



**Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church**  
**Session Agenda**  
**November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**6:00 pm, ZOOM**

6:00 Opening Prayer, Quorum, Welcome Visitors, Approve Minutes and Consent Agenda

6:05 Engaging Scripture and Spiritual Practice

6:30 Moderator's Report

6:35 Staff Reports

6:55 Clerk's Report

7:00 Council, Committee, Team Reports

- Finance
- Personnel
- Property
- Serve
  - Comment from Keaton Hill
- Worship
- Stewardship
- Nominating
- Other Committees, Teams



7:25 Additional Business

7:30 Adjourn

**Session Council/Committee/Assignments 2020**

Ken Fisher	Finance
Laurie Stradley	Finance, Chair; Stewardship
Anna Hamel	Finance; Guatemala
Paul Rogers	Personnel
Jessica Graham	Personnel; Nominating
Sheryl Aikman	Personnel, Chair
Melissa Hicks	Serve, Chair
Christi Mobley	Serve
John Clark	Property, Co-Chair
John Legerton	Property; Long-Range Bldg. Vision
Roger Meade	Property, Co-Chair; Mem. Garden
Keith Prince	Worship; Stewardship
Debby Vance	Guatemala; Nominating
Carley Stein	Worship; Youth/Children
Margaret Tierney	Worship, Chair; Nominating, Chair
Annie Cole	Youth Elder; Youth Committee

## Consent Agenda – November 17th

### For approval -

Births:

Baptisms:

Marriages:

Admissions to the Active Roll:

To Inactive:

Transfers: Mary Craig to Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church  
Isaac and Andrea Johnson to First Presbyterian, Raleigh

Restored from Inactive to Active Roll:

Deaths: Mal Parada 11/4/20

Removed:

Session Approval by Email:

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Date of Session: 11/17/20

As of 10/27/20

As of 11/17/20

Members on the roll of Active Members:  
Members on the roll of Inactive Members:

738  
179

734  
179

alm

**GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
MINUTES, STATED SESSION MEETING  
27 OCTOBER 2020**

**PRESENT:** Ken Fisher, Laurie Stradley, Anna Hamel, Paul Rogers, Sheryl Aikman, Melissa Hicks, Christi Mobley, John Legerton, Roger Meade, Keith Prince, Carley Stein, Annie Cole

**EXCUSED:** Jessica Graham, Debby Vance, Margaret Tierney

**CLERK:** Kelley Griffith

**STAFF:** Marcia Mount Shoop (Moderator), Jeff Jones, Samantha Gonzalez-Block, Richard Coble, Amy Kim Kyremes-Parks

**GUESTS:** Matt Wiedle

The meeting began at 6:04 pm via Zoom, an on-line meeting platform that Session is using during the COVID-19 global pandemic. Kelley Griffith, Clerk, declared a quorum. Marcia opened the meeting with prayer.

**\*Laurie moved and Roger seconded that the minutes for the 22 September stated Session meeting be approved. Passed.**

**\*Ken moved and Laurie seconded that the consent agenda be approved. Passed.**

#### ENGAGING SCRIPTURE AND SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Marcia played a recording of part of a speech that Martin Luther King, Jr. gave about five months before his assassination. In this excerpt he extolled the need to have faith and stand firm in times when evil is ascendant. He urged his hearers to take stands for ideas so precious that one would die for them. She asked members of breakout groups to answer two questions: 1) What concrete way does King's message call to you in your faith journey? 2) What does "support" look like to you?

#### MODERATOR'S REPORT

--Marcia reported that she had completed staff reviews and that, overall, "the staff is awesome." It's been "exciting to see the staff adapt" to the difficult circumstances of recent months. The staff, furthermore, "thrives on the support of the congregation." The session will review Marcia in December.

--She said that our two recent hires are "wonderful additions" to the staff: Amy Kim Kyremes-Parks as Director of Children's and Family Ministries and Luke Johnson as Director of Technology and Media Ministries.

