

Spring Stated Meeting of the Northeast Presbytery, ARPC

March 5-6, 2020

**at Hyo Shin Bible Presbyterian Church
Flushing, New York**

- 200301 On Thursday, March 5, 2020, the members of the Northeast Presbytery (NEP) of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (ARPC) assembled at 4:00 PM at Hyo Shin Presbyterian Church in Flushing, NY for a time of prayer and praise led by Rev. Nathan Beard, NEP's Spiritual Life Director. At 5:45 PM, we were dismissed for a delicious dinner with prayer by Rev. Beard. The dinner included several Korean dishes, lovingly prepared by the women of Hyo Shin. Warm fellowship was shared over dinner together.
- 200302 The Moderator, Rev. Daniel Rhee, called the Presbytery to order at 6:45 PM, beginning with prayer.
- 200303 The Principal Clerk, Rev. Jonathan Kuciemba, reviewed the roll of Presbytery. Over the course of the meeting, the following were enrolled:

Ministers List

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1) Steven Badorf | 16) Joshua Kitchen |
| 2) Bongkyun (Andy) Bang | 17) Jonathan Kuciemba |
| 3) Nathan Beard | 18) Peter Lee |
| 4) James Bills | 19) Jae Hong Lim |
| 5) Herschel Carlson | 20) Terence Little |
| 6) David Choi | 21) Paul Matthews |
| 7) David Galletta | 22) Suk Ho Moon |
| 8) G. J. Gerard | 23) Ridge Orr |
| 9) Dong-Won Han | 24) Ji Kag Pang |
| 10) Dong Ik Hwang | 25) Young Su Park |
| 11) Chang Taek Jeong | 26) Ronald Pritts |
| 12) Peter Kemeny | 27) Daniel Rhee |
| 13) Hong Suk Kim | 28) William Sutherland |
| 14) Jin Kwan Kim | 29) Jack VanDyk |
| 15) Young Chang Kim | 30) Paul Yoo |

Elders Sent as Delegates List

- 1) From Church of the Atonement, Thomas Scibek
- 2) From Hyo Shin Bible Presbyterian Church, Daniel Yunsung Pang

Students of Theology List

1) Philip Mohr

2) Seth Philbrick

The following ministers asked to be excused:

Rick Anderson

David Johnston (ret.)

Alan Avera

Jong Chul Kim

Fred Carr (ret)

Jay McMillen (ret)

Tony Cowley

Erik Meberg

Lane Creamer

Youngjin Moon

Jason Crenshaw

Ryan Mowen

Iain Duguid

Bob Whittet

Matthew Harmon

Sungjong Yoon

200304 The Clerk declared that a quorum was not yet present due to a lack of ruling elders present at the meeting. He recommended that we proceed according to the guidelines laid out in NEP's Manual of Procedure (MOP), hoping that with a few late arrivals, a quorum could be achieved later in the meeting. Thus, we proceeded with the business before us, recognizing that all decisions made without a quorum would only be provisionally approved and not official until a full quorum of the presbytery ratified those actions.

200305 The Clerk also mentioned that, at the request of the Moderator, a fourth column had been added to the sign-in sheet for ministers and elders, requesting that if any needed to leave before the end of the meeting, they write down their time of departure.

200306 The Clerk then presented the program, as **RECOMMENDED** by the Executive Committee. Rev. Gerard requested a time of no more than 5 minutes for a guest, Rev. Joshua Chang, to present about his ministry after the World Witness Liaison's report. Rev. Sutherland also requested that the Credentials Team report be presented immediately after the second licensure sermon on Friday morning in order to allow time for multiple exams with the most presbyters present. With these amendments approved by common consent, the agenda was **APPROVED**.

200307 Various guests were introduced to the presbytery. The following were registered during the course of the meeting:

Guest List

1) Joshua Chang

6) Nan Tai Cheng

2) Samsung Mun

7) Jun Young Chung

3) Collin Gingrich

8) Ki Chang Kwon

4) Sang Ha Park

9) Gun Sik Yang

5) Young Juon Chae

10) Jay Harvey

200308 Rev. Suk Ho Moon welcomed the presbytery on behalf of Hyo Shin Church. The church graciously provided every minister's hotel room and transportation to and from the hotel.

The Moderator's Appointments

- 200309 The Moderator introduced Rev. Nathan Beard as the Spiritual Life Director for this meeting.
- 200310 The Moderator appointed Rev. Terence Little to serve as the Moderator's Committee on Resolutions for this meeting, with authority to conscript another member.
- 200311 The Moderator called for churches to submit their minutes of session for review and appointed Rev. Herschel Carlson to supervise the review of session minutes, with authority to conscript other members as necessary for a special committee, since the Congregational Life Team continues to be in a rebuilding phase.
- 200312 The Moderator appointed Rev. Joshua Kitchen to be the Reading Clerk for this meeting.

Executive Committee Report

- 200313 The Principal Clerk presented the report of the Executive Committee, which follows here:

NEP Executive Committee Meeting Minutes February 21, 2020

On Friday, February 21, 2020, members of the Executive Committee of the Northeast Presbytery of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (NEP) met telephonically at the request of Moderator Daniel Rhee to approve the agenda for the Spring 2020 Stated Meeting of NEP.

The meeting was called to order by the Moderator at 10:03 AM. Alan Avera led us in prayer.

The following members of the EC were present at the meeting:

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 1) Alan Avera | 6) Jonathan Kuciemba |
| 2) Steven Badorf | 7) Paul Matthews |
| 3) Nathan Beard | 8) Ridge Orr |
| 4) G. J. Gerard | 9) Daniel Rhee |
| 5) Peter Kemeny | 10) Bill Sutherland |

Therefore, a quorum was present.

The team leaders and committee chairmen reported on a number of items to be presented at the upcoming meeting or which were in the works for action in the spring. There quickly arose a need to consider whether and how best to allot time for the several credentials examinations, including two licensure exams needing time to preach.

MOTION: to move our presbyter training time up to 8:00 on Friday morning and allot time for one licentiate to preach during the Thursday night worship service and the other at 9:30 Friday morning. SECONDED and CARRIED.

MOTION: to postpone action on the transfer of Rev. David Kim until NEP has time to consider setting specific standards or “best practices” regarding receiving mission churches and/or ministers wanting to transfer under a call “out of bounds” of regular pastoral ministry in the Presbytery. SECONDED

There was much discussion about this motion. It was clear that a larger, presbytery-wide discussion could be helpful, or at least more time spent in the committees charged with overseeing these actions where these questions could be discussed further.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: to let the Credentials and ONE teams decide independently whom to recommend for transfer. FAILED TO ACHIEVE SECOND.

AMMENDED MOTION: to postpone presenting David Kim for transfer until ONE has time to consider Vision Community Church’s application to be received into NEP. SECONDED and CARRIED.

A few needs were discussed which might take some special thought during or leading up to the meeting, among them the expiration of the Spiritual Life Director’s term, a new provisional elder needed for Christian Center Ministries’ session, the retirement of several elders from Faith Presbyterian Church in Scranton, and ongoing prayer for the discipline case at Church of the Atonement. Prayer was offered for each of these needs.

MOTION: to approve the agenda as amended earlier in the meeting. SECONDED and CARRIED.

MOTION: to adjourn. SECONDED and CARRIED.

Rev. Paul Matthews then closed us in prayer at 11:32 AM.

200314 **MOTION:** to receive the report as information. **SECONDED and CARRIED.**

ECCLESIASTICAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fact-Finding Committee

200315 Rev. Jonathan Kuciemba submitted the report of the Ecclesiastical Fact-Finding Committee on the Appeal of Dr. David Harding, which follows here:

Members of the Committee:

Rev. Jonathan Kuciemba, Chair

Rev. Dr. Ridge Orr

Rev. G. J. Gerard

Background:

Having received notice of a disciplinary appeal from Dr. David Harding of Church of the Atonement, the Executive Committee of NEP met on January 7, 2020, to discuss the best way to consider the appeal at the March 2020 Spring Stated Meeting. It was determined that more facts regarding the case and how it was handled were needed. Therefore, an Ecclesiastical Fact-Finding Committee was appointed for the purpose of reviewing the facts of the case, determining whether Dr. Harding had the proper grounds for an appeal, and bringing a recommendation to the Presbytery at the Spring 2020 Stated Meeting for how best to proceed.

We reviewed years of correspondence between Dr. Harding and the pastors and elders of Church of the Atonement. Some of these messages constituted the lesser censures of admonition and rebuke (cf. BoD II.B.1). At times other members in the church were also included in the correspondence, including Dr. Harding's wife. Suffice it to say that the case is neither a new nor a poorly documented one.

Appeal and Recommendations:

*His appeal is twofold. The first contention is that the session moved to expel him from membership without the due process of a trial. Having reviewed the records and spoken with the moderator of session at the time of the expulsion, this was determined to be true. Therefore, our **RECOMMENDATION (#1)** regarding this first point of appeal is "that NEP direct the session of Church of the Atonement to return Dr. Harding's name to the roll of membership and to conduct a proper trial of his offense(s) according to the procedures laid out in the ARP Book of Discipline."*

If Dr. Harding perceives further error with the due process being afforded him by Church of the Atonement, he would retain the right of appeal to the Presbytery, at which point NEP would likely need to try the case itself as an appeal. It was suggested that NEP might supply non-voting observers to the trial if it would make either side more comfortable, but we will leave this idea to the wisdom of the Presbytery.

