

# Appendices

NATIONAL BLACK PRESBYTERIAN CAUCUS  
46<sup>TH</sup> Biennial Virtual Convention Business Meeting  
June 24, 2021 – June 26, 2021

“Then the LORD said I’ve clearly seen my people oppressed in Egypt. I’ve heard their cry of injustice because of their slave masters. I know their pain” -Exodus 3:7 (CEB)

The National Black Presbyterian Caucus

46<sup>th</sup>  
BIENNIAL  
VIRTUAL  
CONVENTION

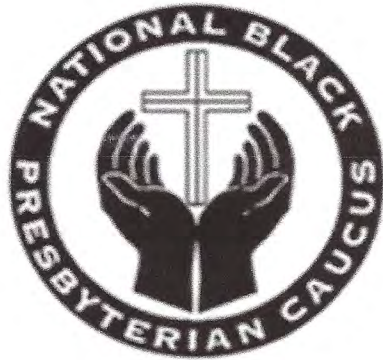
The Black Family, Congregation  
and Community in the Presbyterian  
Church USA: Navigating Identity,  
Equity and Economics

Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Priest Jr., President

JUNE 24-26, 2021  
Charleston, SC



**NATIONAL BLACK PRESBYTERIAN CAUCUS**  
**46<sup>TH</sup> Biennial Virtual Convention Business Meeting**  
**June 24, 2021 – June 26, 2021**



**NATIONAL BLACK PRESBYTERIAN  
CAUCUS**  
**46<sup>TH</sup> Biennial Virtual Convention**  
**Business Meeting**

**June 24, 2021 – June 26, 2021**

**4:00 p.m.**

**Host City: Charleston, South Carolina**



# NATIONAL BLACK PRESBYTERIAN CAUCUS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

National Office: P.O. Box 99696

Troy, MI 48099

[www.nationalnbpc.org](http://www.nationalnbpc.org)



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

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Midwest – Ruling Elder Adrienne Adams

Mid-South – Ruling Elder Natalie Toombs

Northeast– Mrs. Rasheeda Hastings

Southeast – Teaching Elder Dr. Joe Rigsby

West – Teaching Elder Mark S. Jones, Sr.

NBPC REP TO GA RACIAL EQUITY  
ADVOCACY COMMITTEE (REAC)  
Teaching Elder Dr. Flora Bridges

AFRICAN AMERICAN CLERGYWOMEN  
Vacant

AFRICAN CONNECTION  
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BLACK PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN  
Ruling Elder Dr. Lydia Willingham

CIRCLE OF ELDERS  
Teaching Elder Dr. James Thomas, Moderator

SEMINARIAN REPRESENTATIVE  
Vacant

YOUTH ADVISOR  
Vacant

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE  
Ms. Akilah Hyrams

PRESBYTERY MISSION AGENCY LIAISON  
African American Intercultural Congregational  
Support  
Rev. Michael Moore

## WELCOME TO THE 2021 NBPC BIENNIAL CONVENTION

*“The Black Family, Congregation, and Community in the  
Presbyterian Church USA: Navigating Identity, Equity and  
Economics”*

Peace Members, Mission Partners, and Friends,

The National Black Presbyterian Caucus (NBPC) Board of Directors and the 46<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention Committee welcome you to our first ever virtual biennial convention from Charleston, South Carolina.

The theme of the 46<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention is “The Black Family, Congregation, and Community in the Presbyterian Church USA: Navigating Identity, Equity and Economics.” Our theme is inspired by scripture: *“Then the Lord said, “I’ve clearly seen my people oppressed in Egypt. I’ve heard their cry of injustice because of their slave masters. I know about their pain” Exodus 3:7 (CEB).*

As we navigate our journey as Black Presbyterians, we recognize that as enslaved people of the African Diaspora our journey parallels the journey of the enslaved Hebrew people. Since 1619 to 2021 Black Presbyterians have been challenged by identity, equity and economic disparities in the church and community.

The 46<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention will focus on how Black Presbyterians overcome the disruptions to the Black family to establish an intergenerational organization unified by our common goal that all may thrive as members of God’s beloved community.

The NBPC is challenged today to achieve its mission and purpose as we navigate the troubling waters of racial hatred and bias. In addition to our business meetings, we will discuss the status of our two resolutions addressing the challenge of being Black in the PC(USA) and the lack of installed pastoral leadership in eighty percent (80%) of our Black congregations.

It is my sincere hope that this convention’s program will inspire you, transform you and create in you a witness committed to racial justice and equity. The NBPC needs your witness and participation to accomplish our mission and purpose. Let us commit to work together to be the change needed to realize God’s beloved community.

