

**Highlights of the November 2015 Presbytery Meeting  
November 14, 2015  
Blair Academy, Blairstown, NJ**

**Committee on Ministry (COM) Report**

- The Presbytery approved the COM request for an Administrative Commission to work with the United Presbyterian Church of Alpha to resolve disagreements and conflicts that currently inhibit the church's ability to carry out the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ.
- The Presbytery conferred the status of "Honorably Retired" on the Rev. Stephen Ross effective February 1, 2016
- The Presbytery welcomed Teaching Elders Ninabeth Metcalf, Panther Valley Ecumenical Ministry and Rev. Bronc Radak, Oak Ridge Presbyterian Church.
- COM moderator Mickey McDonnell led a service of welcome for the Oak Ridge Presbyterian Church.

**Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) Report**

- The Presbytery approved Allie Naskret Ulrich of the Presbytery Church of Chatham Township be moved to candidacy for Teaching Elder

**Nominating Committee Report**

- The Presbytery elected the following as Commissioners to the 222<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly in Portland, OR in 2016.
  - *Teaching Elders:*  
Rebecca Segers, Old Greenwich  
Nancy Young, Wharton United  
Alternate: Mitchell Trigger, Rockaway, First
  - *Ruling Elders:*  
Lisa Gray, Old Greenwich  
Joe Martinoni, Rockaway, First  
Alternates: Linda Gaden, Morristown and Rockport

**Presbytery Coordinating Team (PCT) Report Part 1**

- The Presbytery recognized the contributions of the past moderator, Barbara Aspinall
- The Presbytery recognized the long and dedicated services of all the members of the past Peacemaking Committee

## **Workshops**

- Following the morning business the presbytery meeting recessed to Stewardship workshops led by Karl Mattison and Ellie Johns-Kelly, both of the Presbyterian Foundation and by Jeanne Radak, Presbytery Leader.

## **PCT Report Part 2**

- The Presbytery approved changes to the Stated Clerk position starting April 1, 2016 to 45 hours per month. Starting June 1, 2016 the Stated Clerk position would be an interim position.
- The Presbytery approved an increase of \$1.00 for per capita in 2016 to a total of \$34
- The Presbytery approved the proposed 2016 budget amended to include an additional \$2800 for the Nairobi Partnership. The Presbytery members who were present were encouraged to go back to their sessions to encourage session to increase their mission giving.
- The Presbytery approved with appreciation the dissolution of the relationship with Diane Curtis, Stated Clerk, with compensation through May 10, 2016 plus 2 weeks of accrued vacation.

## **Trustees**

- The Presbytery approve the request of the Trustees to grant them the authority to approve the sale of the Pleasant Grove Property by Highlands Presbyterian Church.

## **Worship**

- Revs. Ron de Groot, David Harvey and Karen Brostrom led a moving "Great Cloud of Witnesses" worship which included a reading of the 2015 Necrology Report.