

TAKEN DOCKET

For the Meeting of the Presbytery of Genesee Valley

Saturday, November 17, 2018

Central Presbyterian Church of Genesee

Stated Meeting

Genesee, New York

		<u>Page Reference</u>			
		<u>Mailed</u>	<u>Taken</u>		
10:10 AM				Announcements	Nancy Lowmaster
				▪ <i>Greetings from the Host Church</i>	
				Call to Order and Opening Prayer	Hezekiah Simmons
				Introductory Business	
				▪ <i>Approval of Docket</i>	
				▪ <i>Appointment of Tellers</i>	
				▪ <i>Greeting New Commissioners</i>	
				▪ <i>Enrollment of Corresponding Members</i>	
				▪ <i>Privilege of the Floor</i>	
	5-12			Consent Agenda	
				▪ <i>Lifting motions for discussion</i>	
				Call for New Business	
10:30 AM		13-33		Big Picture Team Report	Tedd Pullano
				▪ <i>Action on Recommendation Regarding the Sunset of the Presbytery's Self-Development of People Committee</i>	
				▪ <i>Presbytery Gathering Design Proposal - First Reading</i>	Jim Renfrew, Roula Alkhouri, Nick Dorland, Susan Orr
11:00 AM		34-41		Report of the Committee on Ministry	Anne Waasdorp
				▪ <i>Examination for Ordination for Candidate Erin Jacobson, and related motions</i>	
				▪ <i>Dissolution of the Associate Pastor Position, Perinton Presbyterian Church</i>	
				▪ <i>Granting of Honorable Retirement Status for the Rev. Andrew Chalmers</i>	
				▪ <i>Thanking Commissioned Pastor Cathy Foerster for her Service to Lima Presbyterian Church</i>	
11:30 AM		43-44		Report of the Budget Development & Oversight Committee	Bob Mecredy
				▪ <i>First Reading of the Proposed 2019 Budget</i>	
				Report of the Trustees	Ron Hansen
				▪ <i>Update on Presbytery Office Location Exploration</i>	
				▪ <i>Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy</i>	
11:45 AM		45-54		Report of the Healthier Congregations Team	Tom Gardner
				▪ <i>Resource Center Working Group</i>	Karen Bolinger
				▪ <i>Tools and Training Working Group</i>	Judy Lee Hay
				▪ <i>Grants Working Group</i>	
12:00 PM				Good News from Churches and Neighborhoods	
				Three Key Things to Take Home	Cathy Foerster
	55-56			Worship Service with Commissioning of Martha Mitchell	Amy Williams Fowler
12:45 PM				Adjourn to Lunch	

**Presbytery of Genesee Valley
2019 Budget - 1st Read
November 17, 2018 Presbytery Meeting**

	2017 Actuals	2018 Budget	2019 Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
4000INC - Congregational & Individual			
4000 - Presbytery General Mission	199,049	187,000	175,780
4100 - Presbytery Per Capita	159,518	153,000	153,000
4150 - Pby Meeting Offerings	2,018	2,000	1,500
Total 4000INC - Congregational & Individual	360,585	342,000	330,280
4400INC - Other Support			
4420 - UCC/Wellspring Staff Support	2,000	2,000	1,000
4430 - Credit Card Rewards-Misc Income	450	900	500
4490 - Master Insurance Service Rcpts.	1,736	1,600	1,600
Total 4400INC - Other Support	4,186	4,500	3,100
4500INC - Investment Income Support			
* 4552 - Investment Support for Budget	137,836	163,132	193,516
Total 4500INC - Investment Income Support	137,836	163,132	193,516
Total Income	502,607	509,632	526,896
*Account #4552 Investment Support for Budget is drawn from #3217 Presbytery Budget Support which has a current balance of \$289,000			
Expense			
5600 - Designated Mission Support			
5601 - Cameron Comm Ministry	7,500	7,500	5,000
5602 - PMIC	1,750	2,500	
5603 - Greater Roch Comm Churches	1,000	1,000	1,000
5604 - Camp Whitman	20,000	20,000	17,500
5605 - Youth Triennium	2,500	2,500	2,500
5606 - ROC SALT		0	10,000
Total 5600 - Designated Mission Support	32,750	33,500	36,000
6200 - Healthier Congregations Work			
6210 - Grants			
6211 - Mission, Peace & Justice Part	21,364		
6212 - Congregational/Neighborhood	9,650		
Total 6210 - Grants	31,014	26,000	26,000
6220 - Relationships		1,000	1,000
6230 - Tools & Training			
6231 - Church Leadership Dev	860		
6232 - Measuring Mission	482		
6233 - Stewardship Workshop	0		
6236 - Event Sponsorship (PGV/N/C)	1,793		
6230 - Tools & Training - Other	0	5,000	5,000
Total 6230 - Tools & Training	3,135	5,000	5,000
Total 6240 - Resource Center	2,461	2,181	1,181
Total 6250 - Communications/Connections	2,510	5,000	2,000
Total 6200 - Healthier Congregations Work	39,120	39,181	35,181

