

**THE 241<sup>th</sup> STATED MEETING OF  
THE SYNOD OF THE MID-ATLANTIC (PCUSA)  
GINTER PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, RICHMOND, VA  
MARCH 12-13, 2018**

Commissioners to the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic gathered for registration and coffee at 9:00 am on March 12, 2018 in the Fellowship Hall of Ginter Park Presbyterian Church in Richmond, Virginia.

**CONVENING PRAYER**

The 241<sup>st</sup> Assembly convened at 9:30 a.m. with prayer by Moderator Richard Claterbaugh. The theme is Ezekiel 37:1-7. Blow a breath of newness, willingness and action into the Assembly.

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

As all attendees sat around the table, the Moderator welcomed commissioners and guests asking each to introduce themselves by indicating their names and presbyteries.

**DECLARATION OF QUORUM**

The Moderator declared a quorum with 26 commissioners in attendance. Fourteen Teaching Elders and Twelve Ruling Elders represented fourteen presbyteries in the synod. The Procedural Guide states “the quorum for the Stated Meeting shall be fifty (50%) of the total number of voting commissioners, which is thirty; 28 presbytery commissioners, plus the moderator and vice moderator. Such a quorum shall be comprised of at least seven commissioners who are elders and at least seven who are ministers, which is constituted such that at least five presbyteries are represented.”

**COMMISSIONERS**

Jane Davis  
Cindy Privette  
Nam Hong Cho  
Kim Hyongsun Robinson  
Keith Paige  
Riley Burgess  
Calvin Lewers  
Luis Nino  
Robbie Phillips  
Helen Bessent-Byrd  
James Kirkpatrick  
Nikki Morris  
H. Carson Rhyne  
Miriam Dewhurst  
Donna Bowers  
Mawuna Gardesey  
Ben Cahoon  
Tolokun Omokunde  
Dale Brown  
William (WD) Hasty

**OFFICE**

Ruling Elder  
Teaching Elder  
Teaching Elder  
Ruling Elder  
Teaching Elder  
Ruling Elder  
Teaching Elder  
Ruling Elder  
Teaching Elder  
Teaching Elder  
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Ruling Elder  
Teaching Elder  
Teaching Elder  
Teaching Elder  
Teaching Elder  
Teaching Elder

**PRESBYTERY**

Abingdon (ABI)  
Abingdon (ABI)  
AKAP  
AKAP  
Baltimore (BAL)  
Charlotte (CHA)  
Charlotte (CHA)  
Coastal Carolina (CCC)  
Coastal Carolina (CCC)  
Eastern Virginia (EVA)  
Eastern Virginia (EVA)  
James (JAM)  
James (JAM)  
National Capital (NAT)  
New Castle (NEW)  
New Castle (NEW)  
New Hope (NHO)  
New Hope (NHO)  
Peaks (PEA)  
Peaks (PEA)

**COMMISSIONERS**

Vacant  
Troy Leshar Thomas  
Kimberly Kline  
Charles Davenport  
Dorothy Descieux  
Richard Claterbaugh  
Susanne Taylor

**OFFICE**

Teaching Elder  
Ruling Elder  
Teaching Elder  
Ruling Elder  
Moderator  
Vice Moderator

**PRESBYTERY**

Salem (SAL)  
Salem (SAL)  
Shenandoah (SHE)  
Western North Carolina (WNC)  
Western North Carolina (WNC)  
Peaks (PEA)  
Shenandoah (SHE)

**ABSENT COMMISSIONER**

John Bethard

**Office**

Teaching Elder

**Presbytery**

(SHE)

**EXCUSED COMMISSIONERS**

Ed Terry  
Margaret Washnitzer

**Office**

Ruling Elder  
Ruling Elder

**Presbytery**

(BAL)  
(NAT)

**APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY CLERK**

The Moderator appointed Tami Scott, Synod Administrator, as the recording clerk.

