

One Hundredth and Sixteenth Stated Meeting  
 Northeast Georgia Presbytery  
 Minutes of Meeting  
 February 25, 2023

Location: Belle Terrace Presbyterian Church, Augusta, GA      Pastor: Rev. Sharon Caldwell

Topic	Discussion	Decision
Call to Order Opening Prayer  Welcome	The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. and opened with prayer by Moderator Sylvia McDonald.  The welcome was provided by Rev. Sharon Caldwell.	
Seating of First-time Commissioners, Corresponding Members, Introduction of Visitors	First time commissions were recognized and welcomed. Corresponding members were recognized and welcomed. Rev. Ed Rees (Stated Clerk) introduced and welcomed the guest speaker, Elder Cheryl Evans Jones.	
Declaration of Quorum		Rev. Ed Rees, Stated Clerk, declared a quorum present.
Installation of Moderator	Moderator Sylvia McDonald led the installation service for Rev. Mari Turner. Scripture was read, Sylvia McDonald led the questioning of Candidate Rev. Mari Turner and the questioning of the Presbytery. After the Charge and Blessing, Rev. Mari Turner was installed as the new Moderator for 2023.	Rev. Mari Turner was installed as the Moderator for 2023 and she presided over the remainder of the meeting.
Reading of the Necrology for 2022 and Prayer Rev. Mari Turner Rev. Jacob Douylliez	Teaching Elders and Ruling Elders from Northeast Georgia Presbytery congregations who joined the Church Triumphant in 2022 were remembered.	
Approval of Docket Moderator, Rev. Mari Turner	Rev. Ed Rees, Stated Clerk, announced that Rev. Amy Baer's absence, due to personal illness, changed the report to be given by the Committee on Ministry. No additional changes were reported.	The Docket, as amended, was approved.
Stated Clerk's Report Rev. Ed Rees Page 10, Handbook          Page 11, Handbook	Rev. Rees directed those in attendance to review the standing rule for time limits for speaking Rev. Rees reported that at the January 24, 2023 annual meeting of the Corporation the following officers were elected: Elder Sylvia McDonald, President Elder Marc Galvin, Vice-President Rev. Ed Rees, Secretary Rev. Andy Cooke, Treasurer Approval of Consent Agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes of the October 25, 2022 Presbytery Meeting</li> <li>• Coordinating Team Report               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 2023 Presbytery meeting locations</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	The Consent Agenda, as printed in the Docket, was approved.

<p>Page 14, Handbook</p> <p>Page 22, Handbook</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Re-election of Sue Jacobson and Joy Brown to the Nominating Committee, Class of 2025</li> <li>● Committee on Ministry Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Dismissal of Rev. Andy Casto-Waters</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Nominating Committee Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Election of Black Presbyterian Caucus representative to the Coordinating Team</li> <li>○ Affirmation of Presbyterian Campus Ministry Board of Directors</li> <li>○ Election of members to the Committee on Ministry</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Announcement of Called Meeting for March 25, 2023: Rev. Rees announced that the called meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. March 25, 2023 via Zoom.</p>	
<p>Report from Bills and Overtures Committee</p> <p>Page 23, Handbook</p> <p>Rev. Jacob Douylliez</p>	<p>Rev. Douylliez gave a brief overview of the work and study done by the Bills and Overtures Committee regarding the proposed amendments to the Book of Order.</p>	
<p>Coordinating Team Report</p> <p>Pages 11 -13, Handbook</p> <p>Marc Galvin</p>	<p>Recommendations to the Presbytery from the Coordinating Team:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the 2023 locations for Presbytery Meetings: February 25, Belle Terrace; May 23, Covenant in Athens; August 26, Zoom; October 24, First Presbyterian Church, Cornelia, be approved.</li> <li>2. That the 2023 Terms of Call of General Presbyter Rev. Hilary Shuford be approved.</li> <li>3. That the 2023 Terms of Call of Stated Clerk Rev. Ed Rees be approved. There was a short time of discussion where questions were answered.</li> <li>4. That the creation of a fund for Spiritual Direction grants, under the authority of the Coordinating Team, be approved and that the \$5000 gift from the Lampkin Foundation be transferred to that fund. (Background information: The Lampkin Foundation made a gift of \$5000 to honor the memory of Rev. Joe Berry)</li> <li>5. That Sue Jacobson and Joy Brown be re-elected to the Nominating Committee, both in the class of 2025.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recommendation approved as part of the consent agenda.</li> <li>2. The 2023 Terms of Call for Rev. Hilary Shuford, General Presbyter, as presented in the Handbook received unanimous approval.</li> <li>3. The 2023 Terms of Call for Rev. Ed Rees, Stated Clerk, as presented in the Handbook, received unanimous approval.</li> <li>4. Unanimous approval was received to create a fund for Spiritual Direction Grants, under the authority of the Coordinating Team, with transfer of the \$5000 gift to that fund.</li> <li>5. Recommendation approved as part of the consent agenda.</li> </ol>
<p>Worship and Communion</p>	<p>Rev. Sharon Caldwell, Pastor of Belle Terrace, led the call to worship, hymn, call to confession, prayer of confession, assurance of forgiveness.</p> <p>Following the message, Communion was celebrated.</p>	<p>The Presbytery was privileged to have Elder Cheryl Evans Jones bring the message for the day. Dr. Cheryl Evans Jones is the current President of Paine College and a member of Christ Presbyterian Church.</p>

<p>Report from Malawi Rev. Cheryl Barnes</p> <p>Invitation to generous giving.</p>	<p>With joy, Rev. Cheryl Barnes was welcomed back to the country from Malawi. Rev. Barnes shared an informational video about her work in Malawi. She gave a brief verbal report of her mission work with girls in Malawi.</p> <p>The offertory music was provided by singers from Paine College.</p>	<p>The funds received for the offering will be donated to the ministry of Rev. Cheryl Barnes. Additional donations may be sent to CCAP ECO #052144 (Extra Commitment Opportunity).</p>
<p>12 p.m. the meeting was paused for one hour for lunch. The blessing was provided by Rev. Mari Turner</p>		<p>The meeting reconvened at 1:00 p.m.</p>
<p>Report from the Committee on Ministry Rev. Tom Buchanan Pages 14 – 21, Handbook</p>	<p>Recommendations to the Presbytery from the Committee on Ministry:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dismiss Rev. Andrew Casto-Waters to Trinity Presbytery</li> <li>2. Receive Rev. Peter Thornton from Greater Atlanta Presbytery as a Member-at-Large. After Rev. Thornton was introduced and shared information about his faith journey, there was a time of examination led by Rev. Buchanan. There were no questions from the floor.</li> <li>3. Rev. Amy Baer was absent due to illness.</li> <li>4. Receive Rev. Paul Min from Abingdon Presbytery as Covenant Pastor at Mountain Presbyterian Church as of April 16, 2023. After Rev. Min was introduced and shared information about his faith journey, there was a time of examination led by Rev. Buchanan. There were no questions from the floor.</li> </ol>	<p>.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approved as part of the consent agenda</li> <li>2. Unanimous approval was received to sustain the examination. Unanimous approval was received to receive Rev. Peter Thornton into Northeast Georgia Presbytery as a Member-At-Large.</li> <li>4. Unanimous approval was received to sustain the examination. There was unanimous approval to receive Rev. Paul Min into Northeast Georgia Presbytery as Covenant Pastor at Mountain Presbyterian Church as of April 16, 2023.</li> </ol>
<p>Report from the General Presbyter Rev. Hilary Shuford Page 25, Handbook</p>	<p>Rev. Shuford gave an overview of her written report.</p>	
<p>Report from the Trinity Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission Rev. Charles Crane Page 26, Handbook</p>	<p>Rev. Crane gave a brief overview of the written report (page 26, Handbook). The administrative commission requested that the Northeast Georgia Presbytery grant the authority of Original Jurisdiction to the Commission, which would be utilized if the Commission determines that the Trinity Session is no longer able to effectively carry out its work. There were no questions from the floor.</p>	<p>The request of the Trinity Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission to grant the authority of Original Jurisdiction to the Administrative Commission received unanimous approval.</p>

Report from the Ficklen Church Administrative Commission Rev. Ed Rees Page 27, Handbook	Rev. Rees presented the recommendations from the Administrative Commission to the Presbytery regarding the sale of the church property: 1. Any expenses (per capita, insurance coverage incurred since the dissolution of the congregation, any utility or maintenance bills that have been paid by the Presbytery on behalf of Ficklen Church would be reimbursed first. 2. In keeping with Presbytery policy, 25% of the remainder would be granted to the Georgia Domestic Missionary Society Fund. 3. The balance of the proceeds from the sale would be contributed to the Backyard Ministry in Cornelia.	The 3 recommendations were presented in one motion. The motion received unanimous approval.
Report from the Backyard Ministry Rev. Souvanh Touralack	Rev. Touralack gave a brief report on the work of the Backyard Ministry.	
Report from the Church Property Commission Rev. Ed. Rees Page 28, Handbook	Recommendations from the Church Property Commission: 1. Approve the \$200,000 PILP loan request, Covenant Augusta 2. Approve the \$100,000 PILP loan request, Greensboro First 3. Approve listing the former Carnesville Church property for sale 4. Approve a property transfer between Hartwell First and the City of Hartwell.	\$200,000 PILP loan request, Covenant Augusta, approved. \$100,000 PILP loan request, Greensboro First, approved. Approved listing the former Carnesville Church property for sale. Approved a property transfer between Hartwell First and the City of Hartwell.
Report from the Clergy Care Committee Ross Brown Page 29, Handbook	A prayer of blessing and sending was made for the clergy cohort that will be traveling to Scotland on April 7, 2023.	
Report from the Committee on Preparation for Ministry Rev. Meg Jackson Clark Page 30, Handbook	Rev. Jackson Clark gave a brief report.	
Announcements	Maurine Resch gave a brief report on the Small Church Ministry	
Prayer and Adjournment	.	The motion to adjourn was approved. Following a closing prayer by Rev. Turner, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 23, at Covenant Presbyterian Church, Athens, GA

Respectfully submitted: Sylvia McDonald, recorder

Date Minutes approved:\_\_\_\_\_

Moderator \_\_\_\_\_  
Rev. Mari Turner

Recorder\_\_\_\_\_  
Sylvia McDonald

**PROPOSED DOCKET**

**AND**

**HANDBOOK**

**ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH STATED MEETING**

**NORTHEAST GEORGIA PRESBYTERY**

**FEBRUARY 25, 2023**

**HOSTED BY**  
**BELLE TERRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**2473 GOLDEN CAMP ROAD**  
**AUGUSTA, GA**

Dear Friends,

Greetings, in the precious name of Jesus Christ, our Lord! On behalf of the Belle Terrace Presbyterian Church, friends, and supporters, welcome to Augusta Richmond County, and to Belle Terrace Presbyterian Church. As the host of the Northeast Georgia Presbytery, please know we are committed to making your presence a comfortable and accommodating experience.

### **Historical Brief**

The Belle Terrace Presbyterian Church was officially established in January 1970 by a small group of committed Christian families. Their vision was crystal clear: to establish a Christ centered, family-oriented church within the Belle Meade and Terrance Manor communities. During these five-plus decades (and counting), Belle Terrace has glorified God through praise and worship, giving, and community service. Past examples include the operation of a full-time daycare, an after school homework center, and a summer youth activities program. Current community services support the Terrace Manor Elementary School, "Adopt-a-School Program," the Che Collins-Mendez Rains Memorial Academic/Athletic Scholarship, the Agape Food Ministry (Saturday food bank and distribution), and the latest endeavor, the BTPC Community Garden. *Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!*

### **Accessibility and Parking**

Belle Terrace is located at 2473 Golden Camp Road, Augusta, GA 30906. It can be identified by its marquee welcoming the NEGA Presbytery Meeting. The church also may be identified by its immediate neighbor, Medical Associates Plus. This medical center sits just across the parking lot from Belle Terrace. Parking lot attendants will greet and assist you with parking. Please enter the church through the door at the parking lot. Registration will be held in the conference room to your left as you enter the building. Belle Terrace also is equipped to accommodate physical challenges (designated parking, double-door entrances, interior ramps, and restrooms).

### **Wi-Fi Accessibility**

Go to "internet settings" on you cell or computer.

Select "BTPC guest" to access Wi-Fi.

Again, the Belle Terrace Presbyterian Church looks forward to seeing you this Saturday, February 25, 2023.

May the Lord, our God cover and protect you with HIS traveling grace and mercy, both in your going out and in your coming in.

Rev. Sharon Caldwell  
Moderato/Covenant Pastor

Jan Lewis  
Clerk of Session

# Northeast Georgia Presbytery

## 116<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting

February 25, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.  
at Belle Terrace Presbyterian Church, Augusta, GA

---

Call to Order and Opening Prayer Elder Sylvia McDonald, Moderator

Welcome Rev. Sharon Caldwell

Seating of First-time Commissioners, Corresponding Members,  
and Introduction of Visitors Elder Sylvia McDonald

Declaration of Quorum Rev. Ed Rees, Stated Clerk

**Install of Moderator, Rev. Mari Turner** Elder Sylvia McDonald

### SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

Elder McDonald: As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed  
yourselves with Christ. Gal. 3:27-28

**All: There is one body and one Spirit, just as we were called Eph. 4:4-6  
to the one hope of our calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism,  
one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.**

### CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

Elder McDonald: We are all called into the church of Jesus Christ by baptism, and marked as  
Christ's own by the Holy Spirit.

**All: This is our common calling, to be disciples of Jesus Christ and servants of our  
servant Lord.**

Elder McDonald: Discipleship is both a gift and a commitment, an offering and a responsibility.  
Today, we affirm the call of Christ upon Reverend Mari Turner as she begins her service as  
Moderator of Northeast Georgia Presbytery.

### QUESTIONS FOR THE CANDIDATE BEING INSTALLED

Elder McDonald: Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of  
Scripture, and be continually guided by our Confessions?

Rev. Turner: I will.

Elder McDonald: Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline?  
Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them subject to the ordering  
of God's Word and Spirit?

Rev. Turner: I will.

Elder McDonald: Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors,  
and work for the reconciliation of the world?

Rev. Turner: I will.

Elder McDonald: Do you promise to further the peace, unity and purity of the church?

Rev. Turner: I do.

Elder McDonald: Will you pray for the people and seek to serve them with energy, intelligence,  
imagination, and love?

Rev. Turner: I will.



## QUESTIONS FOR THE PRESBYTERY

Elder McDonald: Do you, members of Northeast Georgia Presbytery, confirm the call of God to our sister, Mari Turner, as Moderator in the service of Jesus Christ?

**All: We do.**

Elder McDonald: Will you pray for, support, and encourage her in this ministry?