The second point of appeal is that Church of the Atonement secured a "Do not trespass" order against Dr. Harding for all property belonging to Church of the Atonement. Dr. Harding contends that since there is no provision for such action in the BoD, the order is out of order, so to speak, and should be repealed immediately.

It is true that the "Do not trespass" order was secured against Dr. Harding and that no specific provision exists in the BoD for this action, but Chapter XI of the BoD does allow that "Any matters of discipline or details of process not provided for are left to the judgment of the court having jurisdiction in the case. The court, however, is to be governed by the general principles and rules set forth in the Constitution of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, and specifically in this Book of Discipline."

It is also the case that any individual or organization has a legal right to seek protective orders against someone who is considered a legitimate threat to the peace and well-being of those seeking protection. This has no immediate bearing on his membership status. For example, a wife may secure a "protection from abuse" order against her husband. That order does not thereby nullify their marriage; only a legal divorce can do that. As it is the session's prerogative to protect the flock against perceived threats, and having discussed the particulars surrounding the session's

*collectively felt need to secure the order, the committee **RECOMMENDS (#2)** “that the ‘do not trespass’ order be allowed to stand until the session of Church of the Atonement deems it is no longer necessary.”*

*Obviously, that leaves Dr. Harding in an odd position within the church. Therefore it is **RECOMMENDED (#3)** “that NEP compose a letter to Dr. Harding and to the session of Church of the Atonement as soon as possible, explaining our recommendations and urging that all appropriate haste be made to conduct a fair trial that the peace, purity, and prosperity of the whole church might be pursued.”*

*Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Jonathan Kuciemba, chair*

ADDENDUM:

*Since the report was first written, the situation between Dr. Harding and Church of the Atonement has deteriorated. I have spoken both with Dr. Harding and with the Moderator of session of Church of the Atonement, and both feel that the session of Church of the Atonement would be unable to provide a fair and unbiased trial in this case. Therefore, according to BOD III.3, which states “In cases where the court having original jurisdiction is unable or unwilling to exercise jurisdiction, the next higher court may assume original jurisdiction upon demonstration of sufficient cause having been shown to the higher court.” The committee would like to change **RECOMMENDATION #1** to the following: That NEP appoint a judicial commission to conduct a trial of Dr. David Harding on the charges which the session of Church of the Atonement will bring against him.*

*On behalf of the committee,
Rev. Jonathan Kuciemba, chair*

- 200316 Rev. Kuciemba pointed out the addendum to the report, which the committee had approved as a change to the original first recommendation. After some discussion, mostly relating to procedure and time-tables, **RECOMMENDATION 1 CARRIED.**
- 200317 **RECOMMENDATION 2 CARRIED.**
- 200318 **RECOMMENDATION 3 CARRIED.**
- 200319 The Moderator asked Rev. Herschel Carlson to lead the presbytery in prayer for Dr. Harding, for Church of the Atonement, and for the entire matter, which he did.

Commission to Install Rev. Ryan Mowen

- 200320 Rev. Bill Sutherland presented the report on behalf of the commission, which follows here:

***Minutes of the Commission of The Northeast Presbytery
to install the Rev. Ryan C. Mowen as Senior Pastor of
The Church of the Atonement of Silver Spring, MD
on Sunday, March 1, 2020 at 6:00 PM.***

The Commission was called to order in Rev. Mowen's office at 5:45 PM by its convener, the Rev. William Sutherland. Prayer was offered by several of the commissioners prior to the Commission's commencement upstairs and into the worship center. By name, the Commission consisted of:

The Rev. William Sutherland, Convener; Faith Presbyterian Church (Olney, MD).

The Rev. Terence Little, Associate Pastor; Church of the Atonement (Silver Spring, MD).

The Rev. David Galletta; Church of the Atonement (Silver Spring, MD).

The Rev. Peter Kemeny, Pastor; Good News Presbyterian Church (Frederick, MD).

The Rev. Herschel Carlson, Pastor; Calvary A.R.P. Church (Alexandria, VA).

The Rev. Jack Van Dyk, Pastor; Christian Center Ministries (Alexandria, VA).

Mr. Stephen Cairns, Ruling Elder; Church of the Atonement (Silver Spring, MD).

Mr. Randall Spadoni, Ruling Elder; Church of the Atonement (Silver Spring, MD).

Others who participated in presiding over this Service of Worship and Installation included:

** Dr. John Scott Redd, President, Reformed Theological Seminary (Washington, D.C.).*

** Rev. Andy Nagel, Associate Pastor; Central Presbyterian Church (Towson, MD).*

The attached 'Order of Worship' was utilized by the Commission. Its highlights included:

** the preaching of God's Word by Dr. Scott Redd*

** the interrogation of the candidate, and subsequent declaration of installation by Rev. William Sutherland*

** the Charge to the Congregation by Rev. Terence Little*

** the Charge to Pastor Ryan Mowen by Rev. Andy Nagel*

** a prayer for God's blessing upon Rev. Mowen's ministry - with the laying on of hands
- by all Ministers and Elders present*

The Benediction was subsequently pronounced upon the congregation by the Rev. Ryan Mowen, and the Commission thereupon adjourned - having thus completed its assigned task.

Respectfully submitted by:

Rev. William Sutherland, Convener

200321

MOTION: to receive the report as information and dissolve the commission with thanks.
SECONDED and CARRIED.

CCM Special Committee

200322

Rev. Ridge Orr presented the report of the Special Committee to Assist Christian Center Ministries, which follows here:

Fathers and Brothers:

The CCM provisional Session makes the following report to the Committee of Presbytery and through her, to the Presbytery.

We are thankful for the support and oversight of the Presbytery.

As part of the oversight of the NEP, the committee had opportunity to visit with the congregation and with the Session. Then Tom Martin was added to the Session, and committee member, Rev. Tony Cowley also served as a consultative member. We are thankful for the year that Tom Martin served with the CCM Session. He is a gifted encourager and a wise counselor. He had the opportunity to visit the congregation with his wonderful wife, Kelly, following the Fall NE Presbytery meeting. Tony and Natalie were honored to lead worship at CCM twice over the year and enjoyed those opportunities.

With a full complement, session was able to meet regularly. A good group dynamic developed early on.

- 1. Pastor Jack set up a procedure for a video conference call through ezTalk, which has served us well*
- 2. A good working dynamic was established so that we were able to communicate openly and clearly and move through meetings productively, with a cheerful spirit*
- 3. A number of tasks were accomplished by Treasurer, elder Mike Martin, at our request. These actions clarified and made more explicit the terms for some financial arrangements, which had been handled somewhat informally.*
- 4. Elder Mike Martin has provided monthly Treasurer's Reports.*
- 5. Pastor VanDyk spent a lot of time on the original church website idea, and was so successful, that there are presently two web sites, old and new. We now have a 'finished product' through WIX.COM. www.Christaboveallelse.com*
- 6. Elder Tom Martin offered help by means of a tool he'd been using with Lifeline, i.e. Mission Insite data. Can CCM use it for 'outreach' into the immediate community? This will take some real endeavor.*
- 7. The CCM Session has performed quite well with regard to monthly meetings: We met every month (since Tom and Tony came on the session) except the month of August. We also combined the November and December meetings since pastor Jack was in Italy in late November.*
- 8. Pastor Jack has reached out to the President of the local branch of Reformed Theological Seminary, Dr. Scott Redd, in hopes that this will provide some fruitful leads for pulpit supply and perhaps other kinds of encouragement.*
- 9. For 2019, CCM had a budget surplus. For 2020, we have approved a 'deficit spending' budget (by about \$20K). We have pledged ourselves to aright this in 2021. We remain a 'self-supporting' congregation.*

10. *For the near term we hope to focus on helping the congregation move towards stronger interpersonal relationships so as to foster greater joy, peace and unity which we trust will promote ease of involvement both with newcomers and long-term members.*

While this is a positive list of accomplishments, we would like to focus on the way we were able to come together as a Session to work through the above, and other accomplishments. It has been a pleasure for both Tom and Tony to work with all the brothers in this capacity, and this is not easy to really get across in paper and ink.

We request that a new elder be appointed to take up where Elder Tom Martin has left off. We are so thankful for his help!

As Approved in Session of the Christian Center Ministries, February 18, 2020, Jack Van Dyk, Moderator; Mike Martin, Elder & Treasurer; Tom Martin, Provisional Elder & Tony Cowley, Consulting Member.

In an attempt to develop methods of intentional outreach Herschel Carlson representing the NEP Committee reported the following:

I met with Jack and concluded that several avenues would be helpful.

1. That members have a good tract to give to friends with the added request to sit down and discuss it and questions that may arise (I suggested the tract), and invite to friendship Sunday;

2. That first Sundays be specifically designated friendship Sundays, with a service that includes a more evangelistic sermon and concludes with a potluck or similar time of cordial involvement, and

3. That members, with permission of those they have knowledge are experiencing needs or have questions, submit the names to Session so that a personal visit of the Pastor or Elder may be arranged. Jack was accepting of these ideas.