**Presbytery of Genesee Valley
2019 Budget - 1st Read
November 17, 2018 Presbytery Meeting**

	2017 Actuals	2018 Budget	2019 Budget
6300 · Healthy Leaders Work			
Total 6310 · Committee on Ministry	972	4,000	4,000
Total 6320 · Patoral Care & Development	1,919	5,500	5,500
Total 6330 · Cmte on Prep. for Ministry	1,118	1,300	1,300
Sub-Total 6300 · Healthy Leaders Work	4,009	10,800	10,800
Healthy Leader Work overall reduction			(1,000)
Total 6300 · Healthy Leaders Work	4,009	10,800	9,800
7700 · Support for a Healthy Pby			
Total 7701 · Salaries & Benefits	317,501	329,141	334,077
Total 7740 · Personnel Committee	4,678	5,200	5,200
7750 · Office/Admin/Cust 5500/7601			
Office/Admin/Cust overall reduction			(4,000)
Total 7750 · Office/Admin/Cust 5500/7601	26,881	27,700	24,600
7760 · Trustees/Facilities 5300			
7761 · Committee Expenses	0	100	100
7762 · Office Rent	21,933	22,372	26,100
7762A Office Relocation Expense			20,000
7763 · General Insurance	5,022	5,045	5,045
7764 · Legal Retainer	11,000	12,000	12,000
7765 · Additional Legal Services	4,137	500	500
Sub-Total 7760 · Trustees/Facilities	42,092	40,017	63,745
Trustees/Facilities overall reduction			(6,000)
Total 7760 · Trustees/Facilities	42,092	40,017	57,745
Total 7770 (former Stated Clerk lines)	3,169		
Total 7780 · Judicial Expenses	0	1,100	675
Total 7785 · Audit/Banking/Depr Exp	10,414	6,193	6,318
7766 · Synod & GA PC Shortfall	18,810	16,000	16,500
Total 7790 · Big Picture Team	2,854	800	800
Total 7700 · Support for a Healthy Pby	426,728	426,151	445,915
Total Expense	502,607	509,632	526,896
Net Ordinary Income	0	0	(0)
Membership	10,087	9,713	8,951
Per Capita			
Presbytery	19.05	19.43	20.60
Synod	4.10	4.10	4.10
GA	7.50	7.73	8.95
Total Per Capita	30.65	31.26	33.65

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

THE COMBINED UCC GVA WELLSRING AND PRESBYTERY OF GENESEE VALLEY RESOURCE CENTER WILL CLOSE WHEN THE PRESBYTERY OFFICE RELOCATES NEXT YEAR.

THE RESOURCE CENTER WORKING GROUP WOULD LIKE TO DONATE THE ENTIRE COLLECTION (WITH LIMITED EXCEPTIONS) TO A SINGLE CHURCH, SEMINARY OR UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, AN AGENCY, OR A VENDOR. THE BOOKCASES ARE AVAILABLE TO CONTINUE TO HOUSE YOUR COLLECTION.

THE SECOND OPTION IS FOR CHURCHES TO IDENTIFY A PARTICULAR SECTION OF THE COLLECTION. EXAMPLES INCLUDE THE ENTIRE CHURCH HISTORY, CONFIRMATION, BIBLE STUDY, OR CHRISTIAN ED. RESOURCES.

THE PROCESS

- FEBRUARY 15, 2019 IS THE CLOSING DATE FOR RESPONDING TO THE RFP.
- THE INITIAL OUTREACH IS TO "FAMILY FIRST" WHICH INCLUDES ALL THE CHURCHES IN THE GVA AND PGV.
- FIRST CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO APPLICANTS INTERESTED IN THE ENTIRE COLLECTION.
- IF NO ONE IS INTERESTED IN THE ENTIRE COLLECTION THE RESOURCE CENTER WORKING GROUP WILL CAREFULLY EVALUATE ALL OF THE REQUESTS AND DISTRIBUTE WITH GEOGRAPHIC PARITY.
- FINALLY, LIBRARIES AND VENDORS WILL BE CONTACTED.

