

The Presbytery of Denver | Stated HYBRID Assembly | March 28, 2023  
 Zoom | First Presbyterian Church in Brighton

<b>MINISTERS</b>	<b>Jan 24</b>	<b>Feb 21 Special</b>	<b>Mar 28</b>
Adams, Joel	P		P
Aguilar, Claudia Rubalcava			
Amo, Evan	P		
Anderson, John E.			
Aylor, Richard	P		P
Beal, Clover	P		P
Bell, Diana			
Bell, John	P		P
Blackstock, Steven			P
Boucher, Susan			P
Bretz, Paul			
Buchanan, Amelia			
Buckley, Blair			P
Cameron, Heather	P	P	P
Cearley, Cynthia			P
Cooper, Dee	P	P	P
Cummins, Ian			
Darbonne, Wayne	P		P
Davis, Katie Robb	P		P
Davis, William	P		P
Dempsey, Whitney	P	P	P
Doehring, Carrie			P
Douglass, Joanna	P		P
Emig, James			
Fenn, Julia	P		
Foucher, James remove			P
Friesema, Doug	P	P	P
Fry, Sheri	P		P
George, Mark			
Gifford, Lynn Bell	P		
Girgis, Raafat	~		
Graber, Kim	P		P
Heil, David	P	P	P
Herrington, Leta	P		P
Huff, Ruth McCollum	P	P	
Irwin-Jordan, Rebecca	P		
Kim, Eunjoo	P		P
Kim, Johann			
Kitchen, Patricia			
Koerner, Sandra			

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Lyons, Barbara Lefevre	P		
Marshall, Peggy	P		
McWilliams, Frances			
Meeks, Mark	P	P	P
Parsons, Carol			
Peerbolte, Bethany	P		P
Pettit, David	P	P	
Poos-Benson, Stephen			P
Rabideau, Mark			
Reeves, Katherine			
Rodriguez, Fernando	P	P	P
Rosewall, Ann	P	P	P
Ross, John			
Sandahl, Cody			
Sausville, gretchen	P		P
Scheiber-Sjostrom, Anne			P
Shaw, Kenny	P		P
Shrumm, Don	P	P	P
Smith, Olivia Hudson	P	P	P
Smith, Patrick	P		P
Smith, Sandy	P		
Spotts, Chris		P	P
Spurlock, Justin	P	P	P
Steinbacher, Paula	P		P
Stuart, James			
Swaney, Julie			
Syrdal, Matthew	P	P	
Taylor, Ashley Seaman			
Traylor, Charles			
Troxler, Loye	P	P	P
Van Deren, David	P		
Vanderborgh, Susan			
VanderWal, Jill	P		P
VanderWal, Scott	P		
Van Oort, Harlan	P	P	P
Velasco, Lemuel	P		
Warntjes, Jordan	P		
Westfall, Louise		P	P
Whitehead, Jason	P		
Wigger, J. Bradley			
Wilson, Gretchen Hope	P	P	P
Wright, David	P		
Yu, John	P	P	P

<b>RETIRED-Ministers</b>	<b>Jan 24</b>	<b>Feb 21 Special</b>	<b>Mar 28</b>
Angus, Lawrence			
Avery, Lester F			
Avery, William Leslie			
Bailey, Clover	P		
Baird, John			
Barley, Kenneth			
Barrett, Phil			
Baxter, Steven			
Becker, David			
Beitzel, Christine	P		
Blackstock, Dwight	P	P	P
Bock, Paul			
Bollinger, Richard			
Calhoun, William			
Casberg, Sylvia			
de Bree, Thomas			
Dhonau, Donald			
Dixon, Miriam			
Flory, Robert	P	P	P
Gallegos, Gary			
Gilliland, James			
Granath, Rolfe	P		
Grimm, Larry			
Groff, Kent			
Grothe, Lance	P	P	P
Gwaltney, Robert			
Hampel, Robert			
Hanner, Alfred			
Hartman, David			
Henderson, Randi			
Heuer, Holly	P		
Hogue, David		P	P
Hole, Jonathan			
Jacobsen, Martin			
Johnson, Robert			
Kane, Russ	P		
Kelly, Jerry			
Kingsbury, Nancy			
Kugler, Burton			
Lafollette, Robert			
Lindsey, Suzanne			