Submitted to NEP by,

NEP Committee Members: Raymond B. Orr, Bill Sutherland, Herschel Carlson, and Tony Cowley

200323

MOTION: to extend the Committee's work for one more year and to authorize the Committee to appoint an elder to the CCM provisional session. **SECONDED. CARRIED.**

Report of the Principal Clerk

200324

The Principal Clerk presented the minutes from the 2019 Fall Stated Meeting of NEP, as well as from the November 2019 and January 2020 Called Meetings of NEP. **MOTION:** to conditionally approve the minutes, with the understanding that full approval would come with ratification of this action by a full quorum of NEP. **SECONDED and CARRIED.**

200325 The Clerk also reported that registration was open for the 2020 Meeting of the General Synod on the synod's website, arpchurch.org.

200326 **MOTION:** to move the 7:30 order of the day for the presentation by Erskine's David Pendergrass up to 7:25 and then have a 10 minute break before worship. **SECONDED** and **CARRIED**.

ORDER OF THE DAY

200327 At 7:25, David Pendergrass presented an encouraging report from Erskine College and Seminary, taking a few questions from the floor. Enrollment is up, new programs are being introduced, and the institution appreciates more than it has in a long time the close relationship it enjoys with the ARP Church.

200328 At 7:46, the presbytery took a ten minute break to prepare for worship.

200329 At 8:00, Rev. Nathan Beard, Rev. Paul Yoo, Rev. Jun Young Chung led the presbytery in worship. Mr. Philip Mohr preached God's Word to us from Matthew 1:1-17. Due to the spread of the novel Coronavirus, and in an attempt to slow that spread, the Lord's Supper was not shared at this meeting.

200330 Following the worship service, the Moderator presented a plaque of honor to Rev. Dr. Ridge Orr for his service as Moderator the previous year. Northeast Presbytery then adjourned for the evening at the direction of the Moderator.

FRIDAY

200331 On Friday, March 6, at 8:00 AM, NEP reconvened with the singing of the hymn "Worship Christ, the Risen King" and with prayer by Rev. Steven Badorf, for a training seminar with Rev. Dr. Jay Harvey from Reformed Theological Seminary, New York. He spoke about personal renewal through prayer in ministry in terms of the kingdom of God, suffering, and leadership. After his teaching, members of NEP asked questions and then offered prayers for Dr. Harvey, his family, and RTS.

200332 Following Dr. Harvey's presentation, NEP took a break from 9:15 to 9:30 AM.

200333 At 9:30 AM NEP heard Mr. Gunshik Yang preach on Psalm 8.

200334 At 9:55 AM, the Moderator called the presbytery to order with prayer.

The Credentials Team Report, Part I

200335 Rev. Bill Sutherland presented part of the Credentials report, which follows here:

1. *The Credentials' Team, having received all of the necessary documents and examined Philip Mohr and heard him preach and given him feedback, recommends that Northeast Presbytery approve Philip Mohr to be licensed to preach within the bounds of Northeast Presbytery.*
2. *The Credentials' Team, having received all of the necessary documents and examined Gunshik Yang and heard him preach and given him feedback, recommends that Northeast Presbytery approve Gunshik Yang to be licensed to preach within the bounds of Northeast Presbytery.*
3. *The Credentials' Team, having examined Rev. Jun Young Chung and received the necessary documentation, recommends that Northeast Presbytery transfer his credentials and receive him as a member of Northeast Presbytery and approve his call to serve as an associate pastor of Hyoshin Bible Presbyterian Church of NY in Flushing, NY.*
4. *The Credentials' Team, having examined Rev. Ki Chang Kwon and received the necessary documentation, recommends that Northeast Presbytery transfer his credentials and receive him as a member of Northeast Presbytery and approve his call to serve as pastor of Living By the Word Church in Ellicott City, MD (The Church is applying to become a member of NEP too).*
5. *Information: The Credentials' Team also examined Rev. Chanyoung David Kim of Falls Church, VA, and recommends him for transfer, pending examination by the presbytery and updated documents; however, since he is serving in a church planter; this needs to be coordinated with Outreach Northeast, and so this will await a future meeting.*

200336 At this point, Rev. Sutherland announced that in taking up RECOMMENDATION 2, the committee would like to change its recommendation from licensing Mr. Gunshik Yang to preach to instead receiving him as a candidate under care of NEP.

200337 Mr. Yang then shared his testimony of faith in Christ and sense of call to gospel ministry. Having heard this from him, **RECOMMENDATION 2 CARRIED.**

200338 The Moderator then asked Mr. Yang the following questions, as per the NEP MOP, to which he responded in the affirmative:

1. Do you promise in reliance upon the grace of God to maintain a character consistent with your Christian profession and to be diligent and faithful in making full preparation for your ministry?
2. Do you promise to submit yourself to the supervision of the Presbytery in matters concerning your preparation for the ministry of the Word?

The Moderator then declared: "In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the great Head of the Church, I do now by the authority of the Northeast Presbytery, declare that you are acknowledged and received as a candidate for Ministry in the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, and I do now direct that your name be recorded on the roll of this Presbytery as a candidate for the Ministry."

- 200339 The Moderator presented a Bible provided by the Presbytery to the Candidate and said, “Take now this Bible and be diligent to study the things that are written therein, that as much as in you lies, you may faithfully and truly teach the Gospel of the grace of God and be an example of faith and holy living.” He briefly charged Mr. Yang and prayed for him. NEP then welcomed Mr. Yang as a new Student of Theology, under care of the presbytery.

REPORTS OF PRESBYTERY’S LIAISONS

Liaison With World Witness

- 200340 Rev. Bill Sutherland reminded the presbytery about the 2-2-20 initiative. Rev. GJ Gerard mentioned that there are many opportunities for short-term mission trips through World Witness as well, and that they are happy to coordinate sending volunteers from multiple churches together if a church would like to go but does not have a full team to send.
- 200341 The Moderator then welcomed Rev. Joshua Chang to speak about Green Window Ministries.
- 200342 Rev. Steve Badorf prayed for Rev. Chang and Green Window Ministries.

REPORTS OF MINISTRY TEAMS

Credentials Team, Part II

- 200343 Rev. Bill Sutherland continued the report of the Credentials Team, resuming with RECOMMENDATION 1 (see 200335 above)
- 200344 First, NEP gave feedback to Mr. Mohr regarding his sermon the night before, which he received very graciously. **MOTION:** to approve the sermon preached by Mr. Philip Mohr on Thursday evening, March 5 to NEP as fulfilling the preaching requirement for his licensure. **SECONDED** and **CARRIED**.
- 200345 NEP then examined Mr. Mohr on the subjects of English Bible and Theology. He clarified his views regarding the language the divines used with respect to recreation on the Sabbath and mentioned his exception to the prohibition against “mental images” of Jesus in the Larger Catechism.
- 200346 **MOTION:** to arrest the examination. **SECONDED** and **CARRIED**. Mr. Mohr then left the room while the presbytery discussed the recommendation.
- 200347 **MOTION:** to sustain the examination and approve **RECOMMENDATION 1**. **SECONDED** and **CARRIED**.
- 200348 Mr. Mohr was welcomed back into the room, congratulated, and asked the questions for licensure from the ARP Form of Government and the NEP MOP, which he answered in the affirmative.

- 200349 The Moderator declared Mr. Philip Mohr to be licensed to preach the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ within the bounds of the NEP of the ARPC. The Moderator gave an exhortation to Mr. Mohr from 2 Timothy 2:15 and offered prayer for Mr. Mohr. The Principal Clerk gave Mr. Mohr his certificate of licensure.
- 200350 Taking up RECOMMENDATION 3, Rev. Sutherland led the presbytery's examination of Rev. Jun Young Chung to transfer into NEP.
- 200351 **MOTION:** to arrest the examination. **SECONDED** and **CARRIED.** Rev. Chung left the room while NEP discussed his exam.
- 200352 **MOTION:** to sustain the examination and approve **RECOMMENDATION 3.** **SECONDED** and **CARRIED.**
- 200353 The Moderator invited Rev. Chung back in and asked him the questions for ordination/installation, to which he responded in the affirmative, and Rev. Sutherland offered prayer for Rev. Chung.
- 200354 Taking up RECOMMENDATION 4, Rev. Sutherland led the presbytery in the examination of Rev. Ki Chang Kwon, which was done through a Korean/English interpreter for maximum accuracy.
- 200355 **MOTION** to arrest the examination. **SECONDED. CARRIED.** Rev. Kwon stepped out of the room while NEP discussed his transfer.
- 200356 **MOTION** to call the question. **SECONDED. CARRIED.**
- 200357 **MOTION** to sustain his exam and receive Rev. Ki Chang Kwon into NEP according to **RECOMMENDATION 4. SECONDED. CARRIED.**
- 200358 NEP welcomed Rev. Kwon back into the room and into the NEP. The Moderator asked him the questions for ordination/installation, and then asked Rev. G.J. Gerard to pray for Rev. Kwon, which he did.
- 200359 Rev. David Galletta then thanked the Lord for the extensive and diligent work of Rev. Sutherland in preparing for this meeting while the chair of the Credentials Team, Rev. Matt Harmon, was on sabbatical.
- 200360 **MOTION** to reconvene after lunch at 1:00 PM instead of 1:30. **SECONDED. CARRIED.**
- 200361 Rev. Paul Matthews offered prayer for lunch at the request of the Moderator at 11:58 AM.
- 200362 **Order of the Day:** The presbytery then dismissed for lunch at 12:00 PM and reconvened at 1:02 PM. In between, we were treated to more of Hyo Shin's gracious and delicious hospitality.