**All: We will.**

## CHARGE AND BLESSING

pp. 7-9 Reading of the Necrology for 2022 and Prayer Rev. Mari Turner  
Rev. Jacob Douylliez

pp. 2-6 Approval of Docket Rev. Turner

pg. 10 Stated Clerk's Report Rev. Ed Rees

Standing Rules: Time Limits for Speaking  
Report of the Annual Meeting of the Corporation  
Approval of Consent Agenda:

Minutes of Presbytery Meeting, October 25, 2022  
pg. 11 Coordinating Team Report  
2023 Presbytery Meeting Locations  
Re-election of Sue Jacobson and Joy Brown to Nominating Committee,  
Class of 2025

pg. 14 Committee on Ministry Report  
Dismissal of Rev. Andy Casto-Waters

pg. 22 Nominating Committee Report  
Election of Black Presbyterian Caucus representative to Coordinating Team  
Affirmation of Presbyterian Campus Ministry Board of Directors  
Election of Members to Committee on Ministry

Announcement of Called Meeting for March 25, 2023  
pg. 23 Report from Bills & Overtures Committee

pp. 11-13 Coordinating Team Report – other actions Rev. Turner  
Terms of Call: General Presbyter, Rev. Hilary Shuford  
Terms of Call: Stated Clerk, Rev. Ed Rees  
Creation of Spiritual Direction Fund

Call to Worship Rev. Caldwell

We are called to follow – to walk in the way of justice and righteousness,  
**for we are children of God!**

We are called to serve – to be Christ with and for one another,  
**for we are the salt of the earth!**

We are called to shine – to be beacons of hope and witnesses to truth,  
**for we are the light of the world!**

Come, you who are claimed as children of God, salt of the earth and light of the world.

**Let us worship the Lord!**

Hymn 276

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

FAITHFULNESS

### Call to Confession

Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice; be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Let us confess our sins against God and one another, confident in God's abundant mercy as we pray first in silence and then in unison. Let us pray.

### Prayer of Confession

**Lover of justice, Giver of mercy, you call us to share our bread with the hungry and to open our homes to the homeless, to care for the poor and to satisfy the needs of those who suffer. Some of your commandments are easy to follow; others require so much of us! How can we break the chains of injustice and untie the cords of oppression? When we consider the brokenness of our world, it is easy to feel overwhelmed. Forgive us when we use our sense of helplessness as an excuse. Remind us, we pray, that you are at work in and through us to bring about your reign. Free us from fear and stir our hearts toward a greater generosity, that we might be the salt and light you have called us to be. Amen.**

### Assurance of Forgiveness

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived. But God, who is generous in mercy, out of great love for us made us alive together with Christ, and raised us up with him. By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. **In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.**

### Scripture Readings

pg. 24 Message

Elder Cheryl Evans Jones

### Affirmation of Faith      *Confession of Belhar, Article 3*

We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells;

**that God's lifegiving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God's lifegiving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world;**

the credibility of this message is seriously affected and its beneficial work obstructed when it is proclaimed in a land which professes to be Christian, but in which the enforced separation of people on a racial basis promotes and perpetuates alienation, hatred and enmity;

**that any teaching which attempts to legitimate such forced separation by appeal to the gospel, and is not prepared to venture on the road of obedience and reconciliation, but rather, out of prejudice, fear, selfishness and unbelief, denies in advance the reconciling power of the gospel, must be considered ideology and false doctrine.**

**(Unison) 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. Amen.**

### Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Rev. Mari Turner  
Rev. Sharon Caldwell

### ***Invitation***

People will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God. We are all invited to come together at this table as one body as we experience our reconciliation to God through Christ.

### ***Great Prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer***

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy to praise you, O God, creator of the universe. In your wisdom, you made all things and sustain them by your power. You formed us in your image to love and serve you and to live in peace with your creation. When we rebelled against you, you did not abandon us, but sent prophets to call us back to your way. Then in the fullness of time, you sent your only Son to redeem us and heal our brokenness.

Holy God, we thank you for Jesus Christ, your Son. In Jesus, born of Mary, your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. He lived as one of us, knowing joy and sorrow. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, welcomed sinners, and proclaimed good news to the poor. Dying on the cross, he gave himself for the life of the world. Rising from the grave, he won for us victory over death. Seated at your right hand, he reigns with you in glory and will come again to make all things new.

Remembering the risen Christ, we take from your creation this bread and wine as we live for the day of his coming. With thanksgiving we offer you now the sacrifice of our lives.

God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ and with all who share this feast, united in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

In union with your Church in heaven and on earth, we pray, O God, that you will fulfill your eternal purpose in us and in all the world. Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory, and we shall feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen. Hear us as we join our voices in the prayer our Lord Jesus taught us, saying, Our Father, ...

### ***Breaking of the Bread***

"The Lord Jesus, on the night when he was betrayed, took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is given for you.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood for the forgiveness of sin; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

### ***Prayer after Communion***

God of all the nations, we thank you for the wideness of your table, where there is room enough and food enough for all who hunger and thirst for your righteousness. As we have met the living Christ in this meal, transform our lives, that we may become the body of Christ in the world. Amen.

Report from Malawi

Rev. Cheryl Barnes

Invitation to Generous Giving

*Offering to support the mission work of Rev. Cheryl Barnes in Malawi through the Presbyterian Mission Personnel Support Program  
Please make checks payable to Northeast Georgia Presbytery*

or donate online:



Offertory

Paine College Choir

**Hymn 563**

*Lift Every Voice and Sing*

LIFT EVERY VOICE

**\*Charge and Blessing**

**pp. 14-21** Committee on Ministry Report – other actions  
Examination of Rev. Peter Thornton  
Examination of Rev. Amy Baer  
Examination of Rev. Paul Min

Rev. Tom Buchanan

BLESSING AND LUNCH in the Fellowship Hall

**pg. 25** General Presbyter's Report

Rev. Hilary Shuford

**pg. 26** Trinity PC Administrative Commission Report

Rev. Charles Crane

**pg. 27** Ficklen PC Administrative Commission Report

Rev. Rees

**pg. 28** Church Property Commission Report

Rev. Rees

Recommendation of approval for \$200,000.00 PILP loan request, Covenant Augusta  
Recommendation of approval for \$100,000.00 PILP loan request, Greensboro First  
Recommendation of approval of the Hopewell/Carnesville Administrative Commission  
that the former Carnesville Church property be listed for sale  
Recommendation of approval for property transfer between Hartwell First PC and the  
City of Hartwell

**pg. 29** Clergy Care Committee Report  
Time of Prayer and Sending of the Mountain Clergy Cohort

Mr. Ross Brown

**pg. 30** Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report  
Announcements *(Please submit requests in advance to the Stated Clerk)*

Rev. Meg Jackson Clark

**Prayer and Adjournment**

**NEXT STATED MEETING:**

**Tuesday, May 23 at Covenant Presbyterian Church, Athens**

Ministers and Ruling Elders in Northeast Georgia Presbytery who died during 2022 will be remembered during worship at the Stated Meeting of Presbytery on February 25, 2023. The names which have been reported are listed below.

***In Remembrance and Celebration of Life  
Northeast Georgia Presbytery  
January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022***

**MINISTERS:**

**Rev. Dr. Joseph W. Berry, Jr.**  
July 31, 1941 - April 26, 2022  
Ordained: August 21, 1966

**Rev. Jonathan Taylor Van Deventer**  
October 31, 1960 - July 10, 2022  
Ordained: August 13, 1995

**Rev. Robert F. "Bob" Hunt**  
March 8, 1931 - July 18, 2022  
Ordained: June 17, 1956

**Rev. Janice L. Blissit**  
September 3, 1937 - September 13, 2022  
Ordained: November 11, 1985

**Rev. Franklin Grimes Colladay, Jr.**  
July 10, 1940 - October 15, 2022  
Ordained: November 5, 1978

**RULING ELDERS:**

*ATHENS FIRST*

**Albert Francis Ike, Jr.**  
July 18, 1932 - April 25, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: unknown

**Jeremy Kilpatrick**  
September 21, 1935 - September 17, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: unknown

**James Baird Pope**  
November 14, 1935 - December 13, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: approx. unknown

*BELLE TERRACE*

**Mary Shropshire James**  
July 7, 1936 - September 13, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: approx. 1990

*CLEVELAND FIRST*

**Gypsy Smith**  
October 13, 1940 - February 22, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: January 1985

*COVENANT ATHENS*

**Christine Miller**  
Died: January 24, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: July 23, 1978

**Kay Waters**  
December 6, 1943 - February 28, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: January 2, 2000

COVENANT AUGUSTA

**Lois Reynolds**

December 10, 1928 - September 8, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: January 1, 1995

**John Trulock**

October 26, 1945 - November 13, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: January 1, 1973

EATONTON

**Leon Smith**

March 26, 1926 - May 23, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: November 10, 1991

**Dorothy Strickland**

August 20, 1938 - January 14, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: May 2, 1999

ELBERTON FIRST

**Rodney Daniel**

March 29, 1938 - August 16, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: April 17, 1977

FRIENDSHIP

**Anne Lee**

May 16, 1937 - July 22, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: unknown

GAINESVILLE FIRST

**Betty White**

August 14, 1947 - February 7, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: January 12, 2003

**Hubert Martin**

March 19, 1934 - February 15, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: November 20, 2011

**Roger Ray**

September 11, 1932 - July 8, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: January 11, 2009

**Jerry Robertson**

October 17, 1936 - July 16, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: January 1993

**Leroy Hartley**

July 14, 1931 - July 27, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: January 1984

**Mardi Morris**

July 18, 1936 - August 7, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: January 9, 2005

**Lee Miller**

June 4, 1926 - August 27, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: January 2002

**Joe White**

September 16, 1929 - September 4, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: January 1980

**Jim Carmack**

September 18, 1941 - October 31, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: January 10, 2010

**Bette Noble**

August 14, 1947 - November 16, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: January 9, 2011

GREENSBORO FIRST

**William Corry**

September 30, 1929 - August 14, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: unknown

LAVONIA

**Mildred Gullick**

January 1, 1932 - May 25, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: January 23, 2005

MILLEDGEVILLE FIRST

**Peter Piro**

February 27, 1948 - May 26, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: January 9, 2011

NACOOCHEE

**Cheryl Kohler Crysel**

May 20, 1947 - February 5, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: unknown

**Judith "Judy" Thompson**

September 20, 1936 - April 2, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: unknown

**Richard E. Tinius**

February 13, 1934 - July 28, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: unknown

**Barbara Ann Williamson**

January 12, 1942 - February 26, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: unknown

**William Keith Mahler**

January 18 1942 - May 8, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: unknown

**Elizabeth "Beth" Sommer**

June 24, 1949 - October 15, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: unknown

PLEASANT HILL

**Wilma Casper**

May 28, 1942 - October 3, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: January 6, 2002

RABUN GAP

**Richard Franklin "Dick" Livingston**

May 24, 1945 - June 8, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: March 5, 2017

REID MEMORIAL

**Bonnie Goldston Carr**

November 12, 1940 - January 9, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: unknown

SARDIS

**Lovett Raymond Law**

October 29, 1923 - March 10, 2022  
Ordained as Elder: unknown



Stated Clerk's Report  
February 2023

As I begin my second year as Stated Clerk, I want to express my deep gratitude for the patience, encouragement and assistance I have received from so many across our Presbytery, especially our General Presbyter, Rev. Hilary Shuford, and our Business Administrator, Anita Green. I am grateful as well for the clerks of session in our churches, who are faithfully carrying out their duties in challenging times. As you can see, we have a full docket today, which simply reflects the wide scope of the work of ministry to which we are called.

The Annual Meeting of Northeast Georgia Presbytery, Inc., was held on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, and the following officers were elected:

Elder Sylvia McDonald, President  
Elder Marc Galvin, Vice-President  
Rev. Ed Rees, Secretary  
Rev. Andy Cooke, Treasurer

**Please note that all ordained ministers, whether serving in churches, validated ministries, or any other avenue of ministry are required to complete the Darkness to Light training prior to June 30, 2023.** This training is fundamental to our commitment to protecting youth and other vulnerable individuals under our care. The link to the training is:

[https://d2l.csod.com/login/render.aspx?id=welcometodarknesstolightonlinetraining&\\_ga=2.146732913.431870297.1670251801-1643086265.1670251801](https://d2l.csod.com/login/render.aspx?id=welcometodarknesstolightonlinetraining&_ga=2.146732913.431870297.1670251801-1643086265.1670251801)

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with me if I can be of service to you or your church in any way.

Rev. Ed Rees  
Stated Clerk

**POLICY REGARDING TIME LIMIT FOR PERSONS SPEAKING (Debate) AT PRESBYTERY MEETINGS**

(Approved by Presbytery October 23, 2007)

(Note: Presbytery can set aside such a rule when it deems necessary.)

When speaking at a Presbytery meeting:

1. Individuals are limited to speaking once and for no more than three minutes during discussion of a matter.
2. A bell may be used to signal when the speaker is near and at the end of his/her time.
3. Moderator alternates between "pro" and "con".
4. No one may speak more than once until every person who wishes to speak has had a opportunity to do so.
5. Presbytery may set a maximum time for debating an issue.





## Report of the Coordinating Team

Sylvia McDonald, Chair

The Coordinating Team met on January 24, 2023 via Zoom. They took the following actions and are making the following recommendations to Presbytery:

### For Information:

1. Heard a report from the Stated Clerk regarding PILP loan applications in progress and updates on Property Commissions.
2. Heard a report from the Treasurer regarding end of year financial reports.
3. Heard a report from the General Presbyter regarding the Synod's new Executive/Stated Clerk, and an update on The Backyard Ministry
4. Received an update on the Presbyterian Student Center.
5. Received an update on the Pictorial Ministerial Directory for the Presbytery
6. Received a report from Presbyterian Women.

### Actions:

1. Approved the minutes of the September 27, 2022, meeting.
2. Authorized Mari Turner and Ed Rees to finalize the docket for the February meeting of Presbytery.
3. Designated the February Presbytery meeting offering to support the mission work of Rev. Cheryl Barnes in Malawi. Contributions received will be sent to Presbyterian Mission Personnel Support in honor of Rev. Cheryl Barnes.
4. Approved providing \$2500 from the Presbytery Assistance Fund, contingent upon the Board of Pensions supplying the remaining \$2500, an Emergency Assistance Grant.
5. Established dates for the 2023 Coordinating Team meetings.
6. Elected Mari Turner to serve as Recording Clerk for the Coordinating Team for 2023.
7. Authorized any 2022 Operating Budget surplus be transferred to Undesignated Reserves.
8. Authorized the transfer of \$101,000 from the Presbytery's Money Market Account at FAB&T to a Mission Market Fund at ILP.
9. Conducted the annual meeting of the Corporation and elected officers: Sylvia McDonald as President, Marc Galvin as Vice President, Ed Rees as Secretary, and Andy Cooke as Treasurer.
10. Approved the call of a Special Meeting of the Presbytery to be held March 25<sup>th</sup> to vote on the amendments to the Book of Order.

### Recommendations:

1. That 2023 Locations for Presbytery Meetings: February 25, Belle Terrace; May 23, Covenant, Athens; August 26, Zoom; October 24, First Presbyterian Cornelia, be approved.
2. That the Terms of Call of General Presbyter Rev. Hilary Shuford be approved
3. That the Terms of Call of Stated Clerk Rev. Ed Rees be approved.
4. That the creation of a fund for Spiritual Direction grants and to transfer the \$5000 gift from the Lampkin Foundation to that fund, to be under the authority of the Coordinating Team be approved.
5. That Sue Jacobson and Joy Brown be re-elected to the Nominating Committee, both in the class of 2025.