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Lodwick, Robert			
Lowell, Deanna	P		
Mares, Joseph			
McDonald, J. Edgar			
McGinness, Heidi			
Melting, Marquita			
Minear, John			
Mooney, Timothy			
Muldrow, Elizabeth			
Neal, Laurel Smith			
Neal, Thomas Fitz			
Ngatia, Jemimah			
New, Rebecca			
O'Lane, John	P	P	P
Olthoff, Terry			
Oram, Robert			
Park, Augustine			
Piper, Annie			
Piper, John			
Plummer, Stuart	P	P	P
Purvis-Smith, Terry	P	P	P
Purvis-Smith, Ginny			P
Raath, Ethan			
Ritterson, Jane	P		
Ross, Robert J.	P		P
Sanders, William			
Schlenker, Janet			
Sewell, Rodney			
Shaffer, Patricia			
Smidt, H. John			
Smith, Parker			
Song, John	P		
Spear, Bruce			
Stewart, Richard	P		P
Taylor, Bruce			
Thwaites, Edward			
Vestal, B. Clarke			
Vickstrom, Mark			
Warming, Patricia			
Wehrman, Karen			
Wolf, Pamela			
Woodson, Joseph			
Wright, John			

**Ruling Elder Commissioned/Eligible-Represented Churches (80 eligible)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Bethel (2) - not represented</b>                   | <i>Noel Matthews</i>                                     |
| <b>Byers (1) – not represented</b>                    | <b>Grace (2)</b>   |
| <b>Calvary (1)</b>                                    | <i>Susan Pilcher</i>                                     |
| <i>Diane Ritzdorf</i>                                 | <i>Steve Wiedenbeck</i>                                  |
| <b>Capitol Heights (1)</b>                            | <b>Green Mountain (2)</b>                                |
| <i>Jean Demmler</i>                                   | <i>Marcia Charlton</i>                                   |
| <b>Central (2)</b>                                    | <i>Charlene Pearson</i>                                  |
| <i>Celeste Habiger</i>                                | <b>Iglesia Valverde (2) not represented</b>              |
| <i>Rob Habiger</i>                                    | <b>Montbello United (2) not represented</b>              |
| <b>Ch. of the Eternal Hills (2) – not represented</b> | <b>Montview (4)</b>                                      |
| <b>Church of the Hills (2)</b>                        | <i>Eric Muller-Girard</i>                                |
| <i>Judy Jensen</i>                                    | <i>Bob Homiak</i>  |
| <i>Heidi Smithson</i>                                 | <i>Beth Hulac</i>  |
| <b>Columbine United (2) – not represented</b>         | <b>Mountain View (1)</b>                                 |
| <b>Community of Grace (4)</b>                         | <i>Marcia Hall</i>                                       |
| <i>Ann Butcher</i>                                    | <b>New Hope (3) – not represented</b>                    |
| <i>Ruth Curtin</i>                                    | <b>Peoples (2)</b>                                       |
| <i>Alan Krueger</i>                                   | <i>Sharon Cochran</i>                                    |
| <b>Eagle River (2)</b>                                | <i>Daphne Rice-Allen</i>                                 |
| <i>Dietmar Fritsch</i>                                | <b>Presbyterian Church of Covenant (2)</b>               |
| <i>Karen Fritsch</i>                                  | <i>Kim Baldwin</i>                                       |
| <b>Elbert (1)</b>                                     | <b>Providence (2)</b>                                    |
| <i>Doris Smith</i>                                    | <i>Bonnie Thompson</i>                                   |
| <b>Elizabeth (1) – not represented</b>                | <b>Shepherd of the Hills (2) – not represented</b>       |
| <b>First Avenue (1) – not represented</b>             | <b>South Park (1)</b>                                    |
| <i>Greg Garner</i>                                    | <i>Georgia Comstock</i>                                  |
| <b>First PC–Aurora (1) – not represented</b>          | <b>St. Andrew (1)</b>                                    |
| <b>First-Brighton (2)</b>                             | <i>Deborah Gile</i>                                      |
| <i>Linda Hubbard</i>                                  | <b>St. James (2) – not represented</b>                   |
| <b>First PC – Englewood (2)</b>                       | <b>St. Paul (2)</b>                                      |
| <i>Whitney Mayhew</i>                                 | <i>Lee Boteler</i>                                       |
| <b>First PC – Georgetown (1) – not represented</b>    | <i>Cleve Dixon</i>                                       |
| <b>First PC - Golden (2)</b>                          | <b>Strasburg (1) – not represented</b>                   |
| <i>Barbara Duggan</i>                                 | <b>Trinity Church in the Pines (1) - not represented</b> |
| <i>Chris McCarraher</i>                               | <b>True Light (2) - not represented</b>                  |
| <b>First PC – Leadville (1)</b>                       | <b>United Ch. of Idaho Springs (1) – not represented</b> |
| <i>Sarah Savage</i>                                   | <b>Wellshire (3)</b>                                     |
| <b>First PC - Littleton (2)</b>                       | <i>Jeffery Rutherford</i>                                |
| <i>Kathy McDaniel</i>                                 | <i>Barbara Williams</i>                                  |
| <i>Rick Wilson</i>                                    | <i>Becca Winslow</i>                                     |
| <b>Genesis (1)</b>                                    | <b>Westminster (2)</b>                                   |
| <i>Chuck Sparks</i>                                   | <i>Don Goodman</i>                                       |
| <b>Good Shepherd (2)</b>                              | <i>Peggy Smith</i>                                       |
| <i>Joyce Matthews</i>                                 | <b>Wheat Ridge (2) – not represented</b>                 |