**SEATING OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS**

Executive/Stated Clerk, Warren Lesane Jr; Finance Manager, Cindy Hollingshead; Administrator, Tami Scott; Stephen Earl (PEA); David Kang (AKAP); Jim Moseley (NEW) and David Vaughan (SAL).

**GUESTS AND VISITORS**

Sue Brossart-Synod Volunteer, Jon Barton (VA Council of Churches), Jerry Cannon and Veronica Cannon (Presenters-CHA), John Etheredge (Black Caucus), Mrs. David Kang (AKAP), Catherine Lynch (PILP), Vera Lewers (CHA) and Clayton Rascoe (Massanetta Springs).

**ADOPTION OF THE DOCKET**

The Moderator presented the 241<sup>st</sup> proposed docket. A discussion on the General Assembly proposed per capita increase was added to Tuesday's docket during Plenary Three. The docket was approved by common consent.

**ADOPTION OF PROCEDURAL GUIDE**

The Procedural Guide was presented and approved.

**APPROVAL OF THE 240TH SYNOD MINUTES**

The 240th Stated Meeting Minutes were approved.

**STATED CLERK AND EXECUTIVE REPORT**

The Stated Clerk welcomed all including Rev. Jon Barton (VCC), Rev. Jerry Cannon (Pastor-CN Jenkins Memorial Presbyterian Church, CHA), Rev. Veronica Cannon (Interim Pastor, Avondale Presbyterian Church, CHA), Ms. Catherine Lynch (Development Specialist- Presbyterian Investment & Loan Program) and Rev. Clayton Rascoe (Executive Director-Massanetta Springs). The hope of this Assembly is to foster a sense of connectionalism. He reminded everyone of the denominational Freedom Rising Pilot Initiative. This initiative is to improve life for African American males in response to the crisis of African American males realized through high incarceration rates, widespread unemployment and low

educational attainment. A Conflict of Interest Policy was distributed to commissioners for signature. The Annual Report for the COR was submitted to the General Assembly Committee on Representation. The Stated Clerk summarized the following:

- Commissioners requesting excuses were Ed Terry (RE-BAL) and Margaret Washnitzer (RE-NAT)
- Omnibus Motion - The assembly would address the Omnibus Motion on day two of assembly.
- Kate B. Reynolds – The Certification Committee submitted amended guidelines for synod action. Wells Fargo Bank Legal Department reviewed the edits without objection. Additional updates to be done with the assistance of a lawyer. Referred to the Administration Committee.
- Massanetta Springs Camps has submitted Articles of Incorporation for action by the Assembly. Its Board of Trustees approved changes to the Articles and now needs the approval of the synod as indicated in its By-Laws. Referred to the Administration Committee.
- Compliance: Presbyteries have been slow in providing commissioners for 2018 terms. Their inaction has impacted the nominating committee's ability to assign Designated Committee members. The following presbyteries are out of compliance with the synod standing rules: 1) NAT has provided two ruling elders instead of one teaching and one ruling elder, 2) NHO has provided two teaching elders instead of one teaching and one ruling elder, 3) PEA has provided two teaching elders instead of one teaching and one ruling elder, 4) SAL provided one commissioner. A second commissioner will be forthcoming after their March Presbytery Meeting. The stated clerks of each presbytery will be notified of non-compliance items.
- Per Capita – All but one presbytery completed its per capita giving in 2017. (PEA) adopted a policy several years ago prohibiting it from paying per capita for churches who request that no per capita be sent to the synod and general assembly. The Synod Stated Clerk has discussed this matter with Peaks Transitional General Presbyter who is researching the matter further. The Book of Order G-3.0106 offers guidance on per capita. *“Each council above the session shall prepare a budget for its operating expenses, including administrative personnel, and may fund it with a per capita apportionment among the particular congregations within its bounds. Presbyteries are responsible for raising their own funds and for raising and timely transmission of per capita funds to their respective synods and the General Assembly. Presbyteries may direct per capita apportionments to sessions within their bounds, but in no case shall the authority of the session to direct its benevolences be compromised.”* Synod of the Mid-Atlantic per capita for 2018 is \$.85.
- AKAP - Concerns continue to be expressed about the life, health and vitality of the ministry of Atlantic Korean American Presbytery. Two Judicial Complaints will go to trial before the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission in April. SPJC work was halted because of civil court charges filed by complainant and respondent. Consultations have been held with Korean staff from PMA, OGA, Director of the National Korean Presbyterian Council and other persons proficient in Korean culture. Future consultations will be held to include leadership in AKAP.
- A letter was sent to presbyteries discussing leadership concerning, per capita, vacant commissioner and committee positions, availability of Peacemaking Funds, 2018 Leadership Transitions, and Synod Minutes Review.