IF YOU WISH TO KEEP THE ON-LINE CATALOG THERE ARE TWO ANNUAL EXPENSES: LEASING OF THE SOFTWARE IS \$200.00, LEASING THE WEBSITE IS \$80.00.

LIMITED EXCEPTIONS: THE TWO LABYRINTHS, TWO PROJECTORS, AND TWO SCREENS WILL REMAIN IN THE PRESBYTERY OFFICE AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE AVAILABLE FOR THE GVA AND GVP CHURCHES TO BORROW.

Request for Proposal

Submit to resourcecenter@pbygenval.org on or before **February 15th**

Church Name _____

Church Address _____

Contact Name _____ Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Select One Option:

1. _____ We are interested in receiving and housing the entire collection.

If Yes, please answer the following:

We will need the bookshelves: *circle* Yes or No

We will utilize the current library software: *circle* Yes or No

NOTE: Yearly cost of Request Manager (Computer Program): \$200 Yearly cost of RQM Web Hosting: \$80

2. _____ We cannot take the entire collection but would be interested in receiving, in their entirety, the following sections (please mark all apply):

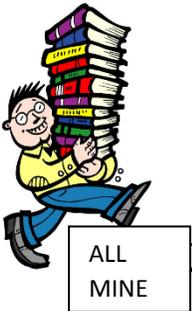
- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|---|
| _____ Aging | _____ Prayer | _____ Stewardship |
| _____ Bible | _____ Fiction | _____ Theology |
| _____ Church Administration | _____ Education/Nurture | _____ Women in the Church |
| _____ Church Ecumenism | _____ Youth Ministry | _____ Worship/Children |
| _____ Church Membership/Confirmation | _____ Evangelism | _____ Worship/Corporate |
| _____ General Assembly | _____ Family Ministry | _____ Devotions |
| _____ History | _____ Mission | _____ Worship/Music |
| _____ Leadership Training | _____ Peacemaking | _____ Worship/Sacraments & Special Services |
| _____ Church Seasons (Advent, Lent, etc) | _____ Health & Human Sexuality | _____ UCC Specific |
| _____ Communications | _____ Social Issues | |
| | _____ Race Relations | |

COME ONE, COME ALL BOOK LOVERS



**GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO ADD TO YOUR
LIBRARY**

**MANY BOOKS HAVE BEEN GLEANED FROM
THE SHELVES OF THE RESOURCE
CENTER, BOXED AND READY FOR YOU TO
TAKE HOME.**



**BRING YOUR OWN CONTAINER
ANY TIME MONDAY THROUGH
FRIDAY, 8:30 – 4:30**

AND

**TAKE WHATEVER APPEALS TO YOUR
READING PLEASURE**



Presbytery of Genesee Valley

Healthier Congregations Team: Tools & Training Working Group

2018 Scholarships to Individuals/Congs: *excerpts from scholarship applications*

Rebecca D'Angelo-Veitch (Third) Cohort Coaching: Intergenerational Leadership

\$500

Over the past year, I have not been able to read an article, attend a conference, read a post in a Christian Education social media group or have a conversation with another educator without the topic of intergenerational ministry coming up. As all of these separate conversations around the role of intergenerational ministry in the mainline church have continued to come to my attention, it felt important to explore this type of ministry, and so I have requested, and been granted, a three month sabbatical with one of its goals being the study of intergenerational ministry. In the process of gathering resources and reading in preparation for my sabbatical, this cohort came to my attention. I appreciate the approach that the coaching will take, with a focus on best practices, trends and context in adopting such a model. I hope that this will prove helpful in my work at Third Church as we consider how our programming might move forward. In particular, I am hoping that being a part of this cohort may help me thoughtfully lead our Wednesday night program ("Qabats") in a new, more intergenerational direction. This change will be important as our numbers are decreasing, and yet, we still believe that there is value in a midweek offering. Thank you for considering my request.

Laurel Nelson (Lagom Landing) Presbyterian Camp & Conference Center Assoc. \$300

The reasons for me attending this conference are as follows:

- 1) This conference will help Lagom Landing in our ministry with young adults, and I hope to network with the great variety of camp ministry leaders who will be there. For several years Lagom Landing has been in conversation with leaders at PCCCA about nurturing connections with young adults who are counselors and might be looking for an alternative or gap year before or during college. We see Lagom Landing as both benefiting from and feeding camp ministry, as we did with Camp Whitman this summer providing two staff members.
- 2) I have volunteered as a chaplain at Camp Whitman for the last four years and greatly enjoy the opportunity to connect with the counselors who work so hard to make camp a powerful experience for campers. I hope to connect with other leaders who are working with this age group and collaborate on ways we can better address the anxiety young adults feel with the tools of Christian faith.
- 3) Other leaders from PGV and Presbytery of Geneva will be going to this event as well, so it's a great opportunity to bring the learning from the conference home to our context, particularly as Camp Whitman seeks to deepen its work with young adults.

