

# HANDBOOK PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERY



## Virtual Called Winter Meeting Sunday, January 29, 2023

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**You are invited to a Zoom meeting. When: January 29, 2023, at 1:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada). ALL attendees should register using the Zoom link by 10:00 a.m. on January 29, 2023.** Register for this meeting using this link: [Register for Presbytery Meeting](#). Participation instructions for Providence Presbytery Zoom Stated meetings can be found in Appendix 2.

**Ministers, please make sure that your Ruling Elder Commissioner to the Presbytery meeting has a copy of the Handbook prior to the meeting.**

**Providence Presbytery Meeting Handbook Link  
and Registration Can Be located at  
[www.providencepres.org](http://www.providencepres.org)**

**Click the following tabs: Calendar/  
Presbytery Meetings/January 29, 2023**

**Pre-Registration Required**

**Direct Link: [January 29, 2023, Presbytery](#)**

**Zoom Meeting opens at  
12:30 p.m.**

**Call To Order: 1:30 p.m.**

**If you have any questions,  
Contact the  
Providence Presbytery  
Office at 803-328-6269**

**After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with info about joining the meeting.**



Presbyterian Church (USA)

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January 12, 2023

Greetings Teaching Elders and Ruling Elders,

I write to welcome you for the Called Meeting of Providence Presbytery to be held in a virtual format on Zoom. The date of the meeting is January 29, 2023, set to convene at 1:30 P. M.

In this Handbook of Reports, you will find the 33 Proposed Amendments from the 225 General Assembly meeting held this Summer in Louisville, KY. There were four presbytery groups that reviewed the different proposals and made recommendations to the commissioners as they prepare for the meeting. Please read these carefully and prepare for positive debate and questions

Most of the Amendments are placed in the Consent Agenda; these are to be approved with one vote for all those items; unless, there is a motion and vote to remove specific item(s) from the Consent Agenda. If an item is removed from the Consent Agenda, it will be placed at the end of the docket's business.

The other proposed Amendments are placed under a committee report that is set for a particular time. These items of business for action will be allowed time for discussion before the vote. The vote for each recommended change will be recorded and reported to the General Assembly to be tallied there with the other Presbyteries within the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) Those that receive a majority vote will be added into the Book of Order for 2023 – 2025.

Also, at this January meeting, there will be a report from the Implementation Team, with a presentation of their suggested changes to the Manual of Administrative Operations. Please read through this report. Team about their report. There is no vote on this report at this meeting. However, at the March 26 meeting, held at Bethelwoods Camp and Conference Center, the Manual of Administrative Operations will be presented for a Second Read, and after any amendments, be given a vote for approval.

Thank you for your service to our Lord and for the congregations of Providence Presbytery.

God's Blessings be upon you all!

*Hoover and Olivia Haney*

Hoover and Olivia Haney

i.

# Virtual Called Winter Meeting of Providence Presbytery DOCKET

**Sunday, January 29, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.**  
Providence Presbytery – In Person Meeting

*Guided by the Holy Spirit, the mission of Providence Presbytery is to equip, support, and connect our congregations as they faithfully serve Jesus Christ in a changing world*

## Land Acknowledgment for Providence Presbytery

"We are gathered on the land of the Cherokee and Catawba Nations. The congregations of Providence Presbytery inhabit the ancestral homes of the Catawba, Cherokee, Congaree, Wateree, Lumbee, Waxhaw, Cheraw, and Sugaree. I ask you to join me in acknowledging these first nations, their elders both past and present, as well as future generations. Providence Presbytery also acknowledges that its existence resulted in the exclusions and erasures of many Indigenous peoples. This acknowledgement demonstrates a commitment to the ministry of reconciliation made possible through Jesus Christ. We hold in prayer the indigenous peoples in our community and, through prayer and discernment, seek ways to mend, repair, and renew a relationship with these peoples."