Motion to accept report was approved: See Appendix A - (Stated Clerk Report & attachments)

### **MASSANETTA SPRINGS CAMPS AND CONFERENCE CENTER (MSCCC)**

Rev. Clayton Rascoe updated the assembly on happenings at Massanetta. He thanked the synod (Presbytery Initiatives) for funding the Called Together Retreat. Over 13,000 guests came through Massanetta in 2017 and over \$116, 000 dollars was added to the endowment. A new meeting place was dedicated and a new roof and automatic doors were added to the hotel. The Center welcomed Hannah

von Oeyen Altman as the new acting program director. He noted that a seminar on Gun Violence will be hosted this June and fundraising continues to take place whereby items such as new playground apparatus has been purchased. A newsletter, brochures and information about MSCCC were distributed to attendees. MSCCC Report was approved and received.

**PRESBYTERIAN INVESTMENT LOAN PROGRAM (PILP)**

Catherine Lynch, Development Specialist with the PILP, is the representative to Synods of the Trinity and Mid-Atlantic covering the East coast (New Jersey to North Carolina). She shared information about the loan program (Low cost construction loans through a term note called DAR-Denomination Account Receipt) and noted that in 2017 there were 60 loans in the Mid-Atlantic with 17 of 22 borrowing churches earning a rebate. The assembly was made aware of the Accessibility Loan and Environmental Friendly Loans. Rebate checks were presented to BAL, EVA, SAL, SHE, WNC and NAT. These presbyteries were urged in return to present the checks to their churches during presbytery meetings. The report was approved and received.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT I**

Co-Moderator Jim Moseley highlighted the Designated Committee assignments and Chair recommendations for Administration, Finance, Grants & Awards, and Presbytery Initiatives. The chairs and membership were approved as indicated below.

**ADMINISTRATION**

Class	Name	Designation	Presbytery
2019	Helen Bessent-Byrd (Chair)	BFTE	(EVA)
2020	Benjamin Cahoon	WMTE	(NHO)
2020	Nam Hong Cho	AMTE	AKAP
2020	Miriam Dewhurst	WFRE	(NAT)
2020	W.D. Hasty	WMTE	(PEA)
2020	Calvin Lewers	BMTE	(CHA)
2020	Ed Terry	WMRE	(BAL)

**FINANCE**

Class	Name	Designation	Presbytery
2019	Dale Brown	WMTE	(PEA)
2018	Riley Burgess (Co-Chair)	WMRE	(CHA)
2018	Charles Davenport	WMTE	(WNA)
2020	Jane Davis	WFRE	(ABI)
2018	Nikki Morris	WFRE	(JAM)
2018	Robbie Phillips (Co-Chair)	WFTE	(CCC)
2019	Margaret Washnitzer	BFRE	(NAT)

**GRANTS AND AWARDS**

Class	Name	Designation	Presbytery
2018	Donna Bowers	WFTE	(NEW)
2020	Kimberly Kline	WFRE	(SHE)
2020	James Kirkpatrick (Chair)	WMRE	(EVA)
2019	Troy Leshner-Thomas	WMTE	(SAL)
2020	Luis Nino	HMRE	(CCC)
2020	Keith Paige	BMTE	(BAL)

