

**841st STATED MEETING  
OF NEW CASTLE PRESBYTERY  
Electronic Meeting with three viewing locations  
(Please see Zoom instructions: <https://bit.ly/2znnYjH>)  
July 17, 2018  
Presbytery Meeting begins at 4:00 PM**

**DOCKET**

- 4:00 PM      CONVENE PRESBYTERY MEETING**
- OPENING PRAYER** *Rev. Jeff Howard*
- 4:02 PM      OPENING BUSINESS** *Rev. Jeff Howard*
- Quorum Call  
- Docket approval *Rev. Jessie MacMillan*
- 4:05 PM      STATED CLERK'S REPORT** *Rev. Jessie MacMillan*
- The Stated Clerk **MOVES** the following items as an Omnibus Motion:
- **APPROVAL** of the Docket for this meeting.
  - **APPROVAL** of the Minutes from the 840<sup>th</sup> Meeting of New Castle Presbytery.
  - **APPROVAL** of the completed 2017 Review of Session Minutes from the following churches:  
*Beaver Dam, Buckingham, Calvary, Chestertown, Christiana, Community, Concord, Coolspring, Dover, Easton, Elkton, Elsmere, Faith Chapel, Frankford, Green Hill, Hanover Street, Head of Christiana, Limestone, Lower Brandywine, Makemie Memorial, Manokin, Milford (First), Newark (First), New Castle, New Covenant, Ocean City (First), Ocean View, Perryville, Pitts Creek, Red Clay Creek, Rehoboth, Rock, Seaford, Smyrna (First), St. Andrews, Trinity, Westminster (Rehoboth), Westminster (Wilmington), West Nottingham, Wicomico. Please contact the Stated Clerk if your church is not on this list. Many thanks to all of our clerks of session!*
  - **The Report of the Committee on Ministers and Congregations**
  - Letter from **Ignite** regarding Invitations to Partnership (FAQs)
- 4:15 PM      REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS AND YOUNG ADULT ADVISORY  
DELEGATE TO THE 223<sup>RD</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
*Rev. Laurie Hiller / Gary Patterson / Caroline Hutchinson*
- 4:30 PM      REPORT ON OVERTURES SENT TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY BY NEW  
CASTLE PRESBYTERY**  
*Bob Schminkey / Rev. Emma Horn / Rev. Kaci Clark-Porter / Rev. Holly Clark-Porter*
- 4:40 PM      DISCUSSION AND QUESTIONS**
- 5:30 PM      ADJOURN WITH PRAYER** *Rev. Laurie Hiller*
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**REQUESTS FOR A PRINTED DOCKET PACKET MAY BE DIRECTED TO:**

Donna Scully: (302) 366-0595 or [dscully@ncpresbytery.org](mailto:dscully@ncpresbytery.org)

**NEXT STATED PRESBYTERY MEETING: 842nd Stated Meeting - Tuesday, September 25, 2018 @ 4 PM**

**Camp Pecometh in Centreville, Maryland**

**Preceded by a Pastors' Retreat beginning at noon on September 24th**



July 9, 2018

Hello Pastor/Clerk of Session!

Invitations to Partnership have already begun to appear in the Ignite inbox and we've heard from many of you with questions as you are formulating your plans for extending an invitation to the Presbytery through Ignite. Many of those questions have centered around how Ignite will respond to partnership invitations seeking support for our historic mission partners - those community organizations and 501(c)(3)s that have for many years been in relationship to the congregations of New Castle Presbytery and received funding through the Speer Trust, West Legacy Trust or Mission Development Unit.

We wanted to offer some clarity around these questions for the benefit of every church, even if they are not currently preparing to extend an invitation to Ignite. Since these agencies/groups cannot submit a grant to the Presbytery directly, our congregations are the access point and we wanted each congregation to have the information they need to respond to these requests. Please reach out to your community partners and let them know about Ignite and our new way of funding missional ministry.

Attached are the most common inquires we're receiving at [IGNITE@ncpresbytery.org](mailto:IGNITE@ncpresbytery.org). We hope this will be helpful to you. This process is new and we're all "building the plane as it flies" so don't hesitate to reach out to Ignite. And please hold us in prayer as we do you and each of the Presbytery's congregations.