With Justice and Equity always,

*Thomas H. Priest, Jr.*

Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

President,

National Black Presbyterian Caucus

**NATIONAL BLACK PRESBYTERIAN CAUCUS**  
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**June 24, 2021 – June 26, 2021**

**Flow of Convention Events: June 24 – June 26, 2021**

**Thursday June 24, 2021 – Day One**

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Statement of the Occasion and Historical Overview of the National Black Presbyterian Caucus</b></p> <p><b>Opening Prayer (In Unison):</b></p> <p><b>Gracious and Almighty God, light of the hearts that see you, life of the souls that love you, strength of the thoughts that seek you; to turn from you is to fall, to turn to you is to rise, to abide in you is to stand fast forever. Although we are unworthy to approach you, or to ask anything at all of you, we are confident in Christ Jesus to ask that you grant us your grace and blessings for the sake of Jesus Christ our Redeemer. You have guided and directed the ministry and mission of NBPC from its beginning to the present day. It is with that knowledge that we ask your continued blessings and love upon the work of this Caucus, this Convention, and this time of worship. Bless this worship and may it be pleasing to you and may it glorify you in every way. In the Name of Jesus Christ, we pray. AMEN.</b></p>	<p>Rev. Dr. Donnie Woods</p> <p>Rev. Dr. Danny Murphy</p>
	<p>Music Selection: <b><i>Great Is Thy Faithfulness</i></b></p>	<p>Simplicia Davis</p>
	<p>Call to Confession:</p> <p><b><i>“If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness”. Let us confess our sin before God and this assembly. Let us pray. (From I John 1:8,9 adapted)</i></b></p>	<p>Rev. Maxine E. Jenkins</p>

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	<p><b>Confession of Sin: (In Unison)</b></p> <p><b>Loving and merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We confess that we are selfish, sinful people who are obsessed with our own needs and desires. Lord, we humbly confess our sins, and we ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Gracious and forgiving God, have mercy on us. In your loving-kindness, and in your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.</b></p>	<p>Rev. Maxine E. Jenkins</p>
	<p><b>Declaration of Pardon:</b></p> <p><b><i>The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you with confident assurance that in Jesus Christ, our Lord, you are forgiven. Believe in the Gospel and be at Peace. AMEN</i></b></p>	<p>Dr. Lydia Willingham</p>
	<p><b>Prayer of Illumination:</b></p> <p><b>Creator God, your Word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path. Grant to us your grace and love so that we receive your truth in faith and in love, that we may be obedient to your will and live always for your glory, through Jesus Christ our Savior. AMEN</b></p>	<p>Rev. Dr. Charles Heyward (Live)</p>
	<p><b>Scripture:</b>  Psalm 133  Psalm 120  Exodus 3:7</p>	<p>Rev. Dr. Charles Heyward (Live)   Rev. Letiah Fraser</p>
	<p><b>Sermon: <i>"The Cries of the People are Powerful"</i></b></p>	<p>Rev. Letiah Fraser</p>
	<p><b>Music Selection</b></p>	<p>Simplicia Smith</p>

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	<p>Affirmation of Faith</p> <p><b>We believe that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special the God of the destitute, the poor, and the wronged; that God calls the church to follow him in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry; that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind; that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps the orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly; that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against an form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Therefore, we reject any ideology which would legitimate form of injustice and any doctrine which is unwilling to resist such an ideology in the name of the gospel. Jesus is Lord. To the one and only God, Father/Creator, Son and holy Spirit, be the honor and the glory forever and ever. AMEN.</b></p> <p>From the Confession of Belhar (adapted)</p>	<p>Rev. Patricia Jones</p>
	<p>Prayer and the Lord's Prayer</p>	<p>Rev. Mary Newbern Williams</p>
	<p>Music Selection - Instrumental</p>	<p>Simplicia Smith</p>
	<p>Charge and Benediction</p>	<p>Rev. Letiah Fraser</p>
	<p>Postlude</p>	<p>Simplicia Smith</p>
	<p>End of Day 1 Worship</p>	

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10:00 a.m. (90 minutes)	<p style="text-align: center;">NBPC Business Meeting Part 1  Greetings from Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.):</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II,  Stated Clerk, Office of General Assembly</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Rev. Dr. Diane Givens-Moffett, President and  Executive Director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency</p>	Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
11:30 a.m.	Commercial Break – 30 Minutes	
11:30 a.m. (60 Minutes)	Youth and Young Adult Summit Session 1	Michael Barconey Zakeyah Frazier
12:00 p.m. (90 minutes)	<p style="text-align: center;">NBPC Business Meeting Part 2</p> <p>Greetings from the South Carolina Affiliate Ministries(video)  Synod of South Atlantic – Rev. Joyce Lieberman  Southeast Region – Rev. Joseph Rigsby  Charleston Atlantic Presbytery – Rev. Donnie Woods  Mrs. Evelynne Freeman Singleton, NBPC Chapter President  Rev. Dr McKinley Washington, Jr., Honorably Retired</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Greetings from City of Charleston, S.C.  U.S. Congressman James Clyburn,  U.S. Representative to South Carolina District 6 (video)  Mayor John Tecklenburg (video)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Reference: NBPC Business Meeting Agenda</p>	Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
1:30 p.m.	Commercial Break – 30 Minutes	
2:00 p.m. (60 Minutes)	Plenary Session 1: <p style="text-align: center;"><b>“The Burden and Blessing of Blackness:  An Intergenerational Challenge”</b></p>	Dr. Jonathan Lee Walton, Dean, Wake Forest University School of Divinity
3:00 p.m.	Convention Day 1 is Complete	

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**Friday June 25, 2021 – Day Two**

