## Ministers of Word & Sacrament Present (55)

Adams, Joel Amo, Evan Anderson, John Beal. Clover Bell, Diana Bell, John Boucher, Susan Buckley, Blair Cameron, Heather Cearley, Cythnia Cummins, Ian Darbonne, Wayne Davis, Katie Robb Dempsey, Whitney Doehring, Carrie Emig, James Flory, Robert Friesema, Doug Fry, Sheri George, Mark Graber, Kim Heil, David Herrington, Leta Huff, Ruth McCollum Kane, Russ Kim, Eunjoo Marshall, Peggy

Mooney, Tim Nickle, Stephen Parsons. Carol Petre Hill, Amy Pettit, David Poos-Benson, Steve Rodriguez, Fernando Sausville, Gretchen Scheiber-Sjostrom, Anne Shaw, Kenny Shrumm, Don Spotts, Chris Spurlock, Justin Smith, Olivia Hudson Steinbacher, Paula Sugg, Laura Syrdal, Matt Troxler, Loye Van Oort, Harlan VanderWal, Jill VanderWal. Scott Velasco, Lemuel Warntjes, Jordan Westfall, Louise Wilson, Gretchen Hope Wilson, Rob Yu, John

## **Honorably Retired Ministers of Word & Sacrament Present (13)**

Beitzel, Christine Blackstock, Dwight Granath, Rolfe Groff, Kent Ira Heuer, Holly Mares, Joseph Neal. Laurel

Meeks, Mark

Oltoff, Terry Raath, Ethan Ritterson, Jane Sanders, William Stewart, Rich Taylor, Bruce

#### Ruling Elder Commissioned/Eligible-Represented Churches (80 eligible)

Arvada (2) – not represented Bethel (2) - not represented Byers (1) Karen Tangeman Calvary (1) Diane Ritzdorf Capitol Heights (1) Jean Demmler Central (2) Anne Bond

Celeste Habiger
Ch. of the Eternal Hills (2) – not represented
Church of the Hills (2)
Judy Jensen
Heidi Smithson
Columbine United (2) – not represented
Eagle River (2) - not represented
Elbert (1) - not represented
Elizabeth (1)
Cathy Ramsey

First Avenue (1) Alice Aldridge-Dennis Greg Garner Peoples (2) First PC -Aurora (1) Daphne Rice-Allen Michael Horsford Vicki Terry **Presbyterian Church of Covenant (2)** First-Brighton (2) Linda Hubbard Beth Carlisle Kim Walsh Mike Norris First PC - Englewood (2) - not represented Providence (2) - not represented First PC - Georgetown (1) Shepherd of the Hills (2) Pamela McCoy Alvina Terry First PC - Golden (2) Barry Stamp Barb Duggan South Park (1) - not represented Chris McCarraher St. Andrew (1) First PC - Leadville (1) Deborah Gile Sarah Savage St. James (2) First PC - Littleton (2) Sharon Lynch Katherine McDaniel St. Paul (2) Rick Wilson Lee Boteler Genesis (1) Kathleen Hall Chuck Sparks Strasburg (1) Good Shepherd (2) Bill McNeil Joyce Matthews Trinity-Arvada (2) Noel Matthews Michael McLane Grace (2) Mary Jo Shaw Susan Pilcher Trinity Church in the Pines (1) not Green Mountain (2) represented True Light (2) not represented Sharon Blackstock Charlene Pearson United Ch. of Idaho Springs (1) - not Iglesia Valverde (2) not represented represented Kiowa Creek (1) not represented Wellshire (3) Montbello United (2) not represented Sandra Anderson Montview (4) Andrew Marsh Paul Barrett Steve Ring Westminster (2) Bob Horniak Beth Hulac Doris Aldrich Vivian Showalter Peaav Smith Mountain View (1) Wheat Ridge (2) Marcia Hall Anne Baker

### **Corresponding Members (9)**

Clover Bailey Robert Barrett Rebecca Irwin-Jordan Kristin Leucht Clare Lewis Joseph Moore Ann Rosewell Maria Shupe Lynn Smit