--She had asked session members to listen before the meeting to a Ted Talk by Van Jones about constitutional issues relating to the possible events immediately after the election next Tuesday, 3 November. What would happen if Trump refused to concede the election, if he were to lose? Could he stage a coup? She said that she has been part of several caucuses discussing this issue. Marcia believes that things could "become chaotic very quickly" and that the session should "be clear about what our call will be." We should act non-violently, collaboratively, and collectively to do what our faith calls us to do. She will keep us informed and may call extra session meetings. The congregation will need our support. We should strive to do no harm. "We're going to need each other."

#### STAFF REPORTS

Richard

--Richard announced that the prayer group and Bible study now proceeding on Sunday nights has been very successful. Participants support one another and achieve a remarkable intimacy over Zoom.

--He said the program on climate change is about to finish. The next program will focus on voter issues and will center on films related to that topic.

Samantha

Samantha said that the youth met recently with youth from First Presbyterian to talk about equity issues, something that has been on their minds. She said it's a blessing to hear their ideas.

She expressed gratitude for the support church members have given her during her pregnancy.

Jeff

Jeff appeared briefly at the beginning of the meeting to say hello and give an update on his recent surgery. He is home and resting as he heals.

Amy Kim

Amy Kim said that she is excited to see "what ministry looks like now" at GCPC. She looks forward to "honest conversations" with church members about issues relating to her new job.

MATT WIEDEL—request to come under care of Session as an Inquirer

To officially begin the formal process toward ordination as a Presbyterian minister, Matt talked about his membership in our church, his career as a student and musician, and his faith journey. He will begin seminary toward a Masters of Divinity degree this January at Union Seminary. While Matt is under care of GCPC's Session, John Legerton will be his liaison.

**\*Anna moved and Melissa seconded that Matt would come under the care of our session while he pursues ordination. Passed unanimously.**

After the vote, John offered a prayer for Matt.

#### COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### Finance Council

Laurie reported that our planned giving for the year has "served us well" during the pandemic. We are on track to achieve our financial goals for the year.

**\*She introduced the Finance Council's motion that its October financial reports be passed. The motion passed.**

##### Serve Council

Melissa said that Serve is looking at ways to respond to the needs of our covenant partners. No action proposed.

##### Property Council

Roger said that the Property Council believes that now is a good time to proceed with replacing the roof on the education building. They have no final bid yet but estimate the cost would be about \$30,000. If we wait, the cost could be much higher. The roof could leak, which would likely cause major damage.

**\*Property Council moved that the session approve replacement of the roof on the education building at a cost of about \$30,000. Passed.**

##### Personnel Council

Sheryl mentioned again the hiring of Luke and Amy Kim. Personnel Council has changed GCPC's benefits package for non-ordained program staff to include family coverage.

Personnel Council will meet with Marcia about staff reviews and to prepare for her Session review soon.

##### Worship Council

No report.

##### Nominating Committee

Marcia announced that the Nominating Committee will next week start nominating people for elders, deacons, and other positions.

##### Guatemala Committee

Anna said that the joint communion with our sister church Iglesia Jerusalem on World Communion Sunday was very special. The committee is looking for other ways to connect with that church.

##### Just Funding

Paul shared a bit about his experience with this group discerning together about reparations and the just use of resources.

**\*At 7:49 pm Ken moved and Carley seconded that the meeting be adjourned.**

Marcia concluded the meeting with prayer and declared that the motion to adjourn would pass when everyone said "Amen."