**Corresponding Members (1)**

Candice Sweet (Synod of the Rocky Mountains)

**Others Voting Member (5)**

Tu Bui (Vietnamese Fellowship)  
Beth Carlisle  
Teddie McConnell  
Pat Queen  
Sandy Safford  
Vicky Terry (Presbyterian Women)

**New Worshiping Communities**

Nathan Heimer (A Stoked Life)

**Others Present/Visitors (23)**

Wanda Beaman  
Anne Bond  
Steve Cearley  
Susan Cornman  
Becky Cottrell  
Brad Drenth  
Cathy Futch  
Nancy Grant  
Shari Gulbrandsen  
Beth Hewlett  
Bonnie Jensen  
Margaret Masquelier  
Joan Osborne  
Judith Quackenboss  
Linda Sausville  
Brontë Shedden  
Jon Sutterlin  
Christi Todd  
Verniece Vafeades  
Neal Witherell  
Karen Yarberry

**SUMMARY**

Ruling Elders Present **48**  
Ruling Elders Absent 32  
Ministers present (including retired) **54**  
Ministers absent (excluding retired)  
Corresponding Member 1  
Other Voting Members 5  
(Others Present) Visitors 24  
**Total Present 132**

**Call to Order and Establishment of a Quorum:** The meeting came to order at 6:01 p.m. Moderator John Yu and Stated Clerk Olivia Hudson Smith were present. A quorum was established.

**Land Acknowledgement and Prayer**

Vice-Moderator, Pat Queen opened the Assembly with a Land Acknowledgement and prayer.

**Welcome and Introduction of Corresponding and new Ruling Elders**

John welcomed corresponding members and asked them to introduce themselves including their home Presbytery. New ruling elder commissioners were asked to introduce themselves identifying the congregation which they represent. John reminded the Assembly who is eligible to vote.

**Preliminary Business (Omnibus Motion)**

The Assembly approved the following:

1. The Docket as distributed, with such changes as may be announced at the start of the assembly.
2. Enroll the Corresponding Members that are introduced and grant them permission of voice on the floor. The names and presbytery of membership of such persons must be written on the attendance roster or given to the Stated Clerk.
3. The minutes of the Stated Assembly January 24, 2023, and the called Assembly on February 21, 2023, as posted on the Presbytery website, except for any changes in the attendance roll that may be required.
4. Received the reports contained in the Assembly packet.

