

One Hundredth and Nineteenth Stated Meeting
 Northeast Georgia Presbytery
 Minutes of Meeting
 October 24, 2023

Location: First Presbyterian Church, Cornelia Georgia, Rev. Andy Chambers, Pastor The Backyard Ministry, Rev. Souvanh Touralack, Pastor

Topic	Discussion	Decision
Call to Order Opening Prayer Welcome	The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer at 10:00 a.m. by Moderator Rev. Mari Turner. Rev. Andy Chambers provided the welcome. Those present were seated at tables in the fellowship hall to facilitate a time of discussion during the meeting.	
Seating of First-time Commissioners, Corresponding Members, Introduction of Visitors	First-time commissioners were recognized. Corresponding members and visitors were introduced. A motion was made to grant voice to corresponding members, Corey Ingold and Lindsay Armstrong.	Unanimous approval was received to grant voice to Corey Ingold and Lindsay Armstrong.
Declaration of Quorum Approval of Docket		Quorum present per Rev. Ed Rees, Stated Clerk The docket was approved as printed.
Approval of Consent Agenda	The consent agenda included: Minutes of the August 2023 Stated Presbytery Meeting	The Consent Agenda, as presented in the docket, received unanimous approval.
Stated Clerk's Report Rev. Ed Rees Handbook, page 5	Rev. Rees reminded Pastors and Clerks of Session that Session Minutes Review should be completed in a timely manner. The Trinity Presbyterian Church property has been sold and the closing will be held this afternoon. Rev. Rees will be leaving the Presbytery meeting after lunch to go to the property closing. There was a reminder that the Northeast Georgia Presbytery website has many resources designed to inform and assist those who access the information. There was a brief review of the speaking policy.	
General Presbyter's Report Rev. Hilary Shuford Handbook, page 6	Rev. Shuford gave a brief report.	
Nominating Committee Report Elder Joel Burns Handbook, pages 7 & 8	Joel Burns presented the Nominating Committee Report with the following additions: Rev. Whitney Booth Lockard, Class of 2026 and Chair, Church Property Commission; Marsha Moorman, Class of 2026 and Chair, Sexual Misconduct Pastoral Response Committee; Parker Stribling, Young Adult Advisory Delegate to the General Assembly (if they way be clear).	The floor was opened for additional nominations. No additional nominations were made and the motion to close the nominations was approved. Unanimous approval was received to elect those presented in the Nominating Committee Report.
Scripture Keynote Address	Following the reading of Genesis 15:1 – 6, Rev. Dr. Lindsay Armstrong presented the Keynote Address: "Look Up and See!"	

<p>Formation of 1001 New Worshipping Communities Task Force Moderator, Rev. Mari Turner.</p>	<p>Moderator Turner announced that at the discretion of the Moderator, the following individuals were appointed to the 1001 New Worshipping Communities Task Force: Rev. Lee Koontz—Chair, Rev. Teresa Franklin, Rev. John McCrosky. Moderator Turner issued an invitation to those who are interested in joining the task force. Those interested individuals should contact Rev. Mari Turner.</p>	
<p>Worship Sermon</p>	<p>Rev. Andy Chambers led the Call to Worship. Following a hymn, Rev. Souovanh Touralack led the Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession and the Assurance of Forgiveness.</p> <p>Candidate Courtney Pittman continued the service with the Prayer for Illumination and Scripture reading and Sermon.</p> <p>The Affirmation of Faith was led by Rev. Andy Chambers Prayer of Intercession led by Rev. Hilary Shuford. Offering designated to the Backyard Ministry. Following the closing hymn, Moderator Mari Turner gave the Blessing and Charge.</p>	
<p>Committee on Ministry Report Rev. Tom Buchanan Handbook, pages 10 - 17</p>	<p>The Committee on Ministry report was begun before the lunch break with Recommendation #3: Rev. Corey Ingold be examined and received into Presbytery membership and that the following terms of call, effective November 13, 2023 to serve as Pastor and Head of Staff at Monticello be approved: (Details of Terms of Call found on page 10 of Handbook). Rev. Ingold was examined. Appreciation was expressed to Rev. John McCrosky for his work with the Monticello church. Recommendation #4 was deferred.</p>	<p>Unanimous approval was received to sustain the examination. Unanimous approval was received for membership into Northeast Georgia Presbytery and unanimous approval was received for the Terms of Call for Rev. Ingold as Pastor and Head of Staff at Monticello, effective November 13, 2023.</p>
<p>Blessing for Lunch Meeting paused for lunch.</p>	<p>Marc Galvin gave the blessing before the meal. The meeting was paused at 12:10 p.m. for one hour. 1:10 p.m. meeting resumed.</p>	
<p>Committee on Ministry Report resumed</p>	<p>Recommendation #1: The approval of the proposed Presbytery Minimum Salary Standards for 2024, which include the addition of the recently added Book of Order requirement for a minimum of 12 weeks of Family leave for all called and installed ministers. (Handbook pages 12 and 13) Recommendation #2: The Honorable Retirement of the Rev. Dr. Haruko Nawata Ward, effective January 1, 2024. Recommendation 5: That Courtney Pittman be examined for ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament, and that if the way be clear, she be</p>	<p>Recommendation #1 received unanimous approval.</p> <p>Recommendation #2 received unanimous approval.</p>

	<p>received into Presbytery membership and that the following terms of call, effective October 30, 2023 to serve as Pastor and Head of Staff at Madison be approved. (Details of Terms of Call found on Page 10 of the Handbook). A time of examination was conducted.</p> <p>Rev. Arch Baker was recognized and appreciation expressed for his leadership at Madison in the interim.</p> <p>Recommendation #6: Administrative Commission to ordain and install Courtney Pittman on Sunday, October 29, at 2:30 pm (Commission members listed on page 11 of Handbook)</p>	<p>Recommendation #5: Motion to sustain the exam received unanimous approval. Motion to ordain and grant membership to Northeast Georgia Presbytery received unanimous approval. Motion to approve terms of call as Pastor and Head of Staff at Madison received unanimous approval.</p> <p>Recommendation #6: Unanimous approval was received for recommendation #6.</p>
<p>Nourish the Seed Ministry Report Rev. Andy Chambers The Backyard Ministry Report Rev. Souvanh Touralack</p>	<p>Rev. Chambers and Rev. Touralack gave brief reports on ministries.</p>	<p>.</p>
<p>Coordinating Team Report Sylvia McDonald Handbook pages 19 - 36</p>	<p>Sylvia McDonald presented the following recommendations from the Coordinating Team: Recommendation #1: That the following locations be approved for 2024 Stated Meetings of Presbytery: February 24 at Covenant Presbyterian Church, Augusta May 23 at Oconee Presbyterian Church August 17 to be determined October 22 at First Presbyterian Church, Cleveland Recommendation #2: That Rev. Bob Prim be elected to a three-year term (class of 2026) to the Nominating Committee and that Rev. Prim and Rev. Sue Jacobson be elected co-chairs of the committee for 2024. Recommendation #3: That the Presbytery approve a 3.3% increase in presbytery per capita rate from \$9.10 in 2023 to \$9.40 in 2024. Recommendation #4: That the Presbytery approve the 2024 budget of \$406,869. Recommendation #5: That the Presbytery approve the following resolution to accompany the budget: "In the event of extraordinary circumstances in the coming fiscal year that require emergency expenditures by the Committee on Ministry, Permanent Judicial Commission, Property Commission, or Sexual Misconduct Pastoral</p>	<p>Recommendation #1 received unanimous approval.</p> <p>Recommendation #2 received unanimous approval.</p> <p>Recommendation #3 received unanimous approval.</p> <p>Recommendation #4 received unanimous approval.</p> <p>Recommendation #5 received unanimous approval.</p>