New Hope (3)

#### Others Voting Member (12)

Charles Miller

Tu Bui
Fred Chavez
Georgia Comstock
Sue Cornman
Jo Culbertson
David Goss
Rob Habiger
Beth Hewlett
Peter Hulac
Pat Queen
Sandy Safford
Andrew Thang

#### Others Present/Visitors (31)

Lvnn Adams Wanda Beauman Carolyn Benoit Jenny Bock Paula Boltz Dale Brown Linda Brumagin Steve Cearley Bob Cloud James Craft Juli Davidson Chusid Marc Davidson Chusid Nancy Getzinger Ruth Hart Jason Hays Nancy Henry

David Hulac
Barbara Hulac
Jeanne Jeffas
Richard Keith
Traci Maddox
Kendal Mullins
Amanda Osenga
Sandy Prouty
Corey Schlosser-Hall
Karen Sommerfeld
James Steinbacher
Sylvia Sullivan
Jon Sutterlin
Verniece Vafeades
Marcia Walker

#### **SUMMARY**

Ruling Elders Present **50**Ruling Elders Absent 31

Ministers present (including retired) **68**Ministers absent (excluding retired)
Corresponding Member **9**Other Voting Members **12**(Others Present) Visitors **31**Total Present **170** 

<u>Opening</u>: The meeting came to order at 5:30 p.m. A quorum was present. Moderator Justin Spurlock and Stated Clerk Olivia Hudson Smith were present. Moderator Spurlock opened with prayer. A quorum was established.

## **Preliminary Business** (Omnibus Motion)

The assembly approved these items:

- 1. **The Docket** as distributed, with such changes as announced at the start of the Assembly.
- 2. **Enrollment of Corresponding Members** and granting permission of the floor for those who introduced themselves and registered attendance.
- 3. Approve the minutes of the stated October 27, 2020 Assembly and January 8, 2021 called Assembly.
- 4. Receive the report of the Stated Clerk:
  - Church year-end statistical reports are due on or before February 12, 2021. All churches are required to provide the statistical data, including financial statistics. Electronic on-line reporting is accessible at <a href="http://oga.pcusa.org/stats">http://oga.pcusa.org/stats</a>.
- 5. An Investigating Committee has been formed.
- 6. Affirm that the Corporate officers for 2021 are:

Peter Hulac (President), Paula Steinbacher (Vice-President), Olivia L. Hudson Smith (Secretary), and Susan Pilcher (Treasurer).

Background: This action reaffirms the authorization of persons by Presbytery to act as Presbytery's agents according to the articles of incorporation. Such authorization is often required at times of signing legal documents. This action is taken annually or at times of change in officers.

Prayer : Justin Spurlock

Welcome and Zoom instructions: Justin Spurlock and Beth Carlisle

**Greeting:** Rev. Ian Cummins and Rev. Clover Beal brought video greetings on behalf of Montview Boulvard Church.

## **Assembly Business:**

Omnibus Motion: Justin Spurlock

Preliminary business Approved without removal of any item.

**Installation of New Officers:** Justin Spurlock (via livestream)

Outgoing Moderator, Rev. Justin Spurlock installed incoming Moderator RE Peter Hulac, and Vice-Moderator, Rev. Paula Steinbacher. The symbols of both offices were exchanged. Moderator Hulac thanked the outgoing Moderator for his service, presented him with a certificate, and announce that a gift in his honor would be given to New Genesis Men's Shelter.

Assembly at Worship: The Assembly entered into a time of worship. The Scripture, 1 Cor. 12::4-7 was read by members of the Presbytery representing various ethnicities in native languages. The newly installed moderator offered the message entitled "It's all about the Gifts". The Montview choir, organist, and musicians concluded worship with "Let All the World in Every Corner Sing" Text: George Herbert (1593-1633) Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Offering: Invitation to give to the special needs fund for minister member, by giving on the Presbytery of Denver website.