**5. Foundations of Presbyterian Policy**

22-A — F-1.0302c

22-B — F-1.0404

**Form of Government**

22-C — G-1.0501

22-D — G-1.0503

22-E — G-2.0503

22-F — G-2.0505a (1)

22-G — G-2.0603

22-H — G-2.0605

22-I — G-2.0804

22-J — G-2.1001

22-K — G-2.1002

22-L — G-2.1103

22-M — G-3.0104

22-N — G-3.0105

22-O — G-3.0106

22-P — G-3.0106

22-Q — G-3.0303c  
22-R — G-3.0401  
22-S — G-4.0301

Directory for Worship

22-T — W-3.0205  
22-U — W-3.0409  
22-V — W-3.0414  
22-W — W-4.0403  
22-X — W-5.0104  
22-Y — W-5.0104  
22-Z — W-5.0201  
22-AA — W-5.0204  
22-BB — W-5.0204

Rules of Discipline

22-CC — D-3.0106

**New Voting Process | Beth Carlisle**

Beth, with assistance of Brontë explained the new voting process that will be used going forward. The Assembly was provided with an opportunity to practice prior to voting on the Omnibus Motion.

**Worship | Bethany Peerbolte**

Rev. Peerbolte, a New Worshipping Community Leader whose ministry utilizes social media platforms offered worship, including the opportunity for those present to move to breakout rooms to discuss. The message was based on Philippians 1:4 using the New Living Translation.

**Necrology Recognition | John Yu**

John provided opening remarks as we remembered our Minister of the Word and Sacrament colleagues who transitioned in 2022; Donald S. Brown, J. Patrick Jordan, Nancy J. Kepner, and Barbara Royle.

**Equity Primes | John Yu**

John went over the equity primes concept utilized by the 225<sup>th</sup> General Assembly.

**Lead Presbyter Report | Dee Cooper**

Dee offered a video on launching a ship and related it to what is occurring in the Presbytery of Denver as they launch the new agency structure.



### **Recognition/Appreciation | Dee Cooper**

Dee recognized and expressed appreciation for all the former agencies in the Presbytery that have completed their work as the new structure is being phased in and implemented.

### **Visionary Leadership Commission (VLC) | Rob Habiger**

**Motion:** The Visionary Leadership Commission recommends to the Assembly the dissolution of Trinity Presbyterian Church and Arvada Presbyterian Church effective April 1, 2023. **Approved.**

**Motion:** The Visionary Leadership Commission recommends approval of the dismissal of the Arvada/Trinity Administrative Commission approved on January 25, 2022, with gratitude for their ministry in merging two congregations into a new faith expression, constituted as Community of Grace. **Approved.**

#### Agency Review Task Force (ARTF) | Rob Habiger

Rob report that as a Presbytery, we have made significant progress.

The Visionary Leadership Commission has met 4 times with the purpose of equipping its members to best serve in the Presbytery in this capacity. It has also completed its first official meeting in March, taking up the business and vision of the Presbytery.

The Ministry Relations Committee Core Team is formed and has had their first equipping session and has begun its work as it incorporates the work and responsibilities of the previous Committee on Ministry, while adding broader responsibilities for all faith communities in our Presbytery. In conjunction with the Servant Leadership Development Committee, it is now in the process of filling positions on the 5 sub teams.

The Servant Leadership Commission has been equipped its equipping and has been at work since last year in reviewing Passion Discovery Forms, having discerning conversations, and nominating leaders for the new agencies.

Moderator training was conducted last week for people serving in this critical role. Another moderator training will be available as we continue to fill the remaining committees and teams.