Ruth McNamara (Summerville) NEXT Church Community Organizing Cert. \$500

I have been struggling at Summerville to find out what mission God is calling us to. Now with another change in ministers, I feel a lay leader will be important to help us figure out what our church's purpose in our neighborhood is. I think Summerville will only survive if it can find its passion. Being part of Riverside neighbors has helped connect with the larger church, I think taking this course will help me help the church connect to its neighborhood.

Aaron Neff (Corfu) Certificate in Youth, Theology, and Innovation \$300

I will be completing a certificate program through Princeton Seminary's Institute for Youth Ministry. A significant part of my focus as pastor in Corfu has been on launching and maintaining an active youth ministry. Starting with 0 youth 2 years ago, our church now averages about 8 youth to our regular meetings. The certificate program will be an opportunity to envision new ways to connect Christian faith to young people, specifically in a cultural climate that is increasingly secular, pluralistic, and heavily engaged on social media. The certificate program involves learning from and dialoging with youth ministry leaders from the US and the UK (through an organization called Youthscape) during two separate conferences (in November 2018 and April 2019), as well as online coursework. The program will help me to nurture Christian faith in the young people I am actively pastoring in my church as well as reach out more effectively to young people in my community.

South Scholarships for Youth \$490

I have 7 kids from my youth group at New Life who might be able to come to the Roc SALT pilot mission project (Feb 2018), but all of these kids live in the inner-city and have no ability to pay the \$70 registration fee.

2018 TOOLS & TRAINING WORKING GROUP EVENTS

Church Leadership Day- February 10, 2018

Clerks of Session Policy Dinner- April 24, 2018

Neighborhood Mission Day- April 28, 2018

Shane Claiborne Lunch at Roc SALT Center- July 11, 2018

Records brought to Presbyterian Historical Society- August 14, 2018

Breakfast with Ryan Smith from the United Nations Office- October 15, 2018

2019 TOOLS & TRAINING GROUP EVENTS

Congregational Learning Day- February 9, 2019

Ecumenical Advocacy Days - April 5-8, 2019

Neighborhood Mission Day- April 27, 2019

Measuring Mission- On-going

Scholarships- On-going

Youth Triennium- July16-20, 2019

The Presbytery of Genesee Valley Presents
**CONGREGATIONAL
 LEARNING DAY**

For New and Experienced Church Leaders and Church Members

Saturday, February 9, 2019

8:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Optional Working Lunch Course 12:15 PM-1:45 PM

Perinton Presbyterian Church

6551 Pittsford-Palmyra Road, Fairport, NY 14450



**Courses of Interest for All Congregational
 Leaders and Members!!**

TEN MORNING COURSES

NINE "WORKING LUNCH" COURSES

REGISTRATION IS \$5.

The optional box lunch is an additional \$8.

It is being catered by ARC of Monroe.

Fully accessible facility



**CHILDCARE AVAILABLE
 WITH PRIOR REGISTRATION**



USE THE LINK BELOW FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION:

(contact Cheryl Battaglia for questions with online registration at 585-242-0080 or financialadmin@pbygenval.org)

<https://pbygenval.org/congregational-learning-day/>

REGISTRATION FEE: \$5.00 PER PERSON (registration form includes payment information)

SCHEDULE:

Registration & Hospitality	8:30 AM
Worship	9:00 AM
Morning Courses	9:45 AM - 12:00 PM
"Working Lunch" Courses	12:15 PM - 1:45 PM

**LUNCH: Bring your own brown bag lunch
 or order a box lunch for \$8.00.**

LUNCHES MUST BE PRE-ORDERED

AND PAID FOR IN ADVANCE;

**No extra lunches will be available
 the day of the event.**

(registration form includes payment information)

MORNING COURSES 9:45 AM - 12:00 PM
Choose from the following TEN COURSES

New Elder & Deacon Orientation

Rev. Aaron Neff, Pastor of Corfu United Presbyterian Church

This course is for new elders and deacons. It is an introduction and orientation to those roles and will cover topics to help new officers understand the purpose and function of their positions.