Yours faithfully,

*The Ignite Team of New Castle Presbytery*

E-mail: [IGNITE@ncpresbytery.org](mailto:IGNITE@ncpresbytery.org)

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## COMMON GRANT INQUIRIES



### **Can a community group submit an Invitation to Partnership to Ignite?**

Invitations to Partnership must be submitted by one or more of the congregations of New Castle Presbytery.

### **What does it mean for a congregation to be in partnership with a community group/agency and submit an Invitation to Partnership on their behalf?**

Ignite has been charged with utilizing the funding entrusted to it in order to transform congregations through their engagement with missional ministry. In other words, collaboration and relationship, that goes beyond writing checks or letters is what we hope to see. How does this ministry engage the partners and help all of them more faithfully carry out Christ's ministry? It's not the number of partners, it's the quality of the partnership. So tell us in the Invitation how this partnership will not only serve the community but how it will deepen the commitment to mission and the spiritual life of your church and its members. What is the hands-on, in kind, communal and personal commitment made by your congregation and its members to sustain this partnership? Beyond saying, "We support this mission partner/community agency and think it's a good idea," how are leaders and members of the partner churches connected to and engaged with the work of that mission partner/community agency? That's what you want to be sure to tell us about.

### **Can a congregation be part of more than one Invitation to Partnership?**

Yes! Please! Ignite sees this as an indication of a church that is heavily involved in the needs of its community, a church whose understanding of itself is already missional. Though they may not use that word! And especially as we consider the historic partnerships between churches and local agencies, this awareness will inform Ignite's approach to these Invitations.

### **Does it hurt an Invitation's chances if it is the second or third one from a particular congregation?**

No, there is not a penalty for being very actively engaged in the community. A congregation cannot be "too missional". A congregation may choose to be the lead on a grant in support of a local agency and be part of a group of partners for another agency. Or a congregation might extend an Invitation on behalf of a community group and then submit another Invitation for a mission effort whose initiative comes from within the congregation. In either case, all Invitations to Partnership which Ignite receives will be considered on an equal playing field. There are no benefits or penalties for extending multiple Invitations.

### **If our church extends an Invitation to Ignite for more than \$20,000, are there additional requirements we should know about?**

If your Invitation to Partnership seeks a financial commitment from the Presbytery of more than \$20,000 keep your eyes open for details of the Combustion Chambers on September 8th and 15th. We're working to set locations for those now - one in the North and one in the Southern part of the Presbytery. This will be a "shark tank" style event where each partnership (in the over \$20,000 category) still being considered by Ignite will be invited to have a face to face conversation with Ignite where they make their pitch. The Combustion Chamber is designed to give Ignite a chance to ask questions, get clarity about what is being proposed and gauge energy as we make the final decisions about these big grants.

### **We aren't going to be ready for the August 1st deadline for Invitations in 2018, any ideas about 2019?**

We realize that the process for submitting invitations to Ignite is coming late in the year. Since Ignite started with a blank canvas and we wanted to be intentional and creative in carrying out our charge from the Presbytery in Balcony II, this is what we could do for 2018. We understand that many of the Invitations to Partnership that we receive this year will necessarily straddle the 2018-2019 year in terms of spending. And we have limitations not only on the amount of money we can grant but also cash flow realities to deal with as well. So, if a partner can think ahead and provide a 2,3, or 4-year plan for mission/ministry, this gives us a sense of how organized and established the ministry is and it also makes it possible for us to consider the request alongside our financial realities and respond creatively. Perhaps making it possible for us to do more, but in a time frame beyond December 2018.

Ignite has not yet established dates for receiving Invitations to Partnership for 2019 but we are tentatively planning on more than one cycle of invitations, perhaps in January and June. So a partner might decide that they prefer to wait and extend their invitation in 2019.

## 223<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly Report

### Summary of Action on New Castle Presbytery Overtures

Bob Schminkey - June 28, 2018

New Castle Presbytery sent seven (7) Overtures to the 223<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly, held in St. Louis from June 16 - 23. We also sent "Overture Advocates" to General Assembly to present our Overtures and respond to any questions that might arise. Here is a brief summary of those Overtures and the General Assembly action.

New Castle Presbytery was the primary sponsor for the Overtures listed below. In the case of these Overtures, we were the first Presbytery to pass the Overture and send it to General Assembly for action.