	<p>Response Committee, the presbytery authorizes the Coordinating Team to spend up to \$5000 from Undesignated Reserves, which shall be reported at the subsequent presbytery meeting. In the event that the Committee on Preparation for Ministry adds inquirers or candidates which necessitate additional expenditures, then they are permitted to exceed their budget accordingly.”</p> <p>Recommendation #6: That the Presbytery approve a 3.2% cost of living adjustment increase in salary for Anita Green, Ed Rees, and Hilary Shuford.</p> <p>Recommendation #7: That the Presbytery approve an additional 2.4% in salary increase for Anita Green and Ed Rees in appreciation for their additional work this past year.</p>	<p>Recommendation #6 received unanimous approval.</p> <p>Recommendation #7 received unanimous approval.</p>
<p>Bills and Overtures Committee Report Rev. Jacob Douillyiez Handbook pages 37 and 38.</p>	<p>The Session of First Presbyterian Church of Cleveland overtures the Northeast Georgia Presbytery to send the following overture to the 226th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Presbytery of Northeast Georgia respectfully overtures the 226th General Assembly (2024) to send to the presbyteries the following proposed amendment for their affirmative or negative votes.</p> <p>Shall D-7.0302(e) be amended as follows: Upon Renunciation of Jurisdiction: The disciplinary process does not end when a church member or a minister of the Word and Sacrament against whom an allegation has been filed renounces the jurisdiction of the PC (USA) in accordance with G-2.0407 or G-2.0509. In this case, the clerk of session or stated clerk of the presbytery shall report to the council both the renunciation and the status of the matter at that time, including the name of the accused, the date and fact of renunciation during an investigation or trial, and the charges, if filed. If no charges have been filed, the report shall include the nature of the alleged offense. The judicial process shall then proceed, per Church Discipline. At the discretion of the person alleging harm, a pastoral inquiry may be made in lieu of or concurrent to a full investigation and disciplinary trial, in accordance with G-3.0109b (6). The clerk of session or stated clerk shall report to the council the results of any pastoral inquiry. Rational was given on page 37 of the Handbook.</p> <p>The Session of First Presbyterian Church of Cleveland respectfully overtures the Northeast Georgia Presbytery to send the following overture to the 226th General Assembly of the PC (USA). The Presbytery of Northeast Georgia respectfully overtures the 226th General Assembly</p>	<p>This overture received unanimous approval and will be sent to the 226th General Assembly in 2024.</p> <p>Unanimous approval was received to send the overture to the 226th General Assembly in 2024.</p>

	(2024) to send to the presbyteries the following proposed amendment for their affirmative or negative votes. Shall the fourth paragraph of G-3.0106 in the Form of Government be amended as follows? G-3.0106 Administration of Mission "All councils shall adopt and implement the following policies: a sexual misconduct policy, a child, youth, and vulnerable adult protection policy and an antiracism policy. The rationale for the overture can be found on page 38 of the Handbook.	
Vision 26 Collaborative Report Rev. Will Norman	Rev. Norman shared a brief report on the progress of the V26 Collaborative.	
Hunger Action Congregations Program Elder Betty Jean Jordan Handbook, page 39	Betty Jean Jordan gave a brief report	
Clergy Care Committee Report Rev. Mike Williams Handbook, pages 40 and 41	Rev. Williams gave a brief report and certificates were given to those who had ordination anniversaries.	
Announcements	Brief Announcements were made by: Charles Crane, Will Norman, Rick Billingsley, and Maureen Resch	
Prayer and Adjournment	.	The motion to adjourn was unanimous. The meeting was closed with prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m. Next meeting February 24 at 10 a.m. at Covenant in Augusta Georgia.

Respectfully submitted: Sylvia McDonald, recorder

Date Minutes approved: _____

Moderator _____
Rev. Mari Turner

Recorder _____
Sylvia McDonald

PROPOSED DOCKET

AND

HANDBOOK

ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH STATED MEETING

NORTHEAST GEORGIA PRESBYTERY

OCTOBER 24, 2023

HOSTED BY
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
469 NORTH MAIN STREET
CORNELIA, GA



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

P. O. Box 165 • 469 North Main Street • Cornelia, GA 30531
Phone: 706-778-2822 Fax: 706-776-3626 www.firstprescornelia.org

ANDY S. CHAMBERS
Pastor

REV. DR. JAMES OUDOM
Parish Associate

JOY MULLEN
Clerk of Session

DONNA JAMES
Director of Music

KIMBERLY CHOSEWOOD
Office Administrator

BRENDA BOONSTRA
Treasurer

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. What a joy it is to welcome you to First Presbyterian Church Cornelia and Habersham County. On behalf of the session and congregation of FPC AND members of The Backyard Ministry, we are thrilled to host this 119th gathering of the Northeast Georgia Presbytery.

First Presbyterian Church, a proud Matthew 25 congregation, has long been a staple in Cornelia since its founding in 1905 by the Rev. Henry F. Hoyt, who also founded the Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church in 1906. Today, the "Mt. Airy Chapel" houses The Backyard Ministry for Sunday morning worship and is used by FPC throughout the year for special services, most notably at 11 PM on Christmas Eve. The original Cornelia Church was built in 1907 about a block away from our current location. Today's sanctuary was dedicated on April 8, 1951.

Outreach has always been a part of the fabric of FPC as we were the very first to broadcast worship services on the radio and have helped create many of our local ministries (like *Sharing and Caring* and *Habersham Christian Learning Center*) that continue to serve our community. We were among the first to begin welcoming refugees from Laos post-Vietnam War in 1979. The Laotian ministry today has taken a different shape from where it began 40 years ago into what is now known as The Backyard Ministry, a 1001 New Worshipping Community as designated by our denomination.

We believe strongly in the good stewardship of the resources God has given us in our buildings. Whether it's the chapel in Mt. Airy, the fellowship hall, or the Annex building, we continue to open our doors to others in need of a ministry partner. Today, we host English classes for Hispanic immigrants four times a week, AA/AlAnon groups twice a week, SAT prep classes, community choir practices, a community clothes closet, and a Hispanic Pentecostal congregation three times per week. We also allow the homeless to use our showers as needed throughout the week. There is always something going on at FPC!

Our meeting will take place intentionally around round tables in our fellowship hall. It is my prayer that the spirit of welcome and hospitality we work so hard for here at FPC will be shared at each table. I want to encourage you to take time during the meeting to get to know someone new. Take time to share your story and listen to the stories others. It is through these times of sharing we will find God in our midst.

When arriving at the meeting please park in "upper lot" above the main church building (behind an old bank building) or in the parking lot adjacent to the church in the shopping center, which houses the Post Office and Dollar General. Please reserve the "lower" lot for folks who might appreciate a little less walking distance. "469 North Main Street, Cornelia, GA" is a great way to find us using GPS. Parking attendants will be standing by to direct you as needed. Please enter the church through the main doors under the portico. Here you will register, find the restrooms, and be directed to Scoggins Hall where we will meet. The Wi-Fi network connection is *WIN_500277* and password is *qsf878bsn7*. This meeting is an in-person meeting only, so we hope you will make the trip to the mountains to join us. Hopefully, the fall colors will be starting to really pop by the time we gather.

We look forward to seeing you in Cornelia and pray the Lord's blessings on us all as we prepare for our time together.

