church and his supervised clinical internship opportunities. These internships were part of his Master of Education degree, completed in 2021, where his major was Mental Health Counseling and School Counseling. This degree required two field experience practicums (Summer 2020 & Fall 2020) and a field experience internship (2021). During the first practicum, Chase completed 46 hours of on-site work, 40 hours of direct client contact, 11 hours of individual supervision, and 5 hours of group supervision. During the second practicum, Chase completed 274 hours of on-site work, 98 hours of direct client contact, 17 hours of individual supervision, and 8 hours of group supervision. During the internship, Chase completed 331 hours on-site, 147 hours of direct client contact, 16 hours of individual supervision, and 11 hours of group supervision. We reviewed the supervisor reports that Chase provided and were satisfied with them. In total, this exceeds the total hours and supervision hours of one unit of CPE.

While these experiences are different in nature from those of CPE, we are comfortable waiving the requirement for Chase due to his supervised experience in clinical settings combined with his seminary field education and ongoing work at Roxbury Presbyterian Church and as a school counselor.

In the same meeting, CPM approved Chase to seek COM's approval to be commissioned to serve Communion at Roxbury Presbyterian Church.

Joe Welker

As of the writing of this report, we have not yet certified Joe Welker ready to receive a call. However, with CPM meeting with two days before the Presbytery Meeting, we anticipate doing so. We met with Joe in June, and if we were not restricted by timelines, we would have certified him then. Joe will be ordained by PNNE at East Craftsbury Presbyterian Church in Vermont.

Here is the timeline set by PNNE's COM and sent to me:

"7/24 Boston Presbytery CPM endorses the plan."

7/25 PNNE Commission on Ministry approves the plan.

Between 7/25 and 8/21 PNNE CPM clears him for ordination in the PNNE and plans to present him to presbytery September 16

8/22 PNNE COM interviews Joe for membership and recommends presbytery approve the call and his membership September 16.

9/12 Boston Presbytery gives official approval for Joe Welker to seek a call

9/16 PNNE receives Joe into membership pending his ordination in the PNNE”

Faithfully submitted,

Drew Hanson, chair



I am pleased to provide you with my first official report since being elected to this position at our last meeting (March 2023). Since taking this position we have made great progress towards streamlining the financial processes and setting up a multipronged approach to dealing with our funds.

Step one was to officially update paperwork with the State of Massachusetts and Bank of America. Ken Grant and I met twice at the Bank of America branch office in Shrewsbury, MA to get the proper names on the account and ensure that I had access to all the funds. It was a roller coaster, but in the end access to the accounts was successful.

In late March / early April, a RFP (Request for Proposal) was sent out to various bookkeepers in the Central/Eastern part of Massachusetts. One of the requirements for a bookkeeper was that we wanted to support a women owned business and we wanted it to be local. Ken Grant and I interviewed three companies – Coastline Bookkeeping, Lisa McCarthy Bookkeeping and Balanced Bookkeeping. All three companies had many services to offer but ultimately we chose Balanced Bookkeeping (Kate Wittemann) to be the bookkeeper for the Presbytery of Boston.

Quickbooks was purchased and our bank account transactions were transferred into Quickbooks. We then began the task of determining the coding. Once that was established, Kate and Jill Wilson from Balanced Bookkeeping were able to start coding our transactions properly.

Then we moved on to the task of Payroll. Based on Kate's recommendation, we looked at two companies Gusto and Visions Payroll. We chose Visions Payroll over Gusto because Visions Payroll is in Leominster, MA and you can get a live person on the phone if you have any issues. The fees between the two companies were very similar.

Payroll was moved to Visions Payroll beginning in September 2023. Visions payroll will handle all of our tax payments, tax filings and production of W2's and 1099 forms.

First Presbyterian Church of Quincy is handling the incoming financial mail for the Presbytery. Karen Keenan scans in the checks and deposit slip, and emails that scan to me and the Dext system. In the Dext system, the Balanced Bookkeeping team can access the information securely and code our transactions in Quickbooks.

Certificate of Deposits (CD's) are being secured using money from the YAV accounts at Vanguard. Since the YAV account is currently not being used, nor is it anticipated that it will be used in the next 12 months – the Trustees made the decision to move those funds to a CD where they will earn a higher rate of interest, than if they just sat at the bank. Ken and I have also spent a considerable amount of time looking at the endowment funds. Those funds have been reviewed and cleaned up. Please see attached report.