# NORTHEAST GEORGIA PRESBYTERY

## Installed Pastor's Annual Salary Standards Review

Approved by Vote of the Congregation      Date: 1/24/23

Church: Northeast Georgia Presbytery  
 Pastor: Hilary Shuford  
 Title: General Presbyter

**To ensure accuracy, you are encouraged to review this form with the pastor prior to submission.**

**Full Time Equivalency (enter 1.0, .75, .5, .25, etc.)** 1

**If this box is red, please re-enter a number in decimal format up to 1. Do not enter a number that is greater than 1**

**Presbytery  
Minimum Salary  
Standards**

**Effective Salary\***

1	Cash Salary (NOT including 403(b) contributions)	\$	63,230	
2	Manse Value or Housing Allowance	\$	30,000	
3	Pastor's Deferred Compensation – 403(b) <sup>1</sup>	†		
4	Employer's Additional Contribution – 403(b) <sup>2</sup>	†		
5	Supplemental Health Insurance Premiums <sup>3</sup>	†		
6	Dental Insurance Premiums <sup>3</sup>	†		
7	All other Non-Vouchered "Cash" Allowances	†		
8	Manse Equity (paid directly or through 403(b)) <sup>4</sup>	†		
9	<b>Total Effective Salary</b>	\$	93,230	
10	Employer's Matching Contribution – 403(b) <sup>5</sup>	†		
11	50% of SECA (Social Security)	\$	7,140	

† = Optional

Add lines 1-8

0.0765 x line 9

	30572	IF RED: Contact COM Liaison.
	17050	IF RED: Contact COM Liaison.
	47622	IF RED: Contact COM Liaison.
	3643.09	IF RED: Contact COM Liaison.

Check here  if pastor has opted out of Social Security.

**Board of Pensions Pastors' Participation Plan**

12	Pension & Disability (10% of Effective Salary)	\$	9,323	
13	Medical (29% of Effective Salary)	\$	27,037	

0.10 x line 9

0.29 x line 9

**Vouchered Expenses (Reimbursements)**

14	Continuing Education	\$	1,500	
15	Professional Expenses (incl. mileage at IRS rate)	\$	5,500	
16	Other Vouchered Expenses	†		

400

 IF RED: Contact COM Liaison.

**17 TOTAL \$ Paid by Church/Employer** \$ 143,730

Add lines 9-16

Vacation (minimum 4 weeks) enter number:		4		
Study Leave (minimum 2 weeks) enter number:		2		
Other Time Off: <u>Personal Retreat</u>	†	1		
Eligible for Sabbatical? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – Year:	†			

4 IF RED: Contact COM Liaison.

2 IF RED: Contact COM Liaison.

**Footnotes**

<sup>1</sup>Pastor's elective contributions to the PC(USA) 403(b) Retirement Savings Plan are listed here and INCLUDED in Effective Salary

<sup>2</sup>Most contributions by a church to a pastor's 403(b) account ARE INCLUDED in Effective Salary (see footnote 5)

<sup>3</sup>Payments made by the employer or reimbursed to the pastor for optional or supplemental insurance ARE INCLUDED in Effective Salary unless the same benefits are offered to all employees

<sup>4</sup>Sums paid or contributed by a church to a deferred compensation plan or other account on behalf of a pastor residing in a manse (to compensate for equity which the pastor forgoes by not owning his or her own residence) ARE INCLUDED in Effective Salary.

<sup>5</sup>When a church matches some or all of a pastor's voluntary contributions to his or her 403(b) account, the church's MATCHING contribution is NOT included in Effective Salary (see footnote 2).

\*For more information about Effective Salary, see "Understanding Effective Salary," available on [www.pensions.org](http://www.pensions.org).

**NORTHEAST GEORGIA PRESBYTERY**

**Interim/Transitional or Covenant Pastor's Annual Salary Standards Review**

Approved by Vote of the Session Date: 1/24/23

Church: Northeast Georgia Presbytery  
 Pastor: Ed Rees  
 Title: Stated Clerk

**To ensure accuracy, you are encouraged to review this form with the pastor prior to submission.**

**FullTime Equivalency (enter 1.0, .75, .5, .25, etc.)** 0.45  
 for Calendar Year 2023 or term ending: 2023

**If this box is red, please re-enter a number in decimal format up to 1. Do not enter a number that is greater than 1**

		<b>Minimum Salary Standards - Full Time</b>			
1	Cash Salary (NOT including 403(b) contributions)	\$ 31,023			13757.4 IF RED: Contact COM Liaison.
2	Manse Value or Housing Allowance	\$ -			7672.5 IF RED: Contact COM Liaison.
3	Pastor's Deferred Compensation – 403(b) <sup>1</sup>	†	† = Optional		
4	Employer's Additional Contribution – 403(b) <sup>2</sup>	†			
5	Supplemental Health Insurance Premiums <sup>3</sup>	†			
6	Dental Insurance Premiums <sup>3</sup>	†			
7	All other Non-Vouchered "Cash" Allowances	†			
8	Manse Equity (paid directly or through 403(b)) <sup>4</sup>	†			
9	<b>Total Effective Salary</b>	<b>\$ 31,023</b>	Add lines 1-8		21429.9 IF RED: Contact COM Liaison.
10	Employer's Matching Contribution – 403(b) <sup>5</sup>	†			
11	50% of SECA (Social Security)	\$ -	0.0765 x line 9		1639.3905 IF RED: Contact COM Liaison.

Check here X if pastor has opted out of Social Security.

**BENEFITS – OPTION 1: Board of Pensions "Pastor's Participation" Plan**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enter "1" on line 12 for Pastor's Participation.</li> <li>... Otherwise leave lines 12, 13 and 14 blank.</li> </ul>				
12					
13	Pension & Disability (10% of Effective Salary)	† \$ -	0.10 x line 9		
14	Medical (29% of Effective Salary)	† \$ -	0.29 x line 9		

*Note: Rev. Rees' Board of Pensions dues are paid by Saint Andrew PC where he is a full-time pastor.*

**BENEFITS – OPTION 2: Board of Pensions "Minister's Choice" Plan**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enter "2" on line 15 for Minister's Choice.</li> <li>... Otherwise leave lines 15-18 blank.</li> </ul>				
15					
16	Pension, D&D, Temporary Disability and EAP (10% of Effective Salary)	† \$ -	0.10 x line 9		
17	Medical – PPO (Cost varies by region)	†	Contact Bd. of Pensions		
18	Medical – EPO (Cost varies by region)	†	Contact Bd. of Pensions		

**Vouchered Expenses (Reimbursements)**

19	Continuing Education	\$ 650			180 IF RED: Contact COM Liaison.
20	Professional Expenses (incl. mileage at IRS rate)	\$ 1,400			
21	Other Vouchered Expenses	†			
22	<b>TOTAL \$ Paid by Church/Employer</b>	<b>\$ 33,073</b>	Add lines 9-11,13,14,16-21		
	Vacation (minimum 4 weeks) enter number:	4			4 IF RED: Contact COM Liaison.
	Study Leave (minimum 2 weeks) enter number:	0			2 IF RED: Contact COM Liaison.
	Other Time Off: _____	†			

**Footnotes**

<sup>1</sup>Pastor's elective contributions to the PC(USA) 403(b) Retirement Savings Plan are listed here and INCLUDED in Effective Salary.

<sup>2</sup>Most contributions by a church to a pastor's 403(b) account ARE INCLUDED in Effective Salary (see footnote 5).

<sup>3</sup>Payments made by the employer or reimbursed to the pastor for optional or supplemental insurance ARE INCLUDED in Effective Salary unless the same benefits are offered to all employees.

<sup>4</sup>Sums paid or contributed by a church to a deferred compensation plan or other account on behalf of a pastor residing in a manse (to compensate for equity which the pastor forgoes by not owning his or her own residence) ARE INCLUDED in Effective Salary.

<sup>5</sup>When a church matches some or all of a pastor's voluntary contributions to his or her 403(b) account, the church's MATCHING contribution is NOT included in Effective Salary (see footnote 2).

\*For more information about Effective Salary, see "Understanding Effective Salary," available on [www.pensions.org](http://www.pensions.org).



**Committee on Ministry**  
**Rev. Tom Buchanan, Chair**

**Meetings:** November 10, 2022; December 8, 2022; January 12, 2023; February 9, 2023

**For Information:**

1. Heard liaison reports from the following churches: Covenant Athens, Madison, Trinity, Rabun Gap, Nacoochee, Christ, Hartwell, Mount Hermon, Oconee, Athens First, Belle Terrace, Clayton, Lavonia, Dahlonga, Homer, Hebron, Timpson, and Eatonton.
2. Revisions to the COM Manual of Operations were approved, regarding exit interviews and recommendations for Medical & Family Leave.
3. COM will monitor the completion of required boundaries training, mandated for all minister members who are engaged in preaching/pastoring a church within our bounds. Training must be completed by June 2023.
4. COM dismissed its COVID Taskforce in January, with much gratitude.

**Actions:**

1. Approved the Covenant Pastor Contract between Covenant Athens and Dana Waters.
2. Approved the Covenant Pastor Contract between Madison and Arch Baker.
3. Approved the addition of Charles Crane to the Trinity Administrative Commission.
4. Appointed Bob Prim as Moderator of Session at Hartwell, effective December 8, 2022, to serve until December 31, 2023, or Hartwell secures a new pastor, whichever comes first.
5. Approved the Covenant Pastor Contract between Mount Hermon and Heather Koontz.
6. Appointed Peter Thornton as Moderator of Session at Oconee, effective December 8, 2022.
7. Granted permission to Amy Baer, a member of Tropical Florida Presbytery, serving as Director of Outreach at Covenant Athens, to labor within the bounds of Northeast Georgia Presbytery.
8. Approved a recommendation that all congregations, when paying for pulpit supply, do so at a rate of \$250 per Sunday, plus mileage.
9. Approved the Interim/Transitional Pastor Contract between Nacoochee and Teresa Franklin.
10. Approved the Covenant Pastor Contract between Clayton and Ruling Elder Fred DiMaio.
11. Approved the Mission Study of Covenant Athens and granted permission for them to form a PNC.
12. Approved the Covenant Pastor Contract between Lavonia and Jennifer Horton.
13. Granted permission to the Rev. Ozu Meija, member of the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico, to labor within the bounds of Northeast Georgia Presbytery.
14. Approved the Covenant Pastor Contract between Mountain and Paul Min.
15. Granted permission to S. Harrison Cain to labor outside the bounds of Presbytery in 2023 at Ebenezer Presbyterian Church in Greater Atlanta Presbytery.
16. Approved the MIF of Athens First.
17. Approved the MIF of Madison.
18. Approved the Covenant Pastor Contract between Janet Williams and Homer.
19. Approved the Covenant Pastor Contract between Jacob Douylliez and Eatonton.
20. Approved adding Harold Harris to the Pulpit Supply List.

**Recommendations:**

1. Dismiss the Rev. Andrew Casto-Waters to Trinity Presbytery.
2. Receive the Rev. Peter Thornton, from Greater Atlanta Presbytery, as a Member-at-Large.
3. Receive the Rev. Amy Baer, from Tropical Florida Presbytery, as a Member-at-Large.
4. Receive the Rev. Paul Min, from Abingdon Presbytery, as Covenant Pastor at Mountain.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tom Buchanan  
Chair



## **Statement of Faith Peter Thornton**

I believe God created all things both seen and unseen. As a human being created by God, I owe my life to God's actions. I believe that God created from nothing, therefore bringing everything into existence. Having done all this, God is the true and living God and there are no others.

I believe I am created in the image of God. This means I am to represent God in all my actions. As part of a larger created world, I am also to see God's image in my fellow creation.

I believe God's created world is a gift to us, a gift to be nurtured and cared for. I see this gift in water, sky, earth, and plants and I am responsible to work to sustain all these for future generations. By doing this, we honor and love the God to whom we owe our existence.

I believe God is a Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This one God is understood in three aspects, each working within our world in distinct roles. Each distinct role however is ultimately the work of the whole Trinity. These three aspects of the one God are relational in nature and indwell in each other in divine love.

I believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God, created human yet divine. By becoming human, Jesus was sent by God to be with us and for us and to truly identify with each of us. By being divine, Jesus could become our Savior.

I believe Jesus died on the cross to conquer sin and death, doing for us that which we cannot do for ourselves. We are forgiven and restored to a right relationship with God. I believe Jesus was resurrected, conquering the power of death, and offering a new hope for eternal life and relationship with God.

I believe this forgiveness was not because of any merit or work of my own, but by the grace of God through Jesus and accepted by my faith. The faith that believes we are justified, we are saved by the work of Jesus Christ.

I believe the Holy Spirit is divine power connecting me with God and Christ. I believe the Holy Spirit moves and guides me to further that relationship and to create community. I believe the Holy Spirit empowers me to serve God daily and live in anticipation of his coming kingdom.

I believe the church is a family, a universal community called by God and brought together by the Holy Spirit to reach out in love, respect, and liberation to all creation. This community is one of faith, a faith of trust, of grace and of salvation through Jesus Christ. The church is where our faith is nourished and grows. This community witnesses and proclaims the message of salvation to the world.

I believe Scripture is the Word of God. This Word is inspired by God and reveals to each of us what we should believe and how we should act. I believe the Holy Spirit leads us as we read and study Scripture, guiding our interpretation and what God would have each of us to know.

I believe in the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper. I believe Baptism by water in the name of the triune God acknowledges sin and the cleansing that occurs through Christ. Baptism is a sign of God's covenant and through it we are welcomed into the family of faith and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. I believe the Lord's Supper is also a sign of God's covenant. I believe the breaking of the bread and pouring of the wine in the Lord's Supper remembers the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is a sign of God's love, grace, and care for each of us to which we are called to respond. I believe all are welcome at the table of the Lord's Supper. These gifts of sacrament are visible signs of God's gifts to us, and they strengthen and nourish our faith through the power of the Holy Spirit.

I believe that Jesus Christ will return when we do not know. In the meantime, we are to serve and to act as Christ did with watchfulness and anticipation.

## **Statement of Faith Journey Peter Thornton**

I was raised in the Presbyterian church in the small town where I grew up. The foundations of my faith were instilled there through worship, Sunday School, Confirmation class, and the mentoring of faithful Christians in my young life. I left home to attend college and embark on a career. During this transitional time, I no longer actively worshipped in a congregation.

However, that groundwork of faith that I received as a child continued to form the basis for how I conducted my life. By my early thirties, I had established a career in funeral service. This period also saw a desire to re-engage with a community of faith. I felt a call to grow in the knowledge of who I was as a Christian, to understand what that truly meant in my daily walk, and as well how it would inform my ministry in funeral service. I found a family of faith at McDonough Presbyterian Church where I have been a member for twenty years. This family of faith has taught me what it means to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world. Serving one another with compassion and love, supporting each other through the joys and trials of life, and seeking to actively welcome all to the Lord's table.