Blessings,

Rev. Andy Chambers, Pastor FPC Cornelia

Northeast Georgia Presbytery
119th Stated Meeting
October 24, 2023 - 10:00 a.m.
at First Presbyterian Church, Cornelia, GA

	Call to Order and Opening Prayer	Rev. Mari Turner, Moderator
	Welcome	Rev. Andy Chambers
	Seating of First-time Commissioners, Corresponding Members, and Introduction of Visitors	Rev. Turner
	Declaration of Quorum (In Northeast Georgia Presbytery, a quorum is established when there are no less than three ministers of Word and Sacrament who are members of Presbytery, along with at least three ruling elder commissioners from different congregations.)	Rev. Ed Rees, Stated Clerk
	Approval of Docket	Rev. Turner
	Approval of Consent Agenda Minutes of August 2023 Stated Presbytery Meeting	
pg. 5	Stated Clerk's Report Session Minutes Review Officer Training Resources Speaking Policy	Rev. Rees
pg. 6	General Presbyter's Report	Rev. Hilary Shuford
pp. 7-8	Nominating Committee Report	Elder Joel Burns
	Scripture Reading: Genesis 15:1-6	
pg. 9	Keynote Address <i>Look Up and See!</i> <i>Executive Director/CEO of the New Church Development Commission, Presbytery of Greater Atlanta</i>	Rev. Dr. Lindsay Armstrong
	Formation of 1001 New Worshipping Communities Task Force	Rev. Turner
	Call to Worship Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God; Who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever; Who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry; the Lord sets the prisoners free; The Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.	

Call to Confession

Friends, if we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if confess our sins, our God is faithful and just to forgive, and cleanses us from all unrighteousness. Let us make confession together.

Prayer of Confession

O God, we confess our desire to enjoy your grace while still clinging to our sinful ways and selfish behaviors. We admit we seek fulfillment in vain and empty things that cannot satisfy, revealing our lack of faith in your promise to meet all our needs. We harbor fear and prejudice and ignore your call to walk in reconciliation and love. We are deaf to the cries of the poor, and resist your call to justice. O Holy One forgive us, restore us, and renew us, that we may be filled with your Spirit and seek your glory above all things, share the love and mercy of Christ in all that we do. For we ask it in Jesus' name, Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hear the Good News: For now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus, and because we belong to Christ, the power of the Spirit of life has set us free from the power of sin that leads to death.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven; Alleluia, Amen!

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson:

Luke 5: 1-11

Sermon

Candidate Courtney Pittman

*Affirmation of Faith - The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
He descended into hell;
The third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
And is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic* church;
The communion of saints; the forgiveness sins;
The resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Invitation to Generous Giving

*This morning's offering will go to support The Backyard Ministry.
Please make checks payable to Northeast Georgia Presbytery*

or donate online:



Prayers of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

***Hymn**

Called As Partners in Christ's Service

BEECHER

***Blessing and Charge**

pp. 10-17 Committee on Ministry Report Rev. Tom Buchanan
2024 Minimum Salary Standards for Ministers
Honorable Retirement of Rev. Haruko Nawata Ward
Examination of Rev. Corey Ingold to serve Monticello PC
Examination of Candidate Courtney Pittman to serve Madison PC

12:00 PM - ORDER OF THE DAY: BLESSING AND LUNCH

pg. 18 Nourish the Seed Ministry Report Rev. Andy Chambers
The Backyard Ministry Report Rev. Souvanh Touralack

pp. 19-36 Coordinating Team Report Elder Sylvia McDonald
2024 Stated Presbytery Meeting locations
Elect nominee and co-chairs to Nominating Committee
2024 Presbytery Per Capita rate
2024 Proposed Budget
2024 Budget Resolution
2024 cost of living adjustment for presbytery staff
2024 salary increases for Anita Green and Ed Rees

pp. 37-38 Bills and Overtures Committee Report Rev. Jacob Douillyiez
Vision 26 Collaborative Report Rev. Will Norman

pg. 39 Hunger Action Congregations Program Elder Betty Jean Jordan

pp. 40-41 Clergy Care Committee Report Rev. Mike Williams
Athens Cohort Report - Final Year Retreat Experience
Ordination Anniversary Certificates

Announcements *(Please submit requests in advance to the Stated Clerk)*

Prayer and Adjournment

NEXT STATED MEETING:

Saturday, February 24, 2024, 10:00 a.m., Covenant PC, Augusta

Stated Clerk's Report
October 2023

Many thanks to those Clerks of Session who have completed their Session minutes review and forwarded their checklists to me. If we can finish this task by year-end I would greatly appreciate it. In the coming year we are going to revert to our former practice of holding in-person review meetings in each of our Mission Communities to facilitate a more timely and thorough examination of Session minutes.

It is typical at this season of the year for congregations to hold officer elections and conduct training for those elected to serve as elders and deacons. Useful resources for this training can be found at a website maintained by the Synod of Mid America called Theocademy (<http://www.theocademy.com/>). There are training videos and discussion handouts available to facilitate the work of equipping those who are called into ordained service for their work. Additional resources are offered by our denomination through a program called Coming Alive in Christ, which is available at <https://equip.pcusa.org/course/index.php?categoryid=35>.

In reflecting on our policy for speaking at Presbytery meetings, please remember that Commissioners have both voice and vote, and are encouraged to exercise both. If you have questions, please raise your hand to be recognized, and come to a microphone, identify yourself and your church, and fire away. Our best work is done when we all participate fully in collegial discussion and debate, seeking the Lord's will for our Presbytery.

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 Rev. Hilary Shuford, General Presbyter
Northeast Georgia Presbytery (PCUSA)
119th Stated Meeting, October 24, 2023

In August my report stated that we are responsible both for the planting of seeds and the nourishing of seeds. I hope we can expand our communal understanding of what this means when we meet in person on Tuesday, October 24, in the mountains of Northeast Georgia. Being in person also will afford us an opportunity to meet new people and re-introduce ourselves to others we haven't seen for a while.

We will gather around tables in the fellowship hall of First Presbyterian Church in Cornelia. I pray that our meeting format will allow us to deepen our relationships and connections and allow us to engage in focused conversations throughout the meeting. The keynote address, with some Q & A, will feature the Rev. Dr. Lindsay Armstrong, Executive Director/CEO of the New Church Development Commission in Greater Atlanta Presbytery. Our co-host, Rev. Souvanh Touralack and The Backyard Ministry will provide a sumptuous feast of Thai/Lao food. There will be a basket for donations, and we are asking everyone to contribute \$15.00 for lunch (checks can be made payable to The Backyard Ministry).

Before I share some pastoral concerns, I want to invite every pastor in Northeast Georgia Presbytery to lunch on Friday, November 17, at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Athens. The Clergy Care Committee will be sending invitations with an RSVP. The purpose of our gathering is to share table fellowship and to engage in conversations with each other, with members of the Vision 2026 Collaborative, and with Clark Simmons, our representative to the Board of Pensions (who is also paying for lunch). We have not gathered together as pastors since the pandemic when we gathered by zoom to reaffirm our vows.