#### Presbytery Investment and Loan: Clare Lewis

2020 marked PILP's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. While they were unable to celebrate the milestone they are grateful in the ways they were able to support churches during the pandemic. They were able to provide borrows that needed it with a grace period, interest only or full moratorium on payments. They worked with churches who were in the middle of projects to reshape projects to fit current financial realities or to pause until they were in a position to restart. PILP launched two new loan products, the first is an operating line of credit and this is the first time they have been able to fund outside of a capitol project. The other new loan product is for congregations wishing to open their facilities in a safe way or to acquire new technology. This is the new safety and technology loan with low interest rates and they are offering 12 months of interest only payment. This loan can also be used for training and consultation on technology. As Investments in PILP grow, PILP rewards congregations with an annual rebate. Seven churches in Denver Presbytery are receiving rebates, St. Paul, Eagle River, Wellshire, First, Englewood, Presbytery Church of the Covenant, Grace, Genesis, and St. James.

Moderated by Justin Spurlock, immediate past moderator.

## **Assembly Business:**

Council – Part 1

Introduction of Corey Schlosser-Hall: Justin Spurlock
Justin Spurlock introduced Corey Schlosser-Hall. Corey the 2021 Vision plans
approved by Council on January 5, 2021. He explained the six-chapter process
envisioned and introduced the Vision Construction Team: Rev. Paula Steinbacher
(Church of the Eternal Hills), Rev. Lemuel Velasco (Divino Salvador), RE Daphne Rice
Allen (Peoples PC), Rev. Chris Spotts (First Presbyterian Brighton), Rev. John Yu (True
Light Community Church), Rev. Russ Kane (New Hope PC), RE Kendal Mullins
(Wellshire PC), and RE Rob Habiger (Central PC). Corey led the Assembly in an
exercise to answer two questions Vision Question #1: "Imagine you are gathering for
DenPres Assembly in January 2031...ten years from now...what do you hope is true
about DenPres in January 2031?" Click purple button below to respond. Vision Question
#2: "Imagine God has given you a Holy Spirit wand and with a wave of that wand one
hope you have for DenPres will come true tomorrow. What would that one hope be?"
Click orange button below to respond and review others responses.

### **Nominating:** Dave Goss

The Nominating Committee offered the following names of persons to serve in the roles and for the classes identified beginning in January 2021: The Moderator called for nominations from the floor. No nominations from the floor were forthcoming and the following slates were **Approved**.

<u>Committee on Ministry</u>: To re-elect Ruling Elder Vicky Terry (Peoples) and Ruling Elder Lucas Nkwelle (Bethel) to the Class of 2023. To-elect Minister of Word & Sacrament Jane Ritterson (HR) and Dwight Blackstock (HR) to the Class of 2023. <u>Committee on Preparation for Ministry</u>: To elect Minister of Word & Sacrament Stephen Nickle to the Class of 2023. To re-elect Ruling Elder David Lindsey to the Class of 2021.

Highlands Camp Joint Committee: Still seeking candidates

Partnership of Zimbabwe and Denver Presbytery (PZDP): To re-elect Minister of Word & Sacrament Barbara LeFevre Lyons (PCOC); Minister of Word & Sacrament Chris Beitzel and Ruling Elder Joann Goss (St. Paul) to the Class of 2023.

Nominating Committee of Denver Presbytery: To re-elect Ruling Elder Verniece Vafaedes (Peoples) to the Class of 2023.

Pete Hulac moderated this portion of the Assembly

Matthew 25: Kendal Mullins

During the past summer, the Council of the Presbytery of Denver voted to become a Matthew 25 Mid-Council. A team is working to carry out that goal. The team developed the following Mission: The Presbytery of Denver Matthew 25 Team encourages and supports Presbytery and congregational initiatives to build congregational vitality, dismantle structural racism, and eradicate systemic poverty. In order to carry out the mission, the team has been in conversation with Presbytery Mission Agency, Office of Vital Congregation, and within the Presbytery, Mission and Ministry workgroup, and Racial Ethnic Diversity workgroup, who have already been engaged in doing much of this work. They are working to establish goals for 2021. 20% of the Presbytery's church have already voted to become Matthew 25 congregations and have committed to focus on at least one of the three areas of focus. They are exploring opportunities to be in partnership with organizations outside of the Presbytery that doing work in one or more of the focus areas. The team is sponsoring advocacy training on in partnership with the Interfaith Alliance on January 30, 2021, for all of those interested in learning more.