- |         |  |   |
|---------|--|---|
| 1:30 pm | <b><u>Call to Order and Opening Prayer</u></b>                                 | Moderator, Elder Gwen Cunningham<br>Messiah Presbyterian    |
|         | Land Acknowledgement Of Providence Presbytery                                  |   |
| 1:35 pm | <b><u>Welcome</u></b>  | Stated Clerk Rev. Olivia Haney                              |
|         | A. Recognition of New Ruling Elder Commissioners                               |   |
|         | B. Welcome Guests  |   |
|         | (1) Corresponding Members  |   |
|         | C. Joys and Concerns in the Chat Box   |   |
| 1:40 pm | <b><u>Adoption of the Docket</u></b>   | Moderator Gwen Cunningham<br><a href="#">Pages A: 1 - 2</a> |
| 1:45 pm | <b><u>Worship</u></b>  | Worship Team  |
| 2:15 pm | <b><u>General Presbyters/Stated Clerk's Report</u></b>                         | Stated Clerk Rev. Dr. Hoover Haney                          |
|         | A. Enrollment and Quorum   |   |
|         | B. Consent Agenda  | <a href="#">Pages B: 1 - 4</a>                              |
|         | C. Welcome Valerie Young<br>Synod of South Atlantic Executive and Stated Clerk |   |

## Providence Presbytery in Mission and Ministry

2:20 pm	A.	Implementation Team	Ruling Elder Tim Cureton Moderator Pleasant Ridge Presbyterian <a href="#">Page C: 1</a> <a href="#">Appendix 3</a>
2:30 pm	B.	Reports on the Proposed Amendments to the Book of Order approved by the 225 <sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2022) and recommended to the presbyteries for their vote	
		(1) Coordinating Team	Ruling Elder Hope Moore Moderator <a href="#">Page D: 1</a> <a href="#">Appendix 4</a>
		(2) Committee on Ministry	Rev. Dr. Joanne Sizoo Moderator Grace (Y) Church <a href="#">Page E: 1</a> <a href="#">Appendix 4</a>
2:50 pm		<u>Attendance Report</u>	Stated Clerk Rev. Olivia Haney
2:55 pm		<u>Adjournment &amp; Prayer</u>	Moderator Gwen Cunningham

## 2023 PRESBYTERY MEETINGS:

### Type of Meeting

Called:	Sunday, January 29 , 2023	1:30 pm	Virtual	
Stated:	Sunday, March 26, 2023	2:30 pm	In Person	Bethelwoods Camp
Stated:	Sunday. June 25, 2023	2:30 pm	In Person	TBD
Stated:	Sunday, October 22, 2023	2:30 pm	In Person	TBD

**CONSENT AGENDA (OMNIBUS MOTION)**  
**Report to Providence Presbytery**  
**January 29, 2023**

**For Information:**

1. The Coordinating Team is seeking an invitation from a church willing to host the June 25, 2023, Presbytery Meeting. This will be an in-person meeting. Any Session invitation can be sent to Hope Moore, Coordinating Team chair [dh34moore@gmail.com](mailto:dh34moore@gmail.com) or to Gwen Cunningham\_incoming chair [gwengcunn@hotmail.com](mailto:gwengcunn@hotmail.com)
  
2. Upcoming Presbytery Meetings:
  - March 26, 2023, in person, convening at 2:30 pm.  
Host: Bethelwoods Camp and Conference Center
  
  - June 25, 2023, in person, convening at 2:30 pm. Host: \_\_\_\_\_
  
  - October 22, 2023, in person, convening at 2:30 pm.  
Host: Covenant Presbyterian Church
  
3. Reminder: Statistical Reports for General Assembly need to be completed online by midnight on February 16, 2023.
  
4. Leaderfest is being held at Rock Hill First Presbyterian Church on Feb. 26, 2023, from 1:30 - 5:00 p.m.

For a description of the event and workshops and to register click this link:

<https://providencepres.org/leaderfest-2023/>

or to go directly to the registration form click this link: <https://form.jotform.com/223415236234044>.

5. Bethelwoods Summer Camp 2023 registration is open! Bethelwoods is excited to be hosting 7 weeks of overnight and day camp this summer. Visit our website at [www.bethelwoods.org/summer-camp](http://www.bethelwoods.org/summer-camp) for more information on programs being offered and to register. We are also looking for summer staff including counselors, lifeguards, a photographer, kitchen staff, and groundskeepers. Please encourage your high school and college aged young people to apply at [www.bethelwoods.org/summer-staff](http://www.bethelwoods.org/summer-staff).

## **For Action**

1. Excused absences for those requesting to be excused from this meeting.
2. Book of Order Amendments to be approved. *If there are any questions about these proposed amendments, a commissioned Ruling Elder or Teaching Elder may request to have the said amendment(s) pulled from the Consent Agenda. The pulled items would then be placed at the end of the agenda. (See Appendix: 4)*

### **A. The Coordinating Team**

The Coordinating Team studied 14 of the 33 proposed amendments from the General Assembly. The Coordinating Team recommends to the Stated Clerks these 12 amendments be placed on the Consent Agenda and approved by the Presbytery. These amendments are the following, designated by their location in the Book of Order and their designation in the PC(USA)'s Proposed Amendments to the Constitution handbook.