My ministry in funeral service has been a rewarding aspect of my life. In 2017 however, I began to question whether there was more that I could offer to my community. Could my life as a Christian further deepen my engagement with others? I believe this was the work of the Spirit, deepening my faith and trust in Jesus Christ and compelling me to step forward in a challenging direction. This direction came to me suddenly. God called me to abruptly step back from my career and enroll at Columbia Theological Seminary. This abruptness shocked me and frightened me, but I stepped forward into the mystery. I say mystery because I believe God's work in our lives can at times be unexplainable. Yet, the mysterious pull cannot be denied. My time at Columbia was one of tremendous growth personally. I admit at times I was doubtful, full of questions as to why? I succumbed, if you will, to my human nature and withdrew for a semester. But again, God's pull drew me back and I completed my degree requirements in 2020.

I believe the past few years have deepened my faith particularly in experiencing first-hand the beauty of God's creation, humanity. I have experienced the companionship of different races, cultures, identities, and backgrounds that I never had been exposed to before. This occurred in the classroom, during internships, and during the context of Clinical Pastoral Education. I see the image of God in each of these diverse humans and strive to understand what God is teaching me through their experiences. I see first-hand how we must strive for justice and peace so that indeed all are welcome.

I am excited to continue this journey in ministry. A ministry of sharing God's Word, of learning with others what faith means, of sharing the joys of life, and Christian fellowship.

## **Statement of Faith Amy Baer**

From a young age, I was drawn to the stories of Jesus Christ in the Scriptures because I believed I could come to know God in coming to know him. In learning about Jesus Christ, I came to believe that I was called to do as he did; reaching out to the least of these, comforting the grieving, speaking up for the silenced, and standing in solidarity with the oppressed. I believe the Holy Scriptures provide the source for recognizing God's saving acts throughout all times and places. By the power of the Holy Spirit, I believe that as we read the Holy Scriptures, they read us, and God's ancient Word becomes a Word for us today. It has been imprinted on my heart that it was in Jesus Christ that God graced and continues to grace humankind, and it is by this grace alone that I live and profess my faith.

I believe in the Triune God who is always Three and also always One. Ours is a God who creates, redeems and sustains. Although God's fullness is incomprehensible to my feeble mind and sinful heart, I believe God is sovereign in every way and also intimately active and perfectly present in my daily life.

I believe ours is a creative God who made all things out of nothing by speaking the Word. I believe this is the same God who covenanted with the people of Israel and forged the new covenant with us through the person of Jesus Christ. I believe God chose us long before we ever choose God. I believe ours is a God of justice who sought to be in solidarity with the ancient Israel, freeing them from their oppressive captors but also seeking to free them from their self-oppression. God freed the people and provided for the people long before the provision of the Law, illustrating God's unconditional love and affection for all of us.

I believe God enacted the ultimate solidarity with us in the person of Jesus Christ, his life, his ministry, his suffering, his death, and his resurrection. God's solidarity with us reached even as far as the depths of hell.

And I believe God has sent the Holy Spirit to empower each of us in our lives as disciples, to illumine the Word to us, and to inspire us to participate in God's mission of solidarity with the oppressed and helpless of our world today. I believe in the continuing power and the presence of the Holy Spirit in the world, in the church, and in my own faith journey.

I believe the church exists by the grace of God and it is called to tell the Good News of the gospel, reflecting the love of God to all of God's children. I believe the church is also called to live as a beloved community, inviting and gathering around the Word, praying, baptizing and breaking bread together. In worship and in daily life, I believe we must confess our sin before God and one another, recognizing that it is only by God's unmerited and freely given grace that we exist as the body of Christ. Our sinfulness blinds and impairs us at our very core and it is only in our utter dependence on God that we are able to do any good in this life.

I believe all three persons of the Trinity are active in the sacraments of Baptism and the Eucharist. In the sacrament of Baptism, we celebrate God's justifying grace and indelible claim on our entire beings as we are engrafted into the church, the Body of Christ, and we are ordained to ministries of service. In the sacrament of the Eucharist, we celebrate God's sanctifying grace, and we are lifted up by the mysterious power of the Holy Spirit as we commune with the spiritual real presence of Jesus Christ. In this foretaste of the great heavenly banquet, we also commune with all the saints of the church in all times and places, and then we are sent out again into the world to be Christ's Body in and for the world. In Word and in Sacrament, the church is governed and guided by the Triune God and emboldened by the knowledge of who and whose we are.

I believe ours is a God who calls us by name, equips us for our calling, and empowers us to share the Good News with all who will listen. As the body of Christ, we are called to fellowship with one another and worship God together, acknowledging our dependence on our sovereign, faithful, all-loving, righteous and just, grace-giving God.

## **Statement of Faith Journey** **Amy Baer**

I was born in Springfield, Missouri, in 1976. My birth parents placed me for adoption through Catholic Charities, and at three weeks old, I was adopted by my parents. My adoption record was closed, and I knew very little about my birth family as I was growing up.

My adoptive parents divorced when I was three, and I went to live with my mother in Kansas City, Missouri. However, my father remained a part of my life, and I spent many weekends and summers with him in Springfield when I was a girl.

I was raised in St. Elizabeth parish in an Irish-Catholic neighborhood in Kansas City. I attended grade school at St. Elizabeth and went to high school at St. Theresa's Academy. Everything about my childhood was connected to my church. My school was part of my church, all of my friends and the families I knew were members of my church, the movement of our year was connected to the church year and all of my extracurricular activities were connected to church. It's impossible for me to disconnect my childhood from my experience of my church and the faith in which I was raised. My mother led our family with a spirit of service to others and I learned from a very young age that I was blessed to be a blessing. As I look back on my childhood of faith, I think mostly about the ways my mother sought out opportunities for us to serve as a family; serving hot meals, stocking food pantry shelves, painting porches, cleaning up overgrown yards, tutoring in an alternative school, and caring for children in a domestic violence shelter. I remember thinking of God as a loving parent who loved me, watched over me and kept me safe.

When it came time for me to leave for college, I found myself in a wilderness place when it came to faith and church. When my lifelong church wasn't right there in my path, I began to notice other ways of worshiping and other ways of being church. I earned dual degrees in Graphic Design and Communication from the University of Missouri, and my first job out of college was as a graphic designer with the Missouri State Teachers' Association.

My husband Ryan and I were married in 2002, and we moved to Dallas, Texas. I took a job as a graphic designer for a small publishing company, and we began looking for a church home. One Sunday morning, we stopped into a Presbyterian church down the street from our apartment. When the pastor began to preach from the pulpit, I was moved in a deep and meaningful way by her words and her proclamation of the gospel. I had never heard a woman preach before. It was as if she was preaching directly to me. Soon after, Ryan and I became members of Woodhaven Presbyterian Church and we began learning what it means to be a Presbyterian.

In January 2003, Ryan began exploring his sense of call to ministry, and we made plans to make a major life change in the move to seminary. However, I couldn't shake the feeling that God was calling me to something new, too. I wasn't certain what it was or what shape it might take, but I could feel God stirring my heart. In July 2004, we moved from Dallas to Decatur, Georgia, and Ryan enrolled at Columbia Theological Seminary. I took a few classes from the Center for Lifelong Learning, and my sense of call to theological education was confirmed. I enrolled as a full-time student in February 2005. My years at Columbia were incredibly formative for me in my sense of call. I made it my goal to volunteer at every non-profit agency that would schedule me for a shift and I discerned my call to ministry on the margins.

We both prayed that after seminary, God might call us to a place where both of us could exercise our gifts for ministry, and that prayer was answered in the spring of 2008. God called Ryan to be the pastor of a church in West Palm Beach, FL and God called me to chaplaincy at VITAS Innovative Hospice Care. I served as a Hospice Chaplain for 2 years before receiving a call to serve as the Director of Volunteers and Congregational Development for CROS Ministries in West Palm Beach, FL. This ministry post turned out to be the one most like what I expected my call to be all along. It was my joy to manage CROS' multiple emergency food programs throughout the county, recruit and train our volunteers and develop deeper relationships with our community partners and congregations. It was my great joy to be a small part of reducing food insecurity in Palm Beach County.



In 2011, I gave birth to our twin sons, Nathan and Daniel, and my call shifted to motherhood and managing our household. We made a cross-country move in 2012 for Ryan's call to serve a church in Ft. Worth, Texas and our third son, Joshua, was born in 2014. In 2019, we once again followed our family's call to Athens, GA.

This last summer, after 10 years of serving my family, I received a new call to serve as the Coordinator of Outreach for Covenant Presbyterian Church. I am excited about this next stage of my call to ministry and our clergy family journey.

## **Statement of Faith Paul Min**

I love, praise, and thank God our Lord, because He is my Creator, my Savior and my Renewer. I believe:

In the Triune God in three Persons, God the Father, the Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. God created all in this world. And God created humans in His own image to be in loving relationship with Him and with each other. But through the power of evil and the sin of humanity, we separate ourselves from Him, from each other, and even from ourselves by sin. We are all flawed broken creatures who seek to fulfill our own desires rather than His. We are not able to overcome our own sinfulness. This sin has led to evil in the world.

So God has reached out to overcome that separation. Jesus Christ, the Second Person of the Trinity, was incarnated and came to earth in the Person of Jesus Christ. He lived with us and showed us how much God loves us. He was fully human and fully divine. He took our sins on the Cross once for all, rose from the dead, and ascended into Heaven, thereby exhibiting His victory of eternal life over the power of evil. His love throughout His life redeemed us and offered us the opportunity to return to right relationship with Him and with each other. It is something that we neither earn nor deserve. We receive it as a gift from God, by His Grace through our faith in Jesus Christ!

The Holy Spirit is God with us. He convicts us of a sinfulness, calls us to repentance, and transform us into new creatures in Christ. The Holy Spirit empowers us to conform ourselves more closely to the people God wills us to be. And He guides, comforts, heals and encourages in our everyday lives. As Christians, we are called to follow His will in our calling places at church, at home and at work.

The Bible, the Holy Scripture, is the written Word of God that was inspired and commanded by God that nothing be either added to or subtracted from. Through it, the same God speaks and promises to us today. This Word of God is the final authority that all should appeal to for truth.

In response to the Grace of God, God calls us to celebrate the Holy Sacraments. Sacraments are instituted by God, commanded by Christ, and anointed by the Holy Spirit. Sacraments are signs of the real presence and power of Christ in the church. In the Holy Baptism, we participate in Jesus' death and resurrection. We die to what separates us from God and are raised to newness of life in Christ. In the Holy Communion, the Holy Spirit binds us with Christ and with one another, unites us with all the faithful, and refreshes and keeps us faithful as Christ's body, doing His work in this world.

There is only one holy universal church. Jesus Christ is the head of it and we are the parts which help it function. This church is the holy family built upon sisters and brothers in Christ who worship God. In worship, we gather in Christ's name and listen God's word; we are refreshed by receiving God's forgiveness and renewing grace; we are sent to the world to live as Christians & Jesus' disciples, proclaiming God's Word and sharing His love in this world.

We are to always be ready for Christ's coming again and just as He came in Glory, He will return in Glory. At this time, He will fairly judge all. Those who clothed in His righteousness will live with Him in this New Eternal Kingdom forever. Until that time, we are called to witness the Good News by proclaiming it and by living as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ our Lord.

God is my Strength, my Master and my Lord. He creates me through His love, forgives me through the Grace of Jesus Christ, and renews me through the Communion of the Holy Spirit. Every day, I am excited to see and experience that God is with me and guides my life and ministry. God has chosen me and called me to be saved from my sin as well as to serve for the transformation of this world. I will continually communicate with Him through my prayers, meditate His Word, serve for His glory, and share His love with the people in my everyday life and ministry. Thanks and praises be to God now and forever.

In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Statement of Faith Journey Paul Min**

First and foremost, looking back on my life, I see that it was God who planned and called me to ministry.

It was God who led me to accept Him as my Lord while I studied at college in South Korea. When I was renting a room from an elderly lady in my early 20's, my landlord asked me the favor of reading her the Bible every night. Until this, I had been to church but I had not read the Bible. While doing so, six months later, I found myself reading the Bible on my own from early in the morning until late at night. At this time, I truly accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Savior and Lord. I ended up reading the Bible to my landlord every night for 2 years.

It was God who called me to lead Bible study for international married graduate students at Texas A&M University in the 1980s. We met every Friday evening, shared personal challenges, and studied the Bible. When one of my friends was returning to his home country, he confessed to me, "Paul, I am prouder of becoming a Christian than earning a doctoral degree." Then, I felt that God had used me to send missionaries all over the countries in the world. It was during this time that I first became confident that God was calling me to serve as His servant.

The outward call on my ministry came when I served as a Director of Christian Education at Miami Korean Presbyterian Church in Florida. I was encouraged by the pastor and elders to pursue ministry as a vocation. Only a few years later, I took the courageous steps of changing the line of my profession to pursue God's ministry.

While studying at seminary, it was God who placed me to serve as a youth minister for children and middle/high school students for a year, and college students and young adults for two years to shape and prepare me for the work of shepherding and teaching. I believe, God orchestrated my call into vocational church ministry through my personal life, as I suffered from financial limitedness, the graduate study at Texas A& M and the loss of my parents in South Korea; as a result, God has taught me how to understand those in need and how to care for them.

After my graduation from seminary, it has truly been the Grace of God for me, as a Korean-American, to serve three American congregations. As a solo pastor, God has called me to American churches that was struggling with internal conflicts, church that was initially deeply affected by the controversial departure of its former pastor, that was suffering from financial shortage, etcetera. Somehow, I feel that God has called me to serve those churches as an Interim Pastor or a missionary in the PC USA.

I now see that it was all a part of God preparing me for His work. I would not have made the choices without God's guidance; the Lord has made all differences. I will continue to seek God, His leading, and His calling in my life and in my ministry. With fruitful years ahead of me, I pray, "Here I am, Lord. Send me wherever You call. I am ready to go and serve Your people for Your Glory."

Personal Information:

Family: wife (a former professor at Chongsin Theological Seminary and University, Seoul, Korea) and 2 daughters (Both of them were high school valedictorians. The older daughter, a dermatologist at Irvine in CA, is married with an ophthalmologist; she has 2 twin daughters. The younger daughter is working as a system engineering consultant in London, England.)

Hobbies: Running a marathon, playing tennis, and playing with my cat Guhnwoo.

