

**Highlights of the 160th Stated Meeting
of the Presbytery of Charlotte
Tuesday, October 24, 2023**



Rev. Delton Farmer



Rev. Toby Mueller



Rev. Matt Schlageter



Rev. Sara Vargado

**The 161st Stated Meeting will be on
Saturday, February 3, 2024
Hosted by C.N. Jenkins Memorial Presbyterian Church**



*It was with great joy and thanksgiving that we gathered by Zoom Video Conference at 9:30 am. The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by our **2023 Moderator, the Rev. Dr. Steve Lindsley.** Moderator Lindsley acknowledged the indigenous peoples that once lived on the land on which we gathered, including the Waxhaw, Sugaree, Cheraw and Catawba tribes.*

Associate General Presbyter, Rev. Dr. Alice Ridgill led the Presbytery in a time of devotion from God's Little Devotional Book for Women, entitled "Why Worry?" She opened with a reading of Philippians 4: 6-7.



General Presbyter, Rev. Dr. Jan Edmiston gave an update to the Presbytery about her experiences during her Sabbatical. She also shared some of the ideas and discussions that the Council will be having in the coming months regarding new initiatives for churches.



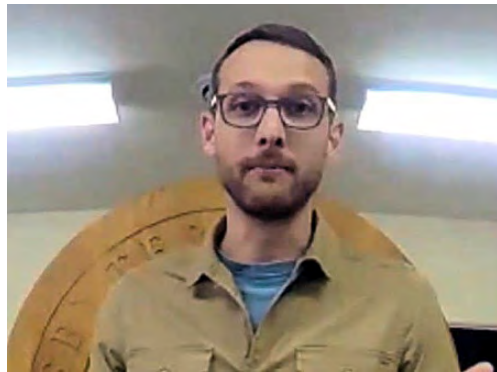
Rev. Wilson Kennedy, Associate Director for Special Offerings and Appeal, brought greetings from the PC(USA) Office of Mission Engagement and Support. He highlighted churches that participate in the four special offerings and thanked them for their support of the ministries that receive funding.



Associate General Presbyterian, Rev. Dr. Alice Ridgill thanked all of the clergy members of the Presbytery for their service and dedication, as October is Clergy Appreciation Month. She also lifted up the Nuts & Bolts webinar that was recently hosted by the MRC. Video resources will be available on the website soon. She introduced **Rev. Dr. Steve Lindsley** to inform the Presbytery about a partnership between Bellefonte and Trinity Churches to host an officer training event at Trinity, January 20, 2024 from 9:00 am to Noon. Details and registration info will be in upcoming Presbytery Email Blasts.



Rev. Dr. Steve Lindsley



Rev. Dr. John Magnuson

Rev. Dr. John Magnuson presented the report of the Ministry Resource Committee. The MRC is continuing to provide support and resources for congregations as they seek to create new ministries and partnerships. MRC has a number of grants available for churches and information on those can be found on the Presbytery website homepage.



Rev. Dr. Amantha Barbee gave a report on the 252nd Synod of the Mid-Atlantic Assembly. She highlighted the presentation by the **Rev. Dr. Edward Newberry**, on the 40th anniversary of reunion and on the history of the Catawba Presbytery. Rev. Dr. Barbee also shared information on the Next Generation Initiative (NGI) that was introduced. Visit the www.synatlantic.org to review the full proposal.

In short, the NGI seeks to address the shortage of Black Presbyterian Clergy leadership throughout the PC(USA).



Elder Harry Greyard presented the Committee on Representation Report. **Elder Tommy Lawson** (Covenant-Charlotte) was elected as the 2024 Presbytery Moderator and **Elder Gary Blackmon** (Statesville Avenue) was elected as the 2024 Vice-Moderator.

The following persons were elected to serve as Commissioners to the 226th General Assembly:

Ministers: Casey Aldridge (First-Concord), **Delton Farmer** (First United), **Sonya McAuley Allen** (Bellefonte), **Beth Olker** (Member at-large); **Elders: Doris Boyd** (CN Jenkins), **Suzanne Davis** (Hopewell), **Andrea Graham** (Mount Olive), **Lula Rookard** (the Fellowship place); Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD): **Audra Nelson** (Sharon)

Rev. Chaz Blasdell (Gilwood) presented the report of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry. **Liz Corsig, Rich Lambert, and Shea Watts** were enrolled as Inquirers. **Gray McGill** was examined and approved to be ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament. Gray will be serving in validated ministry as a Chaplain with Atrium Health.



Rev. Chaz Blasdell



Gray McGill



Rev. Dr. Peter Henry presented the report of the Committee on Ministry. The Presbytery approved the recommended Terms of Call for 2024. We welcomed several new members: **Rev. Delton Farmer**, Temporary Pastor-at First United Church, **Rev. Matt Schlageter**, Chaplain at Atrium Health Levine Children's Hospital, **Rev. Sara Varnado**, member at-large, **Rev. Toby Mueller**, member at-large, and **Gray McGill**, Chaplain at Atrium Health, pending ordination.