9:30 a.m.	Greetings from the City of Charleston, S.C.: U.S. Congressman James Clyburn, U.S. Representative to South Carolina District 6 (video) Mayor John Tecklenburg (video)	
9:45 a.m. (15 minutes)	Devotion Leader – Rev. Patricia Jones Pastor, Hebron-Zion Presbyterian Church, John’s Island, S. C.	Video
10:00 a.m. (60 Minutes)	Plenary Session 2: <b>“The Burden and Blessing of Blackness: An Intergenerational Challenge”</b>	Live Dr. Jonathan Lee Walton Dean, Wake Forest University School of Divinity
11:00 a.m. (30 Minutes)	Plenary - Question and Answer Session <b>“The Burden and Blessing of Blackness: An Intergenerational Challenge”</b>	Live Dr. Jonathan Lee Walton Dean, Wake Forest University School of Divinity
11:30 a.m.	Commercial Break – 15 Minutes	
11:45 a.m. (60 Minutes)	Justice Unbound: <i>Just Talk Live</i>	Lee Catoe Destini Hodges
12:45 p.m.	Presbyterian Historical Society Update	David Staniunas Sonia Prescott
12:50 p.m.	Commercial Break – 10 Minutes	
1:00 p.m. (60 minutes)	Youth and Young Adult Summit #2	Michael Barconey Zakeyah Frazier
2:00 p.m.	Honoree Awards Ceremony	Video
2:30 p.m.	Convention Day 2 Complete	

**Saturday June 26, 2021 – Day Three**

9:00 a.m. (15 minutes)	Devotion Leader – Rev. Dr. Brian Henderson, Pastor St. James Presbyterian Church, Charleston, S.C.	<u>Video</u>
9:15 a.m. (30 Minutes)	World View on Theme	Rev. Shelves Smith-Mather Mission Co-Worker South Sudan Presbyterian World Mission, PC (U.S.A.)
10:00 a.m.	NBPC Business Meeting – Part 3	Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
		Michael Barconey

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10:30 a.m.	Youth and Young Adult Summit #3	Zakeyah Frazier
11:30 a.m.	Commercial Break 30 Minutes	
12:00 p.m. (45 minutes)	NBPC Business Meeting Resumes with Elections – Part 4	Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Priest, Jr
12:45 p.m. (60 minutes)	Closing Worship	Video
	<p>Gathering Music “We Lift Our Voices” <b>Glory to God # 170</b></p> <p>Special Announcements</p> <p>Call to Worship:</p> <p>One: We lift our voices and sing to you, O God</p> <p><b>All: We lift our voices and sing until all of heaven rings with harmonies of liberties, justice, freedom, and peace.</b></p> <p>One: Our rejoicing rises to you, O Christ</p> <p><b>All: Our rejoicing rises as high as the heavens, as low as depths of hell, and throughout this earth that we call home.</b></p> <p>One: We cry for liberty, freedom, an end to oppression, and a world where black bodies are sacred in the sight of all, O Spirit.</p> <p><b>All: We lift our voices to you. We sing, we shout, and we cry. We face the rising sun of a new day and march on until victory is won.</b></p>	<p>William McConnell, DMA</p> <p>Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Priest, Jr.</p> <p>Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Priest, Jr. (Live)</p>
	<p>Hymn: “<i>Lift Every Voice and Sing</i>”  Composer: James Weldon Johnson</p> <p>Lift ev’ry voice and sing; Till earth and heaven ring  Ring with the harmonies of liberty;  Let our rejoicing rise, High as the list’ning skies,  Let it resound loud as the rolling sea  Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,  Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;  Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  Let us march on till victory is won.</p> <p>Stony the road we trod, Bitter the chast’ning rod.  Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  Yet with a steady beat, Have not our weary feet,  Come to the place on which our fathers signed?</p>	<p>William McConnell, DMA</p>

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	<p>We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,          We have come, treading our path through the blood of the              slaughtered,          Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last              Where the white gleam of our star is cast.</p> <p>    God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,              Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;          Thou who has by Thy might, Led us into the light,              Keep us forever in the path, we pray          Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met              Thee,          Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget              Thee,              Shadowed beneath the hand,              True to our God,              True to our native land.</p>	
	Opening Prayer	Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
	Call to Confession	RE Margaret C. Priest
	<p>Prayer of Confession (In Unison):</p> <p>Gracious God,          Our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep          to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our          hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a          consuming fire of judgement. Set us free from a past that we          cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be          changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your          likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the          world. (Time for silent prayer and reflection.)</p>	RE Margaret C. Priest
	<p>Assurance of Pardon:</p> <p>One: If we have died for Christ, we believe, we believe we          also will live with Him. Therefore, consider yourselves dead          to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. In the name of Jesus          Christ, we are forgiven.</p> <p>All: Thanks be to God.</p>	Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
	<p>Prayer for Illumination:</p> <p>Almighty God, your word brightens our world and enlightens          our minds. Allow all we hear to deepen our faith, encourage</p>	Dr. Lydia Willingham (Live)

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	us for committed service, and strengthen us to continue Christ's model for discipleship. In His Name we pray. AMEN.	
	Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:12-26	Zakeyah Frazier
	Sermon:  <b>“Body Builders”</b>	Rev. Dr. Alonzo Johnson Coordinator, PC (USA) Office of Self-Development of People (SDOP)
	Affirmation of Faith: We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects, and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end. We believe in one holy and universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family. We believe that Christ’s work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and one another; that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God’s Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain; that this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and have no place in the church and must be resisted. Jesus is Lord. To the one and only God, Father, Son and Holy spirit, be the honor and the glory for ever and ever. AMEN (The Confession of the Belhar)	RE Lynne Foreman (Live)

