**Call to Order and Establishment of a Quorum**The meeting came to order at 5:33 p.m. A quorum was present. Moderator Peter Hulac and Stated Clerk Olivia Hudson Smith were present. Moderator Hulac opened with prayer. A quorum was established.

**Prayer**

Presbytery Moderator Peter Hulac opened with prayer.

**Introductions and Welcome**

Pete Hulac welcomed corresponding members and asked them to introduce themselves including their home Presbytery. New ruling elder commissioners were asked to introduce themselves identifying the congregation which they represent.

**Preliminary Business** (Omnibus Motion)

The assembly approved:

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 October 26, 2021 Stated Assembly and January 12, 2022 Called Assembly.**
4. **Receive all reports** of Council workgroups and Standing Committees in the Assembly documents packet.

**Approved the report of the Stated Clerk:**

1. Church year-end statistical reports are due on or before February 10, 2022. All churches are required to provide the statistical data, including financial statistics. Electronic on-line reporting is accessible at <http://oga.pcusa.org/stats> .
2. **Affirm that the corporate officers for 2022 are:**

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

*Background:*  This action reaffirms the authorization of persons by Presbytery to function 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.

**Installation of New Officers | Peter Hulac**

Outgoing Moderator, Elder Peter Hulac installed Rev. Paula Steinbacher as Moderator and Rev. Dr. John Yu as Vice Moderator for 2022. Symbols of the offices were explained and virtually exchanged. Paula offered prayers of thanksgiving for Peter’s ministry as moderator and announced that a monetary gift to the Partnership of Zimbabwe and Denver Presbytery for support of Zimbabwe’s minister was made on his behalf.

**Assembly at Worship**

Newly installed Presbytery Moderator, Paula Steinbacher led worship including children from her congregation and delivered the message based on Luke 4:14-22. Worship music was offered by the musicians of Paula’s congregation, Church of the Eternal Hills.

**Assembly Business**

**Lead Pastor Nominating Committee (LPNC) | Peter Hulac and Raquel Yslas**

Pete offered an update on the work and progress of the LPNC, which asks the Assembly to enter a covenant:

* We ask you to
	+ Include this committee’s work in your prayers for the presbytery.
	+ Pray thoughtfully about those in your circles of ministry and friendship, pondering which people you would like to nominate for our lead presbyter.
	+ Third: Listen in a moment for Raquel Yslas’s request to you. It will come up in just a minute.
* If you are willing to fulfill that part of the covenant, here is what we agree to do:
	+ We will continue to work at the same strenuous and fulfilling work you have called us to do.
	+ We will answer every question you have about our process, even though we aren’t able to share any information about the people we are interviewing. That is to honor their privacy.
	+ And third, we promise to protect you from all of the abbreviations and acronyms associated with this work. You know some of them, like Personal Information Forms, Ministry Information Forms, also known as MIF’s and PIF’s. We are serious about this commitment. Not only are they incomprehensible terms, we really don’t want anybody to get – Well, you know – in the world of MIFs and PIFs, - MIF-ed off, or worse.

Raquel invited the Assembly into breakout rooms to answer the questions: What questions do you want the LPNC to ask the candidates, what is something that you want us to find out about them? Responses were placed in a Google Doc form or directed to be mailed to LPSearch@denpres.org .

**Nominating Committee | Dave Goss**

The Nominating Committee offered the following slate of names of persons to serve in the roles and for the classes identified beginning in 2022. Each entity was voted on separately by electronic poll after nominations were called for from the floor. There were no nominations from the floor for any entity.

*Committee on Ministry****:*** To elect MWS Cindy Cearley (HR) as Moderator and RE Diane Ritzdorf (Calvary) as Vice Moderator for the year 2022. To elect MWS Terry Purvis Smith (HR) to the Class of 2023. To elect MWS William Sanders (HR), MWS Jeminah Ngatia (HR) and RE Frank Feero (Englewood) to the Class of 2024. **Approved.**

*Permanent Judicial Commission****:*** To elect MWS Gretchen Wilson (Green Mountain) to complete the partial term vacated by Laura Sugg Class of 2025. **Approved.**

*Highlands Camp Joint Committee:* To re-elect RE Kristie Karn (Calvary) to the Class of 2024. To re-elect RE Geoff Noble (PCOC) to a one-year extension (to allow finishing the covenant review) to the Class of 2022. To elect CRE Cindy Moorman to the Class of 2024. **Approved.**

**Presbytery Investment and Loan Program |** **Clare Lewis**

Clare brought greetings and an update. She announced that ten (10) congregations in the Presbytery will receive rebate checks because of the Presbytery’s continued investments in the Investment and loan program. Clare offered her assistance to congregations considering projects.