22-A---F-1.0302c--The Catholicity of the Church:  
**recommend an affirmative vote**

22-B—F-1.0404—Openness to the Guidance of the Holy Spirit:  
**recommend an affirmative vote**

22-C—G-1.0501—Meetings of the Congregation:  
**recommend an affirmative vote**

22-M—G-3.0104—General Principles of Councils; Officers:  
**recommend an affirmative vote**

22-N—G-3.0105—General Principles of Councils; Meetings:  
**recommend an affirmative vote**

22-O—G-3.0106—General Principles of Councils; Administration of Mission:  
**recommend an affirmative vote**

22-P—G-3.0106—General Principles; Administration of Mission:  
**recommend an affirmative vote**

22-R—G-3.0401—The Synod; Composition and responsibilities.  
**recommend an affirmative vote**

22-S—G-4.0301—Confidence and Privilege; Trust and Confidentiality:  
**recommend an affirmative vote** (concurring with COM, CPM, and PJC)

22-U—W-3.0409 –Sacrament; Theology of the Lord's Supper:  
**recommend a negative vote**

22-V—W-3-0414—Sacrament; Communion:  
**recommend an affirmative vote**

22-X—W-5.0104—Worship and Personal Life; Household worship:  
**recommend an affirmative vote**

22-Z—W-5.0201—Worship and the Church's Ministry within the Community of Faith:  
**recommend an affirmative vote**

## **B. Committee on Ministry**

The Committee on Ministry studied 11 of the 33 proposed amendments to the Book of Order. Committee on Ministry recommends to the Stated Clerks these 9 amendments be placed on our Consent Agenda and approved by the Presbytery. These amendments are the following, designated by their location in the Book of Order and their designation in the PC(USA)'s Proposed Amendments to the Constitution handbook.

22-F--G-2.0505a(1)—Ministers of the Word and Sacrament; Transfer of ministers of other denominations: **recommend an affirmative vote**

22-J—G-2.1001—Commissioning Ruling Elders to Particular Pastoral Service; Functions: **recommend an affirmative vote**

22-K—G-2.1002— Commissioning Rule Elders to Particular Pastoral Service; Training, examining and commissioning: **recommend an affirmative vote**

22-L—G-2.2203—Certified Church Service; Christian Educators:  
**recommend an affirmative vote**

22-Q—G-3.0303c—The Presbytery; Relations with Sessions:  
**recommend an affirmative vote**

22-S—G-4.0301—Confidence and Privilege; Trust and Confidentiality:  
**recommends an affirmative vote** (concurring with CPM, PJC, and Coordinating Team)

22-W—W-40403—Ordination, Installation and Commissioning; Order of Worship:  
**recommends an affirmative vote**

22-AA—W-5.204—Worship and the Church's Ministry within the Community of Faith; Pastoral Care: **recommends an affirmative vote**

22-BB-W-5.0204-- Worship and the Church's Ministry within the Community of Faith; Pastoral Care: **recommends an affirmative vote**

## **C. Committee on Preparation for Ministry**

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry studied 3 of the 33 proposed amendments to the Book of Order. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry recommends these 3 amendments be placed on the Consent Agenda and approved by the Presbytery. These

amendments are the following, designated by their location in the Book of Order and their designation in the PC(USA)'s Proposed Amendments to the Constitution handbook.

22-G—G-2.0603--Preparation For Ministry; Purpose of Inquiry:  
**recommends an affirmative vote**

22-H—G-2.0605—Preparation For Ministry; Oversight:  
**recommends an affirmative vote**

22-S—G-4.0301—Confidence and Privilege; Trust and Confidentiality:  
**recommends an affirmative vote** (concurring with COM, PJC, and Coordinating Team)

#### **D: Permanent Judicial Commission**

The Permanent Judicial Commission studied 7 of the 33 proposed amendments to the Book of Order. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry recommends these 7 amendments be placed on the Consent Agenda and approved by the Presbytery. These amendments are the following, designated by their location in the Book of Order and their designation in the PC(USA)'s Proposed Amendments to the Constitution handbook. Amendment 22-GG is replacing the current **Rules of Discipline** with a new **Church Discipline** section. If the PCUSA Presbyteries vote to adopt the new **Church Discipline** section, the other Amendments concerning **The Rules of Discipline** are not applicable. However, if the Church Discipline Amendment (22-GG) is not approved, the other amendments become applicable.