Pastoral Support and Development Team

200363

Rev. Steven Badorf presented the report of the Pastoral Support and Development team, opening with prayer. The report follows here:

Report of the Pastoral Support and Development Team

The Purpose of the Northeast Presbytery's Pastoral Support & Development Team is to ensure that the needs of pastoral care, spiritual fellowship, and professional development of ministers of presbytery are provided. (MOP Para. 6.08)

Responsibilities

- 1. Pastoral Care and oversight of ARP Ministers and their families*
- 2. Pastoral Care and oversight of ARP Retired Ministers.*
- 3. Pastoral Care and oversight of ARP Ministers who are currently ministering out-of-bounds (Missions or Military Service).*
- 4. Pastoral Care and oversight of ARP Students of Theology.*
- 5. Professional Development of ARP Ministers & Students of Theology*

Team Members

Specific Area of Oversight

Rev. Steven Badorf, Chairman (2020)

Rev. James Bills (2021)

Pastoral Care of those Ministering Out-of-Bounds

Rev. Dr. Fred Carr (2021)

Pastoral Care of Students of Theology

Rev. Herschel Carlson (2021)

Pastoral Care of Retired Ministers

Rev. Dr. Ridge Orr (2020)

Pastoral Care of Ministers & Families (A-G)

Rev. Rick Anderson (2019)

Pastoral Care of Military Chaplains

Rev. Jong Chul Kim (2019)

Pastoral Care of Ministers & Families (H-N)

Rev. Paul Yoo (2021)

Pastoral Care of Ministers & Families (O-Z)

This report is and always will be “a work in progress” from the standpoint of collecting needed information throughout the year. Your help and assistance will be greatly appreciated. There are several categories which have yet to be completed and are indicated by the phrase “in process.” To that end, the team wishes to report the following to the presbytery:

200364

1. Pastoral Care and oversight of ARP Ministers and their families

- ***Spiritual Life Director (2020-2021):*** *Rev. Nathan Beard*

- ***Minister Members of the ARP Northeast Presbytery***

- *Prayer Requests from minister members of the ARP NEP. The intent is to collect prayer requests in advance of each of the meetings (Spring, Summer and the Fall). [In process]*

- ***Ministers Without Call in ARP NEP:*** *[In process]*

- *Rev. Tony Cowley*
- *Mansour Khajepour lives in Washington state.*

- *Rev. Randy Marcoz is a member of VA presbytery. Visiting ARP NEP this spring 2019.*
- *Rev. Kevin Muldoon moved to Indianapolis, IN.*
- *Rev. Herald Zargarian lives in Indianapolis, IN.*

200365

2. Pastoral Care and oversight of ARP Retired Ministers.

• Honorably Retired Ministers

- *Rev. Fredrick S. Carr*
- *Rev. Ryung Chun*
- *Rev. Carlos Concha*
- *Rev. Milad F. Doss*
- *Rev. C. Biddle Foster – has written a brief interpretive paper on the letter to the Ephesians.*
- *Rev. G.J. Gerard*
- *Rev. John Hoeprich*
- *Rev. Dong Ik (John) Hwang*
- *Rev. David Johnston*
- *Rev. Paul Matthews*
- *Rev. Jay McMillen*
- *Rev. Dr. Ji Kag Pang*
- *Rev. Ron Pritts*
- *Rev. Clyde Reed*
- *Rev. Daniel Rhee*
- *Rev. Ashton Stewart*
- *Rev. Bengy Willford*

200366

3. Pastoral Care and oversight of ARP Ministers who are currently ministering out-of-bounds (Missions or Military Service).

Ministers Laboring Outside the Bounds of ARP NEP:

- *Rev. Alan Avera – Working with Christianity Explored as the Executive Director.*
- *Rev. Young Hwa Chung – Working with Antioch Spiritual Training Center, Buenos.*
- *Rev. Lane Creamer – Promoted to Colonial – U.S. Army – Working at Pentagon*
- *Rev. David Galletta – Laboring with World Witness's MT3 team.*
- *Rev. Myung Nam (Joshua) Jung – a World Witness Cooperative Missionary in Aguascalientes Mexico.*
- *Rev. Mansour Khajepour – Living in Washington State and laboring out-of-bounds.*
- *Rev. John Marsh – Retired from military service. Need more information.*
- *Rev. Eric Meberg is working with World Witness – Bridge Europe.*
- *Rev. Ridge Orr — Working with a Chinese and International church in Pittsburgh.*
- *Rev. Bob Whittet – Working at Gordon College in MA*

200367

4. Pastoral Care and oversight of ARP Students of Theology.

Candidates for the Ministry

- Philip Mohr (*Westminster Theological Seminary, exp. grad. May 2020*) Accepted into PhD program at The Catholic University, Washington, DC – Fall 2020
- Kevin Kaye (*Westminster Theological Seminary*) – On a break from seminary education serving as a Band-Aid with RUF @ Georgia Southern
- Seth Philbrick (*Reformed Theological Seminary, Wash., exp. grad. May 2018*)
- Paul Chung (*Erskine Theological Seminary*) – Has started classes at Erskine

Licentiates for the Ministry

- Nathan Carlson
- Jonny Finlayson – Has transferred and Come Under Care of the the Northern California Presbytery, PCA while he serves as an intern at New Song Presbyterian Church, Salt Lake City, NV
- Collin Gingrich – Has transferred from ARP NEP and is Licensed in the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery, PCA, while he serves as an intern at Proclamation Presbyterian Church, Mt. Joy, PA
- Nicholas Perrine (graduated Westminster Theological Seminary, 2018) Hired by Heartsong Counseling, Washington, DC

Candidate Sponsors:

- Kevin Kaye – Rev. Dr. Fred Carr
- Amjad Mahand – Rev. Dr. David Galletta
- Philip (Pip) Mohr – Rev. Steven Badorf – In August 2019 Pip had the opportunity to travel with David Galletta and MP3 to east Africa.
- Seth Philbrick – Rev. Bill Sutherland
- Paul Chung – Rev. G.J. Gerard

Scholarships: The following candidates currently receive a scholarship from ARP NEP and / or would like to request scholarships for the rest of the academic year:

- Paul Chung, Erskine – \$1000
- Seth Philbrick, RTS Washington – \$1000
- Pip Mohr, WTS in Philadelphia – \$1000

200368

5. Professional Development of ARP Ministers & Students of Theology

- This Spring 2020, Lord willing, Dr. Jay Harvey, the Executive Director of RTS NYC and Assistant Professor of Practical Theology will be with us for the continuing education part of our Presbytery Meeting. In addition to giving us a brief overview of the program at RTS Washington he will be offering a presentation on “Personal Renewal through Prayer in Ministry.”

Development of ARP NEP Internship

RECOMMENDATIONS for Spring 2020 Stated Meeting of ARP NEP

200369

RECOMMENDATION 1: That Minister Nathan Beard be nominated to serve as “Spiritual Life Director” for the NEP for the next two years Spring 2020 - Fall 2021.
SECONDED and CARRIED.

- 200370 **RECOMMENDATION 2:** *That NEP grant permission to Rev. Dong Won Han to labor out of bounds at Grace Church, River Edge, New Jersey for one year (renewable).*
SECONDED. CARRIED.
- 200371 **RECOMMENDATION 3:** *To establish Pastor to Pastor relationships similar to prayer partnerships for one year at a time.*
 A **SUBSTITUTE MOTION** was put forward to encourage all pastors who are interested in Pastor to Pastor prayer partnerships to contact Rev. Badorf. **SECONDED and CARRIED.**
- 200372 **RECOMMENDATION 4:** *To renew the one-year appointments of Rev. Jordan Harris and Rev. Paul Matthews as stated supply at Faith ARP Church in Scranton, PA and the Piney Creek and New Windsor ARP Churches, respectively.*
SECONDED and CARRIED.

Outreach Northeast

- 200373 Rev. Peter Kemeny and Rev. GJ Gerard presented the report of the Outreach Northeast Team, which follows here:

Northeast Presbytery Mission Churches

Church	Pastor	Location	Status
<u>ENGLISH</u>			
Hope Reformed	Josh Kitchen	Millbury, MA	Mission, Provisional Session
Tri-State Community	Rick Anderson	Chester, WV	Provisional session, self-supporting
Eldersburg MD Exploratory work		Sykesville, MD	
<u>KOREAN</u>			
All Nations	Andrew Bang	Flushing, NY	Mission, Provisional Session
Flock Church	Jin Kwan Kim	Whitestone, NY	Provisional Session, self-supporting
Holy Covenant	Jong Kim	Lancaster, PA	Provisional session, self-supporting
Global Vision	Peter Lee	Flushing, NY	Provisional session, self-supporting
New Covenant	Hae Gahp Lee	Burke, VA	Provisional session; self-supporting
Somang (Hope) Church	David Choi	Hicksville, NY (Long Island)	Provisional session; self-supporting
Yae Dam	Jae Hong Lim	Flushing, NY	Provisional Session, self-supporting
World Glorious	Hae Gun Kim	Staten Island, NY	Provisional Session, self-supporting

<u>IRANIAN</u>			
Iranian Church of Washington D.C.	Javad Pishghadamian	Silver Spring, MD	??; self-supporting

Church Planting Fund Snapshot

As of January 1, 2020, the balance in the church planting fund is \$279,410.