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	<p>Prayer:  Eternal and Sovereign God, you gave your Son for all humanity. In Jesus Christ we have light for a darkened world, forgiveness for human sinfulness, salvation by grace through faith, and the promise of eternal life. We praise you and thank you for all you have done in Christ Jesus. Loving God, look upon this world, provide for those who are in need, continue to empower us to feed the hungry, clothe those in need, provide shelter for those who have none, and to be the people you have called and commissioned us to be. Teach us to proclaim the hope that is in Jesus, to preach peace and love rather than discord and hate, and to lift His Name up for all to know and to embrace. As you teach us, Loving God, teach us the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples. That is the prayer that says, "Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. AMEN.</p>	Rev. Dr. Danny Murphy (Live)
	<p>Response in Unison: <i>"Let the Church Say Amen"</i>  Composer: Andrae Crouch</p> <p>Let the Church say Amen,  Let the Church Amen,  God has spoken,  So let the church say Amen!</p>	William McConnell, DMA
	Hymn: O God, Creator, Sovereign	William McConnell, DMA
	Benediction and Charge	Rev. Dr. Alonzo Johnson
1:45 p.m.	46 <sup>th</sup> Biennial Planning Committee Closing Remarks	RE Margaret Priest (Live) Dr. Lydia Willingham
1:50 p.m.	NBPC 46 <sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention Close	Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
2:00 p.m.	National Black Presbyterian Caucus Biennial Convention is Adjourned	

**National Black Presbyterian Caucus  
46<sup>th</sup> Biennial Virtual Convention  
Business Meeting**

**Charleston, South Carolina**

*Courtyard By Marriott,  
Charleston Historic District,  
125 Calhoun Street, Charleston, SC 29401  
(843) 805-7900*

**AGENDA**

***Thursday, June 24, 2021; 10:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M. EST***

***Part 1***

Call to Order/Welcome	Thomas H. Priest, Jr., President
Opening Prayer	Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
Establishment of Quorum	Lenore Williams, Secretary
Adopt Agenda	Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
Conference Logistics	Margaret C. Priest/Lydia Willingham Convention Co-Chairs
Acknowledgement of Guests	Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
Appointment of Parliamentarian	Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
Greetings	PC(USA) Agencies
Review 45 <sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention Minutes	Lenore Williams, Secretary
2021 Annual Board of Directors Meeting Minutes	Lenore Williams, Secretary
<b>Reports</b>	
Nominating Committee	James Hooper, Chair
President	Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
Vice – President	Doris Evans
Treasurer	Charles Heyward

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125 Calhoun Street, Charleston, SC 29401  
(843) 805-7900*

***Thursday, June 24, 2021; 12:00 P.M. – 1:30 P.M. EST***

***Part 2***

Greetings from South Carolina	Video
Financial Administrator's	Rosy Latimore
Membership Committee Chair	Stefanie Lewis
Director Region and Chapter Development	Doris Evans
Revive, Renew, Restore Team	Doris Evans
Website Team	Doris Evans
Operations & Procedures Manual	James Thomas
<b>Region Reports</b>	
Mid-Atlantic Region	TBD
Mid-South Region	Natalie Toombs
Midwest Region	Adrienne Adams
Northeast Region	Rasheeda Hastings
Southeast Region	Joe Rigsby
West Region	Mark Jones
African Connection Report	Dianna Wright
National Black Presbyterian Women Report	Lydia Willingham
Circle of Elders Report	James A. Thomas, Sr.
Youth Report	Akilah Hyrams

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**AGENDA**

***Saturday, June 26, 2021, 10:30 A.M. – 11:30 A.M. EST***

***Part 1***

Call to Order/Welcome	Thomas H. Priest, Jr. President
Opening Prayer	Doris Evans, Vice – President
Announcements	Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
223 <sup>rd</sup> GA 05 – 09 Resolution <i>“On the Challenge of Being Black in the PC(USA)”</i> - Status	Doris Evans
225 <sup>th</sup> GA Resolution 02-84 <i>“The Lack of Installed Pastoral Leadership in People of Color Congregations In the PC(USA)”</i>	Flora Bridges
Racial Equity Advocacy Committee Report	Flora Bridges

***Saturday, June 26, 2021, 12:30 P.M. – 1:15 P.M. EST***

***Part 2***

Election and Installation of New Officers	Thomas H. Priest, Jr. Danny C. Murphy
2023 Biennial Convention Report	Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
Convention Closing Prayer and Adjournment	Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

**National Black Presbyterian Caucus**  
**45<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention**  
**Business Meeting**

*Thursday, June 27, 2019, 9:00 A.M. EST*

Call to Order/Welcome – the meeting was called to order by President, Rev. Dr. Thomas Priest, Jr. at 9:07am and recognition of Board members. It was then opened with Prayer by Vice President Doris Evans

A quorum was established.

It was properly moved and seconded to adopt the Agenda for the conference. Motion carried.

Conference Logistics - Rev. Mary Newbern-Williams acknowledged the planning committee.  
Judy Murphy/Lynne Foreman, Convention Co-Chairs

Acknowledged Guests – John McFadden, Executive Vice President, Chief of Church Engagement, The Board of Pensions, PC (USA); Keenan Rodgers, Associate Church Consultant, The Board of Pensions PC (USA); Rev. Katie Crowe, Pastor, Trinity Ave. Presbyterian Church, Durham, NC; Orlando Carr, Presbyterian Foundation; Rev. Jimmie Hawkins, Office of Public Witness; Sonia Prescott, Public Services Associate, Presbyterian Historical Society; Cindy Ealy, Senior Administrative Assistant for Finance, Ecclesial and Ecumenical Ministries PC (USA); Molly Casteel, Manager, Equity and Representation Assistant Stated Clerk; Sherri Hunter, OGA PC (USA); Jewell Carter

Appoint Parliamentarian – Rev. Daniel Murphy has been established as Parliamentarian by President Priest.