## Nominating Committee Report

Ruling Elder Joel Burns, chair

The Nominating Committee met on January 26, 2023 via Zoom. After selecting Joel D. Burns as Chair for 2023, they are making the following recommendations to presbytery:

**I. The Nominating Committee affirms the selection of the following persons to serve on the Board of Directors, Presbyterian Campus Ministry, for 2023:**

Will Norman	PC(USA) Campus Minister	Greater Athens MC	ex-officio
Haley Lerner	UCC Campus Minister	Greater Athens MC	ex-officio
Jen Evans	Madison	South Central MC	2021-2023
Timothy Leighton	UCC	Outside NEGAP	2021-2023
Joan Prittie	Covenant Athens	Greater Athens MC	2021-2023
John Miller	Oconee	Greater Athens MC	2021-2023
Rebekah LeMon	Trinity Atlanta	Outside NEGAP	2022-2024
Smith Wilson	First Athens	Greater Athens MC	2022-2024
Jess Cussik	UCC	Outside NEGAP	2022-2024
Cody Green	Oconee	Greater Athens MC	2022-2024
Paul Santos	First Athens	Greater Athens MC	2023-2025
Kim Ness	First Athens	Greater Athens MC	2023-2025
Robert Haltiwanger	Oconee	Greater Athens MC	2023-2025
Susannah Davis	Kirkwood UCC	Outside NEGAP	2023-2025
Anna Murphy	Student Representative		2022-2023
Christopher Rosselot	Student Representative		2022-2023

**II. Committee on Ministry:**

Janet Williams	Homer	F-TE	North Central MC	2023-2025
Kent Burel	First Athens	M-RE	Greater Athens MC	2023-2025

**III. Coordinating Team:**

Black Presbyterian Caucus	Joy Brown	Belle Terrace	F-RE	Greater Augusta MC	2023
---------------------------	-----------	---------------	------	--------------------	------



**Bills and Overtures Committee**  
**February 25, 2023**

Dear Siblings,

Grace and peace to you in the name of Christ. I'm writing today to share a few resources that will aid in your preparation for voting on the proposed amendments to the Book of Order later this year.

First, please follow the link below to view the full text, rationale, and Advisory Committee comments from the General Assembly. Note that many of the amendments were altered during the Assembly, and the rationale or Advisory Committee comments may no longer be applicable.

[Proposed Amendments to the Book of Order](#)

Second, please follow the link below to view a spreadsheet that contains the text, brief summary, and recommendations from the Bills and Overtures Committee.

[Bills and Overtures Recommendations](#)

Third, the Bills and Overtures Committee commends to you the following three YouTube videos from New Castle Presbytery. These training sessions are led by former co-Moderator of the General Assembly Cindy Kohlman and are an excellent overview of the proposed amendments.

[Amendments to the Foundations of Presbyterian Polity and the Directory for Worship](#)  
[Amendments to the Form of Government](#)  
[Amendments to the Rules of Discipline, including the complete revision](#)

Finally, given the abundance of business before us, there will be a called meeting of the presbytery for the express purpose of voting on these amendments. Details of this meeting will be shared at the regular stated meeting of the Presbytery in February. At this meeting, the Bills and Overtures Committee will present the following Omnibus Motions in order to expedite voting. Note that any commissioner present may remove an item from an omnibus motion for individual consideration.

Omnibus 1: 22A and 22B

Omnibus 2: 22C, 22D, and 22N

Omnibus 3: 22G, 22H, 22K, 22L, and 22O

Omnibus 4: 22T, 22U, 22V, 22W, 22X, 22Y, 22Z, 22AA, and 22BB

Omnibus 5: 22CC, 22DD, 22EE, 22FF

The Bills and Overtures Committee appreciates your attention and consideration of these items of business. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to a member of the committee via our contact information below.

Sincerely,

Jacob Douylliez  
Faye Aker  
Burnetta Armour  
John Stork

## Biography

### Cheryl Evans Jones, Ph.D.



Dr. Cheryl Evans Jones began serving as the 17<sup>th</sup> President of Paine College in 2019. Since her tenure as President, Paine College has achieved significant accomplishments including institutional accreditation by the Transnational Association of Christian College and Schools (TRACS); approval to offer distance education by TRACS; approval for participation in Division I South of the National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA), partnering with the Augusta National Golf Club which established two endowed scholarships in the name of Lee Elder and a women's golf team for the first time in the College's history; a grant in the amount of \$1.4 million from Augusta-Richmond County Commission to mitigate the effects of COVID-19; and accreditation of the Department of Business Administration by the Accreditation Council of Business School Programs (ACBSP).

Dr. Jones has over 28 years of experience in higher education at Paine College having first joined the faculty in January 1993 as a full-time Assistant Professor of Psychology. In 1999, she was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor and in 2001, she earned Tenure status. Dr. Jones was twice recipient of the "Evelyn Berry Teacher of the Year" Award (2002 and 1998). She was a recipient of the Vulcan Materials Company "Teaching Excellence Award-2001" presented by Vulcan Materials Company and the Georgia Foundation for Independent Colleges, Inc. "in recognition of outstanding contributions to undergraduate education, student learning, and campus life.

During her tenure at Paine, Dr. Jones has held several administrative positions of increasing responsibility: Coordinator of the Department of Psychology, Interim Chair of the Division of Social Sciences, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs, Executive Assistant to the President which included Title III Coordinator and Director of Planning and Evaluation, Acting Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, and Acting President.

Dr. Jones is the recipient of the Perry Broadcasting of Augusta "Education Professional of the Year" Award (2019), the Augusta City Classic "Andrew Jefferson Leadership Award" (2019), the Augusta Branch of the National Association of University Women "Citizen of the Year" Award, and the first recipient of the *Rosa T. Beard Legacy Award*. Along with other female presidents of UNCF institutions, Dr. Jones was honored at the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Maya Angelou Women Who Lead Luncheon held in Charlotte. She recently received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Rucker Park Streetball and PUSH2BGREAT Classic.

A native of Augusta, Dr. Jones received the Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology *summa cum laude* from Fisk University (Nashville, Tennessee). While at Fisk University, she was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest honor society for the liberal arts and sciences. She received the Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in Clinical-Child/Developmental Psychology from The Ohio State University (Columbus, Ohio).

Dr. Jones is an active member of Christ Presbyterian Church (USA) where she serves as a Ruling Elder on Session and Treasurer of the Ellis-Harris Presbyterian Women. In the Augusta community, Dr. Jones is Vice President of Membership for The Augusta (GA) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, a member of the Rotary Club of Augusta, and the Morris Museum of Art's Honorary Board. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. Dr. Jones is a 2009 graduate of Leadership Augusta and served on its Board of Directors.

Dr. Jones was married to the late Dr. George Evans Jones, a Paine College alumnus who also served as an elder at Christ Presbyterian Church.

Written Report to Northeast Georgia Presbytery (PCUSA)  
For its February 2023 Stated Meeting  
From General Presbyter, Hilary Shuford

I have been reflecting on what it means to be a “Matthew 25 mid-council” and how that informs our work and actions as a presbytery. We are a Christian inter-connected body comprised of minister members and congregations in this geographic area; and we are a wider expression of our Reformed tradition. Recently, I was asked to share from our Presbyterian tradition something for an interfaith service remembering Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. I shared the following from our Book of Confessions (edited for length):

Jesus called the church to be his servant for the reconciliation of the world. The church gathers to be tested, renewed, and reformed. The church disperses to serve God. Each member is the church in the world, endowed by the Spirit with some gift of ministry. (The Confession of 1967)

We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation; the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world; the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker; the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells. (Confession of Belhar)

In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. (Brief Statement of Faith)

In light of these confessional statements, let’s think about each of us being the church in the world and church to and for each other. I celebrate as we come together, and challenge us to move from our gathering into the world more deeply committed to strive for bringing the kingdom of heaven to earth and exhibiting the righteousness of God in all of our engagements with each other and with the world.

I have been praying the great prayer of St. Francis of Assisi. Join with me:

Lord, make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love.  
Where there is injury, pardon.  
Where there is doubt, faith.  
Where there is despair, hope.  
Where there is darkness, light.  
Where there is sadness, joy.  
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much  
seek to be consoled, as to console,  
to be understood, as to understand,  
to be loved, as to love.  
For it is in giving, that we receive,  
it is in pardoning, that we are pardoned,  
and it is dying, that we are born to eternal life.  
Amen.



## Trinity Church Administrative Commission

Report to Presbytery

February 2023

The Trinity AC was created at the October 2022 meeting of Northeast Georgia Presbytery, in response to a request from the Session of Trinity that the church be closed. Members of the Commission, as named by Presbytery, are: Rev. Charles Crane, Chairman; Rev. Heather Koontz; Ruling Elder Susan Biddy; Ruling Elder Roy Martin; and Rev. Bob Abernathy, Secretary.

For the past three years, the Session of Trinity Presbyterian Church in Gainesville, Georgia, has struggled with the question of whether to close or remain open. The number of members has been declining for several years, and attendance has dropped. In the past eleven years, they have had two part-time stated supply pastors: one for three years, and the other for two and a half years. They have relied on supply pastors most of the time. Even so, there are a lot of Sundays that worship services have not been held due to the inability to find a pastor to lead the worship service. Sunday School classes, and a host of other church activities, have not been observed for several years.

Two years ago, Robert Hay, from The Presbyterian Foundation, and Rev. Teresa Franklin, a pastor on the Northeast Georgia Committee on Ministry, joined the effort to determine if Trinity Presbyterian Church could turn the church around, grow and extend its services by reaching out and serving the community. They also tried to attract a pastor last year by posting a pastor-wanted notice in the Georgia Presbyteries and Presbyteries bordering Georgia in the surrounding states. Notices were also sent to several seminaries. After nine months, only one person responded. He was invited to lead worship. After the service, both the respondent and the congregation felt he would not be a good fit for the church. All efforts to secure a pastor have been unsuccessful.

During the Session meeting on October 1, 2022, the Session voted 3 to 2 to close Trinity Presbyterian Church. On October 23<sup>rd</sup>, a meeting of church members was held to notify them that the Session had voted to close the church. It was explained to those in attendance that, for over two years, attempts to attract a pastor had been unsuccessful and that future efforts would be in vain. At the request of the congregation, the Commission agreed to wait until after the Christmas and New Year holidays before exploring the request of the Session to close the church.

On January 17, 2023, the Commission met with General Presbyter Rev. Hilary Shuford and Stated Clerk Rev. Ed Rees for orientation as an Administrative Commission, with particular emphasis on the tasks pertinent to the closing of a church. The Commission then met with the Session and congregation of Trinity Church on Saturday, January 28, 2023. The purpose of this meeting was to answer questions and respond to any concerns that members had regarding the proposed closing of the church. At the request of the Session, Rev. Charles Crane and Rev. Bob Abernathy met with the Session and congregation of Trinity to further explore questions and concerns.

The congregation and Session of Trinity Church are understandably grieved over the proposed closing of the church, and there are a few members who remain staunchly opposed to this action. The majority, however, concede that this step, while painful, is necessary at this stage in the church's life cycle. **Because of the high level of stress this process can create, and the corresponding potential for conflict within the church, the Commission requests that Northeast Georgia Presbytery grant the authority of Original Jurisdiction to the Commission, which would be utilized if the Commission determines that the Trinity Session is no longer able to effectively carry out its work.**

Original Jurisdiction is outlined in our Book of Order, G-3.03-e: *The Presbytery can assume original jurisdiction in any situation in which it determines that a session cannot exercise its authority. After a thorough investigation, and after full opportunity to be heard has been accorded to the session, the presbytery may conclude that the session of a congregation is unable or unwilling to manage wisely its affairs and may appoint an administrative commission with the full power of session. This commission shall assume original jurisdiction of the existing session, if any, which shall cease to act until such time as the presbytery shall otherwise direct.*

Additionally, due to personal concerns, Ruling Elder Roy Martin is not able to continue participating in the work of the Commission; therefore, **the Commission also requests that a replacement be named by Presbytery.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. Bob Abernathy, Secretary



**Ficklen Church Administrative Commission**  
Report to Presbytery, February 2023

At the May 2022 meeting of Northeast Georgia Presbytery, approval was given for the sale of the Ficklen church property to Angel Band Ministries, Inc., for the sum of \$25,000.00. During the course of last year, there were difficulties with concluding this sale, but those issues have been resolved and the appropriate documents are being prepared for carrying out this transaction.

The Ficklen AC was charged by the Presbytery with presenting a definitive proposal for the disposition of funds following the sale, and at its meeting in January 2023, the AC agreed to recommend the following:

1. Any expenses (per capita, insurance coverage incurred since the dissolution of the congregation, any utility or maintenance bills, etc.) that have been paid by Presbytery on behalf of Ficklen Church would be reimbursed first.
2. In keeping with Presbytery policy, 25% of the remainder would be granted to the Georgia Domestic Missionary Society Fund.
3. The balance of the proceeds from the sale would be contributed to the Backyard Ministry in Cornelia.

**Motion: That Northeast Georgia Presbytery approve these recommendations as presented.**

For the Commission:

Rev. Ed Rees  
Chair



Church Property Commission  
Report to Presbytery, February 2023

A meeting of the Presbytery's Church Property Commission was held on Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup>; members in attendance were Brenda Boonstra (FPC Cornelia), Pam Powell (FPC Winder), General Presbyter Rev. Hilary Shuford, Rev. Mari Turner; Rev. Ed Rees, Stated Clerk & Acting Chair. The Commission met to review the following requests:

1. A request from Covenant (Augusta) for approval of a \$200,000.00 loan through the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program for upgrading HVAC systems and enhancing energy efficiency.  
**The Commission recommends:**

**That Northeast Georgia Presbytery (a "Corporation") of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), having received and reviewed the loan application of Covenant Presbyterian Church, located at 3131 Walton Way, Augusta, GA , a member in good standing of this Presbytery, approve the loan application and guarantee the repayment of the principal and interest on the loan to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Investment and Loan Program, Inc. in the amount of \$200,000.00, and that the officers of the Presbytery Corporation be authorized to sign a Guaranty Agreement for this loan as agents of the Corporation.**

2. A request from FPC Greensboro for approval of a \$100,000.00 PILP loan request to remodel the church manse. **The Commission recommends:**

**That Northeast Georgia Presbytery (a "Corporation") of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), having received and reviewed the loan application of First Presbyterian Church, located at 110 South Main Street, Greensboro, GA , a member in good standing of this Presbytery, approve the loan application and guarantee the repayment of the principal and interest on the loan to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Investment and Loan Program, Inc. in the amount of \$100,000.00, and that the officers of the Presbytery Corporation be authorized to sign a Guaranty Agreement for this loan as agents of the Corporation.**

3. A request from FPC Hartwell, to approve the transfer of an adjacent parcel of land with City of Hartwell to enhance parking and access.

**The Commission recommends that Presbytery approves this request and authorizes the officers of the Presbytery Corporation to sign and execute any necessary documents as agents of the Corporation.**

4. A request from the Hopewell/Carnesville Administrative Commission that the former Carnesville church property be put up for sale. The Administrative Commission would be authorized to list the property for sale; any offers to purchase the property would require approval of Presbytery. Any documents pertaining to the listing and subsequent sale and closing on the property would require the signature of the Stated Clerk.

**The Commission recommends approval of this request.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. Ed Rees, Stated Clerk  
Acting Chair



## Clergy Care Committee Report

February 25, 2023

Current roster: Rev. Mike Williams, Co-Chair; Judy Grieve; Rev. Al Thomas; Rev. Choon Myung Lee; Laurie Peebles; Anita Green (presbytery liaison); Ross Brown, Chair

The committee met via Zoom on Jan. 18.

### Current activities and initiatives of the committee

1. Ordination Anniversary Notes  
The committee mails out a note of recognition and appreciation to each pastor on presbytery rolls during the anniversary month of the pastor's ordination.
2. Clergy Cohorts Program  
The committee subsidizes this wonderful program, which affords our clergy a safe space for fellowship with colleagues; this program accounts for 80% of our annual budget; there are currently two cohorts up and running.  
  