Perhaps the biggest change in the new structure is the manner in which we identify leaders to serve on the Commissions and Committees of the Presbytery. The new system requires people to prayerfully consider where their passion for service lies and together with the Servant Leadership Development Committee discern where that passion can best be put into practice. A significant part of this discernment process is through short, meaningful conversations with the Servant Leadership Development Committee. I know for

some, this taxes a couple of our core values, such as “letting go” and being “generative”. We challenge you to let go and be generative, even if this new model makes you a bit uncomfortable, even if it tends to irritate you by being asked to complete a Passion Discovery Form or having a conversation about where best to serve.

The ARTF also heard your complaints about the Passion Discovery Form and have worked to make it easier to complete. The new friendlier versions of the Passion Discovery Form can be used for service in any area of the Presbytery. The Servant Leadership Development Committee is even offering to help you complete it during the conversations they are scheduling. We have position descriptions available online now or very soon for the new leadership agencies that can further guide you in identifying where you might best serve.

We also realize that some of you have completed the Passion Discovery Form a while ago and perhaps not heard back. We apologize, but also ask your patience as we work through the development of a very different process.

Rob encouraged the Assembly to “let go” of excuses for not joining our Presbytery in our mission to encourage, equip, and challenge congregations, broader faith expressions, covenant partners, and their leaders, as they share the love and shalom of Jesus Christ.

Finance and Property | Pat Queen

**Motion:** The Visionary Leadership Commission recommends to the Assembly approval of the sale of Genesis Presbyterian Church to Abiding Hope Lutheran Church for not less than 90% of the \$2,250,000.00 listing price and that Genesis be authorized to lease back the Sanctuary for Worship. **Approved.**

**Treasurer’s Report** | Sue Pilcher

Sue reported on the February financial reports. At that point the Presbytery has received 29% of per capita. Investments lost (\$106,000.00) which is about half of the gain realized in January.

**Engage and Stretch** | John Yu

John led the Assembly through an engagement exercise – mimicking a happy face emoji and then making that face for a group screen shot. The Assembly went into a short break.

**Ministry Relations Committee (MRC)** | Sheri Fry

Sheri and Christi Todd, Church of the Hills spoke to the motion, including Richard’s service and fit with the church and its mission.

Rev. Richard Aylor is serving Church of the Hills as a Temporary Supply Pastor. The congregation has voted to call him as the next installed pastor which requires a  $\frac{3}{4}$  vote

of the Assembly pursuant to Book of Order G-2. 0504.c., and the Presbytery of Denver policy.

**Motion:** The Ministry Relations Committee recommends that the Assembly approve Rev. Richard Aylor as the installed Minister of the Word and Sacrament at Church of the Hills. **Approved by 98.8% of the 83 votes cast.**

**Introduction of New Worshiping Committee Leader | Nathan Heimer**

Nathan introduced Raafat Girgis, New Worshiping Committee Leader who spoke on his vision to begin a new multicultural faith community based on diverse vocations.

**Stated Clerk Nominating/Search Committee | Judy Jensen**

Moderator John Yu announced that Ruling Elder Diane Ritzdorf will serve as Stated Clerk, pro tem, for the duration of the meeting. Stated Clerk Olivia Hudson Smith left the meeting.

Stated Clerk Nominating /Search Committee chair, Judy Jensen, introduced the report from the committee. She and the other committee members, Jon Sutterlin, Jill VanderWal, and James Foucher explained the work of the committee, their processes, and their choice. The nominee, gretchen Sausville, explained why she applied for the position. Afterward questioning, she was moved to a breakout room. The Assembly discussed and the voted on the motion by electronic poll.

**Motion:** The Stated Clerk Nominating/Search Committee recommends that the Assembly approve, Rev. gretchen N. Sausville, be elected as Stated Clerk for a three-year term, beginning April 1, 2023, and effective through March 31, 2026, according to the Terms of Call included in the Assembly packet. **Approved**

Rob Habiger, moderator of the Visionary Leadership Commission, dismissed the Stated Clerk Nominating/Search Committee with great appreciation for their service.

**Adjournment & Closing Prayer**

Moderator John Yu led the closing prayer. The Assembly adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Rev. Olivia L. Hudson Smith, J.D.  
Stated Clerk  
Diane Ritzdorf, Stated Clerk pro tem