



August, 2022

Volume XLVIII, No. 8

Presbytery of the Cascades

225TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY (2022)

A summary of General Assembly actions

Rick Jones & Mike Ferguson | Office of the General Assembly - July 12, 2022

Church leadership

Key positions in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) were filled during the assembly. The Rev. Ruth Santana-Grace and Rev. Shavon Starling-Louis were elected co-moderators of the 225th General Assembly. The assembly confirmed Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett’s re-election to a second term as president and executive director of Presbyterian Mission Agency. The assembly confirmed the reelection of the Rev. Dr. Tom Taylor as president and CEO of the Presbyterian Foundation, his fourth term. The assembly also confirmed the 2021 election of Rev. Dr. Asa Lee, president of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.



The Rev. Ruth Santana-Grace and the Rev. Shavon Starling-Louis, Co-Moderators of the 225th General Assembly, receive stoles from Stated Clerk the Rev. Dr. J Herbert Nelson, II

Israel/Palestine

The General Assembly voted 266-116 to approve INT-02, a “Recognition that Israel’s Laws, Policies and Practices Constitute Apartheid Against the Palestinian People.” It declares that the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) “recognizes that the laws, policies, and practices of the government of Israel regarding the Palestinian people fulfill the international legal definition of apartheid.”

Fossil fuel divestment

General Assembly approved ENV-10 calling for divestment from five oil and gas companies: Chevron, ExxonMobil, Marathon Petroleum, Phillips 66 and Valero Energy. The assembly said the companies were not doing enough to slow global warming.

Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) reports that this is the first time the PC(USA) has voted to divest from companies out of compliance with GA’s environmental policies (which was established in 2018.)

Unification and National Structure

On a vote of 321-54, General Assembly approved FIN-10, which calls for the appointment of a commission to oversee and facilitate the unification of the Office of the General Assembly (OGA) and the Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA) into a single agency. The assembly also approved MOV-02, which moves Mission Engagement and Support (MES) from the Mission Agency to the Administrative Services Group, which supports both OGA and PMA.

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Unified budget/per capita

The assembly approved FIN-14, which includes unified budgets for the Office of the General Assembly, Presbyterian Mission Agency and the Administrative Services Group of the PC(USA), A Corporation. The budget for the three agencies and entities totals \$88.3 million in 2023 and \$89.5 million in 2024. The breakdown of the budget will be 16% for OGA, 79% for PMA, and 5% for ASG.

The assembly voted to approve FIN-13 which assesses a per capita rate of \$9.85 per member in 2023 and \$9.80 per member in 2024. The current per capita rate is \$8.98 per member meaning an 87-cent (9.6%) increase next year while the 2024 rate will drop by five cents (0.5%) in 2024. The per capita budget for 2023 was approved at \$15.2 million and \$15.6 million for 2024.

Immigration

By a vote of 340-25, the General Assembly approved IMM-06, allowing the church to declare itself a “Sanctuary and Accompaniment Church.” The assembly’s Immigration Committee says the decision sends a message that the church is committed to working for justice in U.S. immigration policy.

Gun violence

General Assembly approved a motion that the church renew its commitment to end gun violence by developing a 10-year campaign, the Decade to End Gun Violence (2022 – 2032).

The assembly also voted to direct Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) to engage with Walmart, Dick’s Sporting Goods and Kroger, three publicly traded companies held by either the Board of Pensions or Presbyterian Foundation, that sell guns not classified as semi-automatic and assault-based weapons.

Ukraine

The assembly also voted 374-1 to approve INT-19, a commissioners’ resolution condemning the Russian military invasion of Ukraine and crimes against humanity, and calling for a cease-fire and the immediate resumption of internationally mediated negotiations.