2019	Carson Rhyne	WMTE	(JAM)
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**PRESBYTERY INITIATIVES**

Class	Name	Designation	Presbytery
2019	John Bethard	WMTE	(SHE)
2020	Dorothy Descieux	WFRE	(WNC)
2020	VACANCY		(SAL)
2019	Omokunde Tolokun	BMTE	(NHO)
2019	Cindy Privette (Chair)	WFTE	(ABI)
2018	Kim Hyungsoon Robinson	AFRE	AKAP
2020	Mawuna Gardesey	BMRE	(NEW)

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Class	Name	Designation	Presbytery
2019	Helen Bessent-Byrd	BFTE	(EVA)
2018	Riley Burgess	WMRE	(CHA)
2018	Richard Claterbaugh (Moderator)	WMRE	(PEA)
2020	Jim Kirkpatrick	WMRE	(EVA)
2018	Robbie Phillips	WFTE	(CCC)
2019	Cindy Privette	WFTE	(ABI)
Atlarge	Alice Tewell	AFTE	(NAT)
2018	Susanne Taylor	WFRE	(SHE)

See Appendix **B** - Nominating Report Part 1.

**PLENARY ONE - THE NEXT GENERATION INITIATIVE**

**Native Americans and the Doctrine of Discovery - Rev. Jon Barton (VCC)** addressed assembly with information and history surrounding the Doctrine of Discovery, a law placed into action by European monarchies in order to legitimize the colonization of lands outside of Europe. This idea allowed European entities to seize lands inhabited by indigenous peoples under the guise of discovery. In the year 2000, the Virginia Council of Churches was requested by six Virginia Tribes to support them in seeking Federal Recognition. VCC has provided testimony to various committees of the US House and US Senate with the purpose of garnering recognition of six Virginia Tribes (Chickahominy, Chickahominy Eastern Division, Monacan, Nansemond, Rappahannock and Upper Mattaponi). These Virginia tribes have been largely overlooked and as a result of the systematic discrimination caused by the Virginia 1924 Racial Integrity Act, their records have been altered and destroyed by official acts of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Passage of the federal legislation would enable the Virginia recognized tribes to become eligible for up to \$12 million per year in federal Indian Health and Indian Education benefits; these expenditures would come from existing appropriations. Most powerful to Barton's presentation was the reminder that The Doctrine of Discovery is in the name of Christ. The church gave divine blessing and calling to European monarchs that we are still wrestling and dealing with today. Recognition means validation and honor to tribal ancestors, it means that there will be eligibility for certain educational grants and it also means that any of the tribal artifacts (i.e. from Museums etc.) would now be required to be returned.

**The Catawba Presbytery Story-** Rev. Veronica Cannon provided a riveting history of African American congregations in the Mecklenburg County NC. In 1866, three white ministers left their white churches to devote themselves to the building of churches in the black community. October 6, 1866, The

Catawba Synod was organized just after the end of the Civil War, when missionaries from the North saw the newly liberated African Americans as objects of mission and began to evangelize them. The missionaries organized them into congregations and presbyteries that were related to the northern Presbyterian denomination. In 1887, the General Assembly formally created Catawba Synod which would be made up of the presbyteries of Catawba, Cape Fear, Yadkin and Southern Virginia. Since its inception, Catawba has had strong ties to education and institutional development, working to establish schools like Johnson C. Smith and Barber Scotia (located in Charlotte/Concord, NC), founded to prepare men, women and young people for leadership. Catawba also had strong men's and women's ministries that promoted dramatic civil and social change. There has been a rich history in the African American church; however, 5 mid-councils were dissolved through which African American churches lost their voice and their concerns were not heard after the 1983 reunion. Racial Ethnic ministries were ended, mission functions ended, and advocacy lost their seats on the council. Rev. Cannon challenged the assembly to restore a voice, funding, and educational opportunities to help African Americans remain strong in their communities. Several commissioners present added that they were Teaching Elders or members of churches that came out of Catawba.