#### **[06-10] On Adding a New Section to the Book of Order G-2.1104, "Administrative Personnel Association"**

This Overture would have restored the Administrative Personnel Association to the Book of Order. Donna Scully, our Presbytery Administrator brought this Overture to us as she is a leader in the Administrative Personnel Association. As a Constitutional Amendment (an amendment to the Book of Order) a plenary session vote was required. The Church Polity and Ordered Ministry Committee voted to DISAPPROVE this overture by a 51/0/1 vote. On the floor of General Assembly, it was overwhelming **DISAPPROVED**, by 458/11 votes. (No Overture Advocate)

#### **[11-12] On Affirming and Celebrating the Full Dignity and Humanity of People of All Gender Identities**

This affirms the PCUSA commitment to the full welcome, acceptance, and inclusion of transgender people, people who identify as gender non-binary, and people of all gender identities within the full life of the church and the world and affirms the church's obligation to stand for the right of people of all gender identities to live free from discrimination, violence, and every form of injustice. This was APPROVED with amendments in committee by a vote of 43/3/4 and was **APPROVED** by the General Assembly as part of the Consent Agenda. (Overture Advocate: Rev. Holly Clark-Porter)

#### **[11-13] On Celebrating the Gifts of People of Diverse Sexual Orientations and Gender Identities in the Life of the Church**

This Overture affirms the gifts of LGBTQ[IA]+ people for ministry and celebrates their service in the church and in the world and celebrates that over the years, LGBTQ[IA]+ people have faithfully, lovingly, and courageously served in every kind of service to which Christian disciples are called—notwithstanding the church's efforts to exclude them from particular types of service. This Overture was APPROVED with amendments in committee by a vote of 40/3/5 and was **APPROVED** by the General Assembly as part of the Consent Agenda. (Overture Advocate: Rev. Kaci Clark-Porter)

#### **[11-14] On Praying for a Movement of the Spirit to Engage Presbyterian Congregations in Nation-Wide Action to Prevent Gun Violence**

This Overture calls for every General Assembly commissioner to pray for a movement of the Spirit to engage our churches in study and action to prevent gun violence and for us to take

transformational action in this gun violence epidemic. This Overture was APPROVED with amendments in committee by a vote of 51/0/0 and was **APPROVED** by the General Assembly. (Overture Advocate: Bob Schminkey)

**[14-01] On Developing a Letter to Accompany the Confession of Belhar—From the Presbytery of New Castle.**

This Overture calls on the church to develop a U.S. letter to accompany the Confession of Belhar that addresses the participation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and other Reformed bodies in racism in our historical context, building on prior statements of repentance and apology. The Overture was APPROVED as amended in committee by a vote of 40/13 and **APPROVED** by the General Assembly by a vote of 439/73. (Overture Advocate: Rev. Emma Horn)

New Castle Presbytery “concurred” with the following Overtures:

**[08-01] On Directing the Board of Pensions and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Foundation to Divest from Fossil Fuel and Actively Invest in Securities That Focus on Renewable Energy—From the Presbytery of Hudson River.**

This Overture directed the Board of Pensions and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Foundation to divest from the fossil-fuel industry and to actively seek out and invest in securities of companies whose predominant focus is in renewable and/or energy efficiency. This was **APPROVED** as amended in committee by a vote of 35/20. After lengthy debate on the floor of the Assembly, the Overture was **DISAPPROVED** by a vote of 332/178 and answered with Overture 08-08 which called for the PCUSA Mission Responsibility Through Investment program (MRTI) to continue its engagement process with fossil fuel companies and bring divestment recommendations to the next assembly in two years. (Overture Advocate: Bob Schminkey)

**[12-09] On Responding to the Current Syrian Crisis—From the Presbytery of the Cascades.**

This Overture called on the PCUSA to advocate for and assist when possible to stop the killing and alleviate the suffering in Syria. It was **APPROVED** in committee by a vote of 55/0 and **APPROVED** by the assembly as part of the “consent” agenda. (No overture advocate)

One Overture of Personal and Presbytery Interest:

**[11-03] On Recognizing the Reverend Henry Highland Garnet’s Prophetic Voice for Today - From the Presbytery of San Francisco**

This Overture recognizes the prophetic witness of abolitionist and Presbyterian, the Reverend Henry Highland Garnet, born a slave in near Chestertown in Kent County Maryland, and the first African American preacher to speak in the US Congress. During testimony on this Overture, it was noted that Francis Makemie was a slave owner and that Kent County has long recognized Rev. HH Garnet’s contributions to nation building with an elementary school named for him. This was **APPROVED** in committee by a vote of 49/0 and was **APPROVED** on the assembly floor by a vote of 485/9.

