

In the COM Report, **Rev. Dr. Peter Henry** recognized the Retirement of the **Rev. Dr. Gregory M. Busby, Sr.** as of November 1, 2023. **Rev. Dr. James A. Thomas** did a wonderful tribute to Rev. Busby for his dedication and service to the church of Jesus Christ. **Rev. Dr. Busby** thanked the Presbytery and his family for all of their prayers and support of ministry.



Rev. Dr. Peter Henry (COM)



Rev. Dr. James A. Thomas, Sr.



Rev. Busby with his family

The Presbytery welcomed new members, **Rev. Jody Moore**, Pastor of Providence Presbyterian Church and **Rev. Mark Mueller**, who serves in validated ministry with the Outreach Foundation.



Rev. Dr. Gregory M. Busby, Sr.



Rev. Jody Moore



Rev. Mark Mueller

**The 162nd Stated Meeting will be on Tuesday, May 21, 2024
at Locust Presbyterian Church**

Highlights of the 161st Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Charlotte Saturday, February 3, 2024 THEME: “HOW CAN WE...?”



It was with great joy and thanksgiving that we gathered at **C.N. Jenkins Presbyterian Church!** The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by our **2023 Moderator, the Rev. Dr. Steve Lindsley**, Pastor of Trinity Presbyterian Church. He then turned over the gavel to the **2024 Moderator, Elder Tommy Lawson** (Covenant-Charlotte). Elder Lawson formally thanked Moderator Lindsley on behalf of the Presbytery, for outstanding service as our 2023 Moderator and presented him with a certificate of appreciation from the Presbytery. Moderator Lawson then introduced **2024 Vice-Moderator, Elder Gary Blackmon** (Commissioned Pastor, Statesville Avenue Church). **Rev. Dr. David Thornton**, Transitional Pastor of C.N. Jenkins Church, welcomed the body and gave a brief overview of the church’s history and highlighted mission and ministries of the church.

The Presbytery entered into a time of worship with a special selection of “**Wade in the Water**”, by the **CN Jenkins Dance Ministry**. **Elder Doris Boyd** (C.N. Jenkins) led the call to worship. **Nikki Zimmermann** led the prayer of confession and the assurance of pardon. **Rev. Dr. Steve Lindsley** preached the sermon entitled, ‘The Grass is Greener Here’, based on Mark 6: 30-44. **Matt Moorman** led the body in the Affirmation of Faith. **Rev. Dr. Jan Edmiston** and **Rev. Dr. Alice Ridgill** did the reading of the Necrology of Ministers and Elders who passed in 2024. The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper was led by **Rev. Dr. Steve Lindsley** and **Rev. Dr. David Thornton** (CN Jenkins). Special music was led by the CNJ Choir, under the direction of **Dr. Ronald Monroe**.



C.N. Jenkins’ Dance Ministry



Rev. Dr. Steve Lindsley



CN Jenkins Choir led by Ron Monroe



Rev. Steve Lindley and Rev. David Thornton



General Presbyter, Rev. Dr. Jan Edmiston



**Associate General Presbyter,
Rev. Dr. Alice Ridgill**

General Presbyter, Rev. Dr. Jan Edmiston introduced our Presbytery theme for 2024: **"How Can We...?"** - asking questions such as, "How can we call an energetic pastor?" or "How can our church thrive?" She reviewed some of the key points shared during the January 20th Officer Retreat. "How can we be the Church of Jesus Christ that fulfills the Great Commission and exemplifies Matthew 25?"

Rev. Dr. Alice Ridgill updated the Presbytery on the resources available through the MRC. The MRC has updated their Grants for 2024 and has added two new grants – Clergy Edification and Facilities Grants. Information and the application may be found on the Presbytery website.



Rev. Dr. Whitney Bayer and Rev. Dr. John Magnuson gave a brief update on the work of the MRC and reminded the body to inquire about grants for new ministries and innovative ideas such as the Lenten Bible Study series being sponsored by **Christ and Mulberry Churches**.

Rev. Julie Hill presented the report of the Presbytery's Council. **Presbytery approved the following use/distribution of funds from the closing of Seigle Avenue Church:**

- ✚ **49% (\$900,000) for Sabbatical and Incentive Grants (SIG)**
The \$900K will be invested and it is projected that the Presbytery would be able to offer approximately \$45,000 for SIG Grants each year.
- ✚ **41% (\$750,000) for Presbytery Budget Support**
\$750K will be used to provide an additional \$37,000 in budget support to offset decline in Churches' Unified Mission Giving
- ✚ **10% (\$183,000) for African-American Retired Clergy Fund**
(Funding previously received from the closing of Turner and Johnston Memorial Churches)

Presbytery approved the final lease agreement with Arts+ for the Plaza Presbyterian Church property as recommended by the Plaza Church Task Force in collaboration with Give Impact. Presbytery also approved the re-designation of the COM to be the Commission on Ministry and the CPM to be the Commission on Preparation for Ministry.



Rev. Julie Hill presented the report of the Presbytery's Council



Liz Ward of GiveImpact gave an overview of the Arts+ lease for Plaza Church

Elder Kathy Pilkington (First-Concord) and Rev. Chaz Blasdell (Gilwood) presented the report of the Commission on Preparation for Ministry. **Andy Wertz (Selwyn Avenue) was approved to be enrolled as a Candidate for Ministry. Nikki Zimmermann and Matt Moorman** were approved to be ordained as Ministers of Word and Sacrament.



Andy Wertz



Nikki Zimmermann



Matt Moorman