Review 44<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention Minutes – minutes were displayed during the meeting but had already been posted 60 days after the 2017 Biennial and on the NBPC website. It was properly moved and seconded to approve the minutes with corrections. Motion carried.

Nominating Committee Report – Elder Rosy Latimore, Chair – Nominations for President – Thomas Priest, Jr. and Treasurer Rev. Charles Heyward, Sr. No nominations have been received at this time. President Priest opened the floor to nominations – must be a member of NBPC in good standing. Vice-President Evans assumed the moderator position to receive nominations from the floor. No nominations from the floor were received for President and Treasurer and were closed. President Priest resumed the moderator position and asked for nominations from the floor for Nominations committee. Mary B. Porter, (Southeast); Toni Griffin-Fields (Southeast); Rev. Antonio Lawrence (Mid-Atlantic). It was properly moved and seconded to hold nominations open through the next Business meeting. Motion carried. Acknowledgment to Elder Rosy Latimore and her committee for their hard work.

New Chapter Celebrations – President Priest spoke on New York City's re-establishing their Chapter. Looking at Cincinnati-Dayton and Baltimore coming on soon. Houston representative announced they were interested in establishing a Chapter. They were directed to Natalie Toombs (Mid-South region).

Office of the General Assembly/

Presbytery Mission Agency – Greetings from Rev. Lemuel Garcia - Updated information on African-American congregations needs to be updated and asked for help either on-line or email.

**National Black Presbyterian Caucus**  
**45<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention**  
**Business Meeting**

Special Committee on Racism, Truth and Reconciliation – Listening Sessions – Marta Pumroy (co-moderator) – the 222<sup>nd</sup> GA and 223<sup>rd</sup> GA to conduct a church-wide listening campaign to review the state of racism in our Presbytery including reparations, restorations, reconciliations and renewal. John 1:14. Friday and Saturday listening sessions are available this weekend during the Biennial. What will happen with the data? It will mainly be a data gathering session to make sure there is an awareness and realization there is a problem. It is still being determined how to go forward. President Priest stated as a Caucus we must look into it and hold all parties accountable. The Committee will report to 2020 GA and final report will be in 2022 at Columbus, OH.

Membership Chair, Stefanie Lewis asked if members did not receive their cards, please see her before the meeting ends this weekend.

Closing Prayer by Marta Pumroy at 10:12am.

**National Black Presbyterian Caucus**  
**45<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention**  
**Business Meeting**

*Friday, June 28, 2019, 9:00am EST*

The meeting was called to order by President Priest at 9:28am and all were welcomed. President Priest then opened with prayer.

Acknowledgment of Guests, David Staniunas, Presbyterian Historical Society, Philadelphia; DeAmber Clopton, PC (USA) Louisville

Announcements – Circle of Elders are meeting 1:30pm in the hotel at the lobby level; reminder talks are continuing with Racism, Truth and Reconciliation (sign-up at the registration table).

President's Report – President Priest summarized his written report. Emphasized the theme and challenge "Where do we go from here? Seeking racial justice and equity". We need to work on establishing a formal and standard location that should go along with the PC (USA) offices. Work is underway on revising the Mission Statement.

Vice-President's Report – President Evans summarized her written report. Reminded members to VOTE! There are 400 members and only 35 voted. Site for information on [www.cwags.org](http://www.cwags.org) and [www.nationalnbpc.org](http://www.nationalnbpc.org) on the Cannon lectures. Copies of the report were available in hand-outs.

Treasurer's Report – Rev. Dr. Charles Heyward reviewed his report. Copies will be available. Audit report pending. Information has not been updated to include the current conference. Treasurer is available to answer questions.

Financial Administrator's Report – Chair Rosy Latimore reported. Information is already in the program book.

**Guest Announcements:**

Rosemary Mitchell – Mission Engagement and Support - PMA. Also in attendance are Sy Hughes (South); Lynne Foreman (Northeast and Trinity Synods); Bill McConnel (Texas)

John McFadden – Board of Pensions – Dr. Arlene Gordon and Keenan Rogers (World Affairs - works with churches without called pastors and Education Debt Reduction for pastors)

Jose Luis Casal, Director World Mission – Sited the department's short comings of the past and has increased the African-American employee staff from 2-11.

Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, Jr – Stated Clerk PC (USA) -- reminded all to put records into the archives. Too much history has been lost for African American Presbyterians. Elder Dianna Wright has been named to replace Rev. Robina Winbush in an interim capacity. Thanked all for the payment of per capita.

Meeting adjourned at 11:03am.

Meeting reconvened at 11:15am by President Priest to accept nominations for the Nominations Committee. Nominated were:

Rev. Tamron Keith, Teaching (Mid-South)

**National Black Presbyterian Caucus**  
**45<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention**  
**Business Meeting**

James Hooper, Ruling (Mid-South)

Etta Graham-Mitchell, Ruling (Northeast)

It was properly moved and seconded to close nominations. Nominations closed at 11:22am.