**A Rationale for the Next Generation of African American Leadership** - Rev. Jerry Cannon, was the last ordained clergy of Catawba (ordained December 28, 1988). Innovative Leadership and investing in the next generation of Christian Leaders was the topic of his presentation. Points that were highlighted in his presentation are as follows: 1) Point the Next Generation of Christian Leaders to God, 2) Make them our primary focus, 3) Be in it for the Long Haul, 4) Allow for mistakes, 5) Foster authentic and long lasting relationships with them, 6) Teach them Structure and Orderliness, (7) Investing in the Next Generation requires hard work and financial investment, (8) He encouraged assembly to be prepared to step aside for the next generation and to work alongside them. (9) He stressed the importance of accountability and for all of us to hold each other accountable in terms of spiritual discipline and recruitment. (10) Lastly, he encouraged the discipline of Prayer.

## **PLENARY TWO - THE NEXT GENERATION INITIATIVE**

**Panel Discussion** - As commissioners and guests gathered in the Big Circle, facilitator Jim Moseley introduced the proposal "A New Initiative- the Next Generation." All were provided time to review as Jim read the proposal aloud. Opportunity was provided to dialogue with the Cannons and Barton. **Reactions and feedback included "it touched a nerve, it is more than a shadow"; One commissioner compared the story to a presbytery member who had to give up her home for a road to come through. It was asked, "What have we done in the name of Jesus Christ"? It was stated that complacency is the enemy and the millennials are not complacent, they want change now. Enough is enough and something has to change.** The synod black caucus is targeting African American youth to go to seminary; kids are targeted in the early ages and are being prepared to go to seminary. Mawuna Gardesey summarized the model that is needed to promote the next generation is the model of those white ministers in the Catawba Story who left their churches to help plant Presbyterian churches in the African American communities. Plenary Two paused so that commissioners could attend their designated meetings. Moseley reminded commissioners to familiarize themselves with the working draft proposal distributed so that when they returned to the circle tomorrow, they could act on the Next Generation proposal. See Appendix **C** – "A New Initiative-The Next Generation"

### **DESIGNATED COMMITTEES**

The Assembly recessed at 2:35 p.m. so that commissioners could attend their respective designated committee. Committees included Administration, Finance, Grants and Awards and Presbytery Initiatives. Chairpersons are to submit reports and meeting minutes to the Administrator by the end of the day.

### **WORSHIP**

Commissioners and guests assembled at 5:30 p.m. in Ginter Park Presbyterian Sanctuary for Worship and Holy Communion. The Revs. Jerry and Veronica Cannon and Vice Moderator Susanne Taylor administered Communion. Rev. Jerry Cannon preached the sermon corresponding to Ezekiel 37:1-7.

### **DINNER AND RECESS**

Commissioners gathered for dinner at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The Synod Executive Committee met for business during dinner and invited Rev. David Kang. The moderator recessed the assembly to reconvene at 9:00 a.m. Tuesday.

### **RECONVENING**

Moderator Richard Claterbaugh called the assembly to order at 9:25 a.m. with an opening prayer on Tuesday, March 13, 2018. He introduced Mawuna Gardesey and Jim Moseley (NEW) who presented a check for \$40,000 from the Speer Trust Fund. New Castle shares the income from this Trust Fund derived from the DuPont Family with the synod and the General Assembly.

Announcements: The Stated Clerk reminded attendees that the docket had been altered allowing for attendees to reconvene later this morning due to inclement weather last night. NEW was thanked for the Speer Fund presentation. Signed Conflict of Interest Forms were to be returned by the end of the assembly. How will you share this experience with your presbyteries? 241<sup>st</sup> synod highlights will be provided by the synod to help commissioners share this information with their presbyteries. Appreciation was expressed to this assembly's presenters.