Foundation/Vanco.

Change is not always easy, but it is necessary. I think that the systems we are working to put into place will set us up for success as we continue into the future. My goal is to create a system that is transparent and efficient for everyone. If you have questions – small, medium or large – I welcome them. This is our money and we should all know how it is working for our Presbytery.

Thank you.

Lisa Carlin
Treasurer
Presbytery of Boston



Action The Trustees of the Presbytery have no resolutions for consideration by the Presbytery Assembly this evening.

Reports The Trustees offer the following items for your review and reflection.

1. The Treasurer of the Presbytery offers her first report to the Assembly this evening. Please see the report elsewhere in this packet.
2. The Trustees thank Ruling Elder Kenneth Dewar for his work as Interim Treasurer.
3. Likewise the Trustees thank Karen Keenan and the leadership team at First Presbyterian Church, Quincy, for excellent work as the new “point of entry” for the Presbytery’s Treasury Services.
4. As the Treasury transition is completed, we ask that contributions and requests for payment of expenses not be sent to Ken Dewar or Andy Parmelee. Please make all checks out to the Presbytery of Boston, our name of record at Bank of America. And please funnel all financial matters through the “point of entry” at the following address.

Presbytery Treasury Services
c/o First Presbyterian Church
270 Franklin Street

Quincy, MA 02169

5. The Trustees are pleased to report that the John Gilchrist Fund, a fund in the Presbytery’s endowment, was used to support building related projects at Whitinsville, Worcester and Clarendon Hill.
6. The Gilchrist Fund was established by a bequest from Mr. Gilchrist in 1894. More than 125 years later his commitment to Christ’s mission through the Presbytery of Boston is shaping today’s mission. Think what your bequest to the Presbytery could do in 2148. Will you join Marie and me? Talk to your lawyer or financial adviser about remembering the Presbytery in your will?
7. The Trustees are pleased to report that a lease between Tobin Beaudet Schools, Inc., and the Presbytery has been renegotiated and executed. The income from the lease will help the Presbytery meet the Needham property’s operating expenses and may help address deferred maintenance.

8. The Trustees thank Ruling Elder Thatcher Freeborn for his work renegotiating the lease with Tobin Beaudet Schools, Inc.
9. The Trustees report that the Chair and Treasurer have opened an investment account with Vanguard. This account will segregate and invest the assets attributed to the Young Adult Volunteer program until such time as the Presbytery in its mission strategy shall use it. The funds will be invested at a higher rate than currently possible at Bank of America. (On the day this report was written, Vanguard was offering a 13-month Certificate of Deposit, issued by JPMorgan, callable at six months intervals, for 5.75%.)
10. The Trustees report that the Chair and Treasurer have begun the process of moving the assets attributable to a security deposit from the Tobin Beaudet Schools, Inc, into a dedicated account at the Bank of America. Although the rate is not as competitive as the JPMorgan CD referenced above, the funds will earn a higher rate than we currently enjoy through a CD offered by Bank of America.
11. The Trustees report that the Chair and Treasurer have begun the process of moving the assets attributable to the Needham property into a segregated account at the Bank of America. Surpluses, if any, generated by contributions and leases net of expenses at the Needham property will be credited to this account. Conversely any net deficits generated at the Needham property will be debited from this account. As Lisa Carlin writes elsewhere in this packet, the Trustees and its Treasurer are building what we hope is easy to understand transparency into the accounting and reporting program.

Please feel free to call on the Trustees of the Presbytery for matters temporal. We're here to help. And ... we thank you for all your support. (Please keep the per capita and mission checks rolling in! They DO make a difference.)

Ken Grant, Chair



The Council of Boston Presbytery met monthly between April and August 2023, with the exception of July 2023 to discuss the needs of the Presbytery and take action on those items requiring a vote.

Council Motions for Presbytery Vote:

- On August 17, Council **approved** to bring the following motion to Presbytery in an effort to simplify and speed the selection of commissioner candidates for PoB participation in the 226th General Assembly (2024):
“to suspend Standing Rule E.20 to permit Nominating Committee (with assistance from Council, COR, the Moderator, and the Stated Clerk), to solicit candidates to be nominated at the December Stated Meeting of Presbytery for election to the 226th General Assembly (2024), as teaching elder and ruling elder Commissioners, Young Adult Advisory Delegate, and alternates. In the case of multiple nominees for a given role, those charged with reviewing candidates will consider the principles of unity in diversity and openness (F-1.0403-04) as well as those principles held up in Rule E.20.”

