

Presbytery of the Highlands
Stated Meeting
Commission on Preparation for Ministry Report
September 15, 2026

Items for Consent Agenda

None.

Items for Action

None.

Items for Report:

From the May 11, 2026 meeting:

CPM-1

Laura Choi (Candidate – certified ready to receive a call): Laura will continue under care of CPM until such time as she receives a call.

CPM-2

Jessica Fisher (Candidate – certified ready to receive a call): Per Jessica's request, her current status continues to be 'on hold.' CPM will arrange a consultation with her to discuss concerns about her status and advising her of expectations, time restraints and other limitations.

CPM-3

CPM met with CRE Aspirant Scott Riker who has enrolled in the Synod CRE program. We reviewed his paperwork, and voted to admit him to our CRE program as an aspirant.

CPM-4

Dan Cassidy wishes to enroll in the CRE program as an aspirant. CPM received a reference letter from his Session and sent him the paperwork required to enroll. Plans were made to meet with him in October.

From the June 15, 2026 Meeting

CPM-5

CPM met with Candidate Jessica Fisher (certified ready but 'on pause at her request) and discussed concerns about her long 'in process' status (about 10 years due to health reasons) and potential consequences. Jess will move

forward in joining a local church and requesting transfer of her membership to National Capital Presbytery in Washington, DC.

CPM-6

There is a CRE retreat being held in New Jersey in the near future which will be offered to our/Synod CRE aspirants and current commissioned pastors.

CPM-7

CPM will submit its 2027 budget request which includes expenses for things like annual training for members, meeting with Sessions/liaisons, leader training, and a retreat for CPM members.

CPM-8

A major focus this year for CPM will be recruiting/nurturing CRE candidates to help fill pulpits. Because of this goal, work needs to be done on promoting the CRE program(s).

CPM-9

It was determined monthly meetings will be held the second Monday of each month (except the months of June, July, August and December unless necessary) at 3 pm (zoom). It was decided that an extra meeting would be scheduled to catch up on outstanding issues.

CPM-10

The 2026 CPM Commission consists of the following members: RE Ken Nickel, RE Mel Prestamo, Rev. Linda Gaden, Rev. Pam Osborne, Co-Moderators Rev. Kathi Heath and Rev. Chris Doyle, and Resource Staff/Stated Clerk Rev. Steve Shussett.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Heath and Chris Doyle, CPM Co-Moderators