

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF STATED CLERK EDWARD KOSTER
TO THE PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT**

January 23, 2018

PART I: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OPENING FORMALITIES PART OF THE DOCKET

1. **DOCKET:** Adopt the docket as presented.
2. **EXCUSES:** Excuse all continuing minister and elder members of Presbytery who have asked to be excused.
3. **CORRESPONDING MEMBERS:** Seat as corresponding members all eligible persons who are presented to the Presbytery and who register on the enrollment sheet for corresponding members.

PART II: RECOMMENDATIONS AND INFORMATION UNDER BUSINESS.

FOR ACTION

1. Approve the minutes of November 18, 2017.
2. Amend the minutes of 9/26/17 as follows:
On p. 23 under Ministry Team Expenditures, for NCD strike \$19,000 and insert \$16,500.
The mission budget as amended is paper B-3.
3. Appoint an administrative commission to hear the petition of Matthew Morse to be restored to the active ministry, with the following responsibilities and authorities:
 - 1) It shall review the case decided by the Permanent Judicial Commission.
 - 2) It shall review other relevant materials relating to Mr Morse.
 - 3) It shall review the behavior of Matthew Morse while under suspension.
 - 4) It shall grant Mr. Morse all rights of fundamental fairness afforded in administrative hearings. These rights shall include at least:
 - a. Informing Mr. Morse of all the issues that he must address.
 - b. Giving Mr. Morse time and opportunity to respond to the issues.
 - c. It shall grant Mr Morse a hearing for him to present his petition and proofs, at which he shall be afforded the right to have a (Presbyterian) counsel and an advocate.
 - i. It shall hear testimony of anyone wishing to speak for or against Mr. Morse's petition.
 - 5) It shall decide on behalf of the Presbytery of Detroit whether he shall be restored to the ordered ministry of teaching elder, and if not to be restored at this time, to set criteria and procedures for his restoration within one year. This shall include the body that shall supervise his compliance, and the consequences of his failure to satisfactorily complete the requirements. One of the consequences of his failure after one year to satisfy the requirements as reported by the supervising body may be that he will be declared to have renounced the jurisdiction of this church pursuant to G-2.0509.
 - 6) It shall report its decision to Presbytery at the first meeting after the hearing.
In 2012 Matthew Morse was convicted of sexual misconduct and abuse of alcohol, and was temporarily excluded from the ordered ministry for a minimum of 5 years. The Permanent Judicial Commission in its order required certain steps and demonstrations be made for restoration. Mr Morse has petitioned to be restored to active ministry.
4. Elect the following members of the administrative Commission: Rev Scott Miller, Elder Diane Bostic-Robinson (Detroit Westminster), Elder Stefanie Lewis (Detroit Hope).

FOR INFORMATION

1. **TRANSFERS COMPLETED**
 - a) From the Presbytery of Detroit:
 - i) Tom Priest to New Hope
 - ii) Amy Morgan to Plains & Peaks
 - b) To the Presbytery of Detroit:
 - i) Jacqueline Spycher from Lake Huron
 - ii) Eric Lange from White Water Valley
 - iii) Anne Lange from White Water Valley
 - iv) Fernando Rodriquez from New Castle
 - v) Matthew Nickel from Mid-Kentucky