Respectively submitted,



Kelley Griffith  
Clerk of Session



Marcia Mount Shoop  
Moderator

**REPORT FROM THE CLERK OF SESSION  
GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
17 NOVEMBER 2020**

**TO: SESSION MEMBERS  
FROM: KELLEY GRIFFITH, CLERK  
ABOUT: ARCHIVING**

**CLERK'S DUTY TO PRESERVE RECORDS**

I did not know when you all “hired” me to be your clerk that one of my duties is to “preserve” records. The *Book of Order* says it all: the clerk “shall record the transactions of the council, keep its rolls of membership and attendance, maintain any required registers, preserve its records.” G-3.0104 (P. 43). When I discovered this about four months ago, I figured I better find our session records if I was supposed to preserve them.

**THE LOST RECORDS**

Sherrie told me they were in the basement. When I looked there, I found the records from 2000 to the present but could not find those from the founding of the church (1953) through 1999—47 years. People suggested other places to look—the attic, the closets in the A-Frame, behind the organ—but I conclude—and Cliff confirms—that the records are nowhere in the building.

**OFF CAMPUS STORAGE**

Could they have been sent off campus for storage? The two most obvious places to look are the Presbyterian Historical Society (PHS) in Philadelphia and the Presbyterian Heritage Center in Montreat. Again, nothing. Someone suggested I check our presbytery. But Cam Murchison, stated clerk of PWNC, told me that the presbytery does not store church records. He helped me by looking at Columbia Seminary and again at PHS. I checked also at First Presbyterian (Asheville), the Ramsey Library at UNCA, the Pack Library downtown (public library). Again, nothing. So, the location of the missing minutes is a mystery. They may turn up yet, but the best I can say is that I can't find them.

**GOING FORWARD: MINUTES**

Session minutes can be very spare. The meat of these minutes is the actions the session takes. But instead of recording only actions, I write the minutes for their historical value as well, as if readers seventy-five years from now would want to know what our church was doing during this extraordinary time. So, I include material beyond just the session's actions, such as the moderator's reports and the reports of other staff, or info that explains our actions, such as what a More Light church is. In short, session records can be a valuable source of information about a church's values, commitments, inner debates, members, involvements in the larger community, and activities. How, then, can we save them?

**ARCHIVING**

In an email to me, David Staniunas, Records Archivist at PHS, describes a procedure for saving records followed by other churches:

“Best practice, as far as I've seen is what the Presbytery of New York City does. They publish their minutes to the web in PDF, store PDF/A copies on their local network and in the cloud, and print an official version to acid-free paper, storing the paper in the classic three-post Cokesbury binder. When the binder is full, they have the 300 or 400 pages hardbound, and they deposit that with us.”

The practice of the New York City presbytery seems like a good model for us, at least a starting point for creating our own system. A Cokesbury binder (which says “Session Minutes” on the spine) is pricey, about \$135, but we would need only one. I will begin by following something like this procedure for the 2019 minutes and for those beginning with 2000.

**STORAGE**

PHS will store our paper materials for free and will digitize (scan) paper materials, including fragile items (old Bibles, etc.). Their fee for digitizing is \$.60 a page. Our own digital records go back to 2016, when Sherrie came. We can, of course, do our own scanning.

As for on-campus storage, the basement is terrible. The A-Frame closet is way better. But if we want our records to be readily available for anyone to read, how about the Garden Room or the library on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor hallway? At a maximum, we could have two items on the shelf: the Cokesbury binder and perhaps the hardbound copy of the most-recent minutes.

### CHURCH HISTORY COMMITTEE?

Would a committee focusing on church history be useful to us? We already have two documents that relate our history prior to 2003 (50<sup>th</sup> anniversary): a DVD called *Signs of Grace* and a book by Robert Busey, *History of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church: 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1953-2003*. A church history committee could preserve records, interview long-standing members, sort through photos and “artifacts,” and help the clerk retain valuable materials from the session packets that might otherwise be thrown away. Down in the boiler room there are a collection of fat books containing hand-written accounts of deaths and other info. The committee could go through materials like that to see what’s worth retaining and learning from. They could create ways of displaying historical materials.

### WHAT TO SAVE AND FOR HOW LONG

Below is a list from PHS.