Join me in praying for Rev. Dr. Haruko Ward who is retiring on December 31 from her long service as Professor of Church History at Columbia Theological Seminary and for her husband Peter, a member of Greater Atlanta, who is recovering from a heart attack. And join me in praying for Candidate Courtney Pittman who will be examined for ordination, having been called to serve Madison Presbyterian Church, and for Rev. Corey Ingold who has been called to serve Monticello Presbyterian Church. Also join me in praying for the family and friends of Rev. Miriam Dunson who passed away peacefully October 11, 2023. Finally, please continue praying for the people of Ukraine and pray for the Jewish people and the Palestinians in Israel whose lives, peace, and security have been devastated in the massacre perpetrated by terrorists known as Hamas: pray for protection of all the innocent people, especially children, of Jewish people and Palestinians, and all who have been taken hostage. Pray for wisdom and discernment for our President and for the leaders of the State of Israel. Dear God, we "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: 'May they prosper who love you. Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers.' For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, 'Peace be within you.'" For the sake of the house of the Lord, I will seek your good." (Psalm 122) Amen.



Nominating Committee Report
Ruling Elder Joel Burns, chair

The Nominating Committee met numerous times during the year via Zoom and contacted one another by email, text and telephone. Its challenge has been to discern those persons whom God has called to serve the Northeast Georgia Presbytery while aligning nominees with the Manual of Operations. The committee took the following actions and are making the following recommendations to presbytery:

Recommendations:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|--------------------|
| I. Moderator | (2024) | | |
| Marc Galvin | M- RE | Oconee PC | Greater Athens MC |
| II. Moderator-in-Nomination | (2024) | | |
| Joslyn Fields | F-RE | Covenant Augusta | Greater Augusta MC |
| III. Coordinating Team Chair | (2024) | | |
| Mari Turner | F-TE | Dahlonega PC | Mountain MC |
| Immediate Past Moderator, NEGA Presbytery | | | |

IV. In consultation with committees and other units, the committee presents for Presbytery’s approval the 2024 Coordinating Team:

Congregational Connections Committee	Janet Timmons	F-RE	Belle Terrace	Greater Augusta MC
Clergy Care Committee	Ross Brown	M-RE	Oconee PC	Greater Athens MC
Committee on Ministry	Jacob Douylliez	M-TE	Eatonton	South Central MC
Committee on Preparation for Ministry	Meg Jackson Clark	F-TE	Greensboro	South Central MC
Black Presbyterian Caucus	Joy Brown	F-RE	Belle Terrace	Greater Augusta MC
Presbyterian Women	Elaine Wiegert	F-RE	Cleveland First	Mountain MC
Coordinating Team Chair	Mari Turner	F-TE	Dahlonega	Mountain MC
Moderator of Presbytery	Marc Galvin	M-RE	Oconee PC	Greater Athens
Presbyterian Campus Ministry	Will Norman	M-TE	PCM	Greater Athens MC
Stated Clerk	Ed Rees	M-TE	Saint Andrew	Greater Augusta MC
Treasurer	<i>vacancy</i>			

V. Committee on Ministry
Chair Jacob Douylliez M-TE Eatonton South Central MC

Class of 2026

Susan Balfour	F-TE	Milledgeville First	South Central MC
Steven Barnes	M-TE	Oconee PC	Greater Athens MC
Matt Henderson	M-TE	First Clarkesville	Mountain MC
Cheryl Evans Jones	F-RE	Christ	Greater Augusta MC

VI. Committee on Preparation for Ministry
Chair Meg Jackson Clark F-TE First Greensboro South Central MC

Class of 2026

Peter Thornton	M-TE	Chaplain, Presbyterian Village	Mountain MC
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VII. Committee on Representation

Chair *vacancy*

Class of 2026

Percy Johnson	M-TE	Sardis	North Central MC
Joo Hoon Kim	M-TE	Augusta Korean	Greater Augusta MC

VIII. Permanent Judicial Commission

Moderator *(Per Book of Order D-5.0201, the PJC shall elect from its members a moderator.)*

Class of 2029

Andy Casto-Waters	M-TE	Member-at-Large	Greater Augusta MC.
Jennifer Horton	F-TE	Honorably Retired	North Central MC
Joel Burns	M-RE	Milledgeville First	South Central MC

IX. Church Property Commission

Chair *vacancy*

Class of 2026

Ronald Garnett	M-RE	Belle Terrace	Greater Augusta MC
Ron Gilreath	M-TE	Honorably Retired	Greater Athens MC

X. Congregational Connections Committee

Chair *vacancy*

Class of 2026

Strother Randolph	M-RE	Gainesville First	North Central MC
John Gregg	M-RE	Oconee PC	Greater Athens MC
Shon Peppers	M-TE	Gainesville First	North Central MC

XI. Clergy Care Committee

Chair	Ross Brown	M-RE	Oconee PC	Greater Athens MC
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Class of 2026

Choon Myung Lee	M-RE	Athens Korean	Greater Athens MC
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XII. Sexual Misconduct Pastoral Response Committee

Chair *vacancy*

Class of 2026

Margaret Davis	F-TE	Athens First	Greater Athens MC
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XIV Commissioners to the General Assembly

Matt Henderson	M-TE	Clarksville	Mountain MC
Joyce DeJoie	F-RE	Belle Terrace	Greater Augusta MC
Young Adult Advisory Delegate	<i>vacancy</i>		

Respectfully submitted with gratitude,

Joel Burns, Chair	Sue Jacobson
Heather Koontz	Elaine Wiegert
Travis Adams	Elaine Fields
John Stork	Jack Spencer
Joy Brown	



Keynote Speaker: Rev. Dr. Lindsay Armstrong
Executive Director/CEO
New Church Development Commission, Inc.
The Start-Up Studio of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta

A pastor at heart, the Reverend Dr. Lindsay P. Armstrong works to catalyze new worshipping communities in her capacity as the chief executive officer of the non-profit that NE Georgia, Cherokee, and Greater Atlanta Presbyteries began in 2010: New Church Development Commission (NCDC). In love with the church and its quirky and amazing people, Dr. Armstrong is trained theologically as well as in design thinking, social startup success, community organizing, coaching, and anti-racism. Both a commission of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta and a 501(c)(3) organization, the New Church Development Commission (NCDC) currently works with 46 leaders and 34 new worshipping communities who total 6000+ people who engage in an average week. 10 new worshipping communities are currently involved in a Founder's Cohort designed for new churches interested in chartering in (and becoming an official part of) the PCUSA.



A graduate of Princeton and Columbia Theological Seminaries and a decorated senior leader of both churches and nonprofits, Lindsay delights in amplifying the voices of unheard leaders and is currently among those transforming the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) by drawing attention, resources, and expertise to less visible leaders and communities.

When not hiking in the mountains, kayaking, enjoying a good IPA, or playing cards, Dr. Armstrong lives in Decatur, GA with her husband The Reverend Dr. Mark Douglas, Professor of Christian Ethics at Columbia Theological Seminary, their daughter Logan, dog Sammy, and a turtle named Ralph.



Committee on Ministry
Rev. Tom Buchanan, Chair

Meetings: September 14, 2023; October 12, 2023

For Information:

1. Heard liaison reports from the following churches and ministries: Athens Korean, Augusta Korean, Belle Terrace, Hartwell, Homer, Mountain, New Hope, Westminster, Wiley.
2. Elected the Rev. Jacob Doulliez as Chair of the Committee on Ministry for 2024.

Actions:

1. Re-authorized the observance of the sacraments at the PSC for the new academic year 2023-24.
2. Approved the MDP for Nacoochee Presbyterian Church.
3. Approved the MDP for First Presbyterian Church, Athens.
4. Formed a task force to address issues that may arise among congregations in our Presbytery regarding the new Family Leave requirements, including guidance for congregations with contract pastors in providing appropriate family leave.
5. Added the Rev. John McCrosky to the Presbytery's Pulpit Supply List, upon the completion of his Interim pastorate at Monticello.
6. Added ELCA Pastor Delmer Chilton to the Presbytery's Pulpit Supply List.
7. Added Inquirer Thaddeus Dixon to the Presbytery's Pulpit Supply List, per request of CPM.
8. Appointed Shon Peppers as Moderator of Session at Homer.