Of particular note: The Mountain Cohort is led by Rev. Matt Henderson and includes Burnetta Armour, Andy Chambers, Fred DiMaio, Teresa Franklin, Shon Peppers, and Souvahn Touralack. They will depart on the Cohort-term ending pilgrimage to Scotland on April 7.
3. Clergy Spotlight Program  
Serves as a platform for ministers to share personal anecdotes. We encourage pastors to avail themselves of this platform, as it has been lightly used of late. Link to form found [HERE](#).
4. Pictorial Directory  
This incipient program will provide a passworded platform (like the NEGA directory) for ministers to post a photo and few basic bio facts. Mike Williams and Judy Grieve will be prepared to take photos for the directory at the Stated Meeting on Feb. 25.
5. At the recommendation of the Committee on Ministry, the Clergy Care Committee is assuming the role of liaison with Honorably Retired ministers. Roughly half of the pastors on our rolls are Honorably Retired. The committee will be hosting gatherings, probably lunches, at rotating geographic locations within the presbytery.

The committee is next scheduled to meet on Wed., Feb. 15.

At this time, the committee has no further recommendations for the presbytery to consider.



## **Committee on Preparation for Ministry**

### **For information:**

We currently have two inquirers and one candidate under our care.

We encourage pastors and elders to consider who in your congregation might be called to service in the church as either a Minister of the Word and Sacrament or a Commissioned Ruling Elder.

Commissioned ruling elders are trained to preach, lead worship, and carry out other pastoral functions. They are then commissioned to a particular place of ministry for a particular time. Often, they serve part-time at smaller congregations.

### **Actions:**

At our January 9, 2023 meeting, we approved the following ordination exam readers: Ryan Baer, Jan Lewis, and Jeff Cain, alternate.



## **Congregational Connexions Committee**

Betty Jean Jordan, Chair

The Congregational Connexions Committee met on February 8, 2023 via Zoom. They took the following actions and are making the following recommendations to presbytery:

### For Information:

1. Columbia Theological Seminary (CTS) is offering the reKindle grant program. CTS has received a grant from Lilly Endowment, Inc. to establish the “reKindle: Congregational Development in a Post COVID-19 Era” program. Congregations can apply to the program.

### Actions:

1. The Congregational Connexions Committee is planning a Hope & Healing Conference in May, which is also Mental Health Awareness Month. Pastors and other church workers often encounter people with mental health needs beyond the scope of spiritual guidance. Therefore, the purpose of this training is to help pastors and others evaluate whether additional mental health services are needed and to connect people with available services.

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary offers Hope & Healing training. It includes an online session (approximately 90 minutes), followed by case studies with professional counselors (approximately 2 hours). Because Hope & Healing facilitators are not available on May 23, 2023, the date of the presbytery meeting, both the initial session and case studies will be held online on back-to-back days earlier in May when the Hope & Healing facilitators are available (dates TBD). Those who attend the two back-to-back Hope & Healing sessions will be invited to stay after the May 23 presbytery meeting to discuss presbytery or community mental health initiatives that offer hospitality and understanding for those with mental health issues.

The Congregational Connexions Committee also plans to offer Mental Health First Aid Training in our presbytery sometime later this year.

2. The Congregational Connexions Committee revisited the fact that 80% of black churches within the PC(USA) do not have an installed pastor. Northeast Georgia Presbytery is a Matthew 25 mid council, and one of the focuses of the Matthew 25 initiative is dismantling structural racism. The Congregational Connexions Committee has \$3,000 in its 2023 budget for Matthew 25. These funds will be used to offer stipends of up to \$500 to people of color within Northeast Georgia Presbytery who are in seminary. The Congregational Connexions Committee will write a policy for disbursement of these funds, to include verifying with the Committee on Ministry that potential recipients are under their care.
3. An application for a \$30,000 grant has just been submitted on behalf of the Backyard Ministry. As part of this application, the Congregational Connexions Committee is establishing a ministry team called Nourish the Seed, which will provide support and oversight of the Backyard Ministry and other future new worshipping communities. Teaching elder and ruling elder members of Nourish the Seed will be announced later. Additionally, any member of a congregation in Northeast Georgia Presbytery is welcome to serve on Nourish the Seed.

### Recommendations:

1. The Congregational Connexions Committee does not have any recommendations to Northeast Georgia Presbytery at this time.

**Presbyterian Women Northeast Georgia Presbytery**

February 25, 2023

Elaine Wiegert, Moderator

The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Gathering of Presbyterian Women in Northeast Georgia (PW NEGA) will take place on March 18, 2023 at First Presbyterian Church Athens. The speaker this year will be Dana Anu Gahzelah, a student at Columbia Theological Seminary and recipient of a 2022-2023 Columbia Friendship Circle Scholarship. In addition to Ms. Abu Gahzelah, we are pleased to welcome the Moderator of Presbyterian Women in the Synod of South Atlantic, Shelagh Wirth. We are honored to have Ms. Wirth install the PW NEGA officers for 2023.

In lieu of a registration fee for the Gathering, attendees are asked to bring reading glasses with magnification of 1.25 to 3.0 and/or unused prescription glasses, with written prescription if available. The glasses will be distributed by Frank Dimmock, a mission co-worker to Ethiopia, Malawi, and the South Sudan with the Bibles he distributes in partnership with the Outreach Foundation. Additionally, participants may also bring nonperishable food items for the Share Food Pantry at Columbia Seminary. Columbia Friendship Circle, a Mission Partner of PW NEGA, supports the Share Food Pantry which provides resources for seminary students when the Refractory is closed.

Any woman in our Presbytery may register to attend the Annual Gathering by contacting Judy Winski at [pwnegareistrar@gmail.com](mailto:pwnegareistrar@gmail.com). Registrants should include both name and church affiliation in the e-mail. On-site registration for the Gathering will begin at 9:15 AM. Light refreshments will be provided at that time. The worship service for the Gathering will begin at 10:00 AM. Lunch will be served after the business meeting.

The PW Leadership Workshop will be held at Commerce Presbyterian Church on August 19. Details will be available at a later date.

In addition to in-person meetings, Presbyterian Women in NEGA continue to stay connected using teleconference, Zoom, Livestreaming, and electronic newsletters. We will continue to use these tools as appropriate in the future.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Elaine Wiegert*

# Keeping the Dream Alive: Why Dr. King's Message Still Matters

## 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Interfaith Celebration

The most diverse interfaith event in the CSRA:

Baha'is, Buddhists, Christians, Hindus, Jews, Muslims,  
Religious Humanists, Sikhs, & Unitarian Universalists

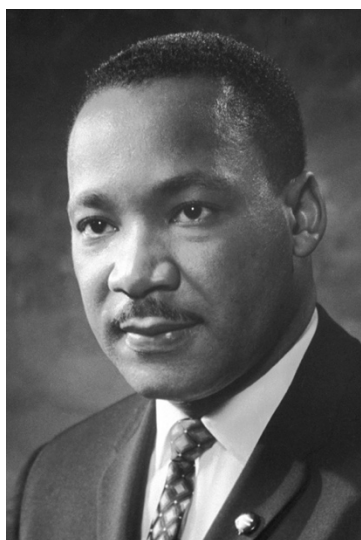
## Sacred Heart Cultural Center

Wednesday,  
February 15, 2023

6:45 Gathering

7:00 Service

The Progressive  
Religious Coalition  
Presents



## Dr. Eddie Glaude, Jr.

Dr. Glaude is the James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor and Chair of the Department of African American Studies at Princeton. He is a graduate of **Morehouse College** and serves on its Board of Trustees. He is a columnist for *TIME* Magazine. He is a regular commentator on programs like *Morning Joe* and *Deadline Whitehouse with Nicolle Wallace*, and *Meet the Press*.

Combining a scholar's knowledge of history, a political commentator's take on the latest events, and an activist's passion for social justice, Glaude challenges all of us to examine our collective American conscience, "not to posit the greatness of America, but to establish the ground upon which to imagine the country anew."

For more information go to [prcaugusta.com](http://prcaugusta.com)



— Association of —  
Smaller Congregations

# Crossing Bridges

---

---

**MARCH  
2ND-5TH  
2023**

---

---

Epworth by the Sea

Keynote Speaker  
Rev. Dr. Lisa Baroody Culpepper

Registration:  
[www.presbyasc.org](http://www.presbyasc.org)

Questions:  
[registrarasc@bellsouth.net](mailto:registrarasc@bellsouth.net)



Register  
by  
**February  
24th**





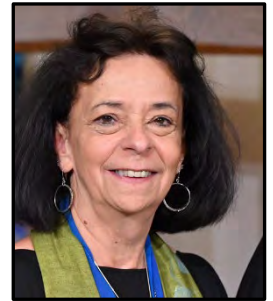
**SYNOD OF SOUTH ATLANTIC STATED MEETING**  
*Friday and Saturday, February 24-25, 2023*

**Epworth-by-the-Sea**  
**100 Arthur J. Moore Drive**  
**St. Simons Island, Georgia 31522**  
*The Jones Room*

Meeting registration link: [STATEDMEETING2023](#)

Deadline to register: February 1, 2023

**Keynotes by, The Rev. Ruth Faith Santana-Grace,**  
*Co-Moderator, 225<sup>th</sup> General Assembly*



**Preaching by, The Rev. Dr. Victor Aloyo,**  
*President, Columbia Theological Seminary*

**WORKSHOPS:**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24<sup>TH</sup>: 2:15 pm** ~ 60-75 minutes

*Paradigm Shifts–Seminary Education in an In-Between Time.....* The Rev. Dr. Victor Aloyo  
*President, Columbia Theological Seminary*



*Facing Racism: Addressing the Church’s Original Sin.....*The Rev. Dr. Wylie V. Hughes  
*Pastor, Orchard Park Presbyterian Church*



*Forms of Spiritual Practice ~ Explore Various Forms of Spiritual Practice, including the opportunity to experience a few of them.....*The Rev. Cindy Kohlmann  
*Connectional Presbyter/Stated Clerk, New Castle Presbytery*  
*Former Co-Moderator of the 223<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly*



**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25<sup>th</sup>: 10:30 am ~ 60-75 minutes**

***Legacy Giving: How to start (or re-ignite) a legacy, wills emphasis, planned giving, and endowment program for your congregation.....***Robert Hay  
*Ministry Relations Officer of the Presbyterian Foundation*



***Cybersecurity Concerns for Houses of Worship .....***Klint Walker, CISS, Cybersecurity Advisor  
*Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)*  
*Courtesy of the Insurance Board*



***Conversations about Transformational Leadership.....***The Rev. Dr. David Shelor, Synod Moderator  
*Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Dunedin, Florida*



***Forms of Spiritual Practice ~ Explore Various Forms of Spiritual Practice, including the opportunity to experience a few of them.....***The Rev. Cindy Kohlmann  
*Connectional Presbyter/Stated Clerk, New Castle Presbytery*  
*Former Co-Moderator of the 223<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly*



For more information, please contact Lisa Lovelady, [lisa@synodsa.org](mailto:lisa@synodsa.org) or 904.356.6070

**NORTHEAST GEORGIA PRESBYTERY  
GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET  
DECEMBER 2022**

	<b>JAN-DEC 2022</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>OVER (UNDER) BUDGET</b>	<b>% OF BUDGET</b>
<b>INCOME</b>				
SHARED MISSION - CURRENT YEAR	266,000.96	242,850	23,150.96	109.53%
PER CAPITA	117,427.71	121,206	-3,778.29	96.88%
INVESTMENT INCOME	1,852.71	1,700	152.71	108.98%
TRANSFER FROM UNDESIGNATED RESERVES		32,334		0.0%
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>385,281.38</b>	<b>398,090</b>	<b>-12,808.62</b>	<b>96.78%</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
BACKYARD MINISTRY	1,500.00	1,500	0.00	100.0%
BILLS & OVERTURES		0	0.00	0.0%
CAMPUS MINISTRY AT UGA - Annual Support	20,000.00	20,000	0.00	100.0%
Campus Ministry - Montreat College Conference	2,600.00	2,600	0.00	100.0%
CLERGY CARE	6,072.74	12,000	-5,927.26	50.61%
COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY	1,998.14	2,050	-51.86	97.47%
COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY	1,638.05	8,030	-6,391.95	20.4%
COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION		100	-100.00	0.0%
CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS	86.00	5,000	-4,914.00	1.72%
COORDINATING TEAM	24,828.46	29,375	-4,546.54	84.52%
GENERAL ASSEMBLY PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT	57,588.74	57,589	-0.26	100.0%
GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHARED MISSION	6,500.00	6,500	0.00	100.0%
GEORGIA LODGE AT MONTREAT	100.00	100	0.00	100.0%
MISSIONARY - CHERYL BARNES	2,000.00	2,000	0.00	100.0%
PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION		1,400	-1,400.00	0.0%
NOMINATING COMMITTEE		325	-325.00	0.0%
PROPERTY COMMISSION		100	-100.00	0.0%
SEXUAL MISCONDUCT PASTORAL RESPONSE		1,000	-1,000.00	0.0%
STAFF SALARIES	234,077.22	234,801	-723.78	99.69%
SYNOD PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT	9,619.50	9,620	-0.50	100.0%
SYNOD SHARED MISSION	4,000.00	4,000	0.00	100.0%
<b>TOTAL PRESBYTERY EXPENSES</b>	<b>372,608.85</b>	<b>398,090</b>	<b>-25,481.15</b>	<b>93.6%</b>
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>12,672.53</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12,672.53</b>	

NORTHEAST GEORGIA PRESBYTERY  
CLERGY CARE  
December 2022

	Jan-Dec 2022	Budget	Over (Under) Budget	% of Budget
Pby Support, \$500 per participant	6,000.00	10,000	(4,000.00)	60.0%
Scholarships - cohort participants		1,500	(1,500.00)	0.0%
Supplies & miscellaneous	72.74	500	(427.26)	14.55%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>6,072.74</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>(5,927.26)</b>	<b>50.61%</b>

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY  
December 2022

	Jan-Dec 2022	Budget	Over (Under) Budget	% of Budget
Background Checks	285.50	300	(14.50)	95.17%
Committee Meeting Expense	112.64	1,550	(1,437.36)	7.27%
A/C & Other Expense	1,600.00	200	1,400.00	800.0%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,998.14</b>	<b>2,050</b>	<b>(51.86)</b>	<b>97.47%</b>

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY  
December 2022

	Jan-Dec 2022	Budget	Over (Under) Budget	% of Budget
Aid to Candidates	1,125.00	6,000	(4,875.00)	18.75%
Career Assessment	330.00	1,280	(950.00)	25.78%
Committee Meeting Expense	183.05	750	(566.95)	24.41%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,638.05</b>	<b>8,030</b>	<b>(6,391.95)</b>	<b>20.40%</b>

CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS COMMITTEE  
December 2022

	Jan-Dec 2022	Budget	Over (Under) Budget	% of Budget
Technology/Training	86.00	2,000	(1,914.00)	4.30%
Triennium		3,000	(3,000.00)	0.00%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>86.00</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>(4,914.00)</b>	<b>1.72%</b>