## RETENTION SCHEDULE FOR CONGREGATIONS

| Types  | Retention Period |
|--|------------------|
| Minutes  | permanent        |
| Registers  | permanent        |
| Annual reports   | permanent        |
| Bylaws/charters  | permanent        |
| Incorporation records  | permanent        |
| Annual budgets   | permanent        |
| Annual audits  | permanent        |
| Annual financial statements  | permanent        |
| Subject files: correspondence, minutes, or other records surrounding subject matter of continuing administrative or legal value, or comprising information on the mission, vision, and actions of the congregation | permanent        |
| Manuals/handbooks  | permanent        |
| Newspapers/newsletters   | permanent        |
| Brochures/promotional material (1 copy)  | permanent        |
| Photographs  | permanent        |

|  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| Architectural drawings, plats, plans, blueprints   | permanent               |
| Wills, bequests  | permanent               |
| Legal/judicial case records  | permanent               |
| Loan agreements  | satisfaction + 20 years |
| Property appraisals, records of sale   | 20 years after sale     |
| Personnel records/employee records   | employment + 7 years    |
| Contracts  | active + 6 years        |
| Accounts payable   | 7 years                 |
| Accounts payable invoices  | 7 years                 |
| Accounts receivable records  | 7 years                 |
| Bank statements  | 7 years                 |
| Canceled checks  | 7 years                 |
| Cash receipt records   | 7 years                 |
| Donations (regular, weekly)  | 7 years                 |
| Expense reports  | 7 years                 |
| FICA / W2 records  | 7 years                 |
| Payroll records  | 7 years                 |
| Petty cash records   | 7 years                 |
| Receipts of purchases  | 7 years                 |
| Bank deposit slips   | 3 years                 |
| General/routine correspondence<br>(acknowledgments, requests, travel arrangements, etc.) | 3 years                 |
| Travel plans/arrangements  | 3 years                 |
| Periodic financial statements  | 2 years                 |
| Data for updating mailing lists  | 1 year                  |

|                              |        |
|------------------------------|--------|
| Invitations                  | 1 year |
| Meeting notices              | 1 year |
| Mailing lists                | active |
| Reference/resource materials | active |

**Source**

**URL:** <https://www.history.pcusa.org/services/records-management/records-congregations>

**Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church  
Property Council  
November 10, 2020**

**Attendees:** John Clark, Roger Meade, John Legerton

**Staff Present:** Marcia Mount Shoop, Cliff Schlegelmilch

6:00: Opening ; the committee did not have a quorum for meeting.

Discussion Points:

1: Cliff will send out by email the bid for education roof for approval by individuals of the committee. We are looking at a total cost of \$28,000 for roof, gutters, and fascia. Additional potential expenses (painting, finish work, etc.), Cliff felt he could manage within budget.

2: It was decided, at this time, we had no real options for re-opening the church with anytype of guaranteed safety for our members from Pandemic. Many options were reviewed and this problem will be re-evaluated every month. Roger, Cliff, and Marcia have talked to many entities for guidance, experience, and specific plans for opening. The Council will continue to assess with the primary limitation; the opening must be safe for all our members.

3: Roger will review insurance policies for completion before the end of year.

4: Cliff reviewed the utilization of building for education groups and Children's Center and has been pleased with management of building in general.

5: Roger and John Legerton will look at the budget from last year provided by John Clark. The present group felt we should not change anything except to make sure we did not have expenses for Education Roof in the budget.

Without a quorum, we were unable to review committee reports or vote on any potential issues.

Discussion of making sure we have better representation at the next meeting and trying to identify potential new members ended this meeting.

Marcia offered prayer and the meeting was adjourned by 8:00PM.

Respectively submitted;

Roger Meade Co-Chair

**Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church  
Worship Council Minutes**

Worship council, November 3rd, 2020

**Attendance:** Margaret Tierney, Keith, Carley, Paul, Heather, Mary

**Staff present:** Marcia Mount Shoop, Jeff Jones

Marcia opened in prayer.