Recommendations:

1. Recommend the approval of the proposed Presbytery Minimum Salary Standards for 2024, which include the addition of the recently added Book of Order requirement for a minimum of 12 weeks of Family Leave for all called and installed ministers.
2. Recommend the Honorable Retirement of the Rev. Dr. Haruko Nawata Ward, effective January 1, 2024.
3. Recommend that the Rev. Corey Ingold be examined and received into Presbytery membership and that the following terms of call, effective November 13, 2023 to serve as Pastor & Head of Staff at Monticello be approved:

Effective Salary	\$ 77,460
50% of Social Security	\$ 5,926
Board of Pensions Benefits	\$ 30,209
Continuing Education	\$ 1,000
Professional Expenses	\$ 1,000
Other Vouchered Expenses	\$ 1,500
Total:	\$117,095

Vacation – 4 weeks per year including Sundays

Study Leave – 2 weeks per year including Sundays

4. If the way be clear, recommend the approval of an Administrative Commission to install the Rev. Corey Ingold as Pastor at Monticello Presbyterian Church ...

[Time / Date / Commission members forthcoming]

5. Recommend that Courtney Pittman be examined for ordination to the Ministry of Word & Sacrament, and that if the way be clear, she be received into Presbytery membership and that the following terms of call, effective October 30, 2023, to serve as Pastor and Head of Staff at Madison be approved:

Effective Salary	\$ 85,000
50% of Social Security	\$ 6,503
Board of Pensions Benefits	\$ 33,150
Continuing Education	\$ 750
Professional Expenses	\$ 750
Total:	\$126,153

Vacation – 4 weeks per year including Sundays

Study Leave – 2 weeks per year including Sundays

Service to the Greater Church – 1 week per year including Sundays

6. If the way be clear, recommend the approval of an Administrative Commission to ordain and install Courtney Pittman as Pastor at Madison Presbyterian Church on Sunday, October 29, at 2:30 PM.

[Teaching Elders: Rev. Mari Turner, Moderator (Dahlonaga), Rev. Andy Cooke (Covenant Augusta), Rev. Craig Topple (Pleasant Hill); Ruling Elders: Kitty Donnan (Athens First), Christopher Jones (Madison), Leigh Ellen Magness (Oconee); and Guests, Rev. Neeley Lane, Preaching (FPC Covington), Kim Ness (Athens First), Pastor Brian Cromer (New Day Christian Community Church), Dana AbuGhazaleh (Alpharetta PC & Candidate under care, Greater Atlanta Presbytery), Margeaux Harvey (Member, Athens Church)]

Respectfully Submitted,
Tom Buchanan
Chair

2024 Minimum Salary Standards for Ministers (proposed) Northeast Georgia Presbytery

The purpose of this policy is to

1. Aid Pastor Nominating Committees in negotiating Terms of Call or Contracts/Covenants with new pastors
2. Assist sessions with the annual review of installed, interim, and contract pastors.

These minimum standards are intended to apply to all full-time ministers who are members of Northeast Georgia Presbytery. The minimum standards should be prorated for part-time ministers.

Cash Compensation

	Full-time Ministers without Manse	Full-time Ministers with Manse	Part-time Ministers without Manse	Part-time Ministers with Manse
Minimum Cash Salary¹	\$31,550	\$31,550	Prorated percentage of \$31,550	Prorated percentage of \$31,550
Minimum Housing Allowance	\$17,596	-	Prorated percentage of \$17,596	-
Minimum Utilities Allowance	-	Actual cost of all utilities	-	Prorated percentage of actual cost of all utilities
Housing Equity Allowance²	-	To be negotiated and reported on NEGP Annual Salary Standards Review Form, Line 8	-	To be negotiated and reported on NEGP Annual Salary Standards Review Form, Line 8
Social Security & Medicare Allowance³	7.65% of Effective Salary as defined by Board of Pensions	7.65% of Effective Salary as defined by Board of Pensions	7.65% of Effective Salary as defined by Board of Pensions	7.65% of Effective Salary as defined by Board of Pensions

Benefits

	Full-time Ministers without Manse	Full-time Ministers with Manse	Part-time Ministers without Manse	Part-time Ministers with Manse
Paid Vacation	4 weeks including 4 Sundays	4 weeks including 4 Sundays	4 weeks including 4 Sundays	4 weeks including 4 Sundays
Study Leave	2 weeks including 2 Sundays	2 weeks including 2 Sundays	2 weeks including 2 Sundays	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Family Medical Leave	Installed: 12 weeks	Installed: 12 weeks	Installed: 12 weeks	Installed: 12 weeks
Pension through the Board of Pensions	Installed: Pastor's Participation Plan (PPP) paid by church. Contracted: Pastor's Participation or Minister's Choice Plan (optional)	Installed: Pastor's Participation Plan (PPP) paid by church. Contracted: Pastor's Participation or Minister's Choice Plan (optional)	Installed: Pastor's Participation Plan (PPP) paid by church. Contracted 20+ hr/wk: Pastor's Participation or Minister's Choice Plan (optional)	Installed: Pastor's Participation Plan (PPP) paid by church. Contracted 20+ hr/wk: Pastor's Participation or Minister's Choice Plan (optional)
Death & Disability through the Board of Pensions	Installed: included in PPP. Contracted: Included in PPP or Minister's Choice	Installed: included in PPP. Contracted: Included in PPP or Minister's Choice	Installed: included in PPP. Contracted 20+ hr/wk: Included in PPP or Minister's Choice	Installed: included in PPP. Contracted 20+ hr/wk: Included in PPP or Minister's Choice

Medical coverage through the Board of Pensions	Installed: included in PPP. Contracted: Included in PPP; optional in Minister's Choice	Installed: included in PPP. Contracted: Included in PPP; optional in Minister's Choice	Installed: included in PPP. Contracted 20+ hr/wk: Included in PPP; optional in Minister's Choice	Installed: included in PPP. Contracted 20+ hr/wk: Included in PPP; optional in Minister's Choice
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Other Compensation

	Full-time Ministers without Manse	Full-time Ministers with Manse	Part-time Ministers without Manse	Part-time Ministers with Manse
Moving Expense	Actual amount	Actual amount	Actual amount	Actual amount
Continuing Education⁴	\$400	\$400	Prorated percentage of \$400	Prorated percentage of \$400

Professional expense reimbursements should be made through an accountable reimbursement plan and should include-

- expenses necessary for the performance of the job
- professional subscriptions and books
- mileage for use of a personal automobile at the current Internal Revenue Service standard mileage rate for business travel.

Additional Information

- The Committee on Ministry conducts an Annual Salary Standards Review to ensure all pastors' compensation packages meet or exceed that year's minimum salary standards. Reporting forms are emailed to clerks of session each January, to be completed by March 31.
- The Board of Pensions provides a guide to structuring ministers' terms of call, *Living by the Gospel*, as well as a dues calculator on its website, www.pensions.org.
- Northeast Georgia Presbytery has adopted a Sabbatical Leave Policy. Please contact your Committee on Ministry liaison for more information.