NOTE: Complete information on these Overtures and all General Assembly business can be found at <https://www.pc-biz.org/#/> and <https://ga-pcusa.org/> or at <https://pres-outlook.org/>.

Committee on Ministers and Congregations  
Report to New Castle Presbytery  
Tuesday, July 17, 2018

COMC acted to concur in the request of the Chestertown congregation (congregational meeting held June 10, 2018) to dissolve the pastoral relationship between Sara Holben, Minister of Word and Sacrament, and the congregation, effective November 30, 2018—Ms. Holben is retiring.

COMC approved Minister of Word and Sacrament Grace Howard to serve as Temporary Pastor, part-time, of the Delaware City congregation, effective May 1, 2018 for one year.

COMC, with concurrence of CPMM, approved Ruling Elder Matthew Waters (Inquirer) to serve as Lay Pastor, part-time, of the Elsmere congregation, effective July 8, 2018 for one year.

COMC approved Commissioned Ruling Elder Anne Gunn to serve the Perryville congregation, part-time, effective July 1, 2018. Ms. Gunn will be commissioned at the September presbytery meeting. Minister of Word and Sacrament, Retired, Al Yuninger, will continue as Pastoral Associate.

COMC approved Minister of Word and Sacrament Randy Clayton to serve as Temporary Pastor/Interim of the Red Clay congregation, effective June 20, 2018, and COMC acted to receive Mr. Clayton as a member of New Castle Presbytery, transferring from Baltimore Presbytery. Mr. Clayton will be welcomed at the September presbytery meeting.

COMC approved the transfer of Minister of Word and Sacrament James Moseley to Presbytery of the James, at the June 14 COMC meeting.

Updates

Minister of Word and Sacrament Ed Brandt has completed his temporary pastor service with Church of the Covenant, effective June 3, 2018.

Minister of Word and Sacrament Jim Horn has completed his temporary pastor service with the West Nottingham congregation, effective June 3.

Moderator appointments

CRE Ginny Jones has been appointed Session Moderator of Church of the Covenant, effective June 4, 2018.

Minister of Word and Sacrament Hilary Livingston has been appointed Session Moderator of the West Nottingham congregation, effective June 4 until September 1, 2018.

Minister of Word and Sacrament Caitlan Gartland has been appointed Session Moderator of the Chestertown congregation, effective July 16, 2018.

# 841<sup>st</sup> Stated Meeting of Presbytery



Tuesday, July 17, 2017, 4:00 p.m.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

**WHERE:** Commissioners and members are **welcome to attend the meeting at any of the following locations** OR utilize the Zoom conference link (*provided below*) directly from your home/work computer.

**PLEASE NOTE,** Zoom contains a “test” link to insure computer compatibility. This test takes only a few minutes, however it is suggested to test your system prior to participating on July 17<sup>th</sup>.



**Presbyterian Church of Dover**  
*Fellowship Hall*  
*54 S. State Street, Dover, DE 19901*  
**G.A. Commissioner Panel will be broadcast live from this location via Zoom**

**Westminster Presbyterian Church**  
*Rodney Chapel*  
*1502 W. 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Wilmington, DE 19806*  
**Live presentation will be broadcast on a large screen TV at this location and will be facilitated by staff**

**Wicomico Presbyterian Church**  
*Fellowship Hall*  
*129 Broad Street, Salisbury, MD 21801*  
**Live presentation will be broadcast via projector/screen at this location and will be facilitated by staff**

**SIGN-IN:** A basic sign-in sheet will be available at each location to register attendees.

**QUESTIONS FOR THE PANEL OR THE MODERATOR:** This is a stated meeting with the NCP Moderator administrating. Audio will only be provided *from* the broadcast location with all other locations “*muted*”. As a result:

- **For viewing locations:** A template will be provided for participants to complete and provide to the staff member at each location with any questions you may have during the reporting period. The staff member will enter questions electronically through the “Chat” feature.
- **For individuals viewing from their own computer:** Questions must be typed into the “Chat” feature during the question period. Click on “Chat” at the bottom of the screen and the Zoom Group Chat will open on the right of your screen
- **Zoom link:** <https://zoom.us/j/305256230>

Zoom Group Chat