Ministry of Clerks of Session

Elder Susan Orr, Presbyter for Healthier Congregations/Stated Clerk and Rev. Laura Norris Buisch, Stated Clerk for Western NY Presbytery

“Each council shall elect a clerk who shall record the transactions of the council keep its rolls of membership and attendance, maintain any required registers, preserve its records, and furnish extracts from them when required by another council of the church.” (G-3.0104). This is the definition of a Clerk of Session per the Book of Order. As Clerks, however, we know that our role is oh, so much more! We serve the members of the body by helping them accomplish their work fairly, efficiently, and faithfully, to the glory of God. This workshop will be an interactive opportunity facilitated by not one but two stated clerks, to explore the joys and responsibilities of being a clerk of session with a little bit of parliamentary procedure training sprinkled in. Participants will have the opportunity to share (and mutually respond to) the questions they bring.

Finance Forum (formerly Church Treasurer Forum)

Cheryl Battaglia, Presbytery Financial Administrator; Kim Emilo, CPA with Heveron & Company; and Colleen Allen, Bookkeeper for six Presbyterian churches!

Are you a church treasurer? How about a church bookkeeper?

Anyone involved with their church's financial procedures should consider taking this course!

Another year with two incredible guests! Kim will discuss **NEW** IRS reporting requirements for churches, as well as answer any accounting questions you may have. Colleen will share from her experience of being the bookkeeper for several Presbyterian churches, and is a great resource for those of you who are involved with the daily financial duties at your church. This forum has proved to be a great place to share information and a wonderful resource for learning “what’s new” in non-profit accounting. We will also discuss church treasurer’s responsibilities. Treasurers are corporate officers of a religious not-for-profit corporation. Your duties must be carried out in accordance with federal and state law, church law, and sound accounting principles. Be sure to bring your own questions and we will take time to discuss them, along with reviewing our Presbytery’s “Guide for Church Treasurers”.

Essentials for Trustees, Finance and Property Elders

Elder Ron Hansen, Chair, Board of Trustees

Fulfilling your property and financial responsibilities in the Body of Christ is a vital ministry in your church! Come and get the answers to everything you want and need to know to be an effective servant to the Lord and your church family. This user-friendly seminar will discuss building, finance, legal and insurance issues. It will be useful for first-time trustees as well as those with experience. Is your church a hub of community activity? What needs to happen to lease space in your facility? This seminar will also introduce you to the wealth of information on the Presbytery Trustee’s portion of the Presbytery website, so you will have access to forms and information you need to help you serve the congregation.

Clergy Debriefing and Support

Rev. Deb Swift, Pastor, South Presbyterian Church and the Acts of Faith Community and Chair, Pastoral Care & Development Committee

Whether it’s Compassion Fatigue from the challenges or Adrenalin Overload from all the good things, this will be a time to connect with clergy colleagues in a safe and supportive environment. We will do a little spiritual work and a lot of sharing for our own health. Prayer and laughter included!

God, Improv. and the Art of Faithfulness *(also offered as a working lunch course)*

Rev. Amy Williams Fowler, now in her 8th year of serving as the Presbytery Leader in Genesee Valley

Do you feel sometimes that “being Church” does not include enough laughter, creativity, and playfulness? We will explore ways developed by Rev. Mary Ann McKibben Dana in her book, **God, Improv, and the Art of Living**, to weave improvisational skills into our daily lives, and our lives at Church. This will not be a lecture! Come dressed to move (even if it is February).

The Church as Employer: A Seminar for Personnel Committees and Supervisors

Elder Linda Badger Becker, currently serving as the Presbytery Transitional Leader for the Presbytery of Geneva

Whether the congregation has a few or several employees, personnel matters can be challenging for church leaders. This seminar will provide guidance in developing and implementing personnel practices that are consistent with professional and Christian values. We’ll explore such topics as personnel policies, position descriptions, supervision, performance evaluations, and more.

Worship Without Worry (also offered as a working lunch course)

Gerald Sink, Director of Loss Control for the Insurance Board, offering effective risk management and risk mitigation techniques and strategies to organizations

This workshop is designed to equip church leaders and congregations to consider, among many options, the most appropriate response to employ during an emergency scenario. It will provide information to churches and related ministries to inform them about relevant tools available to respond to emergency situations in the most appropriate ways possible. While every response is contingent upon the circumstance presented, there are several important considerations that every church should assess, evaluate, and discuss in their respective church setting.