Race and gender justice

Commissioners and advisory delegates approved several items of business from the Race and Gender Justice Committee (RGJ), including RGJ-07: “A Resolution Addressing the Lack of Installed Pastoral Leadership in People of Color Congregations in the PC(USA) — From the Racial Equity Advocacy Committee” and RGJ-08: “On Offering an Apology to African Americans for the Sin of Slavery and Its Legacy.”

A two-hour plenary ended with votes overwhelmingly approving both items, and with white Presbyterians reading aloud “A Litany of Repentance” found in RGJ-08, which begins with the words: “As white Christians we repent of our complicity in the belief in white supremacy.”

The assembly also approved RGJ-12 calling for a new special committee to expose white supremacy within the denomination and make recommendations for improvement. In addition, the assembly approved RGJ-13, directing the Presbyterian Mission Agency and the Presbyterian Publishing Corporation to “create educational resources for congregations to identify and interrupt practices and policies that perpetuate the adultification of Black girls and criminalization of adolescent behavior.” Commissioners and advisory delegates passed a resolution, RGJ-14, denouncing violence against Asian women and Pacific Islanders.

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Omnibus

Omnibus is published twelve times a year by the Presbytery of the Cascades for distribution to churches and individuals.

Omnibus welcomes news and views of all the churches of Presbytery and all its readers. Send all communications to Kathleen Waugh, *Omnibus* editor, Presbytery of the Cascades, 245 S. Bancroft St., Suite D, Portland, Oregon. Email: kwaugh8@outlook.com

Omnibus retains permission to modify submissions for clarity and space limitations. The Presbytery “Communications and Technology Team” (CATT) is the editorial board.



NOTES FROM THE ROAD TO EMMAUS

*By Rev. Brian Heron,
Presbyter for Vision and Mission*

If I were a classroom teacher with a certain amount of authority, I would require every church leader to watch the movie, “Nomadland,” the best picture of 2020. But since I am just a presbytery executive who is given a prominent voice, but with little authority, I will encourage you and plead with you to watch this film. Better yet, watch it as a Session or a congregation and consider the questions I pose at the end of this article.

You might think that this an odd film to be promoting for our church leadership. The film highlights the life of Fern (played marvelously by Frances McDormand), a woman who is widowed and trying to find life in the midst of grief and dramatic change. Not only has she lost her husband, but the town they lived in, Empire, Nevada, has become a ghost town after the mining operation closed.

I don’t want to give away the whole plot because watching Fern work through the emotional process of making decisions about her life is part of the beauty of the movie.

But, what I want you to watch for is how Fern, now living out of a converted van as a nomad, is presented with a number of opportunities to return to a more conventional lifestyle—the last one that reveals what her soul most needs for healing and life.

My encouragement for you has a reason, of course. Most consultants worth their weight these days speak of this time in the church as an adaptive season. In other words, our ability to move through this time will be based on our ability to think adaptively rather than technically. The difference between the two is this: Technical solutions are the result of asking the question, “What tool will I need to address this?” Adaptive solutions are the result of asking the question, “What tools will I have to create to address this?”

Tod Bolsinger ([Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory](#)) is famous for his image of the Lewis and Clark expedition hitting the Rocky Mountains and discovering that the canoes (their tool) would not get them over the Rocky Mountains. Up to this point they have assumed that even though the journey would be arduous, they could at least depend on following rivers all the way to the Pacific Ocean. The Rocky Mountains presented an adaptive challenge.

The movie [Nomadland](#) presents beautifully this same challenge: How will I best move through the grief of losing both a town and a husband? Will I return to the things that gave me meaning in the past? Or will I follow a new unknown and uncertain path?

After watching the movie, consider the following questions:

- What do you think God most wanted for Fern?
- In what ways do you think she made the right decision? The wrong decision?
- Jesus lived a nomadic lifestyle. Is that part of “following” Jesus? Why or why not?
- As people of faith, what characters do you most resonate with?

On the pilgrim path with you...

