

Commissioner's Report from PEVA Meeting, October 19, 2021

127th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia, at First Presbyterian Church, Virginia Beach on October 19th and began at 10:00 AM

Your commissioner left home at 8:15 and arrived at 10:15 AM to hear the Stated Clerk end his Judicial Report. That meant that the Docket had been adopted and the Consent Agenda had been approved with the exception of one item that was withdrawn and moved to new business.

Rev. Deidre (Dee Dee) Carson, Pastor at 1st Virginia Beach, and Rev. Louise (Lou) Venture, Moderator of PEVA Council, shared the responsibilities of worship leadership.

Rev. John Harroff, Pastor at Royster Memorial in Norfolk and Moderator of the Commission working with issues at Great Bridge Presbyterian Church in Chesapeake announced that after a lot of interviewing the call to the co-pastors was being dissolved, that the commission had taken original jurisdiction which puts the commission in the seat of the session until such time that the session can reassume their responsibilities, and that the commission would continue to work with the Great Bridge congregation in an effort to restore congregational health.

Council's report included the nomination of John Tamm to continue his responsibilities for two more years as Stated Clerk. The vote was paper ballot and recorded 80 for and 0 against. Report also included the 2022 Proposed Budget. The forecast revenue is about 97% of 2021's and expenses exceed forecast revenue by about 1.5%. Council and Stewardship Ministry have a plan but I didn't understand what was said. A point of interest might be that church giving with 66.67% of the year complete is 62.97%. Details of this year's finances can be found at www.pcusa-peva.org/fmpeva.

The Commission of Ministry Report included the opportunity for Rev. Andrew P. Whitehead to introduce himself to Presbytery. COM had taken 14 actions on behalf of Presbytery that were very typical. Two highlights were Rev. Charles Tucker approved as interim pastor at Calvin Presbyterian Church in Norfolk and Rev. Keith Curran is returning to the Presbytery of the James but the specific reason is never given.

The Commission on Preparation for the Ministry introduced Alyssa Mitchell, a member at Stonehouse Presbyterian Church and a student at Princeton Seminary, and moved that she come under to care of Presbytery. Motion passed.

The Congregational Vitality Team requested and received additional funding (\$42,487) which will allow them to grant requesting congregations more financial resources to apply toward improved technology.

Nominations Committee had what looked like a complete slate which was approved. For 2022 the Moderator of PEVA will be RE Dianne Schoonover from Yorkminster, the Vice Moderator of PEVA will be Rev. John Morgan from Williamsburg, and Rev. Wilbur Douglas will be the Moderator of Council, He retired from Community Presbyterian Church in Portsmouth several years ago.

The item taken from the consent agenda and moved to new business had to do with increasing the number of at-large members on the Council from 3 to 6. After some discussion, the motion was passed.

October is Clergy Appreciation month. We are encouraged to express thanks to our professional and administrative staff members for their appreciated work on our behalf.

If 1st Presbyterian Virginia Beach wasn't far enough to travel, the next meeting is at Grace Covenant Presbyterian which is way out there in Virginia Beach close to the North Carolina.