### **PLENARY THREE – THE NEXT GENERATION INITIATIVE**

**Next Generation Initiatives Next Steps** - Moseley directed everyone to sit in the Big Circle to continue conversation on The Next Generation. He reviewed the history of black Presbyterian churches and synod (a historical perspective). He expressed the importance to identify, nurture and advocate for the next generation of African American clergy so that every presbytery and council of the church is served by able black clergy. He asked what measurable and unique mission this synod could do; sharing that the Synod of Living Waters developed a system for water and the Synod of the Sun provides Solar panels. Do commissioners feel that the Next Generation Initiative represents a compelling need? The following enabling motions were provided and will be voted on during the plenary four. (1) That the "Next Generation Initiative" be affirmed by the 241<sup>st</sup> Synod Assembly. (2) The 241<sup>st</sup> Synod Assembly empowered the Executive Committee to appoint a "team" to plan a strategy to move the Initiative forward to include such features as: a) conversation and collaboration with identified partners, b) a timeline for actions and engagement, c) a process to share the initiative with member presbyteries; d) a projection of funding needs and e) considerations for staff support and consultation. (3) The sum of \$6000.00 be approved from Presbytery Initiatives Funds for the team to cover expenses related to meetings, travel, production, interviews, research etc.

**GA Per Capita** - Carson Rhyne introduced a motion to instruct the Synod Moderator and Executive/ Stated Clerk to write a letter to all Synod General Presbyters and Stated Clerks encouraging them to have conversations with their presbytery commissioners who are attending the 223<sup>rd</sup> GA about the proposed increase in General Assembly Per Capita Apportionment. The motion was approved.

#### **PLENARY FOUR**

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The OMNIBUS MOTION included minutes and reports from Jubilee and Speer Trust Funds. The motion was approved. See Appendices **D, D-1**

**GRANTS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE** - Chair Jim Kirkpatrick reported that Peacemaking applications have been coming in asking for funds after an informational letter was sent to presbyteries. All applications received were accepted and there were no Small Grant applications declined. A grants brochure was edited and the committee is asking that the Grants/Awards brochure be reviewed at each Spring Meeting.

**Euler Scholarship** – Christopher Speaks will receive a scholarship in the amount of \$7,500.

#### **Peacemaking Offering – Recommendations:**

1. Ben Salem PC- Forklift Training – (CHA) \$5,000
2. Davidson College PC for Davidson College Campus Ministry – (CHA) \$7,500
3. Milner Memorial PC (SAL) - \$5,500 (Leshar Thomas recused)
4. VA Law Enforcement Assistance Program VALEAP – (JAM)- \$20,000 (Rhyne recused)
5. Peacemaking funding that was allocated for AKAP Special Administrative Review was reallocated to be used to fund an Administrative Commission for AKAP. This motion would be made during the Executive Committee report.

#### **New and Small Church – Recommendations – (SEVEN) \$22,351.00**

1. All Souls PC-(JAM) \$3,500
2. Bear Grass PC – (NHO) \$3,500
3. Francis Makemie PC– (EVA) \$3,500
4. South Plains PC – (JAM) \$2,800
5. The Fellowship Place – (CHA) \$3,500
6. Third P.C. Norfolk – (EVA) \$2,051
7. Bethesda PC – (JAM) \$3,500

The recommendations were approved and the report was received. See Grants & Awards Report – Appendix **E**.

**ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE** – Helen Bessent–Byrd reported that the Committee’s agenda included proposed changes to the Massanetta Springs Articles of Incorporation and Kate Bitting Reynolds Trust Fund guideline changes. The KBRT Guidelines were referred back to the Synod Certification Committee for further study with the expectation that the Guidelines will again be submitted for approval at the 242<sup>nd</sup> Synod Assembly. The committee recorded the completion of the examination of 2016 Presbytery Minutes Review. It discussed the upcoming evaluation of the Executive/Stated Clerk and the

development of a new assembly evaluation form. Committee members will review all policies and manuals before the next assembly.