Northeast Georgia Presbytery  
Coordinating Team  
December 2022

	Jan-Dec 2022	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	% of Budget
Banking Expenses		100	-100.00	0.00%
Committee Meeting Expenses	229.66	1,200	-970.34	19.14%
Copier Support	589.48	625	-35.52	94.32%
Financial Review (CPA)	6,390.00	7,000	-610.00	91.29%
GA/Synod Commissioners' Expense	139.58	1,200	-1,060.42	11.63%
GP Discretionary Fund	1,000.00	1,000	0.00	100.00%
Insurance	3,364.00	3,400	-36.00	98.94%
IT Support/Software	4,597.96	4,200	397.96	109.48%
Miscellaneous	547.81	500	47.81	109.56%
Moderator Expenses	488.36	1,000	-511.64	48.84%
Office Equipment	2,470.01	2,500	-29.99	98.80%
Office Supplies	907.40	1,000	-92.60	90.74%
Postage	329.72	275	54.72	119.90%
Presbytery Meeting Expenses	215.00	1,000	-785.00	21.50%
Recording Clerk Stipend	800.00	900	-100.00	88.89%
Recording Clerk Expense		300	-300.00	0.00%
Telephone	1,875.48	2,050	-174.52	91.49%
Workers' Compensation Insurance	884.00	1,125	-241.00	78.58%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>24,828.46</b>	<b>29,375</b>	<b>-4,546.54</b>	<b>84.52%</b>

Staff Salaries				
December 2022				
	Jan-Dec 2022	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	% of Budget
Medicare-Employer Portion	655.41	615	40.41	106.57%
Social Security-Employer Portion	2,802.45	2,617	185.45	107.09%
Stated Clerk				
Travel/Professional Expenses	303.09	1,400	-1,096.91	21.65%
Continuing Education		650	-650.00	0.0%
Salary	30,093.00	28,593	1,500.00	105.25%
Total Stated Clerk	30,396.09	30,643	-246.91	99.19%
General Presbyter				
Travel/Professional Expenses	5,395.41	5,500	-104.59	98.1%
Pension, Health, D&D	33,088.68	33,089	-0.32	100.0%
Continuing Education	1,500.00	1,500	0.00	100.0%
Social Security & Medicare	6,849.00	6,849	0.00	100.0%
Salary	59,429.00	59,429	0.00	100.0%
Housing Allowance	30,000.00	30,000	0.00	100.0%
Total General Presbyter	136,262.09	136,367	-104.91	99.92%
Business Administrator				
Travel/Professional Expenses	1,873.90	1,875	-1.10	99.94%
Continuing Education	403.04	1,000	-596.96	40.3%
Pension, Health, D&D	13,788.24	13,788	0.24	100.0%
Matching Contribution to RSP	1,000.00	1,000	0.00	100.0%
Gross Wages	46,896.00	46,896	0.00	100.0%
Total Business Administrator	63,961.18	64,559	-597.82	99.07%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>234,077.22</b>	<b>234,801</b>	<b>-723.78</b>	<b>99.69%</b>

## Northeast Georgia Presbytery

## Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2022

**ASSETS****Current Assets**

Cash-Synovus Checking	75,619.88
First American Money Market Checking	251,182.07
New Covenant Balanced Income Fund	120,549.29
Accounts Receivable	56,789.51
Prepaid Expenses	1,990.00
Notes Receivable - Short Term (GDMS)	0.00

<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>506,130.75</b>
-----------------------------	-------------------

**Fixed Assets**

Land (1250 Lumpkin St.)	71,492.66
Student Center Building	191,199.41
Computer Equipment	9,440.76
Other Fixed Assets	3,868.61
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>-68,228.99</u>

<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>207,772.45</b>
---------------------------	-------------------

**Other Assets**

Notes Receivable - Long Term (GDMS)	5,838.79
Carnesville Church Property	25,000.00
Ficklen Church Property	<u>25,000.00</u>

<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>55,838.79</b>
---------------------------	------------------

**TOTAL ASSETS**

<b>769,741.99</b>
-------------------

**LIABILITIES & EQUITY****Current Liabilities**

Accounts Payable	8,937.00
Credit Cards	2,761.78
Payroll Liabilities	<u>1,993.01</u>

<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>13,691.79</b>
----------------------------------	------------------

**Other Liabilities**

Property Held in Trust	<u>50,000.00</u>
------------------------	------------------

<b>Total Other Liabilities</b>	<b>50,000.00</b>
--------------------------------	------------------

<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>63,691.79</b>
--------------------------	------------------

**Equity****Temporarily Restricted Net Assets**

Assistance Fund	20,827.69
Beth Duncan Fund (PW)	41,885.15
Carnesville Church Fund	-201.00
Clergy Care Fund	24,210.20
Connectional Events Fund	14,845.47
Ficklen Church Fund	-123.62
Georgia Domestic Missionary Society Fund	91,018.78
Justice & Peacemaking Fund	6,325.62
Miscellaneous Temp Restricted	5,000.00
Property Protection & Defense Fund	<u>83,565.38</u>

<b>Total Temporarily Restricted Net Assets</b>	<b>287,353.67</b>
--	-------------------

**Unrestricted Net Assets**

Undesignated Reserves	153,928.95
Other Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>270,889.11</u>

<b>Total Unrestricted Net Assets</b>	<b>424,818.06</b>
--------------------------------------	-------------------

<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>12,672.53</b>
----------------------------	------------------

<b>Unrealized Gains/Losses</b>	<b>-18,794.06</b>
--------------------------------	-------------------

<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>706,050.20</b>
---------------------	-------------------

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

<b>769,741.99</b>
-------------------

NORTHEAST GEORGIA PRESBYTERY  
CHURCH GIVING  
DECEMBER 2022

CHURCH	MEMBERS 12/31/2020	SHARED MISSION COMMITMENT	SHARED MISSION RECEIPTS	REMAINING BALANCE	GENERAL ASSEMBLY BENEVOLENCES	PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT	PER CAPITA RECEIPTS	REMAINING BALANCE	TOTAL RECEIPTS
ATHENS FIRST	962	73,000.00	73,000.00	\$ -	\$ 7,210.42	\$ 18,181.80	\$ 18,181.80	\$ -	\$ 98,392.22
ATHENS KOREAN	80			\$ -		1,512.00	1,512.00	\$ -	\$ 1,512.00
AUGUSTA KOREAN	60		2,466.00	\$ (2,466.00)		1,134.00	1,134.00	\$ -	\$ 3,600.00
BATH	44			\$ -	859.00	831.60	831.60	\$ -	\$ 1,690.60
BELLE TERRACE	94	1,500.00	1,500.40	\$ (0.40)	988.85	1,776.60	1,776.60	\$ -	\$ 4,265.85
CALVARY	24	1,750.00	1,750.00	\$ -		453.60	453.60	\$ -	\$ 2,203.60
CARNESVILLE	9			\$ -		170.10		\$ 170.10	\$ -
CHRIST	30	1,350.00	1,350.00	\$ -		567.00	567.00	\$ -	\$ 1,917.00
CLARKESVILLE FIRST	126			\$ -		2,381.40	2,381.40	\$ -	\$ 2,381.40
CLAYTON	43	500.00	500.00	\$ -		812.70	812.70	\$ -	\$ 1,312.70
CLEVELAND FIRST	94	1,776.00	1,776.60	\$ (0.60)		1,776.60	1,776.60	\$ -	\$ 3,553.20
CLIFFORD MEMORIAL	40			\$ -		756.00		\$ 756.00	\$ -
COMMERCE	65	1,100.00	1,100.00	\$ -		1,228.50	1,229.00	\$ (0.50)	\$ 2,329.00
CORNELIA FIRST	145	0.00		\$ -		2,740.50	2,740.52	\$ (0.02)	\$ 2,740.52
COVENANT, ATHENS	341	38,000.00	38,000.00	\$ -	4,522.72	6,444.90	6,444.90	\$ -	\$ 48,967.62
COVENANT, AUGUSTA	252	15,000.00	15,000.00	\$ -	2,293.00	4,762.80	4,762.80	\$ -	\$ 22,055.80
DAHLONEGA	33			\$ -		623.70	623.70	\$ -	\$ 623.70
EATONTON	47	0.00		\$ -	1,488.00	888.30	888.30	\$ -	\$ 2,376.30
ELBERTON FIRST	11	600.00	600.00	\$ -	286.00	207.90	207.90	\$ -	\$ 1,093.90
FICKLEN	2			\$ -		37.80	37.80	\$ -	\$ 37.80
FRIENDSHIP	82	1,800.00	1,800.00	\$ -		1,549.80	1,549.80	\$ -	\$ 3,349.80
GAINESVILLE FIRST	773	21,112.00	21,390.35	\$ (278.35)		14,609.70	14,609.75	\$ (0.05)	\$ 36,000.10
GREENSBORO FIRST	54	1,000.00	1,000.00	\$ -	1,204.00	1,020.60	1,020.60	\$ -	\$ 3,224.60
HARTWELL FIRST	36			\$ -		680.40	472.50	\$ 207.90	\$ 472.50
HEBRON	17			\$ -		321.30	321.30	\$ -	\$ 321.30
HELEN	40	500.00	500.00	\$ -		756.00	756.00	\$ -	\$ 1,256.00
HOMER	32	529.20	529.20	\$ -		604.80	604.80	\$ -	\$ 1,134.00
HOPEWELL	13			\$ -		245.70		\$ 245.70	\$ -
JEFFERSON	46	0.00		\$ -		869.40	869.40	\$ -	\$ 869.40
LAVONIA	16	400.00	400.00	\$ -	120.00	302.40	302.40	\$ -	\$ 822.40
MADISON	350	3,000.00	3,000.00	\$ -	410.00	6,615.00	6,615.00	\$ -	\$ 10,025.00
MILLEDGEVILLE FIRST	143	4,000.00	4,019.30	\$ (19.30)	2,022.09	2,702.70	2,702.70	\$ -	\$ 8,744.09
MONTICELLO	218	15,000.00	15,000.00	\$ -	2,277.40	4,120.20	4,120.20	\$ -	\$ 21,397.60
MOUNT HERMON	62		5,242.71	\$ (5,242.71)	954.65	1,171.80	1,171.80	\$ -	\$ 7,369.16
MOUNTAIN	45	1,200.00	1,200.00	\$ -	3,703.00	850.50	850.50	\$ -	\$ 5,753.50

NORTHEAST GEORGIA PRESBYTERY  
CHURCH GIVING  
DECEMBER 2022

CHURCH	MEMBERS 12/31/2020	SHARED MISSION COMMITMENT	SHARED MISSION RECEIPTS	REMAINING BALANCE	GENERAL ASSEMBLY BENEVOLENCES	PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT	PER CAPITA RECEIPTS	REMAINING BALANCE	TOTAL RECEIPTS
NACOOCHEE	271	17,000.00	17,004.00	\$ (4.00)	657.91	5,121.90	5,121.96	\$ (0.06)	\$ 22,783.87
NEW HOPE	20			\$ -		378.00		\$ 378.00	\$ -
OCONEE	262	2,200.00	2,200.00	\$ -		4,951.80	4,960.00	\$ (8.20)	\$ 7,160.00
PLEASANT HILL	30	1,000.00	1,000.00	\$ -		567.00	567.00	\$ -	\$ 1,567.00
RABUN GAP	206			\$ -		3,893.40	1,751.00	\$ 2,142.40	\$ 1,751.00
REID MEMORIAL	721	47,779.00	47,873.10	\$ (94.10)	8,174.96	13,626.90	13,626.90	\$ -	\$ 69,674.96
SAINT ANDREW	118	2,000.00	1,999.80	\$ 0.20		2,230.20	2,230.20	\$ -	\$ 4,230.00
SARDIS	102	300.00	300.00	\$ -		1,927.80	1,927.80	\$ -	\$ 2,227.80
TIMPSON	22			\$ -		415.80	415.80	\$ -	\$ 415.80
TRINITY	28	0.00		\$ -		529.20	529.20	\$ -	\$ 529.20
UNION POINT FIRST	26	3,000.00	3,000.00	\$ -	360.00	491.40	491.40	\$ -	\$ 3,851.40
WESTMINSTER	42	1,000.00	1,000.00	\$ -	450.00	793.80	793.80	\$ -	\$ 2,243.80
WESTSIDE	45		499.50	\$ (499.50)		850.50	850.50	\$ -	\$ 1,350.00
WILEY	36			\$ -		680.40	680.40	\$ -	\$ 680.40
WINDER FIRST	55			\$ -		1,039.50	1,039.50	\$ -	\$ 1,039.50
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>6,413</b>	<b>257,396.20</b>	<b>\$ 266,000.96</b>	<b>\$ (8,604.76)</b>	<b>\$ 37,982.00</b>	<b>\$ 121,205.70</b>	<b>\$ 117,314.43</b>	<b>\$ 3,891.27</b>	<b>\$ 421,297.39</b>



## **FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR NORTHEAST GEORGIA PRESBYTERY**

### **WHAT ARE THE COMPONENTS OF A FINANCIAL REPORT?**

1. The **Budget Report** gives an overview of the whole budget, with a single line item listed for each of Presbytery's Committees and Commissions. It includes all of the activities that are supported by Shared Mission and Per Capita contributed by the member churches, and by investment and other sources of income for presbytery's budget.
2. The **Committee Reports** (including the Coordinating Team and Staff Salaries Reports) provide a breakdown for some of the line items in the Budget Report, and give greater program, mission, salary, and operational expense details.
3. The **Balance Sheet** gives an accounting of the presbytery's assets, liabilities, and equity, which includes temporarily restricted net assets.
4. The **Church Giving Report** lists each church with all shared mission, special benevolence, and per capita apportionment monies remitted to Presbytery.

### **WHEN AND TO WHOM ARE REPORTS MADE?**

Financial summary reports (Budget Report and Balance Sheet) are included in the Handbook for each Stated Meeting of Presbytery. Other financial reports are included in the Handbook if they pertain to the business being discussed at the presbytery meeting. Any financial reports included in the Handbook are also included in the printed minutes of Presbytery.

Full and complete financial reports (1 – 4 listed above) are available upon request from the presbytery office, and are printed in the Annual Minute Book for Northeast Georgia Presbytery.

### **WHAT ABOUT AN AUDIT?**

Northeast Georgia Presbytery, since it was organized in 1988, has had its financial records reviewed annually by certified public accountants. In October 2019, presbytery revised its policy to direct that a financial review be conducted annually by a certified public accountant. In addition, members of the Budget and Finance Initiative Team will conduct an internal review every third year beginning in 2020.

Each CPA report is reviewed by the Coordinating Team and is printed in the Presbytery's permanent Annual Minute Book. That Annual Minute Book is also reviewed by the Synod of South Atlantic. A copy of any financial review is available in Presbytery's Office.

## **EXPLANATION OF RESTRICTED FUNDS**

Northeast Georgia Presbytery is charged with managing a number of fund accounts separate from and in addition to its own budget. An accounting of these funds is shown on the Balance Sheet under "Equity". The following are descriptions of those accounts.