Meeting adjourned at 11:23am and Plenary began.

**National Black Presbyterian Caucus**  
**45<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention**  
**Business Meeting**

**AGENDA**

*Saturday, June 29, 2019, 8:30am, EST*

The meeting was called to order by President Priest at 8:45am and was opened with prayer from Rev. Maxine E. Jenkins.

Acknowledgment of Guests – no new guests present.

No announcements

Special address from Rev. Dr. Diane Givens Moffett on Matthew 25 Church. This is a “vision”, we are part of a greater body and it’s up to us to do the service as Calvin says “we are saved to serve”. To have a detailed presentation, contact the PMA.

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/> It was properly moved and seconded that the NBPC will advocate and encourage the Matthew 25 Vision. Motion carried.

Membership Chair Report – Chair Stefanie Lewis reported 481 members, 17 chapters. There is an installment plan available for Lifetime members. For previous Lifetime members who do not have cards should send \$25 to Membership. Funds for Lifetime Memberships are put into an endowment fund. Details are in the Treasurer’s Report. President Priest announced report is on the registration table for distribution.

**Region Reports – President Priest announced all reports are listed in the book or on the registration table for distribution. They will also be placed on the website.**

Bylaws Committee Report – Natalie Toombs reported on the motion to amend the By-Laws:

ARTICLE VII – BOARD OF DIRECTORS (*BOARD*)

**Section 1(b), 2(a) and (b)**- Remove “Advocacy Committee on Racial Ethnic Concerns (ACREC)” to “Racial Equity Advocacy Committee (REAC)”

**Section 12: QUORUM** - A quorum for the transaction of official Board business shall constitute the presence of at least 7 Board members, consisting of three regions represented (meaning of the people present, 3 regions must be present) and one (1) elected officer.

These come from committee and do not need to be seconded. Notice was sent via email, via chapters and through mail for those without emails. Motion carried.

GA 05 – 09 Resolution's Status – it was noted that Vice-President Evans talked about this yesterday in her report and it is encouraged that everyone participate. Commissioners resolution from NBPC on the challenge of being Black in the PC (USA) including actions for accountability.

NBPC 2020 General Assembly Resolution – Africa Initiative will be reinstated with Self Development of People and part of the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering.

**National Black Presbyterian Caucus**  
**45<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention**  
**Business Meeting**

National Black Presbyterian Women Report – Elder Sheila Louder, President - reported and encouraged Black Presbyterian Women to join. Looking also at the “Empty Chair”, a committee on abused black women, sex trafficking, pipeline of black children into incarceration, mental health, voting rights and other issues.

Circle of Elders Report – James A. Thomas, Sr, Chair, report is in the program. It is about connecting with one another after they retire. But you don't have to be retired to be on the mailing list.

Youth and Young Adult Report – Akilah Hyrams, Chair, not present, but reports are on the registration table and will be on the website.

Racial Equity Advocacy Committee (REAC) - Thomas H. Priest, Jr. included in the President's report.

Funding/Fundraising – Question posed by Rev. James Reese on what steps are being taken to get funds for fulfilling the mission of NBPC. Rev. David Wallace and Treasurer Rev. Charles Heyward stated they are working with institutional entities to see about donating funds (churches, seminaries, etc). More work is needed. Membership and Finance Committees will meet to make sure things are properly categorized. It is asked to make fundraising a serious and immediate consideration and plan.

Election and Installation of New Officers – It was properly moved and seconded to approve and elect the slate of officers and nominations committee by acclamation. Motion carried. Convention Parliamentarian, Rev. Danny Murphy installed the officers.

Elected and Installed were:

- President – Rev. Dr. Thomas Priest, Jr.
- Treasurer – Rev. Dr. Charles Heyward, Sr.
- Nominating Committee:
  - Elder James Hooper
  - Elder Mary Porter
  - Elder Etta Graham-Mitchell
  - Rev. Antonio Lawrence
  - Rev. Tamron Keith
  - Elder Toni Griffin-Fields

2019 Biennial Convention Report – applause and much appreciation to Lynne Foreman and Judy Murphy as Co-Chairs and the members of the committee for a wonderful conference.

Appreciation given to the Board membership.

2021 Biennial Convention location was named to be Charleston, SC.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment at the benediction during worship.

**National Black Presbyterian Caucus  
Annual Board of Directors Meeting**

Via Zoom

Meeting ID: 854 4432 6315

Passcode: 567758

*Monday, January 25, 2021*

9:00 PM (EST)

Roll Call: Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Priest, Jr., Rev. Doris Evans, Rev. Dr. Charles Heyward, Lenore Williams, Damon Bethea (Finance Committee Chair), Rosy Latimore (Financial Administrator), Stefanie Lewis (Membership Chair), Margaret Priest (Co-Chair Biennial Committee), Rev. Dr. James Thomas (Circle of Elders), Dr. Lydia Willingham (Black Presbyterian Women – Co-Chair Biennial Committee), Dianna Wright (African Connection), Adrienne Adams (Mid-West Region Rep), Natalie Toombs (Mid-South Region Rep), Rasheeda Hastings (Northeast Region Rep), Mary Porter (Southeast Region Rep), Mark Jones (West Region Rep.) James Hooper (Nominating Committee), Rev. Dr. Flora Bridges (REAC)