Brian



Nice Home



Van Living

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Rose City Park Serves Its Community

By Pat Berger, Northeast Region Reporter

When one has the opportunity to chat with Pastor Liz Leavitt at **Rose City Park, Portland**, the first thing one learns is: "We're just finishing our Mission Study!" What an exciting time for this congregation! They used an "appreciative inquiry" model for the study. Several members of the congregation were trained for this. They went out to interview a variety of the members of Rose City Park, to ask them about what they knew of the history of this congregation. That was followed up with questions about what of that history has continued to this time, what would they like to hang onto, and: what were their hopes for the future of Rose City Park. Now, people are excited about putting all that has been learned to work.

Pastor Liz Leavitt came to Rose City Park in October. Most recently, she served a church in Oahu for seven years. Previously, she has served in Boston and in our Presbytery. Since this is where she grew up, she is glad to be back in the Pacific Northwest.

Currently, Rose City Park is doing hybrid worship. People are worshipping in person, and there are those who join them on YouTube. Among those are a family who formerly lived in the church neighborhood but now live in, and worship from, Montana! YouTube has also served well for members who are in various places on vacation.

They consider themselves to be a community church in Northeast, Portland. Members work at inclusivity and at being of service to their neighborhood. Racial ethnic conversations have been a part of what they provide for members and neighbors, hoping to be a force for awareness. The congregation supports "Do Good Multnomah," which provides services for those who are houseless. Along with **Kenilworth, Portland**, they help a group that works to serve veterans in need. The Mother and Child Education Center, which supports children ages 0 - 5 and their parents and families, also receives attention from Rose City Park. Most recently, they have focused on finding baby formula for those in this group. (Stores have limits on how much formula one can buy at this time; members of the church worked at finding different stores to go to!)

A new group in their area, "Family Promise Metro East," focuses on providing transitional housing for those in need. Rose City Park is also working with Community of Christ Church to provide items that are needed for those who are housed at their church. .

The congregation just completed this summer's Kid Camp. Children from those entering kindergarten through grade five spent their time learning about being peacemakers. There were about 15 children in attendance, all of whom (and their leaders) had a fine time and are on their way to helping all of us to be greater peacemakers.

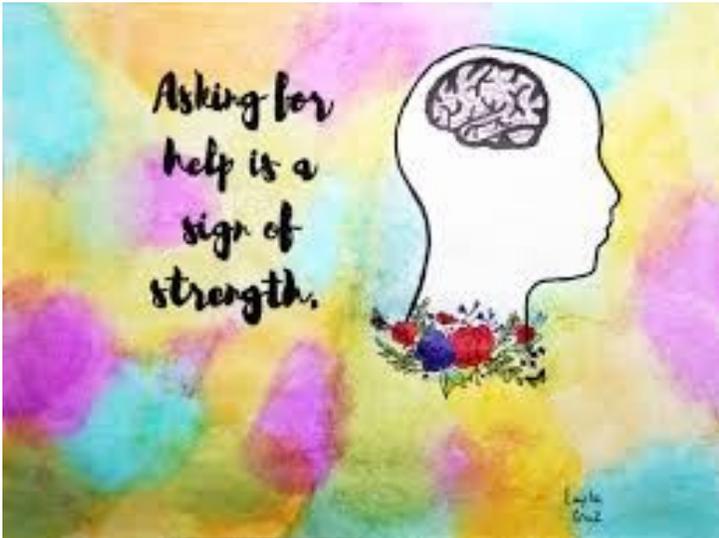
The youth group at the church is a part of Northeast Youth Collective. They meet monthly with other young people from **Westminster, Portland**, Fremont Methodist Church, and three different Lutheran churches. Their focus is community, service and spiritual growth.



Children attending "Kid Camp" learn about being peacemakers!

Their Mission Study is done, many other projects are in the works -- things are moving right along at Rose City Park Presbyterian Church! Blessings for your ministries!