Marcia shared some available Advent calendars. Staff will talk about it. Not sure if we will be ordering or not. We discussed having zoom vespers once a week during advent for 4 weeks. Again, staff will discuss this and get back to worship council.

Betsy approached Marcia about whether we will order wreaths for the door. Heather will reach out to Betsy and ask her to order.

The date for us to decorate the sanctuary is Sunday Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>—Jeff, Margaret, and Carley will be in attendance. Susie will contribute ideas. Plan to keep it simple—greenery, purple cloth, cancel area behind the piano and organ.

Keith closed in prayer

**Next scheduled meeting time: December 1st at 5:30**

Respectfully Submitted,

Name of Person Who Took Minutes: Margaret Tierney

Council Chair :Margaret Tierney

**Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church**  
**Garden Steering Team Minutes**  
**October 25, 2020**

**Attendance:** Pam Baker, Jan Brunk, Liz Huesemann, Rick Philipsen, Paul Stroebel, and Betsy Wilson

**Staff:** Samantha Gonzales-Block, Marcia Mount Shoop and Cliff Schlegelmilch

**Marcia opened the meeting by inviting us to share our voting plans.**

- Cliff reported that winter squash should be distributed soon. The group decided to ask Rick to take the remaining squash and potatoes to the YMCA.
- There will be another work day at Anthony Cole's farm. We'll recruit for this work day as we did for the last one, when 13 people harvested potatoes there.
- Teams are no longer working on their regular workdays. A schedule has been made for weekly harvesting of greens still growing in the garden. Members of Wednesday teams will harvest on Fridays while Saturday teams will harvest on Saturdays. For the first 4 weeks, the schedule is team 3 on Friday 10/16, team 4 on Saturday 10/24, team 1 will harvest on Friday 10/30, and team 2 will harvest on Saturday 11/7. For distribution of harvest, team leaders should contact their regular distribution partners first and go to another partner if needed.
- Work days for clean up of the garden will be scheduled as needed. One or more rows may be set aside for compost of leaves. Garlic will be planted in early November.
- The team decided to meet once a month. We plan to evaluate the season at our next meeting.

**Next scheduled meeting time is December 6 at 1:00 pm.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Betsy Wilson

## Guatemala Partnership Committee

Meeting Nov 3, 2020

Present: Paul Tierney, Samantha Gonzalez Block, Anna Hamel, Debby Vance

Samantha opened the meeting with Prayer

Paul said he learned a lot from the Presbytery Guatemala Partnership meeting. He recommends we all read the Presbytery Passport to Partnership Document. Samantha suggested we read it together as a committee and incorporate its suggestions into our practices.

<https://presbytery-wnc.s3.amazonaws.com/files/1/2020/PWNC%20Guatemala%20Passport%20to%20Partnership%202020%20-%2020200923.pdf>

Samantha discussed the need to recruit new members to the committee. She suggested we reach out to Mary Berg and see if she is interested in joining. We discussed the need to find a new session member to be on the committee. Anna will reach out to Mary

We discussed plans for our Dec meeting. Debby said she had sent a note to Iris inviting her and others to join us during this time. Debby has not gotten a response. She and Samantha are reaching out again to find out what will work for them.

We discussed how many people to invite from Iglesia Jerusalem. We are uncertain how many people are on their session and sister church committee (comite de companerismo).

Samantha discussed the need for a translator. She suggested that if Iglesia Jerusalem has someone they would like to use we would pay for their services. We are not sure how to send the money for this in time though.

Anna will create an agenda on a google doc that we will all edit.