Telling Biblical Stories by Heart

Cindy Mildenerger, member of Downtown United Presbyterian Church and the Network of Biblical Storytellers, is certified by the Academy for Biblical Storytellers and has been actively involved in biblical storytelling since 2009. She is also a member of "Women of the Well".

How does one make a biblical story "come alive" for listeners? The answer is – tell it by heart! This is an introduction to Biblical Storytelling; a beginner workshop to learn the steps of how to learn to tell a story "by heart" and be able to tell it with confidence.

Creative Worship

Rev. Colin Pritchard, Pastor, Victor First Presbyterian Church

Organ & Choir or PowerPoint & Praise Band? Doesn't matter, until we ground our worship in the Holy and in a gathered people. High Liturgy or Informal Flow? Doesn't matter, until we ground our worship in the Holy and in a gathered people. This shared time is intended to help us pay attention to our expectations of worship, to name our priorities, and to assess which voices really speak when we gather. When the body of Christ responds to the goodness of God and gathers in communal proclamation ... worship happens.

"WORKING LUNCH" COURSES 12:15 PM - 1:45 PM
Choose from the following NINE COURSES

The Vital Congregations Initiative

Rev. James Renfrew, Pastor at Byron Presbyterian Church and former Presbytery Moderator

This workshop is an introduction to the "Vital Congregations Initiative" of the PC(USA). We are unlikely to accomplish our purpose as followers of Jesus Christ if we are something less than vital within our membership and in the surrounding community. We will look at the "7 Marks of Vital Congregations" to see how vital we are (or aren't). Some new ideas will be offered for healthier ministry, and there will be a lot of conversation among participants about what our congregations could look like as "vital", and how to get there. Warning: there are no quick fixes or short cuts here—this is the beginning of a journey that we can take together on the way to Redefinition, Redevelopment and Rebirth. NOTE: Early registrants will be sent links to key documents that tell about "Vital Congregations", useful preparation for our conversation, but also available at the workshop.

Hospitality as Evangelism

Elder Linda Badger Becker, currently serving as the Presbytery Transitional Leader for the Presbytery of Geneva.

Of course, yours is a warm and friendly congregation. But evangelism is more complex than just being friendly and hoping folks will stick around. Yes, it's more than getting people to come to our church. We'll unpack the "E" word and consider what it means to practice radical hospitality that goes beyond coffee hour. Are you brave enough to leave your comfort zone and explore this topic?

"Tis the Season": Exploring and Examining the Seasonal Team Model

Elder Robin Sheppard, member of Penfield Presbyterian Church, and Elder Brian Shaffer, member of Caledonia First

The main focus of this workshop is to engage in a dynamic time of learning and sharing related to the Seasonal Team Model. This conversation will be valuable for congregations familiar with the model, as well as those considering a new structure. This format offers members of a congregation a more interpretative approach to church seasons, providing a shorter-term commitment that better suits our more progressive lifestyles. Members often find this model enables them to become more active in the church while also bringing new ideas and energy. The Seasonal Team Model was designed as an alternative structure for "doing church" by living the liturgical seasons and using the rhythms of the seasons for faith development, planning, and mission orientation. Wherever you and your congregation may be along the journey, it is always worthwhile to connect with others to share insights, experiences, and the creative processes that have been developed using this format.

Church Questions You've Always Wanted Answers To...

Rev John Wilkinson, Pastor of Third Presbyterian Church and Former Moderator of Genesee Valley

Not the most elegant title, but you get the point! We all have questions about who we are as Presbyterians, why we do things the way we do, what we believe, and why. Here are a few:

Why is our order of worship the way it is?

What's a Book of Order?

How are we different from the _ (fill in the denomination)?

We will spend our time in this session exploring these types of questions. While John will be ready to discuss his own list, it would be even better if you email him beforehand at jwilkinson@thirdpresbyterian.org. There are NO bad questions. This time together promises to be fun and informative. Join us!

Exploration of Palliative Care for Individuals & Congregations

Rev Marcia Reiff, Pastor of Dansville Presbyterian Church; Rev Gordon Webster, Westminster Worship Ministry; and Rev Anne Waasdorp, Presbytery Big Picture Team Member & Synod Commissioner.

Faith. Hope. Love. So now faith, hope and love abide, these three ..." so concludes the 13th chapter of 1 Corinthians, also known as the love chapter. These three things are the building blocks of life, as necessary as the air we breathe, the food we eat, and the water we drink. While we rejoice at impending birth, we tend to avoid, deny and defy signs of sickness and death. This workshop allows space for an exploration of our complex responses to end-of-life issues, for individuals and congregations.