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First, Corvallis Provides Space for Mental Health Support

By Bruce Smith, Central Region Reporter

At **First, Corvallis** the project to convert the manse into a building that can be used for individual and family counseling is ongoing. Already in May, Authentic Hope Counseling had 153 patient visits, so the need is there. Members of the congregation were invited to be a

part of a painting party to ready the parish manse for its new ministry. It was also necessary to demolish the garage, install a new parking lot with a disability ramp, and put in city approved landscaping. The church has raised \$43,496.52 to date on the \$70,000 projected cost of the conversion. Rev. Hilary Roethlisberger's, Parish Associate, has already seen over 40 individuals in a week for mental health counseling while working with the mental health ministry committee.

It is a much-needed facility. It was necessary to begin the lengthy process of transitioning the old manse from a residential use to commercial. Authentic Hope will be able to establish and grow their practice and hire additional therapists and start holding educational programs. First, Corvallis has chosen to be more than landlords – instead to be partners with the cost of the transition and care of the property.

Pastor Sharon Edwards noted in their newsletter that Presbyterians have always been concerned about general health but speaking and advocating for mental health has been a much quieter pursuit. She hopes that the month of May emphasis will just be the start of removing the stigma. They also want to promote conversations and provide education and continue the growth of First, Corvallis's mental health ministry.

Senior Pastor Matt Gough also shared some bits and pieces of his own mental path. It was only relatively recently that he received an ADHD diagnosis which is on the autism spectrum. He chose to reveal this because others who are so afflicted need not be alone and he wants to normalize honesty about mental health.

In May, Matt, while drawing on his training as a Healthy Congregation facilitator, hosted an interactive session on the Theology of Mental Health and ways to practice it in faith communities. A second opportunity was to offer a place of support for individuals and loved ones who are, or suspected they might be, neurodivergent.

There are many types of neurodivergence. The Oxford Languages Dictionary offers one summary that neurodivergent means, "differing in mental or neurological function from what is considered typical or normal (frequently used with reference to autistic spectrum disorders); not neurotypical." There are some things that neurotypical people just know or can figure out and that neurodivergent students may need to have a model for." Matt chose to show the issue in a neutral manner and highlighted the many different ways which neurodivergence can be beneficial.



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(Editor's note: No one was available to write the "Viewpoints" column this month, so I found this piece I wrote several years ago. We're in the middle of summer where the butterflies in my part of the world are plentiful. Their colorful gifts reminded me of a game I used to play with the preschool kids. Hopefully, you can enjoy this slice-of-life moment.)

Free As a Butterfly

Seventeen pairs of eyes look up at me expectantly. It's recreation time and these four-year-old youngsters are ready to move! I, of course, am not quite so ready, and silently yet urgently, tell my body that it's not time to collapse. Seventeen smiling faces are eagerly waiting to find out the next game we're going to play! We had already done "Duck, Duck, Goose." We had already whipped through "Simon Says." We had already run three relay races. "Butterfly," I hear the chant begin. "We wanna play Butterfly."

Now "Butterfly" is a game I totally made up. I suppose one could call this game a guided meditation – albeit an actively interactive one. It was during one of those desperate times where one is faced with the challenge of keeping the youngsters moving, but one did not plan enough activities because one forgot that this age group's ability to stay with a single activity was limited! It was raining. No way to go outside and just let them free play on the playground equipment. While frantically trying to think of something where their wiggly bodies could expend the energy so needed to be let out, the game, "Butterfly," was invented.

"Okay, let's go," I say. Squealing with delight they spread out all over the Great Room – the place we use for rainy day recreation. Through the large, floor-to-ceiling windows that fill out one side of the room, streaks of late afternoon sunlight push through the cloudy day creating a pattern of shadow and light all over the tiled floor. I can feel the tiny bodies almost vibrating with eagerness to get on with it.

Soon quiet reigns because as everyone knows, it all starts with a whisper. Seventeen pairs of eyes fix themselves squarely on me.