**Board of Pensions** | **Kristin Leucht**

Kristin updated the Assembly on the latest programs and changes in benefits. She presented slides highlighting The Assistance Programs for plan members and encouraged members to contact her with questions.

**Stated Clerk | Olivia Hudson Smith**

Trinity/Arvada Merger – Formation of an Administrative Commission

*Motion:* The Council of the Presbytery recommends that that the Assembly approve the affirmative votes of the Congregations of Trinity Presbyterian Church and Arvada Presbyterian Church on January 9, 2022, to merge and become one new church corporation. **Approved.**

*Motion:* The Council recommends that that the Assembly approve the formation of an Administrative Commission to conclude church operations of Trinity Presbyterian Church and Arvada Presbyterian Church and form a new church corporation in the Presbytery of Denver, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) consisting of the merged congregations. **Approved.**

**Treasurer | Sue Pilcher**

The preliminary end of the year report for 2021 shows a net loss of $480,000.00. Sue and staff accountant, Chuck Sparks are working on closing 2021 financials. Sue is seeking bids from auditing firms for the 2021 audit.

**Council**

Racial Ethnic Diversity Workgroup (RED) *|* John Yu

In the continuing initiative of telling the stories of who we are as a Presbytery, RED presented a video featuring CJ Jeong, the Clerk of Session, True Light Community Church, who discussed his faith formation.

Matthew 25 |Tom Bacon

Tom, a member at Wellshire Presbyterian Church serving on the Matthew 25, team, introduced a video of Rev. Dr. Diane L. Givens Moffett, Executive Director of the Presbytery Mission Agency (PMA) describing the Matthew 25 initiative. Rev. Dr. Moffett will provide worship at the March 22, 2022, Assembly.

**Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM**) **| Chris Spotts**

Chris introduced Sophie Beal, Inquirer under care of the Presbytery, who CPM is recommending be moved to Candidate. The Assembly questioned Sophie on her Christian Faith, Service, and Motives and Inspiration for Seeking Ministry. After questioning she was moved to a breakout room followed by discussion and the vote on the motion by poll.

*Motion:* CPM recommends to the Assembly that Sophie Beal be moved to Candidate. **Approved**

Sophie was welcomed back, and the Candidate questions were administered and answered followed by prayer.

Chris recognized Rev. Dr. David Pettit, Pastor of Providence Presbyterian Church. Rev. Dr. Pettit ordained in the Reformed Church of American (RCA) is requesting that his ordination be transferred to the PC(USA). Rev. Dr. Pettit previously served at Calvary Presbyterian Church prior to being installed as Pastor, Head of Staff at Providence. Rev. Dr. Pettit explained his reasoning for the request, following which he was moved to a breakout room. Discussion and voting by poll took place. David was welcomed into the PC(USA) with prayer.

*Motion:* CPM recommends that Rev. Dr. David Pettit’s ordination in the RCA be transferred to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). **Approved by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote pursuant to G-2.0505 (a)(2), Book of Order.**

**Committee on Ministry (COM) | Cindy Cearley**

Cindy introduced the recommendation for the 2022 minimum salary and invited form COM co-moderator, Judy Jensen to speak to the rationale for the recommendation based on the consumer price index for the Denver area by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

*Motion:* The Committee on Ministry recommends to the Assembly that it approve a 4.5% increase over the 2021 minimums bringing the minimum effective salary for Minister Members in 2022 to a yearly effective salary of $54,070.00, and $39,367.00 when a manse is provided. **Approved.**

Cindy invited Sandy Safford to introduce Teddie McConnell, as a commissioned ready Ruling Elder. Sandy provided background information on Teddie, and described the process undertaken to become commissioned ready.

Adjournment & Closing Prayer | Paula Steinbacher by consensus at 8:11p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Olivia L. Hudson Smith, JD
Stated Clerk