A Discussion of the Book "White Awake" by Daniel Hill (please read at least half beforehand)

Rev. Laurel Nelson, co-founder of Lagom Landing, a gap-year ministry to young adults; and Elder Roger Estes, Commissioned Pastor of Mumford Presbyterian Church and current Moderator Elect of Genesee Valley

Author Daniel Hill commented to an Indian friend at the friend's wedding, "I'm jealous of (you having) such an amazing culture! I wish I had a culture too." His friend replied with a comment that made a pivotal difference in Daniel's life: "You may be white, but don't let that lull you into thinking you have no culture. White culture is very real. In fact, when white culture comes in contact with other cultures, it almost always wins. So it would be a really good idea for you to learn about your culture." Join us in becoming more aware of systemic and racial injustice in discussion of Daniel's book. We will wrestle with this challenging book and our own perspectives on being called by Jesus to be agents of reconciliation.

Get in the Know and Get Inspired—Feedback from the 223rd General Assembly

Rev Sue Thaine, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Albion, and current Moderator of Genesee Valley; and Elder Hezekiah Simmons, member of First Presbyterian Church, Pittsford and former Genesee Valley Moderator. Both were 2018 GA commissioners.

General Assembly 2018 was held this past summer in St. Louis. Hear from your Presbytery of Genesee Valley Commissioners as they share their reflections on the GA experience. At this session we will:

Explore some of the powerful thematic worship services that were the cornerstone of General Assembly, including reflections on attending Sunday worship in local congregations.

Gain a clearer picture of the challenges and opportunities present and arising in the Denomination.

Get to know the 13 Assembly Committees and how they work to support the ministry and mission of PCUSA.

Be Inspired! The Hands and Feet Initiative of General Assembly raised \$54,000 for the March for Justice and delivered to the St. Louis court house. Funds were used to post bail for poor people jailed for non-violent infractions who were awaiting trial because they were too poor to come up with bail money.

Lift up highlights of the more impactful programs or decisions voted on by the General Assembly, and what these may mean for the life of the Church.

Worship Without Worry (also offered as a morning course)

Gerald Sink is the Director of Loss Control for the Insurance Board enhancing the organization's value proposition through effective risk management and risk mitigation techniques and strategies.

**See the course description in "Morning Courses" section

God, Improv. and the Art of Faithfulness (also offered as a morning course)

Rev. Amy Williams Fowler, now in her 8th year of serving as the Presbytery Leader.

**See the course description in "Morning Courses" section

**Presbytery of Genesee Valley Grants Working Group
of the Healthier Congregations Team
Second Chance Grants - November 2018**

Downtown United Presbyterian Church Church Without Walls \$1,000

The mission of Church Without Walls (“CWW”) is to carry the gifts of the church out into the world, to meet people where they are, and bring diverse neighbors together. Beginning with a short liturgy of communion in public (inner-city) spaces where people of radically different walks of life cross paths, CWW invites its worshippers to be “sent forth”, as Jesus sent the disciples, to carry out acts of service and hope in the surrounding area. One week the liturgy might be held in a park, followed by a park clean-up; the next in a homeless encampment followed by a shared meal with residents. This reflects the unity of Eucharist and service, so acknowledged and central in the early church.

Medina First Presbyterian Church “The Golden Rule Project” \$1,000

This project is a community-oriented values education program, based on the 2009 Charter for Compassion, which is rooted in The Golden Rule, part of the scriptures of all written world religions, Matthew 7:12. Building on relationships with the National Honor Society, Medina High School, and the membership of the Medina Area Association of Churches, an initial Compassion Course will be offered, as well as the establishment of a Training the Trainers program through the Pastor’s Leadership Academy.

South Presbyterian Church Urban Youth in Action \$1,000

The Urban Youth in Action program has two components: the LOL (Love our Lord) Youth Group and the Monroe Milers. We are requesting \$500 for each component. Our LOL youth will be working with the Center for Youth in a 14-session program on Transforming Conflict through justice work. Our Monroe Milers consists of 55 youth working with 25 volunteer coaches to provide direction in areas of healthy eating and physical fitness over 8 weeks which concludes with a 5K race. We provide the running shoes and socks for all of the runners. Your grant will provide support for all aspects of this program.