Committee on Ministry Recommendations

- The Committee on Ministry recommends that the base minimum salary be increased by 1% for each year the minister has been ordained.
- The General Assembly of the PC(USA) approved a revision of G-2.0804 which provides for a minimum of 12 weeks paid Family Medical Leave for all called and installed Ministers of Word and Sacrament. The Committee on Ministry encourages church sessions with contract pastors to prayerfully discern and make generous provision for their own family medical leave policies.
- The Committee on Ministry strongly recommends that both churches and clergy take advantage of the resources offered by The Board of Pensions and its website (www.pensions.org). These resources include information about benefits selection and administration, tax questions, changes to healthcare, retirement planning, and much more.

¹ Updated 8/11/23 by an 3.2% increase, based on Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index.

² The Committee on Ministry recommends that pastors living in a manse receive compensation for the equity that they forego by not owning their own residence.

³ Unless the minister has properly followed IRS rules to opt out of Social Security.

⁴ Unused continuing education funds may be carried forward for up to three years.

Corey Ingold
Statement of Faith Journey

I have sometimes thought of my life as being like a river that is fed by many streams and creeks along the way of its course. That seems especially true when I think of my journey as a Christian believer and as a Minister of Word and Sacrament.

One stream was my culture and the influence of my parents. Born at Presbyterian Hospital in Charlotte and raised in Commonwealth Presbyterian Church there, it's easy for me to see that the church has been a part of my life from the very beginning. Experiences in Sunday School and children's choirs and all manner of church-related activities together comprise a stream that gave me nurture which was reinforced at home by committed Christian parents. My church family and family of origin all seemed to take seriously their promises made at my baptism to raise me up to know and love God and to pray with me and for me.

Another stream that fed the river of my life is a love of philosophy and historical theology first cultivated in the latter years of high school and in college at St. Andrews. There was a sense in which I felt a need to translate the faith of my childhood into language and thoughts compatible with what I discovered as I learned about the history of the Christian church and the development of the many ways God and Christ have been understood by theologians through the ages. It was more complex than I had ever imagined it to be as a child, but it also helped me to understand that God was calling me to a faith that engages the mind as well as the heart. This stream required me to go deeper with God and to see that God's kingdom has many textures and flavors.

The stream of the church and its influence began to exert its influence again when I was hired to work with the Christian Education ministry at Roswell Presbyterian near Atlanta back in 1988. That experience was an opportunity given me by God to get my feet wet doing quite a number of meaningful things in the church from working with youth groups and the Wednesday night program to ordering Sunday School materials and helping teach the confirmation class. It was during this time that the call of God to ministry really began to take shape in my life. Following some career counseling, I enrolled at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur and was ordained in 1992 following graduation in May of that year.

Another stream that continues to leave an indelible mark upon me spiritually is the call to ministry itself. My 31 years of parish ministry thus far have been filled with joys and sorrows and likely with successes and failures insofar as those things can ever be measured. Yet, one of the things that never fails to instill a sense of awe in me is the way God allows me to be with the people of God in so many important moments of life. The privileges of officiating a wedding or presiding over a memorial service or sharing in the sacraments are things I am called to do because of who I serve and seek to glorify in ministry. It is a calling pastors cannot live into without the help and mercy of God, but it is also an honor to be a caretaker of God's holy things in a role of church leadership.

There are many people who have taught me something important to know in pastoral work. There are experiences that have shaped me for better or for worse, but I can only trust God will use them to help me continue to try and claim my calling.

A final stream of influence is that of the recent conversations between me and members of the Monticello Presbyterian PNC and the process of discernment we have all been engaged in during recent weeks. Having sought the Spirit's counsel, it now seems evident to all concerned that God has extended a call for me to serve that congregation as its pastor.

Therefore, it is with great joy that my wife, Nancy and I have accepted the call to come and serve at Monticello Presbyterian Church. It's true to say that, like all congregations of God's people, the Monticello church is unique and comprised of people who are fearfully and wonderfully made as the Psalmist puts it. They surely have a unique witness to offer their community and the larger world. And yet, the church of Christ is always unified in him, the One who makes all things new. So, in this new time for Monticello Presbyterian and for my wife and for me, we trust that God will continue to provide for our needs. As always, it is a great privilege to serve the risen Lord in the church he established upon the firmest of foundations, the Gospel of his death and resurrection.

Corey Ingold
Statement of Faith

I believe that God created the world and made it good. A sacred order was established out of chaos. God is sovereign both in heaven and on earth. Humans were created with free will, but the stain of human sin has corrupted this freedom. Therefore, humanity stands in complete reliance upon God's grace and mercy for salvation to become a reality. Our freedom is conditioned by obedience to God.

God is triune, three persons of one substance. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit constitute this holy Trinity. These three persons are co-eternal, the Son begotten of the Father and the Holy Spirit proceeding from the Father and the Son.

God so loved the world that, in the fullness of divine self-revelation, God's Son was sent into the world. This sending was incarnational, not docetic. Jesus Christ was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary to bring God's light into the world. Jesus Christ is unique insofar as he was both fully human and fully divine. Jesus lived on earth as an itinerant rabbi preaching a gospel of grace and deliverance. Jesus' death on a cross atoned for human sin as he took upon himself God's judgment like a sacrificial lamb. On the third day following his crucifixion, God raised Christ from the tomb that we might hope for eternal life in his risen name. I believe that salvation comes through faith alone and that faith is a gift to God's people by divine grace freely given. The appropriate response to such a gift is repentance and a turning away from sin. This begins the process of sanctification, a lifelong pilgrimage of spiritual development.

Following Christ's ascension into heaven, God sent the Holy Spirit to dwell within the emerging church. It has sustained and blessed the work of the church since that day of Pentecost. The Holy Spirit offers both comfort and counsel to all God's people.

God has chosen to be revealed to humanity in a variety of ways. The Word of God became flesh in the person of Jesus Christ, but the Word is also revealed in the scriptures. I believe the Bible to be the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ for the church universal and God's word to me. Scripture teaches us that Christ commanded followers to observe the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper. These sacraments enact and seal what the Word proclaims and testify to the ongoing nature of God's grace and providence for the church. True Christian worship takes place when the Word is faithfully proclaimed, and the sacraments are rightly administered.

The church of Jesus Christ exists to glorify God and equip Christ's followers for the tasks of discipleship to which they are called. Because God ordained the church as Christ's body, it is critical to remember that Christ is the head of the church. Our denomination's Constitution, which is comprised of the Book of Order and the Book of Confessions, is itself subordinate to Christ as the scriptures give testimony to him. Yet, the confessional nature of our denomination points us to the ways God's people have attempted to discern the will of God in a variety of historical contexts.

The authority of elders and ministers within Presbyterian church government is biblically sound and specifically delineated in the Book of Order. Yet, these offices point only to differences in function among God's people. The Reformed understanding of the priesthood of all believers asserts that all persons have ministries to which they are called each according to the gifts and abilities God has bestowed upon them.

Courtney Pittman
Statement of Faith Journey

I was raised in what could easily be the set of “The Real Housewives of Alpharetta.” In other words, my upbringing was extremely white, extremely privileged, and extremely out of touch with the real world. I grew up living in a country club with a Labrador retriever, a thoroughbred, a sister who was Homecoming Queen, a business executive for a father, and a mother who stayed at home so that she could cut the crusts off our sandwiches and taxi us around to our afterschool activities. I wanted for absolutely nothing during my childhood nor did anyone else in our bubble of wealth and privilege. In fact, I wasn’t even aware housing projects existed until my freshman year at UGA when I noticed rundown identical buildings across the street from the dormitories. Admitting all of this now is incredibly cringeworthy, but I also think my ivory tower upbringing is important in my spiritual and religious journey. Recognizing my advantages and privileges based solely upon the color of my skin and the money in my parents’ bank accounts was a sort of a Saul on the road to Damascus moment. It hit me like a ton of bricks, and I immediately felt the need to right the wrongs of my upbringing.