"Once upon a time, a long, long, long time ago," I begin, "there was a whole bunch of butterflies that lived and played together everyday. Most of all, they loved to fly all over the countryside, up and down, over and about, high and low, fast and slow." As I speak, the children begin to move, interpreting with their compact bodies, the words I say.

Taking a clue from the colors of their t-shirts, I continue, "There were beautiful blue butterflies, beautiful pink butterflies, beautiful red butterflies, and yellow and purple and green – a whole rainbow of colors – each butterfly different, each butterfly a wonderful and special creation of God! Yes, indeed, they loved to fly!" The youngsters skip and glide, dip and jump across the room, enthusiastically acting out this entire drama in free form.

"These butterflies fly and fly and fly until they get soooooo tired they lie down and go to sleep," Seventeen tiny forms fall to the floor, eyes closed. A few curl up into a little ball. Others lay spread-eagled – some face down, some face up. "While they are asleep they dream about how they came to be."

The story proceeds. "A long time ago, way before they remembered, they had a whole different body. Yes, indeed. They were long, hairy, fat caterpillars. When they were caterpillars they could only wiggle and crawl and slowly, very slowly, get from one place to another. Actually, that wasn't so bad. It just was different. They could eat a tasty leaf here and there. They could chat with the pretty ladybug, or spend time with Mr. Spider. Every once in a while, they noticed a butterfly passing quickly by their way. 'How beautiful,' they thought. 'Wouldn't it be fun to be able to fly and go wherever they want to go?'"



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~ *Transitions* ~

New Pastors

- The Rev. John Harland has returned to the Presbytery of the Cascades. Welcome back Pastor Harland.
- The Rev. Sungmin Song will serve at Vancouver Korean beginning August 1.

Pastor Emerita

- The Rev. Susan Grewe has been granted Pastor Emerita status for her service to Savage Memorial PC.
- The Rev. Linda Stewart-Kalen has been granted Pastor Emerita status as she concludes her service to Colonial Heights PC on July 31, 2022.

Pastoral Changes

- Correction: The Rev. Bruce Cameron is still very much engaged in his ministry at McKenzie Valley, Walthamville, and has no plans to finish his work there.

Retirements:

- Pastor Jhee at Vancouver Korean will retire on August 31, 2022. The church will celebrate his retirement on Sunday, August 21.



Continued from page 6 — Butterflies



"Soon, however, the caterpillars feel their bodies get really, really tired. It was time for them to go to sleep. One by one they curl up and fall into a deep, deep sleep. Now God wanted to protect them while they slept and so God carefully wrapped them in a silk cocoon. Round and round their bodies, they were wrapped with a very special blanket. They were

safe and warm and in just the right place for them to be.

"What a nice rest they had. Slowly, very slowly, they begin to wake up. With one arm they stretch aaaaaaall the way out, pushing hard to break through the cozy cocoon. Then the other arm comes out; then one leg and then the other. What is this? They look at their arm and shake it a bit. It isn't the same. It's very different. It's – a wing? O my!! They shake their other arm. It, too, is a wing! Is it true? Are they really beautiful butterflies now? Yes, indeed. It is true. Slowly, slowly, they push themselves up. They try out their wings, waving them up and down very carefully. They can move!! They can fly!! They are butterflies!"

With each image – from butterfly to caterpillar, to time in the cocoon, through the stretch back out of the cocoon, back into flying butterflies, the children act it out. It's a joy to watch.

The joy is to see their imaginations take off, to see the absolute lack of inhibition or shyness when they get to be this free-flying, beautiful butterfly. They themselves are indeed free-flowing, beautiful creatures – giggling, wiggling, running, glowing, scooting, hands-spread-wide, arching, dipping, curling up as in a cocoon. In all their various interpretations, they express the essence of true freedom.

Be it the freedom of a butterfly or the freedom of a four-year-old, the freedom of young minds taking hold of creation or the freedom of a small body being able to move in whatever way it can – what I'm allowed to witness is truly a gift from God.



