REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE

TO THE ONE HUNDRED FORTY SIXTH COUNCIL OF
THE DIOCESE OF THE NORTHEAST AND MID-ATLANTIC
OF THE REFORMED EPISCOPAL CHURCH – NOVEMBER 5,2026

Dear Brethren,

The Standing Committee held five meetings during 2026 on January 9th, January 29th, March 26th, June 25th, and October 1st by Zoom Videoconference. The Rev. Cedric R. Benner, President chaired all of the meetings. Six email polls were also conducted on December 30, 2025, January 31,2026, March 18,2026, April 10,2026, July 16,2026 and August 8, 2026. The activities of the Rt. Rev. William A. Jenkins, Sr., Bishop Ordinary including Episcopal visits, confirmations and other functions can be found in detail in his report presented to this Council.

ORDINATION EXAMINATIONS SUSTAINED

12/12/2025 - Rev. Dcn. Jared Lovell to the presbyterate

2/27/2026 – Postulant John Caljoun Parks to the diaconate

9/28/2026 - Rev. Dcn. Norris Gadsden to the presbyterate

TRANSFER EXAMINATION SUSTAINED

1/30/2026 – Rev. Dr. John Simpson

ORDINATIONS

On March 21, 2026 Bishop Jenkins ordained the **Rev. Dcn. Jared Scott Lovell** into the order of Presbyters at Grace Anglican Church in Scranton, PA. the preacher was the late Rev. William Garrison. Assisting Presbyters were the Rev. Ricky McCarl and the Rev. William Jenkins, Jr.

On August 22, 2026 Bishop Jenkins ordained the **Rev. Dcn. Benjamin Pearce** into the order of Presbyters at St. Mark's Reformed Episcopal Church, Rydal, PA. The preacher was the Rev. Dr. Jason Patterson. Assisting Presbyters were the Rev. Dr. Jason Patterson and the Rev. Matthew Maule.

INSTALLATIONS

On March 22, 2026, Bishop Jenkins installed newly ordained presbyter **Rev. Jared Lovell** into the rectorship of Grace Anglican Church in Scranton, PA. The church has also progressed into full parish status under his care.

On Sunday May 10, 2026, the **Rev Stephen Atchison** was installed by the Very Rev. Arch Deacon Jon Abboud into the rectorship of St. Peter's Anglican Church in Elkton, MD.

On Sunday August 30, 2026, Bishop Jenkins installed the **Rev. Lorenzo Figueroa Cusick** into the Rectorship of Emmauel Reformed Episcopal Church in Somerville, NJ. We welcome Fr. Lorenzo, along with his wife Alex, and children into the fellowship of NEMA.

CLERGY SUSPENSIONS

Bishop Jenkins has released the Rev. Dcn. James Macnamara of St. George's, Hamilton, ON from his orders with NEMA

POSTULANTS FOR HOLY ORDERS

Arp, Joshua – Grace Scranton

Beardsworth, Keith – St. Matt's, Havertown

Devers, Joshua – St. Stephen's

Gash, Langston – St. Stephen's

Trail, Matthew – St. Stephen's

Han, June – St. George's

Jones, Christian – St. Peter's

McWilliams, Alex – Resurrection

Meadows, Timothy – St. Alban's

Parks, John Caljoun – Emmanuel, Somerville

LICENSED LAY READERS

Nick Blitz, St John's, Ventnor

Matthew Harris, Good Shepherd Carlisle

William Feeser, Good Shepherd, Carlisle

Thomas Power, St. George's Hamilton, ON

SUSPENDED LAY READERS

Noah Zehrung, St. Marks-Rydal, PA

PASTORAL VACANCIES AND NEW HIRES

St. Paul's Church – Oreland, PA – On January 1, 2026, the Rev. Greg Miller took over for Dr. Matt Harrington at St. Paul's REC in an effort to revitalize the parish. He has been diligently increasing outreach and contacts week by week.

Covenant Chapel in Basking Ridge, NJ - After a short stint this past spring, the Rev. Dr. Seth Snyder who had been called to Covenant Chapel REC, was forced to resign. The Snyder family has returned to Ohio, and the parish is now in search of a new rector. The Rev. Michael Carr is acting as interim.

New Creation Anglican Church in Hagerstown, MD (a new reception into NEMA) is also looking for a Vicar. Many thanks to the Dean of MD, the Rev. Dr. Eric Jorgensen, for leading the way in staffing the pulpit week by week with local men to support this work. Continue to keep the Vicar search in your prayers.

CHURCH UPDATES

Church of the Atonement – Philadelphia, PA – The Rev. Jason Holloway (Vicar) has begun a new era of outreach to members of the community. Assisted by Bishop Jenkins and the Rev. Greg Miller, various plans for outreach are underway.

St. George's REC, Hamilton, Ontario – The Rev. Paul Luth reports wonderful stories of growth and excitement at St. George's in Hamilton. Having undertaken a program of outreach over the summer, new visitors are coming into St. George's at an increasing rate.

Grace REC – Collingdale, PA – The Rev. Shawn Riley is also seeing encouraging signs of the Spirit's moving at Grace. Bishop Jenkins' episcopal visit saw more than 70 souls in attendance for the day. The Rev. Michael Fitzpatrick has officially retired, and Fr. Shawn is on the hunt for a new assistant. Continue to pray for God's direction in this parish.