We discussed what topics we want to discuss. We want to talk about how their church and community are being impacted by the virus. We want to share each others prayer concerns. The agreement is that the primary purpose is to meet one another "face to face"

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Anna closed us in prayer

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**BOARD OF DEACONS**  
**Sunday November 15, 2020**  
**MINUTES**

I. Attendance

A. Present: Mary Berg, Ann Brown, John Curry, Jeff Curtis, Earl Fowler, Cathy Froehlich, Gordon Gaiser, Martha Ensign Johnson, Nancy Kramer, Mike McCauley, Lynne Meacham, Marcy Onieal, Betsy Rhodes, Beth Robrecht, Peter Rosal, Louise Root, Bill Ryan, Jeane Smith, Richard Coble

B. Absent: Nancy Gaskin, Lynn Milner, Amber White

II. Call to Order

Nancy Kramer opened the meeting by welcoming all the deacons. The opening prayer was one by Rev. Richard Bott, Moderator of The Presbyterian Church of Canada.

III. Reflections by Deacons.

Deacons were divided into groups of three members each. They were instructed to address 3 topics related to being a deacon. The summary of the discussions follows.

A. Positive thoughts about the deacon experience.

- deacons
1. The forming of relationships with individual members and with other
  2. The opportunity to visit members' homes and share gifts from the church.
  3. The opportunity to serve in new ways
  4. The opportunity to have more in depth relationships with members.
  5. Learning creative ways that other deacons connect with their members.

B. Challenges of being a deacon:

1. Learning how to "cold call".
2. Getting out of your comfort zone and meeting new people.
2. Not knowing exact expectations/feeling nervous about the responsibilities.
3. Being called upon to assist a member with faith questions and issues.
4. Technology
5. Driving long distances

C. Suggestions for the Deacon Board:

- members.
1. Retiring deacons accompany new deacons to introduce and meet
  2. Deacons are provided more guidelines regarding expectations.
  3. Nominating committee share with potential deacons the nature of the responsibilities and the time commitment.
  4. New deacons be aware of "not being afraid".
  5. Deacons avoid the temptation of "making it centered about you".
  6. Deacons are open to the changes that are being made because of Covid.
  7. Geographical grouping be a significant factor in determining new deacon assignments.
  8. Deacon training should include role playing.
  9. A deacon be a member of the Nominating Committee.

IV. Retiring deacons

ominating Committee is accepting nominations for 7 new deacons.

ew deacon retreat will be on January 30 from 9:30 - 12:00. Retiring deacons, ongoing deacons and incoming deacons will all be in attendance. Exact timing for the retiring deacons will be shared closer to the date.

t the deacon retreat, there will be time allotted for retiring deacons to meet with incoming deacons about their member groups.

etiring deacons are encouraged to share transition plans with the members of their group. Christmas cards provide a natural and timely way to do this. Retiring deacons will continue to serve their groups until Jan 30.

V. Stewardship Campaign

90% of the Deacon Board have already submitted their pledge cards for 2021. Deacons were asked to make their pledges as soon as possible. It is important to be able to share with the congregation that 100% of the Board has pledged.

VI. Deacon of the Week - Marcy will send the schedule through the end of January.

VII. Pastoral concerns were shared. Marcy asked for volunteers to provide meals for the family of Amy Kim for Thanksgiving week and the following week.

VIII. Announcements and Closing

resbyterian Women's Christmas Event will be held on December 7 at 7:00.

Zoom invitation will be shared in the newsletter.

he Longest Night Service will be held on Sunday, December 20 at 5:00. Deacons were encouraged to invite members who have experienced loss this past year or have had an especially challenging year.

ext Deacon Meeting will be the retreat on Saturday, January 30, 2021 9:30 - 12:00.

ichard closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
nancy kramer

## **PART Meeting Minutes November 12, 2020**

**Attendees:** Marcia Mount Shoop, Richard Coble, Tish Anderson, Anne Callison Stokely, Carol Hovis, Margie Grove, Alexandra Lusak, Pamela Culp, Liz Huesemann, John Huie, Mary Berg, Lynne Meacham, Winn Legerton, Tamara Puffer.