Building Minds in South Sudan School Equipment \$3,000

The project is to buy 100 bench/desk sets at \$30 each for the Majok-Keen Primary Girls School in South Sudan. This school was recently constructed with 730 female students now attending. Currently the girls sit on the floor or under a tree. While comfort of students is important, it is also recognized that the dignity associated with getting an education is enhanced by sitting at a proper desk. Each bench/desk can accommodate 3 students.

(NOTE: This is an “original” grant application, rather than a Second Chance grant. The paper work was submitted on time for the original grant cycle, but technical problems prevented it from arriving at the Presbytery Office in time for those original grants).

Order of Worship – November 17, 2018**Presbytery of Genesee Valley****Call to Worship****Kay VanNostrand**

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth!

Worship the Lord with gladness! Come into God's presence with singing!

Let us worship God.

Hymn*Now Thank We All Our God****No. 643*****Prayer of the Day (Unison)**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may love you and magnify your name through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture Dialogue – Micah 6:1-8 (The Message)

Listen now, listen to God!

Hezekiah Simmons

“Take your stand in court. If you have a complaint, tell the mountains;

Make your case to the hills.

And now Mountains, hear God's case;

For I am bringing charges against my people. I am building a case against Israel.

Dear people, how have I done you wrong? Have I burdened you? Worn you out?

Answer! I delivered you from a bad life in Egypt; I paid a good price to get you out of slavery.

I sent Moses to lead you—and Aaron and Miriam to boot!...

Keep all [my] salvation stories fresh and present.”

“How can I stand up before God and show proper respect to the high God?

Should I bring an armload of offerings topped off with yearling calves?

Would God be impressed with thousands of rams, with buckets and barrels of olive oil?

Would God be moved if I sacrificed my firstborn child, my precious baby, to cancel my sin?”

But God has already made it plain how to live, what to do, what God is looking for in men and women. It's quite simple: Do what is fair to your neighbor, be compassionate and loyal in your love,

And don't take yourself too seriously – take God seriously.

Homily

Lovers' Quarrels

Amy Williams Fowler

Commissioning of Ruling Elder Martha Mitchell to serve the Lyndonville Presbyterian Church

Offering and Hymn –

“Let All Things Now Living”

No. 37

***Charge and Grace for the Meal**

Martha Mitchell

***Benediction**

***Motion to Adjourn**

Participants:

Ruling Elder Kay VanNostrand, Moderator Pro Tem, Lyndonville

Ruling Elder Hezekiah Simmons, Moderator Pro Tem, First Pittsford

Rev. Amy Williams Fowler, Presbytery Leader

Ruling Elder Susan Orr, Presbyter for Healthier Congregations/Stated Clerk

The Presbytery of Genesee Valley



Ecumenical Advocacy Days

April 4-April 8

Washington, DC

Troubling the Waters for the Healing of the World

Who? You!!! In 2019, we gather at a time in which people of faith and conscience are again called to stand in the prophetic stream of those who have come before us, those who were not afraid to stir up **#GoodTrouble** for the sake of God's kingdom. Join the Presbytery of Genesee Valley delegation to Ecumenical Advocacy Days (EAD) and acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to advocate for justice on behalf of the oppressed.

What? Today we are deeply troubled by what we see in the world. Through worship, educational and training workshops, and advocacy, we will beckon the Spirit to "Trouble the Waters" as depicted in John 5:1-9, calling on God to bring healing to our nation and world.



Early Bird registration for Ecumenical Advocacy Days (EAD) continues through March 9th at <https://advocacydays.org/>. Estimated total cost of this conference is \$725 (registrations, housing, meals).



Transportation for this important advocacy event is being underwritten by the Presbytery's Tools & Training Working Group! Reserve your seat in the van by contacting Susan Orr at sorr@pbygenval.org by Feb 21st



Scholarship money is available from the Tools & Training Group to cover the cost of registration. Apply at <https://pbygenval.org/grants-working-group/scholarship-application/>. Scholarships for Young Adults (ages 18-35) are available from EAD at <https://advocacydays.org/>. Ask your congregation for financial help, too!

For more details or to reserve your spot, contact Susan Orr by February 21st at sorr@pbygenval.org or (585) 242-0099

Presbytery Meeting Design Proposal

Please share your comments with the Design Team. We invite you to reach out to us directly with any questions you may have. You are invited to attend the Tuesday, January 29th pre-meeting at 2:30pm prior to the 2nd reading and vote on the proposal.

If the proposal is approved, what do you feel you may lose?

What do you feel the Presbytery may lose?

If the proposal is approved, how do you think the Presbytery may gain?

How may you gain?

Additional comments/reflections: