

Charge for the Administrative Commission for the Larison's Corner Church

also known as United First Presbyterian Church of Amwell, Ringoes, NJ

June 2026

Introduction

The Session and congregation of Larison's Corner Presbyterian Church find themselves at an important crossroads in their life together as a faith community. They recognize that difficult but necessary decisions about the future of the congregation must be made, yet they are uncertain about how best to approach those decisions. While the congregation continues to care deeply for its ministry and mission, it is currently facing significant challenges related to limited financial and human resources, as well as the ongoing responsibilities connected with maintaining church property and the manse.

This season calls for prayerful discernment, honest assessment, and thoughtful re-visioning for the future.

Purpose of the Administrative Commission

The purpose of the Administrative Commission is to walk alongside the Session and congregation of Larison's Corner Presbyterian Church during this time of discernment and transition. The Commission will engage the congregation in faithful and compassionate conversations about possible next steps and available options, while also assisting the Session in making decisions necessary for the health, mission, and sustainability of the congregation.

The Administrative Commission is intended not as a punitive measure, but as a pastoral and practical resource of the Presbytery to provide guidance, support, accountability, resourcing and leadership during a challenging season in the life of the church.

Recommendation

The Commission on Ministry recommends that the Presbytery appoint an Administrative Commission of three to five persons, both teaching and ruling elders, to assist the Session and congregation of Larison's Corner Presbyterian Church in discerning and implementing faithful next steps for their future.

The Commission on Ministry further recommends that the Administrative Commission for Larison's Corner Presbyterian Church be granted the following powers and responsibilities:

Powers and Responsibilities of the Administrative Commission

The Administrative Commission (AC) for Larison's Corner Presbyterian Church, Ringoes, shall have the following powers and responsibilities:

- To visit Larison's Corner Presbyterian Church and inquire into the concerns, hopes, and challenges of the Session and congregation regarding the future of the church.
- To have access to **all records and documents** pertaining to the life, ministry, governance, and mission of Larison's Corner Presbyterian Church, including but not limited to all financial accounts, records, and related documents.
- To assist the Session of Larison's Corner Presbyterian Church in fulfilling its responsibilities as outlined in G-3.0201 of the Book of Order. Members of the Administrative Commission **shall serve alongside the Session with voice and vote**, when necessary, in order to advise, support, and encourage the Session in carrying out its responsibilities. The Commission on Ministry shall appoint the moderator of the Session.
- To resolve, on behalf of the Presbytery, such difficulties or issues as may be identified during the course of the Commission's work, recognizing that the Presbytery is "responsible for the mission and government of the church throughout its geographical district." In carrying out this responsibility, the Administrative Commission is empowered:
 - To provide coordination, guidance, and support to Larison's Corner Presbyterian Church in strengthening its ministry and witness to Jesus Christ, in accordance with G-3.0303a.
 - To assist the Session in developing a comprehensive plan for financial sustainability, including the implementation of appropriate financial procedures, practices, and controls as needed.
 - To work with the Session regarding the lease, use, and future plans for the manse property.
 - To assist the Session in planning for and implementing sustainable pastoral leadership for the congregation.
 - To provide such additional guidance, coordination, and support as may become necessary during the course of the Commission's work.
 - To assist in assessing leadership capacity within the congregation and identifying opportunities for leadership development.
 - To "take appropriate action to correct any irregularity or delinquency it may discover" in accordance with G-3.0303d(3).
 - To provide pastoral care to the members of Larison's Corner Presbyterian Church during this time of uncertainty, transition, and discernment. This shall include praying with and for the congregation and Session; encouraging healthy and transparent communication; and creating opportunities for members and

participants to discern together where God may be calling the congregation in the future.

- To recommend, if necessary, after thorough investigation, in consultation with the Commission on Ministry, and after providing the Session opportunity to be heard, that the Presbytery assume original jurisdiction over Larison's Corner Presbyterian Church.

Reporting

The Administrative Commission shall provide written reports to the Presbytery at least every six months, or more frequently as circumstances require. The AC shall also provide regular updates to the progress to the Commission on Ministry and to seek their wisdom when appropriate.

Membership

Members of the Administrative Commission shall be appointed by the Moderator of Presbytery in consultation with the Commission on Ministry, the Stated Clerk, and the Presbytery Leader.

Rev. Nancy Asbury, HR

Rev. Scott Stolte, Lamington Presbyterian Church, Bedminster

Elder Carol Skidmore - Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church

Elder Gerald Chandler - First Presbyterian Church of Newton