As a group we decided to deeply look at the white supremacy norm of being **punitive**.

Characteristics of this norm: One change to get it right, Punishment is central, Keeping score, Belittling, Scapegoating, Name-calling, Revenge, Demonization, Bad people, Vengeance, Shaming, Blaming, Fear, No Grace, Apathy, Judgement, Caste, Constricts from Joy, Not free to be yourself, Cancel Culture, Enforced conformity, Creates chronic disease, Loss of relationship, Objectification, Dehumanization (humanity is chipped away), Collective PTSD, Cruelty, No experience of gratitude, Separated from God (can't trust God), Void of God and Creator of trauma.

The group became more concrete as to what actions reinforce this norm: Capital punishment, Mass incarceration (killing communities- half of Black males incarcerated, Incarceration and loss of civil rights, Immigrant detention, Voter Suppression, Homelessness, Criminalizing Poverty, Selective police enforcement, regressive tax system, Medical Care rationed and racialized, Harm not distributed equally, Exploitation of creation, and Addiction.

The institutions where the group sees this norm seeping through its structures: Justice system, Welfare system, Educational System, Citizenship status, Health Care System, Religion and Churches.

Why did we include religion/church: Standards of piety resulting in punishment, Church punishment is exclusionary, Bad theology that creates chronic self-loathing and shaming, and Linking identity to formal systems of power.

As one of our PART members stated: "Punitive culture is like an addiction. It grabs you whether you want it or not. It has demonic and violent ways of living that seep into us."

### **So, what would a reparative model look like and feel like?**

Hearing people's stories and feeling their pain, Mutual liberation where fundamental self-awareness and sense of justice of oneself and others is required, Humility, Vulnerability,

Mutualistic relationships where people work together and each benefiting from the relationship, Relinquishment of Power, Shared prioritized support, More life-giving, Reparative, Trauma informed support, Creator of self-love and love of others, Grace-filled, Virtuous, Faithful, Beneficent, Humane, Holy, Feel God, Compassionate, Kind, Heavenly, and Godly.

**Planning and Announcements:**

- We are in conversation with Tema Okun, Activist, Scholar and Author, to present this winter to the conversation. Exciting!!!
- PCUSA Co-moderators recommended the collective reading of “Decolonizing Wealth, Indigenous Wisdom”. The book has been bought by the church and the recommendation made to include in the Racial Justice Book Club.
- Part supports the congregational viewing of the Lillian Smith Documentary and discussion. Lynne, Richard, and Liz will work on this project.
- Announced Sunday School Class “Voting and Immigration Series.”
- Liz will send the following PCAUSA articles: “Decolonizing Consciousness”, “Re-envisioning and then Rebuilding the Presbyterian Mission Agency.
- Liz encouraged everyone to watch the Austin Channing Brown video she put in GCPC newsletter.
- Announced opportunities to get involved with Georgia Senate Race. If interested in writing postcards to voters contact Tish Anderson.

~ submitted by Liz Huesemann

## **Nominating Committee, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

Members present: Marcia, Margaret, Russ, Debby, Heather, Andrea

Marcia opened in prayer.

The nominating committee discussed the task before us—to find qualified church members to fill next year’s leadership positions as follows:

5 elders, 1 youth (filling the seats of councils for finance, personnel, property, serve, and worship)

7 deacons

1 at large personnel council

3 at large members for nominating committee

Before the committee can fully move forward with considering people for these positions, the congregation needs a chance to submit nominations. Margaret, as chair, will write a letter to put in the newsletter and also ask Anna Louise to create a google form for online nominations. A similar letter will be sent to members who aren’t comfortable with online nominations. Marcia will announce over the next 2 weeks during worship for nominations.

The committee will meet on November 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 to begin the process of approaching church members to fill the needed positions.

Russ closed in prayer.

Margaret Tierney took the notes for the meeting.