Beginning February 1, 2019, ONE made a financial commitment to the Hope Reformed Church plant over three years at \$20,000 / \$15,000 / \$7,000 per year. About \$22,000 remains to be paid on this commitment.

200374

I. Update on prospective Anglo churches (no recommendations)

A. Core Group for an exploratory work in Sykesville, MD – Parish Presbyterian Church

The 3 leaders are moving slower on this than anticipated. One of the leaders, James McDougal, will be moving to Bridgewater, VA this summer or autumn. That leaves 2 core leaders, Mark Burns and David Lawrence.

They hope to receive approval from St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Sykesville, to rent their building on Sunday mornings for worship. Once they nail down a meeting place, we are told, things may start moving toward developing a website and Sunday worship services.

200375

B. Dundalk Presbyterian Church (EPC) in Baltimore is exploring the possibility of transferring into Northeast Presbytery.

Peter Kemeny met with their elders on January 21 to introduce them to the ARP. The next step is for the church to inform the EPC of their desire to leave the denomination.

Anthony Reid is the pastor. www.dundalkpres.org/

200376

II. Report on Korean Mission Congregations for ONE Prepared by Rev. GJ Gerard

- A. **Global Vision Church** has moved twice in the past 6 months. Worship is now located at 35-24 Union Street, Flushing, NYC. The previous location, also on Union Street, as sold and Global Vision had to find a location. Providentially one was located only a few blocks away with the same cost. Worship is held at 2:30 PM on Sundays. There is also Sunday morning worship and Bible study at the home of Rev. Dr. Peter Lee, also in Flushing on 43rd Avenue and 150th Street.*

200377

B. Inquiries have been received from three Korean Churches

1. **Vision Community Church, Falls Church, VA** began public services about 18 months ago, renting space in a Methodist Church. The congregation has some 20 members and adherents. KTAC has visited the church and communicated with **Rev. David Kim**, Pastor of the church. A Petition for membership as a Mission Congregation of NEP. Church Information Forms have also been submitted. There is one deacon but no ruling elders in the congregation.

ONE encourages Vision Community Church to continue the process seeking affiliation with NEP.

200378

2. **Living by the Word Church, Ellicott City, MD.** This congregation is self-supporting with a building and substantial budget and membership with over 50 adults as members and adherents. The church has been in existence for over 10 years. A petition for membership as an organized congregation of NEP has been received as well as the submission of Church Information Forms. KTAC has visited the church and has communicated with the pastor, **Rev. Kwan**. There is one active ruling elder and one retired ruling elder.

RECOMMENDATION: *Living by the Word Church be received as a member church of NEP, and KTAC be assigned responsibility to secure a “borrowed elder” to form a working session, and to complete the necessary work to welcome the congregation as part of NEP.*

SECONDED and CARRIED.

200379

3. **The Great Commission Church in Douglaston, Queens, NY**, with the **Rev. Abraham Kim** as pastor, has begun the process to apply for affiliation with NEP.

RECOMMENDATION: *KTAC be assigned responsibility to work with Rev. Abraham Kim and the leadership of the Great Commission Church to complete all the necessary steps to make a formal affiliation request.*

SECONDED and CARRIED.

- C. *KTAC continues to maintain contact with the Korean congregations in NEP. See their report for further information.*

200380

APPENDIX A

ONA FUNDING PARADIGM FOR A CHURCH PLANT IN A STRATEGIC AREA

The normal ONA church planting funding paradigm is \$18,000; \$12,000; \$6,000. The rest of the funding must come from the Presbytery, the congregation, and outside donors.

*ONA also offers, as the money is available, a funding supplement called **Dare to Plant** which provides from ONA a 3-year funding paradigm of \$50,000 -- \$30,000 -- \$20,000 to Presbyteries that match that paradigm.*

This would provide the planter, over the course of 3 years, \$100,000 -- \$60,000 -- \$40,000.

Offerings from offerings from the core group will add to this income. The church planter would be responsible to raise any additional support to meet his proposed budget.

There are 4 conditions in the Dare to Plant program:

- (a) The area of the plant would have to be considered by ONA and Northeast Presbytery to be a strategic area.*
- (b) The planter would have to show from where he anticipates receiving the other income in his budget.*
- (c) The planter would have to plant with a team (likely volunteers who are committed)*
- (d) The church plant must have a clearly articulated vision for how they will win people to Christ.*

APPENDIX B
REPORTS FROM MISSION CHURCHES
(covering the previous 3 months)

200381

Hope Reformed Church
Millbury, MA
Rev. Josh Kitchen

- 1. We have a regular Sunday morning worship and Wednesday night prayer and Bible Study. We also have a weekly men's and women's Bible Study. We are in the process of planning a college ministry and youth group.*
- 2. Attendance:*
 - a. Regulars: 23*
 - b. Visitors: 13*
- 3. General fund balance: \$46,607.98*
- 4. Number of contacts made by the church planter: 20*
- 5. Encouragements: We have had a steady increase in weekly attendance over the last few months, and some of the newer families are asking about becoming members.*
- 6. Discouragements: We added some new musicians over the last two months, but a couple of them have been inconsistent.*
- 7. Needs and Prayer Requests: My daughter has decided we need a youth group, so she has invited several of her friends that don't attend church to join us. Please pray that we are able to get that going and that we would be able to get young people to come and stay. We have also had a few Chinese grad students attending our church, and they are interested in starting a Bible Study on their campus. Please pray for those details. We also will be hosting a high school missions trip for a day the week before*

Easter. Please pray that we would find ways to use them to their fullest and that people will find out about and attend our Easter service.

8. *Any special requests to presbytery or anything you think presbytery needs to know:
Thank you for all of your prayers and support!*

200382

***Christ Presbyterian
Glenside, PA
Dr. Iain Duguid***

1. *The church closed in November, due to my health issues*
2. *General fund balance: around \$10,000; this will be transferred back to ONE for future church plants elsewhere*
3. *I have been making good progress in recovering from the prostate cancer treatments, since early January. However, I was diagnosed with thyroid cancer, for which I had surgery two weeks ago. I am now recovering from that. The pathology report was mostly good, though with some concerns, so that will have to be watched in the future.*

My thyroid issues have so far prevented us wrapping up the church's effects. We still have a set of very nice communion ware, if there is a church plant that could use it and would like to collect it. We also have music stands and miscellaneous sound cables/guitar/violin pickups. The other stuff is probably not worth transporting; I would suggest we offer the seminary anything it can use and take the rest to a charity shop.

I would appreciate your prayers for the remaining members of the church – some of whom are continuing to meet as an informal community group – as well as for my longer term return to full health.

200383

***Global Vision
Flushing, NY
Rev. Peter Lee***

1. *Number and type of weekly services and events:*

*Sunday worship Service 2:30 pm
Sunday worship Service 11:00 am
Sunday worship Service 9:00 am
Wed. worship Service 8:00 pm
Tuesday Bible study 11:00 am
Saturday Bible study 10:00 am
Saturday Bible study 4:00 pm*

2. *Attendance:
Regulars: 13*

Visitors: 7

3. *Average weekly offering: \$375*
4. *General fund balance: \$400*
5. *Number of contacts made by the church planter: 290*
6. *Encouragements: Since, Feb. 16, 2020, we have been moved to the new location for the public worship place at 35-24 Union Street #B, Flushing NY11354, and gathering the new members and the old members. We have four Bible study classes every week. The current location has better space, and better parking spaces than before, the location of the church is the center of the city, the cross section of the Northern Blvd and Union Street. Available seats for worship and fellowship are 60 people.*
7. *Discouragements: None.*
8. *Needs and Prayer Requests: We need more attendant and more offerings to support proper financial operations.*
9. *Any special requests to presbytery or anything you think presbytery needs to know: To operate church activity properly, we need transportations to ride people for the Bible study class and worship services. Currently, we do not have any church Van. Pray for a suitable transportation Van.*

200384

Tri-State Community Church ARP
New Cumberland, WV
Rev. Rick Anderson

- 1. Number and type of weekly services and events**
 - a. *One AM worship service along with a Wednesday night bible study/prayer meeting*
- 2. Attendance**
 - a. *Our core has grown to 35- 40 folks.*
 - b. *Bible study attendance continues strong*
- 3. Average Weekly offering**
 - a. *The average weekly offering has grown from \$1,384 reported in the fall of 2019 to \$1,538*
- 4. General fund balance**
 - a. *Our general fund balance is approximately \$22,000*
- 5. Number of Contacts made:** *Contacts continue to be made by way of our Facebook page www.facebook.com/tristatereformedchurch . Difficult to number but I have*

managed to work into some new circles of relationships which is very exciting.

