

Presbytery of the Highlands
Stated Meeting
Commission on Ministry Report – Part 1
May 12, 2026

Items for Consent Agenda:

None.

Items for Action:

COM-1

The COM recommends the following to the Presbytery:

- That the Presbytery approve the Plan of Union for First Presbyterian Church, Stirling and the Meyersville Presbyterian Church, Gillette. See Plan of Union attached.

Items for Report:

The COM reports the following from their March 3, 2026 meeting:

COM-2

Appointed Rev. Jim Scovell as moderator for Musconetcong Valley Presbyterian Church, Hampton.

COM-3

Received the report of the Service of Installation of the Rev. Nathaniel Fryer at First Presbyterian Church of Boonton.

COM-4

Noted that because of snowy weather the Service of Installation of Rev. Adrienne Poissant at First Presbyterian Church of Branchville was postponed until March 22.

COM-5

Validated the Ministry of Rev. Peter Billings at First Presbyterian Church of Mendham.

COM-6

Approved the following Terms of Call between:

- Rev. Dr. Pamela Szurek and United Presbyterian Church in Belvidere

- Rev. Amy Lincoln and Flemington Presbyterian Church
- Rev. Emily McCachren and Frenchtown Presbyterian Church
- Rev. Tex Culton and Lower Valley Presbyterian Church, Califon
- Rev. Hannah Faye Allred and Kitchell Memorial Presbyterian Church, East Hanover
- Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy and Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church, Stewartsville
- Rev. Don Bragg and Parsippany Presbyterian Church
- Rev. Stephen Choi and Stewartsville Presbyterian Church
- Rev. Nathaniel Fryer and First Presbyterian Church of Boonton
- Rev. Don Brown and Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains
- Rev. Jim Scovell and First Presbyterian Church of Washington

COM-7

Approved the Clergy Renewal/Sabbatical Proposal for Rev. Amy Lincoln and Flemington Presbyterian Church.

The COM reports the following from their April 7, 2026 meeting:

COM-8

Approved the request from the Presbytery of the Coastlands to transfer the membership of the Rev. Dr. Jefferson Hatch, HR to the Presbytery of the Coastlands.

COM-9

Approved the request to grant Rev. Steve McClelland, Presbytery of the Northeast, permission to moderate the session at Flemington Presbyterian Church while Rev. Amy Lincoln is on Clergy renewal leave in 2026.

COM-10

Appointed Rev. Dr. Pamela Szurek to be moderator of the Second English Presbyterian Church (Mt. Airy), Lambertville.

COM-11

Approved recommending that presbytery commission Elder Craig Barth, Elder Tricia Hayes and Elder Mark Hontz to preside at Table. If approved they will be commissioned at the May Presbytery Meeting.

COM-12

Approved the final updated policy for Validated/Specialized Ministry.

COM-13

Discussed the plans for the Celebration of the 70th Anniversary of Clergy Women in the PCUSA.

COM-14

Discussed the Plans for the Pastor's Retreat at Johnsonburg on April 29.

COM-15

Discussed the plans for a Retired Pastors and spouses gathering this summer at Long Valley Presbyterian Church.

COM-16

Approved the following Terms of Call between:

- Rev. Justin Warner and Bound Brook Presbyterian Church
- Rev. Cliff Acklam and United Presbyterian Church, Flanders
- Rev. Carie Stanley and Calvary Presbyterian Church, Florham Park
- Rev. Geoffrey Stanley and Holland Bible Church, Milford
- Rev. Daniel Vigilante and Presbyterian Church in Morristown
- Rev. Audrey Webber and Presbyterian Church in Morristown

COM-17

Approved the revised Pastor position from Interim to Covenant Supply Pastor for the Presbyterian Church in Harmony, Phillipsburg.

COM-18

Approved the Session Exemption waiver for Hungarian Presbyterian Church of Wharton.