

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MOUNTAINSIDE REPORT TO THE PRESBYTERY

August 4, 2021: An Administrative Commission for the Community Presbyterian Church—Mountainside, was authorized by the Presbytery of Northeast New Jersey at a special called meeting. The AC was given the responsibility to visit CPC-M, to inquire into difficulties there giving all persons who wished the opportunity to be heard, and to settle whatever difficulties were discovered. Specifically, the AC was charged to conduct a full financial review or Audit of the church's finances; to take original jurisdiction for matter of personnel and discipline; and to order, after thorough investigation, that the presbytery assume original jurisdiction over CPC-M

September 15, 2021: The AC was convened for the first time by the liaison to CPC-M from the Presbytery COM, Elder Claire Davis. Rev. Jeremy Campbell and Rev. Byron Leasure also joined this meeting. Rev. Leasure's report to the CPC-M Session was reviewed. Through August, 2022, the AC itself met nearly 20 times in addition to the meetings listed below.

September 30, 2021: The AC met with the Session of the CPC-M to review the Warrant establishing the AC

October 5, 2021: The AC met with the Personnel Committee at CPC-M to determine matters that were pending.

October 12, 2021: The AC met with the CPC-M Session to talk about their reactions to Rev. Leasure's report.

October 14, 2021: The AC held a Zoom meeting with Rev. Leigh Gillis, the interim who had served CPC-M before Rev. Anna Cooper was called as Pastor.

October 28, 30 & November 11, 2021: The AC met individually with nearly 20 members of CPC-M who had signed up to meet with the AC to express their views about what had happened at CPC-M.

October 30, 2021: The AC met with CPC-M Personnel Committee.

November 4, 2021: The AC met to discuss what had been learned from conversations with members of CPC-M and to consult with Rev. Campbell to consider next steps.

November 11, 2021: The AC met with Rev. Jeremy Campbell, deciding, with a pending congregational meeting at which the slate of Elders being nominated was under threat of being challenged at the upcoming Congregational meeting, that it would assume original jurisdiction.

November 16, 2021: The AC met with the CPC-M Session to announce its decision to exercise its authority granted by the Presbytery to take original jurisdiction. The decision was made in order to:

- a) prevent factions from causing further harm
- b) allow time for reconciliation and healing
- c) provide time for leadership training

December 5, 2021: A Congregational Meeting was held at CPC-M, moderated by Rev. Campbell, at which the congregation elected two members of CPC-M, nominated by the AC, to serve on the Designated Pastor Nominating Committee. In addition, the other members of the DPNC were reported which included two members of the AC, a liaison from the Presbytery COM, and Rev. Campbell. Deacons and Trustees were also elected.

December 14, 2021: The AC met with committee leaders, a representative of the Deacons, and the President of the Board of Trustees to hear reports and to conduct regular church business.

January 18, 2022: The AC met with committee leaders, a representative of the Deacons, and the President of the Board of Trustees to hear reports and to conduct regular church business.

January 20, 2022: The DPNC convened for the first time. The committee continued its work, meeting around 20 times before Memorial Day.

February 22, 2022: The AC met with committee leaders, a representative of the Deacons, and the President of the Board of Trustees to hear reports and to conduct regular church business.

March 22, 2022: The AC met with committee leaders, a representative of the Deacons, and the President of the Board of Trustees to hear reports and to conduct regular church business.

April 26, 2022: The AC met with committee leaders, a representative of the Deacons, and the President of the Board of Trustees to hear reports and to conduct regular church business.

May 24, 2022: The monthly scheduled AC meeting with congregational leaders was canceled due to COVID infections. In consultation with those leaders, the AC decided to suspend monthly meetings during the summer.

June 13, 2022: Magone and Company, CPA's began work on a financial review at CPC-M, as required by the Presbytery in the Warrant establishing the AC.

July 26, 2022: The AC met with the candidate selected by the DPNC, approving unanimously his call to become the Designated Pastor at CPC-M.

August 4, 2022: The AC and the DPNC met with the COM to present the DPNC candidate. The COM unanimously approved his membership in the PNENJ.

September 7: The AC met with congregational leaders and Designated Pastor, the Rev. Marcus Lambright, for introductions.

September 14: The AC met with the Designated Pastor.

MOTION (Presented to and approved by the Presbytery, 9/17/2022)

The Administrative Commission formed by the Presbytery of Northeast New Jersey on August 4, 2021 to work with the Community Presbyterian Church, Mountainside, requests a six month extension in order to complete its work. During those six months, the AC plans to work with the Designated Pastor to conduct leadership training in the congregation with a view towards the congregation electing a Session in early 2023 to which the AC will return original jurisdiction, filing a final report with the Presbytery on its activities.

September 21: The AC met with the Designated Pastor.

October 4: The AC met with the Designated Pastor, the Rev. Marcus Lambright, and with congregational leaders

October 19: The AC met with the Designated Pastor.

November 1: The AC met with the Designated Pastor, the Rev. Marcus Lambright, and with congregational leaders

November 6: Rev. Shelley Gardner conducted a leadership training workshop for members of Community Presbyterian Church, Mountainside at the invitation of the AC.

November 16: The AC met with the Designated Pastor.

December 6: The AC met with the Designated Pastor, the Rev. Marcus Lambright, and with congregational leaders, setting a congregational meeting date for Sunday, January 29 for the purpose of electing members of the Session.

January 17: The AC met with the Designated Pastor, the Rev. Marcus Lambright, and with congregational leaders, reviewing the nominees for the Session and a preliminary report on the financial review.

January 29: The congregation met and elected members of the Session, 3 members in each of three classes with terms expiring in one, two, and three years.

February 15: The AC met with the elected Session, the Designated Pastor, and other congregational leaders. The financial review was presented. The AC voted that the Session would resume original jurisdiction on March 1, 2023.

MOTION (for the May 20, 2023 Presbytery meeting)

The Administrative Commission, formed by the Presbytery of North East New Jersey on August 4, 2021 to work with the Community Presbyterian Church, Mountainside, is dismissed with thanks.