For Information:

- On April 13, Council **approved** a revised corporate resolution, giving authority to officers to open and close financial accounts, and enter into contracts.
- On April 13, Council **approved** authorizing Trustees to spend \$500 from the operating budget for a printer/scanner, to be delivered to Karen Keenan at Quincy First to support processing of checks received by PoB.
- On April 13, Council **approved** welcoming new staff, Karen Keenan as Administrator (compensated at \$2,400/year), and Lisa Carlin as Treasurer (compensated at \$4,000/year), both beginning March 9, 2023. Both will have job descriptions and annual performance reviews with the Personnel Committee.
- On April 13, Council **approved** \$1,000 compensation and a token of appreciation to Ken Dewar for his work as transitional Treasurer in the first quarter of 2023.
- On May 18, Council **approved** disbanding the Trustee Task Force working on securing presbytery treasury services.

- At the conclusion of his term as Stated Clerk Pro Tem at the end of May, Council gifted Paul Rack with a small token of appreciation.
- On June 22, Council **approved** Trustee's recommendations to make the following grants from the Presbytery's restricted endowment account "The John Gilchrist Fund": United Presbyterian Church of Whitinsville – \$10,000; Clarendon Hill Presbyterian Church, Somerville – up to \$4,000; First Presbyterian Church, Worcester – up to \$4,000; and authorize extending a loan of up to \$15,000 to the Session of Whitinsville.
- On June 22, Council **approved** Ben Chicka's recommendation to change the Presbytery phone from Vonage to a free VOIP service, saving approximately \$1800 annually.
- On June 22, Council **approved** opening a PO Box in West Roxbury to receive non-financial mail for Presbytery. Financial mail will continue to be received at First Quincy.
- On August 17, Council **approved** moving forward to apply to the Presbyterian Mission Agency for a Locally Situated Action Team (LSAT) team to work with PoB and will meet with the LSAT team on the process by December 2023.
- On August 17, Council **approved** to support Yan Wang's application for the 301 Grant, for his enrollment in Board of Pensions benefits for the coming year. This benefit will be at no cost to CCF or the Presbytery.
- On August 17, Council **approved** to endorse the Chinese Christian Fellowship's application for, and approve disbursement of, the New Worshiping Communities Investment Grant. This grant of \$30,000 will serve as a match to a request for \$20,000 from the Synod and \$10,000 in funds locally raised by CCF. Members of Council volunteered to support local fundraising efforts.
- On August 17, Council **approved** submission of a proposal to the Synod of the Northeast's Presbytery Support Grant to support the calling of a Transitional Presbyter to provide needed staff support and to guide a discernment process towards a more sustainable and Spirit-led future for the Presbytery of Boston. The request is for \$40,000, renewable for up to three years.
- On August 17, Council discussed what the level of interest within Presbytery for meeting in person. Council will conduct an informal poll during the September meeting to begin to assess the level of interest for in-person and hybrid meetings.



In May, Kate Carlisle resigned as Moderator effective May 30 following their election and installation to the office of Stated Clerk for the Presbyteries of Southern New England and Boston. We thank Kate for their service as Moderator and look forward to continuing to work with them. Vice-Moderator Ivy began serving as Acting Moderator as of the Special Called Joint Meeting on May 30, and will be presented for installation as Moderator at the September Stated Meeting.

There are a number of both needs and opportunities within our presbytery, which Kate and I, members of Council, and others, have been working to consider and address.

- As Moderator, Kate Carlisle moderated the commission which ordained Maeve Hammond to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament, on March 26 at the First Congregational Church in Winchester, United Church of Christ, where Maeve is now serving as Pastoral Resident for Youth and Families. It was a joy and delight to celebrate the Spirit's movement in the Church and God's particular call to Maeve, and to live into our Full Communion partnership with our UCC siblings. The commission included:
Elder Kathy Barnes, Newton Presbyterian Church
Rev. Kate Carlisle, Moderator
Rev. Kayla Edstrom, The Dover Church
Elder Sang Kang, Korean Church of Boston
Elder Lihwen Lin, Taiwan Presbyterian Church of Greater Boston
Elder Rob Skinner, Winchester UCC
Rev. Burns Stanfield, Fourth Presbyterian Church, Boston

The Acting Moderator requests that Presbytery dissolve the Commission, with thanks for their service.

