

Moderator's Report for September 2023 Presbytery of Boston Stated Meeting

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 election as Moderator at the September Stated Meeting and installation at the December 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 September meeting to explore the response.

Respectfully submitted

Acting Moderator, Ivy Jones Turner