22-D—G-1.0503—Meetings of the Congregation; Business Proper to Congregational Meetings: **recommend an affirmative vote**

22-S—G-4.0301—Confidence and Privilege; Trust and Confidentiality:  
**recommends an affirmative vote** (concurring with COM, CPM, and Coordinating Team)

22-CC—D-3.0106—Jurisdiction in Judicial Process; When Jurisdiction Ends:  
**recommends an affirmative vote**

22-DD—D-10.0302--Communication Determination; If charges are to be filed:  
**recommends an affirmative vote**

22-EE—D-10.0303—Communication Determination; Petition for Review:  
**recommends an affirmative vote**

22-FF—Amending “The Accused”; Amending the use of “The Accused’ in the current Rules of Discipline: **recommends an affirmative vote**

22-GG—Church Discipline Section; Replacing the current “Rules of Discipline” with a new “Church Discipline” section: **recommends and affirmative vote**



## Implementation Team Report November 2022

The Implementation team (Tim Cureton (moderator), Edye Bender (secretary), Steve Austin, Ann White, Barry Lambert, Ann Barnwell, Patrick White, Joanne Sizoo, Matt Rich, and ad hoc members Hoover & Olivia Haney) have been meeting regularly to do the work set out by the Transition Team report. Our goals are as follows:

- A. Develop a new structure for Communities of Care / Mission Neighbors
- B. Facilitate the process of digitizing the Presbytery Records for the Presbyterian Historical Society and our own use
- C. Have the Presbytery Office located at 515 Oakland Avenue on the real estate market by March 31, 2023 and determine needs for any continuing office space.
- D. Update the proposed staffing model, including new job descriptions.

Currently, we are working on the following:

A - Matt Rich and Tim Cureton have updated the Administrative Manual to reflect the new Communities of Care model. The Manual of Operations was sent to the October presbytery meeting for a first reading and will be discussed at the January meeting. **(See Appendix: 3)**

B - Steve Austin and Ann White are working with the presbytery staff, as well as the Presbyterian Historical Society to determine which files need to be digitized, and to move forward in that work. Presbyterian Women files and filing cabinet have been moved to Beth Shiloh Presbyterian. Bethelwoods files will be moved to Camp. Digitizing continues as the Presbytery moves to Realm system from the ACS system.

C - Patrick White, Hoover Haney, and the presbytery trustees have reviewed deeds and documents for the 515 Oakland property to confirm its readiness to be sold. Winthrop's Facilities Coordinator looked at the building but determined that the University is not interested in purchasing it at this time. Patrick will be working with a commercial real estate contact for a market analysis of value. Joanne Sizoo is in conversation with several churches in the presbytery who may have some extra space where the presbytery office might "nest."

D - Ann Barnwell, Barry Lambert, and Edye Bender are working with folks from the Personnel team (Jeff Bryan, Beth Hutton Muse, and Iris Rose) to update the staff job descriptions. This group completed and presented job descriptions for the new executive presbyter and stated clerk positions, which were approved at the October presbytery meeting. The team is working on the other 3 job descriptions (Business Administrator, Tech & Communications, and Missions Coordinator) and will have drafts ready by the January Implementation meeting.

The team will meet again on January 12.

Respectfully submitted,  
Edye W Bender,  
Program Director at Faith Presbyterian Church in Indian Land

**Coordinating Team  
Report To Providence Presbytery  
January 29, 2023**

**For Action:**

The Coordinating Team voted no recommendation on these 2 proposed amendments and to bring them to the floor of Presbytery for action.

22-T -- W-3.0205: Gathering; Confession and Forgiveness: **no recommendation.**  
There was not a majority vote from the Team.

22-Y -- W-5.0104 Worship and Household Life: Household Worship: **no recommendation.**  
Consensus of the team was that this appears to be an unnecessary addition to the Book of Order.

**Committee on Ministry  
Report To Providence Presbytery  
January 29, 2023**

**For Action:**

Committee on Ministry recommends the approval of the 2 proposed amendments and to bring them to the floor of Presbytery for action.

22-E--G-2.0503—Ministers of Word and Sacrament; Categories of Membership.  
Removes “honorably” before retired as a category for retired pastors.

22-I--G-2.0804—Call and Installation; Terms of Call. Includes in the terms of call for installed pastors and associate pastors the requirement of a minimum of 12 weeks paid family leave plus participation in the Board of Pension.

“Family leave” is defined as:

- Leave to accommodate the birth, foster placement, or adoption of a child.
- Leave to provide care to an ill or disabled family member.
- Leave to heal following a loss or tragic event.”