### **Board of Pensions:** Kristin Leucht

The BOP has changed the pharmacy benefit manager, and all members will have new express script cards. BOP is going to paperless billing beginning in March 2021, through boardlink. There is a new benefits package for non-installed Ministers of the Word and Sacrament, called Ministers Choice, everything included in the installed package except for medical coverage.

## Paula Steinbacker moderated this portion of the Assembly

Treasurer: Sue Pilcher

In 2020, the Presbytery received 94% of per capita. The Presbytery received \$169,000.00 from the Colorado Trust for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, and \$98,000.00 from the Hays bequest trust funds. For realized and unrealized income, the Presbytery received \$432,000.00 from investments For year end, the loss was \$223,000.00, if you add back the \$432,000.00 earned from investments, the loss was about \$650,000.00. Of the loss, \$446,000.00 was for emergency funding for congregations in 2020. The funding was from the short-term investments with Schwab. There were \$116,000.00 dollars in repair and maintenance cost for the former First Presbyterian Lakewood, and former North Highland PC that are both under contract for sell and the moneys will be repaid when the properties close, which is anticipated in March 2021. If you back out all of the unusual expenses, the loss was \$93,000.00 compared to the anticipated budget loss of \$467,000.00, because of expensed that did not occur because of the pandemic.

#### **Council Part 2**

# Finance and Property Workgroup: Pat Queen

Motion: Council recommend to the Assembly that Montview Boulevard Presbyterian Church be authorized to use its property as collateral for a land credit short term construction loan as part of it long term capital campaign building renovation construction project phase I up to a maximum of two million dollars (\$2,000.000). **Approved** 

<u>Motion</u>: Council recommends to Assembly that it approve allocation of funds from the sale of property as follows:

20% Shared Funding Ministry

10% New Worshipping Communities

10% Racial Ethnic Communities

5% Housing mortgage assistance for new pastors Ministers

5% PILP to reduce interest rates for our applicants

Balance to remain in savings for other uses.

The Motion was amended to strike out "new pastors" and replace that with MINISTER. The amendment passed and the main motion **Approved** 

#### **Council Nominating Task Force:** Sharon Blackstock

Motion: Council recommend that the Assembly approve the nomination of RE Verniece Vafeades, Peoples Presbyterian Church to a second three-year term on the Nominating Committee, class of 2023. Elect RE Sarah Savage, Leadville, and MWS Bill Sanders, HR to the class of 2023. **Approved** 

**COM:** Judy Jensen

Introduction of six (6) new minister members: Rev. Blair Buckley, Rev. Sheri Fry. Rev. Laurel Smith Neal, Rev. Thomas Fitzsimmons "Fitz" Neal, Rev. Dr. Stephen L. Nickle, and Rev. Dr. Terry K. Olthoff. Jim Emig, Co-Moderator offered prayer for the new minister members.

Rev. Kenny Shaw introduced the work of the team that included Rev. Cindy Cearley and Rev. Jordan Warntjes and the resulting recommended changes to the Social Media Policy Memorandum of Understanding.

<u>Motion</u>: COM recommends to the Assembly the adoption of the Social Media Policy. **Approved** 

<u>Motion</u>: COM recommends to the Assembly the adoption of changes to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) consistent with the Social Media Policy. **Approved** 

Judy explained the recommendation for the 2021 minimum compensation policy, which includes a 1.3% increase over 2020 that is based on the Social Security increase for 2021. The 2021 minimum for housing and salary (effective salary) to \$51,724.00 and if a manse is provided, \$37,672.00. The other aspects of the policy remain the same.

<u>Motion</u>: COM recommends to the Assembly the adoption of changes to the 2021 Minister Compensation Policy. **Approved** 

Adjournment: Peter Hulac

Closing Prayer: Peter Hulac

Respectfully submitted:

Rev. Olivia L. Hudson Smith, Stated Clerk