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The Somewhat Reluctant Teacher

By Roberta Schlechter, CCE, Northwest Region Reporter

As Jeff Sievert, **Reedville, Aloha**, wrapped up 26 years of shepherding his community of faith in July, I asked about how he characterizes the role of Teaching Elder. Sievert was ordained under the earlier designation, Minister of Word and Sacrament. “Many of us did not like that change,” Sievert says. “I like the parity of the Teaching Elder title, but it doesn’t convey to me the depth of positioning or role as the Word and Sacrament designation did.” But ultimately he wore both titles with a soft touch.

“‘Word’ is interesting to me,” Sievert continued. “I understand the ‘Logos’ word from which it comes as a way of framing the world: a God Logic in human form. It’s more about trying to live into the God Logic, the visible and tangible elements of the world: water, bread and wine. In Jesus’ hands we see the God Logic. Pastor of Word and Sacrament was a position, a way of being, rather than a task.”

Sievert does think of himself as “a Family Systems guy.” He felt called to develop and nurture systems that serve Reedville Church, that connect a person’s gifts with the needs of others. “I loved the idea of developing sustainable systems,” he says. He understood the framework of ‘God Logic.’ “If there is a God way of doing things, then we can break it into pieces: social justice, creation, family relationships, church life.” Then he adds, “Hey, I just made a lesson plan!” It overflows on the Reedville website: <https://reedvillechurch.org>.

To the question, ‘How do you think we learn what the Bible has to teach?’ Sievert replied, “I kept to the lectionary to help arrive at what the congregation needed to hear. Whenever someone would compliment a sermon, I would respond, ‘I’m glad it was helpful to you. I’m usually preaching to myself and I just invite you to listen in.’” He tried to balance three concepts: the biblical narrative, the culture, and congregational needs. “We learn what the Bible has to say to us through responsible teaching; what do I think is the case, what is supposed to be the case, and what really is the case.”

As to process, Sievert recalls the Brian McLaren book, *We Make the Road by Walking*, along with Daniel Erlander’s book, *Manna and Mercy: A Brief History of God’s Unfolding Promise to Mend the Entire Universe*. At Reedville, Sievert’s model was, *The Bible is like a drive-through meal endeavor*. Reedville used their \$1000 Presbytery mission grant to start a drive through food service called “Table To Go.” He explains, “People know it’s good to feed the hungry. That’s more important than just knowing it’s nice to be nice and good to be good.” He tried to emphasize the central symbols of the faith: table and font. Reedville’s annual community picnic is known as “Table in the Yard.” Sievert says, “Metaphorically, it’s the same table as the communion table.” A Reedville member was inspired by Kristin Schell’s book, *The Turquoise Table*, a Front Yard book. So he took one of the church picnic tables and painted it turquoise. It’s a permanent feature that helps people make connections. God Logic is about being called to embody the Bible lessons and try to reflect on them.



A favorite Pentecost memory...

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Continued from page 9 — Sievert

As to Sievert’s seminary mentors, the Whitworth University graduate lists Roberta Hestenes of Fuller Seminary, who taught “how to design rigorous lesson plans.” Sievert ultimately graduated from San Francisco Theological Seminary where Professor Jim Simpson did “lots of hands-on things. He used magazines. He had us finger paint while he told a story.” Sievert adds, “He posted pictures of people in different settings: a Guatemalan village woman, a man in a wheelchair, etc. Simpson’s message was that teaching and preaching must go beyond those present, to “the Church of all times and all places.” Still, the idea of teaching had Sievert recalling “Julia Child’s message while flipping an omelet ... ‘Have the courage of your convictions!’”