Good Shepherd Church – Carlisle, PA – This mission continues to forge ahead under the capable hands of the Rev. Ricky McCarl. Attendance at Bishop Jenkins' episcopal visit was 95 souls with 13 confirmed and 2 new lay readers licensed. Full parish status is now on the horizon, as are discussions of adding a second Sunday morning Eucharistic service.. Fr. Ricky is also working with a new plant in **Lancaster, Resurrection Anglican Mission**.

St. Luke's & Bishop Hoffman – Philadelphia, PA – The Rev. David France has announced his retirement (but not his complete departure) from St. Luke's Bishop Hoffman REC. The work is stable but not out of the woods. We continue to look for God to open doors through both the Spanish and Chinese speaking portions of the ESL program, which continues under the care of Chris and Naomi Morris of St. Mark's REC.

St. Mark's Church – Rydal, PA - The Rector, Parish leadership and Bishop Jenkins are praying about plans for the institution of a Curacy program to train new Church Planters and revitalizers. They are considering a partnership with the Made to Flourish Foundation which helps Churches by way of a 5-year grant. In addition, the Chinese community outreach effort that had been previously meeting at St. Luke's - Bishop Hoffman, has now been moved into St. Marks's with the usage of translating software so that they can worship together with the English congregation. Continue to pray that God will provide a leader for this strong outreach.

Jesus the Good Shepherd Mission – Brooklyn, NY – The parish continues in its mission status which was begun in the fall of 2024. Their property on Flatbush Avenue is currently under contract for sale. Having received a full price offer, we are now in "any day status" for the closing of this sale. It is pending the approval of the Attorney General of NY. Residual funds are to be used in an attempted replant in a more advantageous circumstance. Rev. Deacon Carl Wegner continues his faithful service to the mission.

CHURCH PLANT OPPORTUNITES

Martinsburg WV/Brunswick, MD - Due to recent complicating factors, this church plant is off our radar for now. Rev. Ricky McCarl is advising.

Williamsport, PA – This interest group has undergone some turnover in the last 12 months but still expresses an interest in establishing an Anglican testimony here. Rev. Lovell and McCarl have been advising this fledgling work.

Resurrection Anglican Mission, Lancaster, PA - A first interest meeting was held on Tuesday, Oct. 7, 2025 with 20 people in attendance. The fledgling group began meeting on Sunday afternoons in February. They have now planned a move to a more advantageous location with a Sunday morning worship time. Rev. McCarl and Good Shepherd Anglican, as well as the Rev. Cn. Dr. Matt Harrington and St. Alban's, are assisting with aid on several levels.

Philadelphia, PA – Rev. Patterson reports the very beginnings of a possibility of another work in Philadelphia. What began as one single family last fall now has four families with interest in this project. The Rev. Ben Pearce is currently leading them in catechetical studies.

CHURCH TRANSFERS

Christ the King Chapel, Taunton, MA – The Rev. Dr. John (Jack) Simpson (RES graduate) has been leading a Bible study in his home that has now become a fledgling work. They requested admission into NEMA and were approved by the Standing Committee in March of 2026. They are now in process of getting acclimated to the NEMA culture. Please be in prayer for this newly formed work.

Christ Church, Brownsville, PA - This ACNA parish, currently in the Diocese of Pittsburg, has been in contact with Bishop Jenkins. They are interested in transferring into the REC.

REFORMED EPISCOPAL SEMINARY

The Blue bell property has been sold, and the assets are under the care of the Seminary. Bishop Jenkins installed five new students at the end of August for this school year and is making every effort to be with the students on a monthly basis for the Wednesday Eucharist and lunch to follow. Symposia and Lectures throughout the year have served to increase the profile of the Seminary, as has the beautiful new quarterly magazine.

OTHER MATTERS

Committee on Young People's Work

Winter Camp was held February 13th-15th at Rock Mountain Bible Camp. The program had just over thirty middle and high school students in attendance as they considered the theme "The Greatest of These is Love". Through explorations of Romans 5 and I Cor.13, students were introduced to the theological virtues of Faith, Hope, and Love. Fr. Billy Jenkins led the talks for the weekend, and Fr. Jason Holloway directed the camp's activities. They were assisted by a staff of about ten volunteer counselors.

Summer Camp was held at Rock Mountain July 26- August 1. Just under 100 people gathered from around the diocese for this important week. The themes were the lives of Job and David, led by Fr. Justin Forsberg and Bishop Jenkins. Fr. Chester Banks led the staff in devotions each day.

Risk Management

This task is still evolving, having undergone several iterations as we try to stay in line with ACNA protocols. All Church clergy should continue getting their background checks lined up through Protect My Ministry, and the Rev. Ricky McCarl. These are required for all members who serve children and at-risk adults in all our congregations in any capacity. Bp. Sutton has suggested that each Diocese should employ the same statement and paradigm assembled by attorney/priest Rev. Wyatt Boutwell for the time being.

Diocese of Central Eastern Canada

This Diocese was previously committed to the care of the NEMA Diocese. As reported prior, we had been awaiting a new non-profit registration that would replace the Diocesan entity of Central and Eastern Canada. This was necessary for the continued funding of the Cuban Mission work originally established under the DCEC. That charitable entity is now in place. Although Bishop Jenkins previously intended to close this diocese, it now appears this may not be necessary, as we can simply "mothball" it for the time being. Perhaps God will give us opportunity to employ its structure in the future.

Board of Foreign Missions - AKD

NEMA continues as the overseeing body for the German AKD, and the existing churches. Bp. +Gerhard Meyer has celebrated his 20-year anniversary to the episcopate with his retirement from active ministry. Plans are underway to celebrate his anniversary with a retirement party.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Schmuck, Secretary