Now to be fair, I think my parents were doing what they felt was right. Both had grown up in homes that struggled financially, and, like all parents, they wanted better for their own children. One area where they, “totally failed,” as my father has stated on multiple occasions, is providing my sister and I with a faith foundation. We didn’t attend church and the only God I knew of was the one of hellfire and brimstone that my Southern Baptist grandparents preached about. Try telling a relatively rebellious and mouthy teenager that if she didn’t read her Bible every night (as if I even had a Bible!) that she was going straight to hell. I can vividly remember my Nanaw and Papaw telling me that homosexuals were sinners and that women in no way belonged in the pulpit. They made God seem like a pretty terrible character. It was a major turnoff and it made me believe that religion was simply not for me. While I always believed that there was a higher power, I certainly didn’t have a relationship with him or her and wasn’t even sure how to find him or her in the phonebook. Mom and Dad never really pushed the issue and I for sure wasn’t waking up early on a Sunday morning to put on a dress and tights.

So, while a number of factors led me in my search for faith, the reckoning of the rape I endured in college was pretty much the event that launched me forward. When it happened, I didn’t deal with it. I didn’t talk to anyone about it. It took almost 15 years before I actually sat down with a therapist to unpack the trauma. As it turns out, unresolved grief can make you do some crazy things. It was in that unpacking, however, that I recognized within me this stirring of something holy. For so long I had felt unworthy of a relationship with God, so I simply never pursued one. What I know now is that God was always pursuing me. I was (and am) just as worthy of a relationship with God as anyone else. And praise be for that because Imposter Syndrome can be all too real.

In the midst of all of this self-discovery and healing, my family and I joined a church. We quickly realized that it takes a village to raise a child and we knew we needed a faith foundation for our little family. My husband and I were baptized together (at 33 and 31 years old!) and my boys soon followed. Before long, I was writing devotionals and giving my testimony before the entire congregation. I was later ordained as an Elder and here I am about embark on a journey into congregational ministry. What a wild ride. The call of Christ comes when you least expect it and at the most inconvenient of times... in my case, the hot mess that was 2020. Nevertheless, I answered the call and have been riding the roller coaster of faith ever since.

Courtney Pittman
Statement of Faith

I believe in the Triune God. I believe that God is the beginning and end of all things. God made humankind in God's own image to inhabit the earth, to be good stewards of creation, and to love one another. I believe God's love is beyond anything that humans can understand. As God's followers, we are to learn and grow by loving our fellow siblings in Christ. I believe in God among us; God in the faces of people we meet, in the beauty of creation, and in the world around us. I worship the living, breathing God that presents Godself here on earth in all that God intentionally and thoughtfully created.

I believe that Jesus Christ is the only Son of God and was begotten as the living form of God in God's own image. I believe that Christ is both fully human and fully divine. While on earth, Jesus taught the world of God's love and gave assurance of salvation. I believe that Jesus Christ was crucified and died on the cross, but conquered sin in his life through his ministry and acts of love.

I believe that the Holy Spirit is the wild child of the Trinity. The Holy Spirit is the source of mercy, faith, love, and inspiration who dances and moves within us. I believe that the Holy Spirit runs through the veins of all followers of the Trinity and fills them with everlasting grace as they continue on this journey of life.

I believe that the Bible is a book of history, divine revelation, and sublime story written by humankind. While reading the Bible, the historical and socio-political context of the text should be considered as the world behind the text is essential to understanding the word. I believe that the Bible is not to be used as a weapon, but is inspired by the Holy Spirit and seeks to express the love and grace of God to all, regardless of race, religion, or sexuality.

I believe in the importance and significance of the sacraments. While we are God's beloved at birth, I believe that Baptism is an outward display of commitment to God and the Church. It is a visible sign of an invisible grace. Baptism signifies that the journey of faith is to be done together as a Beloved Community of believers who walk alongside each other. I believe that the baptismal waters are ordinary, yet holy, and represent a covenant between the baptized and the Redeemer. I believe that the Lord's Supper is a way to give thanks to God and to remember God's gift of grace through Jesus Christ. I believe that all are welcome to the Lord's Table and that, by the power of the Holy Spirit, Christ is present at the Table.

I believe that the Church is a movement. It is not four walls and a table. Instead, the Church is God's faithful action in the world that seeks to spread the perfect love of Christ to imperfect people. The Church is to be an inclusive community of different individuals from different backgrounds at different points in their faith journeys. The Church is about celebration - the celebration of the Triune God and the celebration of one another.



Report to Northeast Georgia Presbytery
Nourish the Seed Ministry Team

The Nourish the Seed Ministry Team met via ZOOM to hear an update from the Rev. Souvanh Touralack on The Backyard Ministry, a 1001 New Worshipping Community.

Those present:

Rev. Andy Chambers, Cornelia
Fred DiMaio, Clayton
Rev. Hilary Shuford, General Presbyter
Rev. Souvanh Touralack, The Backyard Ministry
Elder Denise Horton, Athens

Those unable to join us:
Elder Chad Chosewood, Cornelia
Rev. Don Barber, Rabun Gap
Rev. Mary Turner, Dahlonega

Rev. Chambers opened the meeting with prayer followed by an update from Rev. Touralack of all that is going on with The Backyard Ministry. Highlights include:

- -July 16th baptism of two new members
- Sunday meals are shared by all who can attend
- helping with immigration paperwork
- TBM has moved into the Mt. Airy Chapel (the old Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church) building for weekly Sunday worship. They have really worked hard to clean up the outside yard.
- Continued chaplaincy training at Northeast Georgia Medical Center, 8 AM – 1 PM on Thursdays with clinical hours on Fridays and Sundays.
- The Backyard Ministry has 2 youth participating in the Youth Ministry Partnership with Dahlonega, Nacoochee, Cleveland, Clarkesville, and Cornelia.
- Currently working on a video highlighting the ministry. Working with a student at North GA Tech

Financial update and fundraising:

- reported the opening of a new checking account for The Backyard Ministry. Now, all donations can be made directly to The Backyard Ministry.
- A continued fundraising effort needs to be in place to ensure the longevity of the ministry and BOP requirements are met. A 3 year budget has been created. Currently, we are on track, but need continued support from partner churches in the presbytery.
- A brochure will be available at the October presbytery meeting with more information about the ministry. Rev. Turner and Elder Horton will be working with Rev. Touralack to complete this task.
- Rev. Shuford gave an update on why we have still NOT received the awarded \$30,000 Investment Grant from 1001 NWC.
- Elder Horton reported there is an application available now for FPC Athens mission grants.
- Rev. Shuford gave information on an available technology grant from 1001 NWC.

Board of Pensions update

- The Backyard Ministry/Rev. Touralack was once again approved for the Benefits Grant for Organizing Pastors and Evangelists. This grant has covered Rev. Touralack's BOP benefits since 2019 at no charge. In 2024, the cost for his participation enrollment will be 33 1/3% of effective salary. This will be an added expense to the 2024 budget of about \$8000.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Rev. Shuford.

-Submitted by Rev. Andy Chambers



Report of the Coordinating Team
Sylvia McDonald, Chair

The Coordinating Team (CT) met on October 3, 2023 at First Presbyterian Church of Greensboro, Georgia.