### **UNDESIGNATED RESERVES**

This reserve fund was created at the inception of Northeast Georgia Presbytery with uncommitted monies from three former Presbyteries: Georgia, Augusta-Macon, Athens. The **Income source** is Shared Mission budgeted contributions left unused at the end of any year. **Expenditures:** undesignated reserves may be used by decision of Presbytery: (1) to make up any deficit in Presbytery's annual budget; (2) to care for Presbytery expenses during "lean" months when those expenses are greater than contributions from churches; and (3) for any other purpose which Presbytery may decide. By Presbytery policy, the balance in undesignated reserves shall not fall below \$20,000.

### **ASSISTANCE FUND**

At its February 28, 2015, stated meeting presbytery approved establishing this fund by combining the monies from the Assistance to Ministers, Pastoral Care, Sabbatical, Aid to Candidates, and Staff Development funds. The Assistance Superfund is under the oversight and authority of the Coordinating Team. **Income sources** are any benevolences received for this purpose. **Expenditures** are any grants authorized by the Coordinating Team. Grant applications may be found on the [presbytery website](#).

### **BETH DUNCAN FUND**

This fund was created from earnings of the Beth Duncan **Endowment** Fund (see below), and is under the oversight and authority of a Beth Duncan Fund Committee, which is made up of appropriate members of Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery. **Income sources** for the Beth Duncan Fund are earnings from the Beth Duncan Endowment Fund, a prorated portion of interest earned by the various cash accounts of the presbytery, and offerings taken at PW gatherings.

**Expenditures** are any authorized expenses of the PW moderator and expenses related to the PW Annual Gathering, Fall Retreat, and Churchwide Gathering.

### **CARNESVILLE CHURCH FUND**

Carnesville Presbyterian Church was dissolved May 14, 2022, and the remaining assets and property are held in trust for the denomination by the presbytery. While discernment takes place over the dispensation of the property, continual and anticipated expenses such as real estate closings, insurance, legal fees, copying/shipping costs for session records, administrative commission meeting expenses, etc., are tracked through this account.

### **CLERGY CARE FUND**

In 2021, the Clergy Care Committee formed two cohorts designed to provide support and fellowship to minister members of the presbytery. Ministers make a three-year commitment to their cohort, and the participants, their sponsoring organizations, and the Clergy Care Committee partner monetarily to help cover the costs associated with the cohorts, including a retreat experience in the final year. **Income sources** are annual participant fees, sponsoring organization fees, and \$500 per participant per year from the Clergy Care Committee's operating budget. **Expenditures** are costs to conduct the cohort groups, such as facilitator honorariums, monthly meeting meals, and expenses for the third year retreat experience.

### **CONNECTIONAL EVENTS FUND**

At its February 28, 2015, stated meeting presbytery approved establishing this fund by combining the monies from the Church Professionals Retreat, Overnight Presbytery Meeting, Retreat Program, and Retreat Scholarship funds. The Connectional Events Superfund is under the oversight and authority of the Coordinating Team. **Income sources** are any benevolences received for this purpose, any registration fees received for related events, and earnings from the Retreat Endowment Fund (see below) held at Presbyterian Foundation. **Expenditures** are any grants authorized by the Coordinating Team. Grant applications may be found on the [presbytery website](#).

### **FICKLEN CHURCH FUND**

Ficklen Presbyterian Church was dissolved May 14, 2022, and the remaining assets and property are held in trust for the denomination by the presbytery. While discernment takes place over the dispensation of the property, continual and anticipated expenses such as real estate closings, insurance, legal fees, copying/shipping costs for session records, administrative commission meeting expenses, etc., are tracked through this account.

### **GEORGIA DOMESTIC MISSIONARY SOCIETY FUND**

This "society" was developed early in the history of Presbyterianism in Georgia. Its purpose was to make possible the development of churches, and to assist smaller churches to grow in size and mission. In 1985, the Society was effectively disbanded, and all of its funds were turned over to the Treasurer of former Athens Presbytery. As successor

to former Athens Presbytery, Northeast Georgia Presbytery is custodian of the fund. The current policy of Northeast Georgia Presbytery is that member congregations with up to 150 members may apply to borrow from the Fund at a simple interest rate of 0.5% "to improve accessibility, to repair storm and disaster damage, to replace or provide equipment necessary to perform worship and education functions, or to improve facilities in ways that will directly enhance program outreach ministries." Principal and interest must be paid on a regular monthly basis, and complete repayment must be made within ten (10) years. A session may apply for a loan through the Coordinating Team, and loans must be approved by Presbytery.

At its Stated Meeting on October 24, 2015, presbytery approved Campus Ministry at UGA be granted the provision (pre- approved by presbytery without need to request or consult presbytery for use of funds) to access up to \$10,000 in emergency funds for building repairs/maintenance from the Georgia Domestic Missionary Society to be repaid on the same terms as other organizations of presbytery with access to these funds.

**Income sources** are: (1) interest and principal paid by churches with loans; (2) income from investments made with the Presbyterian Foundation (see below) by the former Comer and Danielsville Churches at their dissolutions; and (3) at least 25% of funds received from church facility and property sales. **Expenditures** are any loans approved by Presbytery.

#### **JUSTICE AND PEACEMAKING**

The **income source** for this account is the Presbytery portion of the Peace & Global Witness Offering contributed by local congregations. **Expenditures** are under the authority of the Coordinating Team.

#### **PROPERTY PROTECTION AND DEFENSE**

This fund was established in 2017 in response to the lawsuit related to the Alps Road property. **Income sources** are any benevolences received for this purpose. **Expenditures** are any payments authorized by the Coordinating Team. This fund is under the oversight and authority of the Coordinating Team.

---

#### ***ASSETS HELD ON BEHALF OF NORTHEAST GEORGIA PRESBYTERY:***

The Presbyterian Church (USA) Foundation holds assets for the benefit of Northeast Georgia Presbytery, Inc. These funds are permanently restricted and contain provisions for the income generated by the principal to be distributed to Northeast Georgia Presbytery, Inc. as outlined in the fund documentation on file.

#### **BETH DUNCAN ENDOWMENT FUND**

This endowment fund was created following the death in 1958 of Anna Margaret Auld Duncan of Elberton in memory of her daughter, Beth Duncan. Her will stipulated that income from the Endowment Fund is to be used "in the furtherance of the work of the Church carried on by the Women's Organizations of the church." Earnings from the endowment are credited to the Beth Duncan Fund for use by Presbyterian Women.

#### **HELEN GERR CARTLEDGE AND CLEYN MARTIN CARTLEDGE MEMORIAL FUND**

In 1990, Northeast Georgia Presbytery was notified by the Presbyterian Foundation of the death of Cleyn Martin Cartledge and the establishment of this endowment fund. Mr. Cartledge's will stipulated that ½ of all net income be distributed to "the proper authorities of the Westview Presbyterian Church, located on the Atlanta Highway in Clarke County, or any successor, as long as they are affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), said income to be used for the general program of said church." West View Presbyterian Church had been dissolved March 26, 1989, and in accordance with Church policy, Northeast Georgia Presbytery became the successor organization and income beneficiary. At its May 20, 2000, Stated Meeting, the presbytery named Oconee Presbyterian Church as successor to the West View Presbyterian Church, however, the presbytery remains the **legal** successor. Presbytery instructed Presbyterian Foundation to remit earnings directly to Oconee Presbyterian Church.

#### **COMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FUND OF ATHENS PRESBYTERY**

Comer Presbyterian Church was dissolved April 15, 1969, and the remaining cash assets were used to establish this endowment fund. Donor stipulations are that "all income from this fund be sent to the Central Treasurer of Athens Presbytery and used in the work of the Presbytery in areas now under the supervision of the committee on the church (church extension) or its successor. This committee shall have full discretion in the use of this income." Earnings from the endowment are credited to the Georgia Domestic Missionary Society Fund.

#### **DANIELSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FUND**

Danielsville Presbyterian Church was dissolved October 12, 1976, and the remaining cash assets were used to establish this endowment fund. Donor stipulations are that "all income from this fund be sent to the Central Treasurer of Athens Presbytery to be used in the work of Athens Presbytery or its successor in the area now under the

supervision of the Committee on the Church and Its Work or its successor, and that this committee have full discretion in the use of this income." Earnings from the endowment are credited to the Georgia Domestic Missionary Society Fund.

#### **LEXINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CEMETERY ENDOWMENT FUND**

This fund was established by Lexington Presbyterian Church with the restriction that "proceeds from this endowment fund shall be paid to Lexington Presbyterian Church on a perpetual basis and shall be used for the upkeep, maintenance, and repair of the church's historic cemetery and, if and when additional funds become available, for the preservation of the historic sanctuary." The church was dissolved May 3, 2015, and Northeast Georgia Presbytery became the successor organization and income beneficiary. On May 22, 2017, the church building and property, including the cemetery, were sold to the City of Lexington with the stipulation that the earnings from the endowment fund be forwarded to the City for perpetual care of the cemetery.

#### **RICHARD AND GUS STAPLER LOWE MEMORIAL FUND**

At the time of the establishment of this fund, the income beneficiary was Washington Presbyterian Church and there are no restrictions on the use of the earnings. On September 27, 2016, the church was dismissed to ECO: A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians, and Northeast Georgia Presbytery became the successor organization and income beneficiary. Initially, quarterly earnings from the endowment were used to pay legal fees for defense in the lawsuit related to the Alps Road property. At its January 29, 2019 meeting, Coordinating Team approved future earnings to be included in the General Operating Budget as investment income.

#### **RETREAT ENDOWMENT FUND**

The former Athens Presbytery conducted a capital funds campaign in the early 1980's with several goals, one of which was to build a Retreat Center on the site of Rabun Gap Nacoochee School. Campaign pledges fell short of the goal by about 50%. At its May 16, 1998, meeting, Northeast Georgia Presbytery approved abandoning the idea of constructing a Retreat Center and instead establishing an endowment fund at Presbyterian Foundation with the monies allocated from the capital campaign. Income from the fund is restricted to "be used in its sole discretion, for purposes including but not limited to the Presbytery's Retreat Program Fund and Retreat Scholarship Fund. In the event that (a) the Presbytery prepares to purchase property for a retreat center, (b) the Presbytery prepares to construct a retreat center on land it has purchased or has otherwise obtained through some other means, or (c) the Presbytery prepares to purchase or otherwise receives through some other means a facility to be used as a retreat center, then all of the then net income and principal of the Fund shall be payable, upon request, to the Presbytery to be used for the acquisition, construction and/or up keep of such a retreat center." At its February 28, 2015, stated meeting presbytery approved moving the monies from the Retreat Program and Retreat Scholarship funds into the Connectional Events Superfund. Quarterly earnings from the endowment fund are credited to the Connectional Events Superfund.

**REPORT OF ATTENDANCE**  
**February 25, 2023**

**Minister Members:**

Burnetta	Armour	Cleveland First	Matt	Henderson	Clarkesville First
Arch	Baker	Madison	Amy	Hobby Rickard	Validated Ministry
Susan	Balfour	Milledgeville First	Meg	Jackson Clark	Greensboro First
Cheryl	Barnes	Mission Co-Worker	Sue	Jacobson	Member at Large
Whitney	Booth Lockard	Validated Ministry	Sun Jae	Jung	Athens Korean
Tom	Buchanan	Friendship	Joo Hoon	Kim	Augusta Korean
Jeffrey	Cain	Commerce	Lee	Koontz	Gainesville First
Sharon	Caldwell	Belle Terrace	Willie	Moon	Westside
Andy	Casto-Waters	Member at Large	Will	Norman	Presbyterian Campus Min
Brandi	Casto-Waters	Reid Memorial	Shon	Peppers	Gainesville First
Andy	Chambers	Cornelia First	Edward	Rees	Stated Clerk
Karla	Conditt Daniels	Covenant Augusta	Holly	Shoaf-O'Kula	Honorably Retired
Andy	Cooke	Covenant Augusta	Hilary	Shuford	General Presbyterian
Charles	Crane	Winder First	Alex	Stevens	Honorably Retired
Jacob	Douylliez	Eatonton	Joan	Stevens	Member at Large
Nadine	Ellsworth-Moran	Reid Memorial	Craig	Topple	Pleasant Hill
Paul	Evans	Jefferson	Souvanh	Touralack	The Backyard
Teresa	Franklin	Nacoochee	Mari	Turner	Dahlongega
Ford	G'Segner	Honorably Retired	Dana	Waters	Covenant Athens

**Corresponding Ministers:**

Erx Ozu	Mejia	Rabun Gap Nacoochee School	Paul	Min	Abingdon Presbytery
<b>Peter</b>	Thornton	Presbytery of Greater Atlanta			

**Ruling Elder Commissioners:**

Maurine	Resch	Bath	Linda	Spencer	Gainesville First
Joyce	Dejoie	Belle Terrace	??	??	Greensboro First
Jan	Lewis	Belle Terrace	Sylvia	McDonald	Jefferson
Marsha	Moorman	Belle Terrace	Christine	Smith	Madison
Cheryl	Evans Jones	Christ	Joel	Burns	Milledgeville First
Robbie	Gardner	Christ	Nancy	Miller	Milledgeville First
Claudia	Jessup	Clarkesville First	Jamie	Mitchell	Monticello
Renee	Ramsay	Clayton	Sue	Royal	Mountain
Becky	Clark	Cleveland First	Karen	Brown	Nacoochee
Randall	Parish	Covenant Athens	Jennifer	Herrera	Nacoochee
Susan	Parish	Covenant Athens	Marie	Powell	Nacoochee
Donny	Whitehead	Covenant Athens	John	Luhn	Nacoochee
Richard	Zimdars	Covenant Athens	Austin	Stephen	Oconee
Judy	Grieve	Covenant Augusta	Anita	York	Oconee
Chris	Henry	Covenant Augusta	Edward	Boland	Reid Memorial
Aubrey	Moore	Covenant Augusta	Jean	McKnight	Reid Memorial
Roy	Martin	Dahlongega	Cindy	Lesniewski	Saint Andrew
Anne	Dennis	Eatonton	Brooks	Benton	Sardis
Peter	Varetti	Friendship	Charles	Colbert	Sardis
Andrea	Jones	Gainesville First	Joyce	Heffner	Union Point First
Karen	Schaap	Gainesville First	Julie	Jones	Westminster
Jack	Spencer	Gainesville First	Belton	Robertson	Westside
Bill	Jones	Gainesville First			

**Other Ruling Elders with Vote:**

Gloria	Burns	Milledgeville First	Elaine	Wiegert	PW Moderator
Fred	DiMaio	Clayton			

**Visitors:**

Ross	Brown	Oconee	Helen	Henry	Christ
Phyllis	Byrd	Westminster	Esther	Moore	Westminster
Tony	Byrd, Jr.	Westminster	Willie	Oakman	Belle Terrace

Marie	Darling	Westminster	Aдриenni	Oakman	Belle Terrace
Gordon	Fowler	Nacoochee	Sandra	Rouse	Belle Terrace
Marc	Galvin	Oconee	Dan	Schaap	Gainesville First
Charles	Grant	Belle Terrace	Toni	Searles	Westminster
Anita	Green	Presbytery Staff	Harry	Shuford	Athens First
Kathy	Hardy		Russell	Turner	Belle Terrace