6. **Encouragements:** *We are very encouraged as the ministry begins to mature. There is a lot of excitement and energy. The commitment is astounding. I am so blessed to have such a loving and supportive group of people. There is another local pastor who is looking at our ministry with the thought of coming under care. He is a young man who is presently serving as an associate pastor of a nearby Nazarene Church. Elder Donald Bean has been mentoring him for some time and he has been listening to my sermons via our Facebook page.*

For the first several years of this ministry we were without children. Young couples would visit, see there are no children, and leave. By God's grace we are now seeing anywhere from 10 to 14 kids on any given Lord's Day.

7. **Discouragement:** *We are really on an up so I have no discouragement worth mentioning.*
8. **Needs and prayer requests:** *That God would raise up some more elders. We do desire to organize someday!*
9. **Needs or special requests from the Presbytery** *Only your prayers for which we thank you.*

- 200385 Revs. Kemeny and Gerard spoke about the departure of Mike Jones, the head of Synod's ONA, and the need for NEP members to be involved in Synod's boards and committees, in addition to the items mentioned on the report.
- 200386 Both **RECOMMENDATIONS CARRIED**, as noted above. Rev. Kemeny closed the report with prayer.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nominating Committee

- 200387 Rev. GJ Gerard presented the report of the Nominating Committee, which follows here:

REPORT OF THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

*Following is the current listing of officers and members of Teams, Committees and Liaisons. All terms expire on 30 June of the year given. Names in **bold** are new and need to be affirmed by the Presbytery.*

Moderator (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021)

Vacant

Vice-Moderator (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021)

Vacant

Principal Clerk (2021)
Treasurer (2022)
Recording Clerk (2023)
Director of Communications (2022)
Christian Education Liaison (2023)
World Witness Liaison (2022)
World Witness Representative (2023)
NEP Representative to Dunlap (2023)
NEP Representative to Synod Executive Board (2023)

Rev. Jonathan Kuciemba
Mrs. Jonathan (Kat) Kuciemba
Rev. Nathan Beard
Susan Morrisson
Rev. Robert Whittet
Rev. William Sutherland
Rev. GJ Gerard (Alt. Liaison)
Vacancy
Rev. Jonathan Kuciemba
(Rev. GJ Gerard, Alternate)

Nominations Committee

Class of 2023

Rev. Dr. Alan Avera (Synod Alternate)

Vacancy

Class of 2022

Rev. GJ Gerard, Chairman

Vacancy

Class of 2021

Rev. Dr. Suk Ho Moon

Rev. William Sutherland

Stewardship Committee

Class of 2023

Vacancy

Class of 2022

Vacancy

Ruling Elder Brian Martin

Rev. Nathan Beard

Class of 2021

Re. Paul Matthews, Chairman

Ex-Officio Kat Kuciemba (Treasurer)

Vacancy

Congregational Life Team

Class of 2023

Rev. Herschel Carlson

Class of 2022

Rev. Paul Yoo

Rev. GJ Gerard

Class of 2021

Rev. James Bills, Chairman

Rev. Jin Kwan Kim

Rev. Jay McMillan

Trustees of Presbytery

Class of 2026

Rev. Dr. Curtis Young

Class of 2025

Elder Michael Ritchie, Ballston Cntr

Class of 2024

Rev. Dr. Ron Pritts, Chairman

Class of 2023

Ruling Elder Vacancy

Class of 2022

Rev. Dr. David Johnston

Class of 2021

Elder Douglas Wright, Atonement

Credentials Team

Class of 2023

Rev. Dr. Curtis Young

Class of 2022

Rev. Dr. David Galletta

Rev. Dr. Ian Duguid

Rev. Herschel Carlson

Rev. Hong Suk Kim

Rev. Andy Bang

Class of 2021

Rev. Daniel Rhee
Rev. Terence Little
Rev. Matt Harmon (Chairman)

Pastoral Support/Development Team

Class of 2023

Rev. Dr. Ridge Orr
Rev. Stephen Badorf (Chairman)

Rev. Jason Crenshaw

Rev. Rick Anderson

Rev. Jong Chul Kim

Rev. Paul Yoo

Rev. Dr. Fred Carr

Vacancy

Class of 2022

Class of 2021

Outreach Northeast Team

Class of 2023

Rev. Dr. Ridge Orr

Vacancy

Elder Wayne Greenwood

Rev. GJ Gerard

Rev. Peter Kemeny (Co-Ch.)

Vacancy

Class of 2022

Class of 2021

Elder Al Haenel

Rev. Dr. Alan Avera (Co-Ch)

Rev. Jack Van Dyk

Korean Transition- Administrative Commission

Class of 2023

Elder Al Haenel

Rev. S. J. Yoon

Rev. D. W. Han

Rev. GJ Gerard (Chairman)

Rev. Andy Bang

Rev. S. Y. Park

Class of 2022

Class of 2021

Rev. Daniel Rhee (Vice-Chairman)

Rev. Alan Avera

Rev. Dr. S. H. Moon

Submitted by:

Rev. GJ Gerard, Chairman

- 200388 **MOTION:** to nominate Rev. Jack VanDyk to serve as Moderator for the 2020-2021 term, with Rev. Terence Little as Vice-Moderator, and to close nominations for the position of moderator. **SECONDED** and **CARRIED**, thereby electing Revs. VanDyk and Little.
- 200389 A few changes were noted from the original report, which are reflected in the report that appears here. **MOTION:** to approve the nominations as presented. **SECONDED** and **CARRIED**.
- 200390 Rev. Gerard again emphasized the importance of NEP members serving on Synod committees and boards and commended Rev. Daniel Rhee for his work on translating the ARP FOG, BOD, and DPW into Korean.

Korean Transition and Administrative Commission

200391

Rev. GJ Gerard presented the report of the Korean Transition and Administrative Commission (KTAC), which follows here:

REPORT OF KOREAN TRANSITION-ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION

PREFACE:

The Korean Transition-Administrative Commission continues to maintain contact with the Korean churches and ministers in Northeast Presbytery through personal visits and E-Mail correspondence, principally by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. KTAC serves as the “first response” conduit for all concerns from Korean churches and ministers, both within the Presbytery and those who wish to participate in the Presbytery.

While there are certain practical difficulties to welcome and integrate individuals and groups whose first language is not English, KTAC works to overcome these difficulties and to provide services to help Korean ministers and churches to be full participants in the work and ministry of NEP. KTAC works on the principle that NEP does not want to exclude anyone simply because of not being able to have a good conversation in English. The goal is to help non-English speakers become well integrated in the life and ministry of the Presbytery, which may be a lengthy process but certainly worth the effort.

NEP presently has 13 congregations whose primary worship services are in Korean. Some of the 23 Korean ministers in NEP speak English well enough to have a relatively understandable conversation with English-only speakers. However, there are more than a few whose English skills make it very difficult to have a comfortable conversation. This situation was even more unbalanced in the 1990's and 2000's when NEP first welcomed Korean churches and ministers into the ranks and there were very few who were able to converse in English beyond polite greetings. During this time NEP provided translators at stated meetings and also for any examinations in Team or Committee meetings. Nowadays those with limited English skills receive translation help, when needed, from their English-speaking Korean brethren. While skills to speak English may be sometimes limited, reading and understanding spoken English is generally more satisfactory.

Visits have been made to all the Korean churches at least once in the past 18 months and there has been regular verbal communications with all the Korean ministers. With some (more than one half) there has been relatively little difficulty in communicating and understanding, and with the others it takes more time and patience, but eventually there is a mutual understanding.

KTAC is thankful for all the Korean brethren, and continues to remain impressed and inspired by their dedication, their devoutness, and their desire to be good ARP's. They are all on-board with full adherence to the doctrinal standards of the ARPC and they are slowly but surely becoming more in tune and conformance with the American and

ARP way of church life and polity. KTAC is also very thankful that NEP has exhibited great tolerance and flexibility in welcoming our Korean brethren.

As with our American congregations and church plants, there have been ups and downs, successes and failures, among our Korean constituency. During the past 25 years there have been five congregations that joined but now are no longer with NEP. These are:

One. Kwang Myung, Bayside, NY, was received as a small mission congregation. The pastor was Rev. Joseph Kim, who was the first Korean to unite with NEP. Rev. Kim was and is a wonderful saxophone player. He moved to Georgia after some five years as a member of NEP and the mission closed.

Two. Holy Grace, New Hyde Park, LI, NY. Initially a sizable, stable, self-supporting congregation of more than 50 members, with 3 elders and Rev. Ryun Chung as Pastor. Holy Grace was the second Korean congregation in NEP. Internal conflicts and people moving further away from the church's location led to the demise of the congregation and closure of the church after some 8 years. Rev. Chung is now a retired minister of NEP.

Three. Holy Fire, Leonia, NJ. A stable, self-supporting congregation with Rev. Daniel Rhee as Pastor. When Rev. Rhee retired, the new pastor, Rev. Kim, was unable to assimilate with the congregation, and with the sale of the church building where Holy Fire was meeting, the congregation dispersed and the church was closed.