The beloved SFTS mentor, Howard Rice, made a lasting impression on Sievert. As a senior, Sievert had to write a paper about the sacraments. In summary, this “sophisticated and critical seminarian” expressed disdain for the overly ritualistic liturgical practices. Rice, who led Friday Chapel services at SFTS, looked him in the eye and said, “But, you are here every Friday.” That helped Sievert embrace the mystery of it all.

At Reedville his focus was “faithful, full liturgical practice at the center of the church’s life, so the church doesn’t become about any one of us.” Wife, Lori, calls him “a natural teacher.” Looking back, he reflects that his sermons and teachings offered “multiple access points.” As his time at Reedville came to a close, Sievert reflected; having been “pretty thoroughly burdened by outcomes, that everything needs to be consequential,” he could smile at a legacy of “central things.”

One other lifelong characteristic: Sievert has always “hated to leave.”



Continued from page 2 — Summary of GA Actions

Unified budget/per capita

The assembly approved FIN-14, which includes unified budgets for the Office of the General Assembly, Presbyterian Mission Agency and the Administrative Services Group of the PC(USA), A Corporation. The budget for the three agencies and entities totals \$88.3 million in 2023 and \$89.5 million in 2024.

Mid councils

Commissioners and advisory delegates approved MC-10, which creates a task force to explore the theology and practice of ordination for ruling elders and recommend any changes to the 226th General Assembly (2024). The task force will include representatives who identify as BIPOC, immigrant congregations and New Worshipping Communities. Several amendments and motions were considered, but the overture was approved as amended by the committee.

Other

The General Assembly approved changes to the Standing Rules (STAN-22) that alter requirements for those serving as Young Adult Advisory Delegates to the assembly. YAADs must be:

- An active member of a PC(USA) congregation or a participant in a new worshipping community or immigrant fellowship that has a relationship with a presbytery.
- Between 18 and 23 years of age on the day the assembly convenes.

Printable (pdf) versions of the summary are available in bulletin and letter-sized.

The Church will form a committee to write a new PC(USA) confession.

Read more news of the 225th General Assembly [here](#).

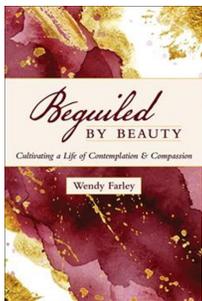
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Resources help Ministry and Mission

Hymns by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

This website is recommended by Roberta Schlechter. She states, "Carolyn Gillette is a prolific poet and song writer. Recently Pastor Sarah Sanderson-Doughty adapted Gillette's Ten Commandments "finger lesson." Click [here](#) for the lesson. The site is filled with ideas and suggestions for hymns to use in worship and education. Very practical, helpful advice. Click [here](#) to explore the whole website.



Beguiled by Beauty: Cultivating a Life of Contemplation & Compassion. By Wendy Farley

Contemplative disciplines, such as centering prayer and meditation, have been part of Christian life for centuries. They seem hard to practice now, not simply because our distracted and hyper-stimulated age makes them difficult but also because they can appear irrelevant to the needs of a fractured and ugly historical moment. Yet these practices are more essential now than ever, claims Wendy Farley. These practices essentially awaken and attune us to the beauty both of the created order and of human relationships. Farley helps readers discover being made for both kinds of beauty, with contemplative disciplines immersing us in it. Tying these disciplines with contemplation allows us to engage with the struggle for justice in an unjust society. *Beguiled by Beauty* includes practical advice for readers to learn several contemplative-meditation practices.

For more information, click [here](#).



One Thursday Afternoon by Barbara DiLornzo

When Granddad picks Ava up from school one Thursday afternoon, she's quiet. She doesn't want to talk about the lockdown drill that has stirred up her worries. How can

she be so afraid in a place that has always felt so safe?

Granddad doesn't talk much either; he just offers creativity and companionship. And with his gentle encouragement, Ava begins to sense that although the world can be scary, it is still a beautiful place.

