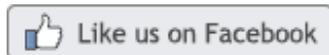




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October 3, 2017

### Summary of Leadership Team meeting

The Presbytery's Leadership Team held its monthly meeting on September 28 at Robinson Elmwood United Church in Syracuse. The following are among the items that were discussed at the meeting...

The Leadership Team noted three special events occurring in the next few months:

- Chip Hardwick, Director of Theology, Formation, and Evangelism at the General Assembly will be in our Presbytery on Tuesday, November 28 at First United Church of East Syracuse. He will be offering two workshops on the topic of "Congregational Vitality."
- Mary Anderson will be leading a pastors'/worship leaders' retreat for spiritual nurture and Lenten planning on Monday, January 8, 2018, at First Presbyterian Church in Liverpool from 1:00-7:00 p.m.
- The Rev. Michael Gehrling, Northeast Associate for 1001 New Worshiping Communities, will be at the February 10, 2018 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery.

The Leadership Team approved a recommendation to establish a "New Worshiping Communities" Work Group. This group would explore possibilities for establishing one (or more) New Worshiping Communities within the bounds of our Presbytery. Elders Dan DeBrucker and Nancy Wind will serve as co-chairpersons. The Leadership Team also decided to commit to continuing conversations with the neighboring presbyteries of

Northern New York, Susquehanna Valley, and Utica that may result in specific proposals to share mission, resources, and/or staff between the presbyteries. Linda Russell, Mario Bolivar, Dan DeBrucker, Shawn Reyburn, and Rita Hooper will continue to serve as our representatives in these conversations.

The Leadership Team accepted, with regret, the resignation of the Rev. Banu Moore from the Leadership Team due to other commitments that have developed for her.

The Leadership Team approved, with regret, the request of Steve Plank to recommend to the November 4, 2017 Presbytery meeting that the Presbytery dissolve the relationship with him as our Stated Clerk/Communicator as of December 31, 2017, and that he be granted the status of Honorably Retired effective that date. A process was put in place to search to employ a Stated Clerk for a one-year term effective January 1, 2018 at 10 hours per week. Linda Russell and Donna Hunt will bring a proposed position description to the October meeting of the Leadership Team, and Karen Green, Diane Monger, and Linda Russell will take primary responsibility in searching for a candidate who will be presented to the Presbytery on November 4 for election as Stated Clerk beginning in January.

Mario Bolivar presented several proposals to consider for the building and maintenance of a new Presbytery website. After reviewing the proposals, the Leadership Team approved one submitted by the organization clickdriven.com. The website build cost is \$2,850, which will be taken from funds already set aside for communications. Maintenance and ongoing support will be \$79 per month. The decision also was made to upgrade our Constant Contact account to Email Plus, which will provide the option of conducting surveys (among other things).

As authorized by the Standing Rules, the Leadership Team elected elder Rebecca Wind and the Rev. Mario Bolivar to serve as commissioners to the 223rd General Assembly (2018) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), which will meet in St. Louis, MO from June 16-23. We still need to elect a Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD) to G.A., along with alternate commissioners and an alternate YAAD. Anyone interested should contact Linda Russell or Mario Bolivar.

It was announced that Rebecca Wind has been chosen to attend the Emerging Leaders' program of the Synod of the Northeast!

Linda Russell reminded people of the opportunity for Sessions and organizations within the bounds of the Presbytery to apply for Benevolent Care grants. Information, along with an application, may be found on our Presbytery website at <http://cayugasyracuse.org/resources/policies>. The deadline for application is November 1.

The next regular meeting of the Leadership Team will be on Monday, October 23, 2017, beginning at 5:15, at Robinson Elmwood United Church. This is earlier than the normal meeting date in order to finalize a 2018 budget to recommend to the Presbytery for approval at the November 4 Presbytery meeting.

Steve Plank,  
Stated Clerk/Communicator

*"I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5*

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