

Committee on Ministers and Congregations  
Report to New Castle Presbytery  
Tuesday, September 22, 2020

COMC with CPMM brings Certified Ready to Receive a Call Candidate Shannon Hanson for Ordination Examination:

COMC on September 10 approved, if the way be clear, receiving Shannon Hanson as a Member of New Castle Presbytery; and that COMC request Presbytery to ordain Ms. Hanson to the position of Minister of Word and Sacrament, and, Validate her specialized Ministry of Reconciliation, and Request the Moderator appoint an Administrative Commission to carry out the Service of Ordination.

Introduction and Welcome of Nancy Anderson, Minister of Word and Sacrament, Pastor of the Green Hill congregation. COMC on February 13 approved Ms. Anderson as a member of New Castle Presbytery, transferring from Prospect Hills Presbytery (Iowa), and as Pastor of the Green Hill congregation, including Terms of Call, pending congregational action. Green Hill approved the Call on July 26. Effective Date of Employment is October 1. Request for presbytery to approve an Administrative Commission for the purpose of Installation, to be appointed by the Moderator.

Introduction and Welcome of Amy Lawrence, Minister of Word and Sacrament, Pastor of the Manokin congregation. COMC approved and concurred with the action of the Manokin congregation (meeting held May 7) to call Ms. Lawrence as Pastor of the Manokin congregation, including terms of call and membership in the presbytery, transferring from Newton Presbytery, effective date of employment July 15. Request for presbytery to approve an Administrative Commission for the purpose of Installation, to be appointed by the Moderator.

Introduction and Welcome of Mark Piedmonte-Silvoy, Minister of Word and Sacrament, Pastor of the Buckingham congregation. COMC on June 11 approved Mr. Piedmonte-Silvoy as a member of New Castle Presbytery, transferring from Susquehanna Valley Presbytery, and as Pastor of the Buckingham congregation, including Terms of Call, pending congregational action. Buckingham approved the Call on June 14. Effective Date of Employment is August 17. Request for presbytery to approve an Administrative Commission for the purpose of Installation, to be appointed by the Moderator.

Introduction and Welcome of Jill P. Tolbert, Minister of Word and Sacrament. COMC approved Ms. Tolbert as a member-at-large of presbytery on August 13, transferring from Northeast Georgia Presbytery.

COMC on July 29 approved the Dissolution Request (congregational meeting, August 2) and Severance Agreement between Samuel Monte, Minister of Word and Sacrament, and the Makemie Memorial Presbyterian Church, effective September 1, 2020. Kirk Dausman, Minister of Word and Sacrament and Pastor of Rehoboth Church, appointed Moderator, effective August 17.

COMC in addition voted to request New Castle Presbytery to approve an Administrative Commission with Original Jurisdiction for Makemie Memorial Church, to be appointed by the Moderator of Presbytery.

Memorial Minute

Julius Scheidel, Honorably Retired Minister of Word and Sacrament, passed on July 27, 2020. Caitlan Gartland, Associate Pastor, Chestertown

Actions Taken by COMC

COMC on June 11 approved an Update to the Guidelines for Ordination/Installation (on presbytery website), as well as an Update to Guidelines for Retirement (on presbytery website).

COMC on June 11 approved a 3 month contract for pastoral services between the Elsmere congregation and Minister of Word and Sacrament Nona Holy and Inquirer Lisa Chase, July 1 – September 30.

COMC on July 9 approved the draft and direction of the Dismantling Racism Training document, encouraging refinement, and ultimately Presbytery Approval.

COMC on July 14 approved a 1 year contract renewal between Church of the Covenant and Interim Pastor Kate Morgan, July 15, 2020 – July 14, 2021.

COMC on July 29 approved Jeff Howard, Minister of Word and Sacrament, as Interim Pastor of the Easton Church, 1 year contract, September 1, 2020 – August 31, 2021.

COMC on July 31 approved Dr. Shannon Smythe, Minister of Word and Sacrament, as a member of New Castle Presbytery, transferring from Presbytery of Western New York, and as Designated Pastor (5 year term) of the Westminster (Rehoboth) congregation, including terms of call, pending congregational action. Westminster approved the call on August 30. Date of Employment is October 5. Dr. Smythe will be introduced at the November 14 presbytery meeting. Request for presbytery to approve an Administrative Commission for the purpose of Installation, to be appointed by the Moderator.

COMC on August 13 approved the renewal request for Jennifer P. Warren, Minister of Word and Sacrament, to continue laboring outside the bounds of the presbytery in Donegal Presbytery, as Transitional Pastoral Associate with Central Presbyterian Church, Downingtown, effective August 31, 2020.

COMC on August 13 approved Samuel Monte, Minister of Word and Sacrament, in his request to labor outside the bounds of New Castle Presbytery in Western Reserve Presbytery.

COMC on August 25 approved Dr. Sam Massey, Minister of Word and Sacrament, as a member of New Castle Presbytery, transferring from East Iowa Presbytery, and as Interim Pastor of the First and Central congregation, including terms of remuneration. 1 year contract, November 15,

2020 – November 14, 2021. Dr. Massey will be introduced at the November 14 presbytery meeting.

COMC on September 10 approved an agreement for pastoral services between Lower Brandywine Co-Pastor Emma Horn and the Riverfront Church, 4 months, September 1 – December 31, 2020.

Other

Candidate and Elsmere Lay Pastor Matt Waters concluded his ministry with the Elsmere congregation on June 30.

Minister of Word and Sacrament Nona Holy appointed as Elsmere Moderator on July 1.