With tender insight, *One Thursday Afternoon* sheds light on how an unpredictable world can make a child feel, reminding us that big fears can become smaller when we take time together to look, listen, and create. An author's note about the story's real-life inspiration and recommendations for how adults can help children overcome fear is included.



Everyone Feels: The Complete Series (3 books) written by Dr. Daniela Owen; Illustrated by Gulce Baycik.

Dr. Daniela Owen, Ph.D., and assistant professor of clinical psychology at UC Berkeley, has written her "Everyone Feels" series to provide kids with techniques on how to stay positive and remain calm in times of distress. Written as self-help guides, these books focus on helping children manage their anger, deal with anxiety, and overcome sadness.

Author of the best-selling "Right Now" series, Dr. Daniela Owen works primarily with children, adolescents, and their families and specializes in using evidence-based treatments to help kids manage difficult emotions. Through her children's books, Daniela brings to life healthy mind concepts and strategies that can be helpful for children everywhere.

For more information click [here](#).

Do you have a book, a Bible Study, a resource that has helped you in your ministry? Please share. Send to editor, Kathleen Waugh at omnibus@cascadespresbytery.org

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Monday, August 1

John Ailstock, granted Honorably Retired status this day, 2012

Tuesday, August 2

Barry Heath, granted Honorably Retired status this month, 2009

Wednesday, August 3

First Presbyterian Church, Roseburg -- chartered this day, 1873

Thursday, August 4

Seth Wheeler, Member at Large ordained in 2004

Friday, August 5

The Rev. Stephen Dietrich, Cascades Minister serving as a chaplain in Springfield, OR

Saturday, August 6

Cherie Elliott - Administrative Manager, Presbytery of the Cascades

Sunday, August 7

Jay Dee Conrad, granted Honorably Retired status this month, 2003

Monday, August 8

A. Michael Brown, granted Honorably Retired status this day, 2012

Tuesday, August 9

Aleida Jernigan, granted Honorably Retired status this month, 2013

Wednesday, August 10

Carol Swanson, granted Honorably Retired status this month, 2010

Thursday, August 11

John Pierce, granted Honorably Retired status this month, 2007

Friday, August 12

Del Burnett, Honorably Retired from Salem First in 2020

Saturday, August 13

Derek Richman, Interim at East Woods PC

Sunday, August 14

Rachel Stramel, Brighten Hospice Chaplain

Monday, August 15

Beverly Crow, granted Honorably Retired status this day, 2007

Tuesday, August 16

Bradley Busiek, installed as Pastor, Smith Memorial Presbyterian Church, Fairview, this day, 2015

Wednesday, August 17

Kathy Waugh, Omnibus editor

Thursday, August 18

Bruce Cameron, granted Honorably Retired status this month, 2013

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Friday, August 19

Spencer Parks, installed as Associate Pastor of Conference Ministries/Menucha Executive Director, First Presbyterian Church, Portland, this month, 2004

Sunday, August 21

Geordie Ziegler, Ordained in 1999, Chaplain at Peace Health Medical SW Washington

Monday, August 22

Commission on Ministry -- Central Region, Mike Hachquet, Chair, and members

Tuesday, August 23

Susan Grewe, ordained this day, 1987, now Honorably Retired and granted Pastor Emerita Status

Wednesday, August 24

Lorraine Stuart, granted Honorably Retired status this month, 2011

Thursday, August 25

Joan Miller, Pastor at Calvary Presbyterian Church, PDX

Friday, August 26

Scott Dalgarno, Pastor at Southminster PC, Beaverton, OR

Saturday, August 27

Sandy Hackett, Interim Pastor at Mt. Tabor, Portland

Sunday, August 28

First Presbyterian Church, Ashland -- chartered this day, 1875

Monday, August 29

First Presbyterian Church, Phoenix -- chartered this day, 1875

Tuesday, August 30

Gordon McClellan, ordained this day, 1998.

Wednesday, August 31

Richard Christensen, granted Honorably Retired status this day, 2011

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