The Administration Committee recommended reinstating the Synod Executive/Stated Clerk position to fulltime. This recommendation required a prolonged time for debate. This being a personnel matter, the Executive/Stated Clerk was excused during the discussion. Debate pursued with the pros and cons of this action without a fulltime position description, a written rationale, and how the budget will be impacted. Several motions and amendments were proposed. Questions surrounding the Synod Executive/ Stated Clerk role with the majority of presbytery executives retiring in the next few months as well as the Next Generation Initiative was discussed. The following motions were made and approved:

**Recommendations:**

1. That the Synod Executive/Stated Clerk position be reinstated to fulltime through December 31, 2018 and that the Administration Committee provides justification, a revised position description and the budget impact for continued service. The committee will report these items for the 242<sup>nd</sup> Assembly.
2. That the synod approve the proposed changes to Massanetta Springs Articles of Incorporation, increasing the number of Trustees from 17 to 18 to allow for a designated young adult (18-24 years old) Trustee.
3. The Committee recommended that Synod Assemblies be held on March 11-12, 2019 at Ginter Park PC; and September 13-14, 2019 at Ginter Park PC. (September dates fall on Friday/Saturday rather than a Monday/Tuesday).

The motions were approved and the report was received. See Administration Committee Report – Appendix **F**.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE** – Co-Chairs Riley Burgess and Robbie Phillips reported that they have referred the revision of financial policies and procedures, along with the responsibilities of the Treasurer, to the Administrative Committee. The Committee discussed 2018 per capita and decided there would be no change for 2019. 2017 Finance income did well. Board Designated Funds were increased by \$598,000.00.

**Recommendations**

1. To establish “The Synod Mission Support Fund” in the amount of \$135,000 from the proceeds of the sale of the Synod property. The Finance Committee is working on a plan to build and grow the fund for the purpose of funding the operations and mission of the Synod.
2. To accept the Audit of the 2016 Financial Statements.
3. To commit \$10,000 to Baltimore Presbytery for the 2020 General Assembly – COLA.

The motions were approved and the report was received. See Finance Committee Report – Appendices **G, G-1**.

**PRESBYTERY INITIATIVES** – Chair Cindy Privette shared the purpose of the committee. Its aim is to entertain and respond to initiatives by two or more presbyteries. The committee gathered to generate ideas for which presbyteries could get to know each other. They brainstormed to seek invitations to be

invited to other presbytery meetings. This cycle, the committee received and approved an application for a Retreat for Presbytery Leadership in the amount of \$3,000.00 (NHO/CCC). This retreat is aimed at exploring ways to enhance relationships and encourage healing between Presbytery leadership and wounded congregations.

**Recommendation**

1. To approve the Presbytery Leadership Retreat Application in the amount of \$3,000 to explore ways to enhance relationships and encourage healing between Presbytery leadership and wounded congregations.

The motion was approved and the report was received. See Presbytery Initiative Report – Appendix H.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** - Chair Richard Claterbaugh presented the report which included the recommendation from the Next Generation Initiative.

Next Generation Initiative **recommendations**:

1. The “Next Generation Initiative” was affirmed by the 241<sup>st</sup> Synod Assembly.
2. The 241<sup>st</sup> Synod Assembly empowered the Executive Committee to appoint a “team” to plan a strategy to move the Initiative forward to include such features as:
  - conversation and collaboration with identified partners
  - a timeline for actions and engagement
  - a process to share the Initiative with member presbyteries
  - a projection of funding needs
  - considerations for staff support and consultation
3. The sum of \$6000.00 was approved from Presbytery Initiatives Funds for the team to cover expenses related to meetings, travel, production, interviews, research etc.

A recommendation addressing the critical need to appoint an Administrative Commission to deal with the life, health and vitality of the Atlantic Korean American Presbytery was placed before the Assembly. The Synod Stated Clerk provided an oral chronology dating back to 2014. Each year, issues with AKAP internally and externally continue to escalate. Several members spoke to long standing patterns of issues dating back to its organization in the later 1990’s. Several commissioners suggested looking for another way to address AKAP and commissioners from AKAP also shared their concerns.