Absent: Akilah Hyrams (Youth Advisor/Representative), Rev. Michael Moore (PMA Liaison)

Excused: John Etheredge, Rev. Joe Rigsby (Southeast Region Rep)

Welcome / Call to Order/ Prayer by Rev. Priest at 9:00pm Eastern

Roll Call/Establishment of Quorum was given by Secretary Williams and quorum

Approval of Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Minutes – removed from Consent agenda
- b. President Report
- c. Vice President Report
- d. Treasurer Report- removed from Consent agenda
- e. Financial Administrator Report
- f. Membership Report – removed from Consent agenda
- g. Region and Chapter Development Report
- h. Racial Equity Advocacy Report – removed from Consent agenda
- i. Young Adult Report – no report submitted
- j. Nominating Committee Report – removed from Consent agenda
- k. Policy and Procedures Manual Report
- l. African Connection Report – no report submitted
- m. Black Presbyterian Women Report
- n. Circle of Elders Report
- o. PMA Liaison Report – no report submitted
- p. Seminarian Report – no report submitted
- q. All Region Representatives Reports

With the exception of those items removed, it was properly moved and seconded to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of items removed. After discussion and an itemized list given, it was moved and seconded to call the question. Motion carried. The vote took place to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of items removed. Motion carried.

**Items removed from the Consent Agenda**

- a) Approval of the minutes – It was properly moved and seconded to approve the minutes with the correction of Adrienne Adams being listed as present. Motion carried.
- b) Treasurer's Report – Rev. Heyward reviewed the Treasurer's report. It was properly noted to accept the Treasurer's report subject to audit.
- c) Membership Report – **Motion – New York City Chapter receive its 2020 rebate of \$320.** Moved by committee and does not require a second. Motion carries.

National Black Presbyterian Caucus  
Annual Board of Directors Meeting

Via Zoom

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Passcode: 567758

Monday, January 25, 2021

9:00 PM (EST)

- d) Racial Equity Advocacy Report – Rev. Dr. Flora Wilson-Bridges – it was asked to enlarge the pyramid on Racism.
- e) Nominating Committee Report – Hooper reviewed the process. Ballots will go out for President, Treasurer and Legal/Parliamentarian persons after May 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Committee Reports**

Executive Committee - President Priest highlighted the following actions:

- Removed Board Member – Seminarian Deacon Theresa Durham due to excessive absences.
- Removed Board Member – Mid-Atlantic Region Representative – Nita Henderson due to excessive absences.
- Approved the President, Vice President and Secretary receive emails from NBPC@PCUSA.ORG email address.

**Motions for Board Action: The NBPC Executive Committee moves that a legal, polity/parliamentarian be elected to the Board of Directors at the 2021 Biennial Convention – Motion carried.**

Finance Committee - Damon Bethea – Chair reviewed the budget.

**Motion – The NBPC Finance Committee makes a motion to the Board of Directors to approve the 2021 NBPC Budget.** It was asked to look into a Corporate Zoom account that would allow more than one host. Motion carried.

Website – Vice President Evans emphasized the Lenten devotionals 2021 NBPC Biennial Convention -Lydia Willingham and Margaret Priest presented potential program cover and work on website for upcoming registration. Also an invitation for revisiting the event. Executive Committee and any members of the Board are asked to be present.

**Region Representatives**

Mid-Atlantic  
Mid-South  
Midwest  
Northeast  
Southeast  
West

**Consent Agenda**

Nita Henderson  
Natalie Toombs  
Adrienne Adams  
Rasheeda Hastings  
Joe Rigsby  
Mark Jones

**Items for Action**

- See Executive Committee Report

**Unfinished Business - None**

**New Business**

- Need to review by-laws to make decisions on terms of officers. Review articles \_\_\_\_\_.
- Per Capita – should we hold back on paying per capita if our Presbyteries do not support NBPC?
- Please review the issue with Beaver-Butler Presbytery and the work towards mediation.
- Rev. Heyward will host a training session for Treasurers of the Caucus and churches. Information will be coming out soon.

**2021 Board Meeting Dates**

National Black Presbyterian Caucus  
**Annual Board of Directors Meeting**

Via Zoom

Meeting ID: 854 4432 6315

Passcode: 567758

*Monday, January 25, 2021*

9:00 PM (EST)

January 25, 2021 Annual Meeting- Held  
April 19, 2021  
June 23<sup>rd</sup> Face to Face  
June 24–26, 2021 46th Biennial Convention  
September 20, 2021 It was moved and seconded to replace this with a “Welcome” meeting  
8/9/21. Motion carried.  
It was properly moved and seconded to have an additional meeting on November 22, 2021.  
Motion carried.

**Adjournment and Closing Prayer-** by James Thomas 11:57pm



## NATIONAL BLACK PRESBYTERIAN CAUCUS 46<sup>TH</sup> BIENNIAL CONVENTION



### Past Presidents of Black Presbyterians United and the National Black Presbyterian Caucus

Tony Butts
Kermit Overton
Thelma Adair
Jerome Cooper
Claude Kilgore
Linton Gunn
Linton Gunn
Willie Dell
Lawrence Bethel
Jesse C. Swanigan
Curtis A. Jones
Curtis A. Jones
Jerry Cannon
Gregory Bentley
Arlene Gordon
Arlene Gordon
David Wallace
Thomas H. Priest Jr.
Thomas H. Priest Jr.