Four. Soonshin, Plainview, LI, NY. A small congregation, self-supporting with an installed session, and the Rev. Dr. C.K. Rhee as Pastor, was the third Korean congregation of NEP. NEP held a stated meeting at Soonshin and Dr. Rhee was an active participant in NEP. However, the congregation did not grow, and dwindled away. With the death of Dr. Rhee there were insufficient interested members to continue, and the church was closed.

Five Grace, River Edge, NJ. A small, self-sustaining congregation with an installed session, and Rev. DW Han as pastor. Grace was one of the last Korean churches to unite with NEP. Initially there was good rapport and Rev. Han became active in KTAC. However due to differences in "how to grow," the congregation voted to withdraw from NEP after 3 years of membership. Grace followed the ARP FOG and waited a year before a second vote to complete the withdrawal process. Grace was dismissed by NEP in 2019. Rev. Han is still a member of NEP

*There are currently **five** Korean churches which are organized congregations with active sessions. These are: Hyo Shin, Flushing, NY; New Vision, Flushing, NY; Joyful of New York, Fresh Meadows, NY; Jesuwon Community Church, Horsham, PA; and Beautiful Disciples, Little Neck, NY. The Pastors of these churches all regularly attend meetings of NEP and the congregations have also provided financial support for the Presbytery.*

*There have been **nine** Korean churches received as mission congregations who are still members of NEP (Global Vision, Yae Dam, The Flock, Beautiful Disciples, All Nations, Holy Covenant, New Covenant, Jesuwon and World Glorious). Two of these, Beautiful Disciples and Jesuwon, have grown and have been organized with installed sessions. With the exception of Global Vision and Yae Dam, the remaining six Korean mission churches, which now includes Somang (Hope), have all been self-supporting and have never received financial assistance from NEP. While Global Vision and Yae Dam did receive limited financial grants to help in securing or maintaining public worship locations, all the mission churches have always paid for their own congregational expenses.*

The Korean Transition-Administrative Commission (KTAC) maintains contact with all NEP Korean ministers and churches to assist with language and cultural differences and provide authoritative guidance to further the integration of the Korean churches and ministers into the work and ministry of NEP and the ARPC. KTAC has sought to work coordinating and cooperatively with the other Teams and Committees and the leadership of NEP thus relieving them from many time-consuming and onerous responsibilities. The work of KTAC has been beneficial to all, the Korean brethren, NEP and the ARPC. KTAC is an excellent example and model that could well be adopted by the other ARPC presbyteries and even the General Synod.

KTAC believes NEP should continue the patterns of flexibility, tolerance, and friendliness, while maintaining the doctrinal and polity distinctives of the ARPC in welcoming Korean congregations and ministers. Of course, there is the need for providing guidance and oversight to have an orderly process, but the goal should be encouraging affiliation and not discouraging membership in NEP.

The following matters are reported for action and/or information.

200392

1. At the October 2019 meeting of NEP, the following Recommendation was approved: Rev. Dong Won Han, Pastor of the Grace Church, River Edge, NJ (now dismissed from NEP), be permitted to remain on the Ministerial Roll of NEP, as a minister without call, until the March 2020 meeting of NEP, at which time Rev. Han can request other action.

KTAC has not received any communications from Rev. Han as to his intentions or desires to remain a member of NEP.

Recommendation: KTAC be charged to communicate with Rev. Han, through registered mail, that failure to receive a request to remain on the Ministerial Roll of NEP before the June meeting of NEP, Rev. Han would be removed from the Ministerial Roll of NEP.

RECOMMENDATION 1 was **WITHDRAWN**, since notice had been received at the meeting from Rev. Han that he would like to remain on the rolls of NEP, and NEP already approved this request for one year, renewable, in the Pastoral Support and Development report (see 200370 above)

2. *The Yae Dam Church, with Rev. Jae Lim as Pastor, continues to be a house church with a very small core group, primarily family and acquaintances of Rev. Lim. This situation has not changed for more than five years, since the Church left rented space due to insufficient funds and a concurrent medical need of Rev. Lim. There have been no reports from the Provisional Session during this period of time. In October, 2018, NEP approved a recommendation from KTAC that the Yae Dam Church and Rev. Lim be given ONE year to secure a public worship location and provide a “plan of action” to have real membership growth and positive ministry, in order to establish a self-supporting congregation. These goals have not been realized. A request was made to ONA for guidance regarding mission churches that fail to grow. ONA responded that the FOG could allow a mission church that fails to develop into a self-supporting organized congregation after a lengthy period of time, to come under the authority of the Session of an established church as a “chapel” or “preaching station” and the church planter/pastor could continue on the Roll of Ministers of the Presbytery, serving as an Evangelist under the authority of the Presbytery.*

At the October 2019 meeting of NEP the following Recommendation was approved: Yae Dam Church and Rev. Jae Lim receive official notice from Northeast Presbytery that not having met the goals of securing a public worship location, nor providing a “plan of action” to develop the Church into a self-supporting, organized congregation, the Church will be removed from the Roll of Congregations of Northeast Presbytery at the March 2020 meeting of the Presbytery. In the interim Yae Dam Church may seek to become a “chapel” or “preaching station” of an established ARPC congregation.

KTAC has not received any communications from Yae Dam Church or Rev. Lim in response to the above approved Recommendation.

Recommendation: Yae Dam Church and Rev. Lim be informed via Registeed Mail that the Yae Dam Church will be removed from the Roll of NEP at the June meeting of NEP if there are no communications received that would warrant other action. Rev. Lim would be given permission to remain on the Ministerial Roll for one year as a minister laboring out of bounds of the Presbytery.

Rev. Gerard reported that he had communicated with Rev. Lim earlier during this meeting, and that Rev. Lim reports that the Yae Dam church has ceased meeting together. Rev. Gerard will follow up with him to gain any information about any members, assets, or liabilities of the church that NEP will need to assume, so that we can vote on an orderly, official closing of the church at the June 2020 meeting of NEP.

However, in the meantime, Rev. Lim also requests a **SUBSTITUTE MOTION**: that Rev. Jae Lim be granted permission to labor out of bounds of NEP as an Associate Pastor at the New Life KAPC Church in Flushing, NY. **SECONDED and CARRIED.**

3. *The Financial Guidelines that were received as information at the June 2019 meeting continue to be studied by KTAC. It is the desire of KTAC leadership that any approved guidelines for financial aid to be adopted by NEP should apply to all congregations of NEP and not just Korean congregations.*

Recommendation: Stewardship Committee and KTAC continue to study and prepare Financial Aid Guidelines for Northeast Presbytery to be presented for approval at the Fall 2020 meeting of NEP.

CARRIED.

200395

4. The Global Vision Church (Mission) was meeting at a rented facility on Northern Boulevard, Flushing, NY since March 2019. The rental costs increased beyond the means of the congregation. In October, a new location was established on Union Street in the center of Flushing. Recently this facility was sold and Global Vision needed to move again. Providentially a similar facility was located just a few blocks away on Union Street and in February the congregation moved and there are weekly bi-lingual services held every Sunday afternoon. Rev. Dr. Peter Lee also leads Korean worship services each Sunday morning at his home on 43rd Ave.

200396

5. KTAC leadership has been in contact with Rev. Abraham Young Kim, Pastor of the Great Commission Church, Douglaston, NYC, NY. The GCC is a small, self-supporting congregation that has a history of over 3 years. The necessary processes for the minister and the congregation to affiliate with NEP have not been completed. Information has been shared to begin the necessary steps to be taken prior to making application to affiliate with NEP.

Recommendation: KTAC be commissioned to work with Rev. Kim and the Great Commission Church, in consultation with ONE and the Korean sub-committee of the Credentials Team, to complete all of the necessary steps and procedures (congregational meeting, petition, interview with ruling elders, etc.), to enable Pastor Abraham Young Kim and the Great Commission Church to apply to be received as members of NEP.

RECOMMENDATION WITHDRAWN, since it was already dealt with in the ONE report (see 200379 above)

200397

6. KTAC has assisted the Rev. David Kim, Pastor of the Vision Community Church, Falls Church, VA to complete the necessary steps to apply for affiliation with NEP. KTAC has visited the church, as has Rev. Herschel Carlson. Rev. Kim came to the October NEP Meeting. Rev. Kim has been examined by the Korean sub-committee of the Credentials Team, and in February met with the full Credentials Team to be examined to be received as a ministerial member of NEP. Rev. David Kim is fairly fluent in speaking and understanding English. He is a graduate of Gordon-Conwell Seminary with an M.Div., and Th.M degrees. He is a mature minister, who has served as a missionary as well as church planter in his ministerial experience. The Vision Church has submitted a petition for membership along with completed Church Information Forms which were shared with ONE. Due to its relatively short period of existence (a bit more than 18 months) and lack of an installed session, the Vision Church is asking to be received as a Mission Church of NEP with Rev. Kim as Pastor. While KTAC is satisfied that positive action should be taken on the requests of Rev. Kim and the Vision Church, it defers to ONE's concerns for additional time to study the matter of receiving mission churches into the Presbytery, and/or the Credentials Team

concerns regarding receiving a minister who would be permitted to labor out of bounds as pastor of a non-ARP congregation.