At the conclusion of the debate, the following motions were put to the assembly concerning an Administrative Commission for AKAP:

1. That the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic appoint an Administrative Commission of no more than seven persons to address concerns in AKAP according to the Book of Order G-3.0109b, and that the Synod Moderator and Stated Clerk be given the authority to appoint an AC with at least one half of the commission representing Koreans.
2. The Grants & Awards Committee recommended that \$25,000.00 from the Peacemaking Offering be reallocated to fund the cost of an Administrative Commission to be formed to address issues in AKAP.

Each recommendation was approved and the report was adopted.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT – Part II**

Chair Jim Moseley presented the slate of nominees for Synod Moderator and Vice Moderator. \*(see page 12 for Designation clarification).

**MODERATOR AND VICE MODERATOR**

Class	Name	Designation	Presbytery
	Susanne Taylor	WFRE	(SHE)
	Mawuna Gardesey	BMRE	(NEW)

Nominations were opened to the floor. There being none, assembly moved to the next report.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Class	Name	Designation	Presbytery
2018	Vacant		(JAM)
2020	Susanne Martin	WFTE	(ABI)
2020	Todd Smith	WMTE1	(BAL)
2020	Ray Mims	WMTE2	(SAL)

Nominations were opened to the floor. Susanne Martin (WFTE) from ABI was nominated.

**COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION**

Class	Name	Designation	Presbytery
2019	Vacant		(EVA)
2020	Vacant		AKAP
2020	Rosia Freeman	BFRE1	(CCC)
2020	Kevin Powell	BMTE1	(NAT)
2020	Vacant		(PEA)

Nominations were opened from the floor. There being none the assembly moved onto the next report.

**JUBILEE FUND**

Class	Name	Designation	Presbytery
2018	Vacant		AKAP
2019	Richard Haney	WMTE1	(JAM)
2020	Grace Bradshaw	WFRE1	(ABI)
	John Etheredge	BMRE	Black Caucus
2020	Willie McCaskill	BMRE1	(CCC)
2020	Veronica Thomas	BFTE1	(EVA)
2020	Margaret Washnitzer	BFRE1	(NAT)

Nominations were opened from the floor. There being none the assembly moved onto the next report.

**PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION**

Class	Name	Designation	Presbytery
2021	Vacant		(BAL)
2025	Elizabeth Forester	WFTE	(CCC)
2025	Key Young Kim	AMRE	(NAT)

Nominations were opened to the floor. There being none, the assembly moved onto the next report.

**SPEER TRUST FUND**

<b>Class</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Presbytery</b>
2018	Vacant		AKAP
2020	Alice Freeman	WFRE1	(ABI)
2020	Ray Meute	WMTE1	(BAL)
2020	Vacant		(EVA)
2020	Vacant		(SAL)

Nominations were opened to the floor. There being none, the nominations were closed. The assembly approved all of the nominations and received the full report of the Nominating Committee. See Appendix I - Nominating Report II.

(\*Designation Numeric Clarification – Number behind designation (i.e. WMTE1) specifies term number being fulfilled).

**CLOSING WORSHIP – Vice Moderator Susanne Taylor** lead the Assembly in an abbreviated closing worship service. She read from Ann Weems “Advents Halleluiah to Easter’s Morning Light – Mark 8:14-21”; discussing the turning point in Jesus’ Ministry where he took his ministry to the gentile population. The disciples showed up for this meeting unprepared and fearing the inability to feed a group of 4,000 people; but from a few small loaves of bread, the crowd was fed. Jesus warned of hypocrisy, the secular world, bowing to false Gods and reminded them to have faith because the bread of life stood amongst them.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moderator Claterbaugh adjourned the assembly with prayer at 12:55 p.m. The 242<sup>nd</sup> Synod Assembly will convene September 10-11, 2018 in Richmond, VA.

**ATTESTATION**

This is a true and accurate copy of the Minutes of the Synod Stated Meeting as reviewed by the Executive Committee

Dated: July 10, 2018



Warren J. Lesane Jr.  
Executive/Stated Clerk  
Synod of the Mid-Atlantic