- On May 30, I participated in a joint meeting of the Presbytery of Southern New England and Presbytery of Boston to elect and install Rev. Kate Carlisle to the role of Stated Clerk for both presbyteries. This virtual service, with PSNE Presbyter Shannan Vance-Ocampo, Moderator Kevin White, Rev. Erika Plank Hagan, and Rev. John Merz, was a visible inspiration and communicates additional occasions for sharing between our presbyteries.
- Between May - August, Kate Carlisle, Ken Grant, Trina Portillo, Stephen Rose, and Ivy Jones Turner worked to develop a Synod Support Grant proposal to fund the position of Transitional Presbyter. This position would provide staff support and lead a period of visioning, discernment, sharing of strengths and relational conversations within and between

PoB, fellowships, and member congregations, and increase vitality across the Presbyteries of SNE, NNE, and Boston. The proposal was submitted on August 24th.

- During June and July, Trustee Chair Ken Grant and Acting Moderator Jones Turner met to discuss and begin work towards forming a Needham property working group, move forward with solar panel installation, and partner with Primera Iglesia in their management of the Needham real estate and leases. We believe this innovative model to link our environmental stewardship, caring for our neighbors, and investing in the capacity and financial viability of PoB congregations will benefit other churches within the Presbytery and potentially encourage similar projects.
- As we approach a new year, Council is interested in getting a sense of the Presbytery's interest in in-person and hybrid meetings. We will conduct an informal poll during the December meeting to explore the response.

Respectfully submitted
Acting Moderator, Ivy Jones Turner



Presbytery Mailing Address

The Presbytery has a new mailing address:

Presbytery of Boston

PO Box #320559

West Roxbury MA 02132

Financial items should still go to the office at First Quincy.

Synod of the Northeast PJC Training

The new *Church Discipline* has replaced the *Rules of Discipline* in the *Book of Order*. The Synod of the Northeast is offering PJC training this fall led by Elder Flor Velez-Diaz, Manager of Judicial Process at the Office of the General Assembly. There are in-person and online options. All PJC members are expected to participate, and Council and COM members have been invited. Other interested teaching and ruling elders are welcome. Please let me know if you want registration info.

Policy Updates

All councils, including Presbyteries and Sessions, are now required to have the following policies in place: a sexual misconduct policy, a harassment policy, a child and youth protection policy, and an anti-racism policy. I am hopeful that we'll be able to bring a draft of one or both of the newly required policies (anti-racism and harassment) for a first reading in December. To reach that goal, I'll be connecting with the anti-racism task force in hopes of drafting a short-term policy that supports the ongoing work of that task force. If anyone is interested in working on a harassment policy, especially once other examples and templates become available over the fall, please let me know.

Boundary Training

I am working with COM to schedule and plan boundary training and child sexual abuse prevention training in the near future. We will bring in outside experts to provide the training, and may offer this jointly with PSNE. This will be mandatory for teaching elders, inquirers and candidates, certified Christian Educators, and CREs to bring ourselves into compliance with the Book of Order and our own policies. More details to come.

Task Forces

I serve as staff support to both the Shekinah Task Force and the Anti-Racism Task Force. I am working on scheduling dates to convene each one and determine what the task forces' next steps are.

Overtures to 226th General Assembly

Any proposed overtures to next year's GA will be heard at the December 14 Stated Meeting. It would be helpful to know of any overtures coming to Presbytery by mid-November.

Additional items relevant to Sessions

- The *Book of Order* now mandates 12 weeks of family/medical leave in all terms of call. I sent a reminder to Clerks and Moderators that the provision has taken effect. COM will be incorporating this into the Minimum Compensation Standards for 2024.
- Dates for Session minutes review will be announced soon.
- Sessions are now required to use Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, unless the designate another parliamentary authority in their bylaws. They should also adopt rules to govern electronic meetings.
- Sessions are now required to report any matters of sexual misconduct of inquirers or candidates under their care.

Respectfully submitted, Rev. Kate Carlisle

PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH



(USA)