Credit: List compiled by Sonia Prescott using records from the Presbyterian Historical Society. For comments, suggestions, or edits, please contact Sonia directly at [sprescott@history.pcusa.org](mailto:sprescott@history.pcusa.org). Visit us at [refdesk@history.pcusa.org](http://refdesk@history.pcusa.org).

## NBPC LIFETIME MEMBERS LIST

Revised: June 7, 2021

Region	First Name	Last Name
Northeast	Barbara	Adam-Smelter
Midwest	Adrienne	Adams
Northeast	Catherine A	Adams
Southeast	Mary Anne	Andrews
Southeast	Cecelia	Armstrong
Northeast	Aaron	Bass
Northeast	Jade King	Bass
Mid-South	Gregory J	Bentley
Mid-Atlantic	Ernestine	Brown
Mid-Atlantic	Karen V	Brown
Mid-Atlantic	Helen Bessent	Byrd
Mid-Atlantic	Arthur W	Canada
Mid-Atlantic	Jerry L	Cannon
Southeast	L Rita	Dixon
West	Janet W.	Doak
Mid-South	Eric	Donaldson
Mid-Atlantic	Juanita I	Eldridge
West	<del>Leon E</del>	<del>Fanniel</del>
Southeast	Arlene W	Gordon
Southeast	Louella	Grayson
Mid-South	Bridgett	Green
West	Anne	Hawkins
Southeast	Angie	Holland
Southeast	Richard	Holland
Mid-Atlantic	Mamie L Wilson	Hooker
Mid-South	James E.	Hooper
Mid-South	Tracy	Hooper
Mid-South	Rhashell	Hunter
Northeast	Maxine	Jenkins
Mid-Atlantic	Charlie	Johnson
West	Mark S	Jones, Sr
Mid-South	Curtis	Kearns, Jr
Mid-Atlantic	Adrienne	Knight
Mid-Atlantic	Allie B	Latimer
Southeast	Melvin	Lowry
Northeast	Zandra	Maffett
West	Charles	Marks
Southeast	Oscar	McCloud
Northeast	Warren	McNeill
Mid-South	Catherine	Montgomery

West	Calvin	Moore II
Mid-Atlantic	Carolyn P	Mundy
West	Kikanza J.	Nuri-Robins
West	Laura J Burton-	Odem
Southeast	Lonnie J	Oliver
<del>Mid-Atlantic</del>	<del>John A</del>	<del>Rhames</del>
Northeast	Ronald E.	Peters
Mid-Atlantic	Thomas H.	Priest
Southeast	Otis A	Smith
Mid-Atlantic	Samuel	Stevenson
<del>Mid-South</del>	<del>Augusta Y.</del>	<del>Thomas</del>
Southeast	Alonza	Washington
West	N'Yisrela	Watts-Afriyie
West	Leonardo V	Wilborn
Southeast	Lydia	Willingham
MidWest	Kathryn	Woodyard
<del>Mid-South</del>	<del>Robina</del>	<del>Winbush</del>
West	Steven	Yamaguchi



## City of Charleston

JOHN J. TECKLENBURG

MAYOR

June 24, 2021

### WELCOME!

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2021 National Black Presbyterian Caucus 46<sup>th</sup> Biennial Virtual Convention, as you gather June 24-26, 2021. As Mayor of the City of Charleston, and on behalf of Charleston City Council and all our citizens, I am honored and delighted that we will be your virtual host city.

Although the events this year are virtual due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we consider it a privilege for Charleston to be chosen as the host city. We hope you will still be able to see the array of things that Charleston has to offer. My best wishes for a great event!

Most sincerely yours,

John J. Tecklenburg  
Mayor, City of Charleston



# City of Charleston

JOHN J. TECKLENBURG  
MAYOR

## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS,** in 1893, the first predecessor to National Black Presbyterian Caucus (NBPC) was organized. It was originally called the Afro Presbyterian Council and was organized by the Reverends Francis Grimke, R.H. Armstrong, Matthew Anderson and John B. Reeve; and

**WHEREAS,** the purpose of the NBPC is to promote church growth and strengthen the spiritual life of Black Presbyterian congregations and individual members; and

**WHEREAS,** the NBPC advocates for social and racial justice, supports Black Presbyterian members, and serves Jesus Christ; and

**WHEREAS,** the NBPC will celebrate its 46<sup>th</sup> Biennial Virtual Convention June 24 – June 26, 2021, in Charleston, SC. It is structured to educate and encourage our chapters and member congregations to fully participate in life of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); and

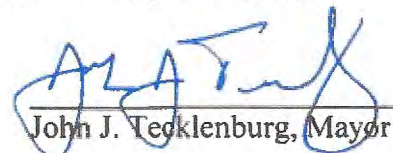
**WHEREAS,** the NBPC's theme this year is "The Black Family, Congregation and Community in the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.: Navigating Identity, Equity, and Economics"; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Charleston is honored to welcome the NBPC and to be chosen for your virtual host city.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** John J. Tecklenburg, Mayor of the City of Charleston, do hereby proclaim June 24, 2021 as:

### **NATIONAL BLACK PRESBYTERIAN CAUCUS DAY**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I do hereby set my hand, and cause the seal of Charleston to be affixed, this 24<sup>th</sup> day of June in the year of 2021.

  
John J. Tecklenburg, Mayor

