

INTERIM REPORT OF THE CALVIN LINDEN ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION TO THE
PRESBYTERY OF NORTHEAST NEW JERSEY
May 20th, 2023

The Administrative Commission of the Calvin Linden Presbyterian Church has met fifteen times since October of 2022. Twelve of those meetings have been over zoom and three of those meetings have been in person with members of the Congregation. The third meeting was held on Monday, March 20, 2023. Members who were unable to attend in person had the ability to participate online.

The Administrative Commission is working in conjunction with the Congregation to discern their future. Over the years, the Slovak population of the Community, which was the mainstay of the Calvin Linden Presbyterian Church has changed. Membership at Calvin Linden has declined, with long time members retiring and moving away and in other cases, passing away.

The Administrative Commission is in the process of receiving and reviewing current financial reports, including contributions and expenses, current membership rolls and possible opportunities for the church in the future. Monthly financial reports have been received through the end of Marc 2023 with checkbook balances and New Covenant Fund balances received through May 2, 2023. The Administrative Commission gave approval to the Treasurer to pay the mission partners that were budgeted for 2023. The remaining monies from a partially spent mission grant and monies from an unused mission grant issued by the former Presbytery of Elizabeth were returned to the Presbytery of Northeast NJ.

A final worship service is scheduled for Sunday, May 28, 2023, Pentecost Sunday at 11 AM. A reception will be held immediately following the service in the fellowship hall. Elder Linwood Bagby will lead the service. The Rev. Susan Friedl will also participate, along with members and friends of the congregation. The Rev. Ryan Landino will participate via a web link and will also send a letter to be read during the service. An invitation to the Presbytery has been posted in the Presbytery of Northeast NJ's Newsletter. Personal letters and contacts were made to the Rev. David Krotchko and his family. Contact was also made to James Macklin of the Bowery Mission, one of the longtime mission partners of Calvin Linden. Emails were also sent to the leaders of the Linden Interfaith Council and the Linden/Roselle Pastor's Council to invite them to the service and to inform them of the closing of the Calvin Linden Presbyterian Church.

Letters were sent out to members and friends of the congregation, informing them of the work of the Administrative Commission and the date of the final service. Letters were also sent out to pastors of ten Presbyterian congregations, informing them of the closing service of the Calvin Linden Presbyterian Church and to help Calvin Linden members if they desire to worship with their congregation in the future. The Reformed Church of Linden has also been in contact with leadership at Calvin Linden.

We, as the Administrative Commission covet the prayers of the Presbytery as we journey alongside the members of Calvin Linden Presbyterian Church and discern their journey together.

Elder Linda Macari, Rev. Dan Martian, Elder Skip Winter, Elder Mary Ellen Tango and Elder John Arrowood