Recommendation: *KTAC be commissioned to continue to work with Rev. David Kim and the Vision Community Church to secure additional congregational information, including a written Ministry Proposal which would set forth goals and plans for membership growth, establishing elder leadership, increasing financial support, and identifying current and future target groups for the church's outreach and ministry. Upon reception of this Information and being in harmony with ONE's practices of receiving mission churches (which are not financed church plants), NEP would act upon the requests of Rev. David Kim and the Vision Community Church to be received at the June, 2020 meeting of NEP.*

CARRIED.

200398

7. *KTAC has met with the Rev. Kwam, Pastor of the Living By The Word Church, Ellicott City, MD and the congregation to assist in the process of desired affiliation with NEP. Rev. Kwam has met with the Korean sub-Committee of Credentials Team and has been examined by the Credentials Team (using a Korean interpreter). The Living by the Word Church has submitted a Petition for Affiliation with NEP and completed the required Church Information Forms. Rev. Kwam is as mature minister and has been Pastor of the Church for over 10 years. His ability to speak English is limited but he does read and understand better. The church has been in existed for over 10 years and has over 50 adult members. It has two elders, one active and one retired. It is financially secure and has a permanent worship location. KTAC is satisfied that Rev. Kwam and the Living By the Word Church should be received into membership of NEP.*

Recommendation: *Rev. Kwam and the Living By the Word Church be received into the Northeast Presbytery and KTAC be commissioned to secure a "borrowed elder" to form an active session until an elder candidate from LBWC can be elected, trained and ordained; and that KTAC be commissioned to complete any remaining steps to fulfill the affiliation process, and KTAC be commissioned to conduct a Welcome Service including Official Reception of the Congregation, Recognition of Rev. Kwam as Pastor, and the Installation of an active Session.*

RECOMMENDATION WITHDRAWN, since the action was already accomplished in the Credentials and ONE reports (see 200357 and 200378 above).

200399

8. *Visits were made the Holy Covenant Church in Lancaster, PA and to New Covenant Church in Burke, VA. Both congregations are financially secure, with stable public worship facilities and with an active Christian ministry.*

2003100

9. *The Somang Church, with Rev. David Choi as Pastor, continues to be a home church with no established plans for a public worship location. Rev. Choi has indicated he is seeking GOD's will for the future ministry of the church.*

Recommendation: *KTAC be commission to communicate with Rev. Choi, via registered mail, that the Somang Church will be removed from the Roll of NEP at the*

October 2020 meeting unless there is written communications received requesting and warranting other action by the Presbytery.
CARRIED.

2003101 *10. The World Glorious Church which had a significant membership loss in 2018 continues to worship in the home of Rev. Hea Gun Kim who is the Pastor. KTAC has sought information from Rev. Kim regarding his future plans for the World Glorious Church but has not received any response.*

Recommendation: KTAC be commissioned to communicate with Rev. Hea Gun Kim, via registered mail, that the World Glorious Church will be removed from the Roll of NEP at the March 2021 meeting, unless there is written communications received requesting and warranting other action by the Presbytery.
CARRIED.

2003102 *11. The All Nations Mission Church with Rev. Andy Bang as Pastor, is continuing to hold regular worship services every Sunday afternoon at the Manna Church on Northern Boulevard, Flushing. Rev. Bang is continuing to find a more affordable location and to develop the size of the church.*

2003103 *12. Prayer is requested for Rev. Jin Kwan Kim, Pastor of the Flock Church, who is continuing to receive medical treatment for cancer, and also for Rev. Dong Ik (John) Hwang, Pastor of the New Vision Church, who also is receiving medical treatment for cancer. Both men continue to serve their churches on a regular basis.*

*Prepared and Submitted by:
Rev. GJ Gerard, Chairman*

2003104 At the conclusion of the report, Rev. Ridge Orr gathered a few presbyters around to lay hands on Rev. Kim and pray for his healing.

Stewardship Committee

2003105 Rev. Paul Matthews presented the report of the Stewardship Committee, together with the Treasurer's report for information. The Stewardship Committee report follows here:

NEP Stewardship Committee Report March 5-6, 2020 (including Treasurer's Report)

1. Treasurer's Reports provided by Kat Kuciemba, our Treasurer. We are financially in good shape. The following forms are part of this report: 1-4th Quarter Income Statement 2019 (summary of yr); 2-Cash Position (overall financial picture); 3-2019 Contributions; 4-Expense Budget 2020; 5-Anticipated Contributions 2020. Comments & questions.

2. You also have copies of "General Synod Presbytery Giving" and "General Synod Contributions from NEP Congregations". Comments & Questions.

3. *Mailing address for NEP contributions or reimbursements:*
Kat Kuciemba/ NEP Treasurer/ 525 Craig Street/ Grove City, PA 16127
email: j.k.kuciemba@gmail.com
4. *Mileage rate reimbursement: \$0.525 per mile (we use the rate that Central Services uses).*
5. *Contributions are welcome at this meeting. You can give checks or cash either to me or to our Principal Clerk, Jonathan Kuciemba. Checks payable to Northeast Presbytery.*
6. *We express thanks to every congregation and individual who have participated in financial contribution, prayer or time in the service of NEP.*
7. *Out of 29 congregations, 14 gave financial contributions. Some of the other 15 have contributed to the work of the NEP in other ways and that is important to remember. Still, we want to pray that more congregations will give financially.*
8. *Thank you to the 16 congregations who contributed to the General Synod DMF. Remember we are a connectional church and it is crucial for each congregation to support the work of the Presbytery and the Synod in whatever way you can.*
9. *This Committee would benefit from having a Korean member. Consider this an invitation and a prayer.*
10. *Nathan Beard and I both serve on the Foundation & Stewardship Boards in our Synod.*

2003106

Recommendations:

1. *To give thanks to God for the privilege & responsibility of being stewards of our time, our talents, our gifts, our properties, our buildings, our finances, and most of all, the Gospel itself. And may we ask for his grace, wisdom and strength to accomplish all the above.*
2. *To give thanks to our Treasurer Kat Kuciemba for her continued faithful and trustworthy care with our finances.*
3. *To re-approve the Proposed Expense Budget for 2020.*
4. *To re-approve the Anticipated Contributions for 2020.*
5. *To express in prayer our dependence on God and confidence as well that He will provide what we need to accomplish His purposes for us.*
6. *To accept this report.*

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Matthews, Chair of Stewardship Committee

- 2003107 A change was proposed to cut the line-item in the 2020 budget for teleconference calls, which was approved by common consent. With that edit, there was a **MOTION**: to take all 6 recommendations together, which was **SECONDED** and **CARRIED**.
- 2003108 **RECOMMENDATIONS 1-6 CARRIED.**
- 2003109 Rev. Matthews expressed thanks to Hyo Shin Bible Presbyterian Church for their generous hospitality and provision of room and board for this meeting, to which NEP added their deep gratitude. Rev. Matthews then prayed for the provision and stewardship of NEP.

REPORTS OF THE MODERATOR'S COMMITTEES

Resolutions Committee Report

- 2003110 Rev. Terence Little presented the report of the Resolutions Committee, which follows here:

Be it resolved that the Northeast Presbytery of the ARPC give glory, honor, praise, and thanks to our Triune God for gathering a people from every tribe, tongue, and nation to Himself through the only Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Be it resolved that Northeast Presbytery expresses great thanks to Rev. Dr. Moon and Hyo Shin Presbyterian Church of Flushing, New York for the gracious welcome, the tender and comprehensive hospitality, and delicious meals so lovingly provided to the presbytery this meeting.

We are thankful for the service of worship, for the sermons preached, and examinations.

We are thankful for the business of presbytery and all the reports and discussion.

We are thankful for Dr. Jay Harvey's training.

We are thankful for our guests, David Pendergrass from Erskine College and Joshua Chang representing Green Window Ministries.

We are thankful for the new ministers, licentiates, and candidates added to the presbytery.

We are thankful for our Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Clerk, and Recording Clerk.

We again thank Hyo Shin Presbyterian Church for hosting Northeast Presbytery for our Spring 2020 Stated Meeting

*Respectfully submitted by,
Terence Little and William Sutherland*

Selection of Location of future meetings

2003111 The Presbytery was reminded of the following dates and locations of the next meetings of NEP:

Adjourned Meeting (June 9, 2020)	Bonclarken
Fall Stated Meeting (October 15-16, 2020)	Kirkridge ARP Church, Hampstead, MD

2003112 The clerk asked if there were any volunteers to host the Spring 2021 Stated Meeting of NEP. Rev. Peter Kemeny made a **MOTION** that the Spring 2021 Stated Meeting of NEP be held at a hotel in the Lancaster, PA area, where those in attendance could stay at the hotel, and we could meet in a meeting room at the hotel. **SECONDED** and **CARRIED**. Rev. Kemeny also agreed to organize finding the hotel and reserving the meeting room on behalf of NEP.

2003113 Therefore the following meeting was added to NEP's official schedule:
Spring Stated Meeting (March 4-5, 2021) Hotel TBD in or around
Lancaster, PA

2003114 At 2:35 PM there was a **MOTION** to adjourn. **SECONDED** and **CARRIED**.

2003115 The Presbytery closed the Spring Stated meeting with prayer and the singing of Psalm 133.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Daniel Rhee, Moderator

/s/ Jonathan Kuciemba, Principal Clerk