For Information:

1. Heard report from the V26 Collaborative.
2. Clarified the role and work of those who will review/revise the Manual of Operations and the Presbytery Policy Manual. The current focus of the work will be to remove items that are no longer applicable and to revise wording to include updated use of technology in disseminating information. More in-depth revision will be done at the completion of the V26 Collaborative visioning work. The following individuals will be part of the review and revision process: Ed Rees, Marc Galvin, Elaine Wiegert, De Rogers, Anita York, John McCrosky, Jacob Douylliez, and Sylvia McDonald.

Actions:

1. Approved the minutes of the July 25, 2023 meeting.
2. Authorized the Stated Clerk and Moderator to finalize the docket for the October Stated Meeting
3. Approved an offering at the October Stated Meeting for the Backyard Ministry.
4. Heard and reviewed the annual reports given by the Committee Chairs or designees. (Copies of the written reports accompany this report for entry into the official Presbytery record.)
5. Approved the addition of Rev. Jeff Cain to the Budget and Finance Initiative Team.
6. Approved a \$2,295 grant from the Justice and Peacemaking Fund for Rev. Christin Johnson Norman.
7. Approved the recommendation from BFIT that “with the pending sale of the Trinity Presbyterian Church property that the Coordinating Team direct the appropriate staff and/or officers to open a new bank account that will accommodate and insure the funds from the sale of the Trinity Presbytery Church Property.”
8. Approved Rev. Andy Cooke, Rev. Whitney Booth-Lockard, Rev. Mike Williams, and Allen Orr to serve on the Colladay Cottage Task Force. (Proposal to accompany this report)
9. Authorized the Colladay Cottage Task Force to spend up to \$5000 from the Property Protection and Defense Fund for legal fees pertaining to acquiring property in Montreat, which will be repaid from the Retreat Endowment Fund when and if that property is acquired.
10. Nominated Rev. Bob Prim to serve on the Nominating Committee, and Sue Jacobson and Bob Prim to co-chair the Nominating Committee.
11. Approved the request from the Bills and Overtures Committee to present 2 overtures at the October Presbytery meeting.
12. Approved the date and location of the next CT meeting for January 23, 2024 at the Presbyterian Student Center, UGA Campus.

Recommendations:

1. That the following locations be approved for 2024 Stated Meetings of Presbytery:

February 24 (Saturday)	Covenant Presbyterian Church, Augusta
May 23 (Tuesday)	Oconee Presbyterian Church, Watkinsville
August 17 (Saturday)	to be determined
October 22 (Tuesday)	First Presbyterian Church, Cleveland

2. That Rev. Bob Prim be elected to a three-year term (class of 2026) to the Nominating Committee, and that Rev. Prim and Rev. Sue Jacobson (class of 2025) be elected co-chairs of the committee for 2024.

3. That the Presbytery approve a 3.3% increase in presbytery per capita rate from \$9.10 in 2023 to \$9.40 in 2024.

	<u>2023</u>		<u>2024</u>
General Assembly:	\$ 9.85	General Assembly:	\$ 9.80
Synod of South Atlantic:	\$ 1.50	Synod of South Atlantic:	\$ 1.50
NEGA Presbytery:	\$ 9.10	NEGA Presbytery:	\$ 9.40
Total 2023:	\$20.45	Total 2024:	\$20.70

4. That the Presbytery approve the 2024 budget of \$406,869 (as attached).
5. That the Presbytery approve the following resolution to accompany the budget: "In the event of extraordinary circumstances in the coming fiscal year that require emergency expenditures by the Committee on Ministry, Permanent Judicial Commission, Property Commission, or Sexual Misconduct Pastoral Response Committee, the presbytery authorizes the Coordinating Team to spend up to \$5000 from Undesignated Reserves, which shall be reported at the subsequent presbytery meeting. In the event that the Committee on Preparation for Ministry adds inquirers or candidates which necessitate additional expenditures, then they are permitted to exceed their budget accordingly."
6. That the Presbytery approve a 3.2% cost of living adjustment increase in salary for Anita Green, Ed Rees and Hilary Shuford.
7. That the Presbytery approve an additional 2.4% in salary increase for Anita Green and Ed Rees in appreciation for their additional work this past year.

NEGA Presbytery Clergy Care Committee Report October, 2023

Current roster: Rev. Mike Williams, (Coordinating Team Representative); Judy Grieve; Rev. Al Thomas; Rev. Choon Myung Lee; Laurie Peebles; Joyce DeJoie; Rev. John McCrosky; Anita Green (presbyterystaff liaison); Ross Brown, Chair

The committee met, via Zoom, so far this year on Jan. 18, Feb. 15, Mar. 15, May 19, Jun. 21, Jul. 19, Aug. 15, and Sep. 20. Our next meeting is scheduled for Oct. 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 program, which affords our clergy a safe space for fellowship with colleagues and an excellent opportunity for ongoing education; this program accounts for 80% of our annual budget; 2023 is the final year in the three-year terms of two Cohorts. The committee is currently fielding requests to join or continue in Cohorts for the upcoming term.

3) Clergy Spotlight Program

Serves as a platform for ministers to share personal anecdotes. We encourage pastors to avail themselves of this platform. It has been lightly used so far this year.

4) Pictorial Directory

This incipient program will provide a password-protected platform (like the NEGA directory) for ministers to post a photo and few basic bio facts. Mike Williams and Judy Grieve have been collecting photos for the directory.

5) At the recommendation of Tom Buchanan, the committee has assumed 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. An initial fellowship luncheon was held in Augusta on Aug. 22.

6) The Clergy Care Committee will co-host, with the Board of Pensions, an NEGA pastors' luncheon at Covenant Presbyterian in Athens on Nov. 17.

Submitted: Ross Brown, Chair

Committee on Ministry
2023 Annual Report to the Coordinating Team
Northeast Georgia Presbytery

Purpose

The Committee on Ministry (COM) provides pastoral care and counseling to the Ministers of the Word and Sacrament and Ruling Elders of the presbytery; facilitates the relations between and among congregations, sessions, Ministers of the Word and Sacrament, and presbytery; settles difficulties on behalf of the presbytery when possible and expedient; and coordinates the work of the presbytery in this area.

Accomplishments in 2023

1. Dismissed our COVID Taskforce in January.
2. Revised the COM Manual of Operations, regarding exit interviews and recommendations for Medical & Family Leave.
3. Monitored the completion of required “Darkness to Light – Stewards of Children” training, mandated for all minister members who are engaged in preaching/pastoring a church within our bounds.
4. Conducted training for the PNC at Covenant Athens on May 22, 2023.
5. Conducted training on July 24 for the Athens First APNC on the new CLC system.
6. Approved the Covenant Pastor Contract between Covenant Athens and Dana Waters.
7. Approved the Covenant Pastor Contract between Madison and Arch Baker.
8. Approved the addition of Charles Crane to the Trinity Administrative Commission.
9. Approved the Covenant Pastor Contract between Mount Hermon and Heather Koontz.
10. 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.
11. Approved a recommendation that all congregations, when paying for pulpit supply, do so at a rate of \$250 per Sunday, plus mileage.
12. Approved the Interim/Transitional Pastor Contract between Nacoochee and Teresa Franklin.
13. Approved the Covenant Pastor Contract between Clayton and Ruling Elder Fred DiMaio.
14. Approved the Mission Study of Covenant Athens and granted permission for them to form a PNC.
15. Approved the Covenant Pastor Contract between Lavonia and Jennifer Horton.
16. Granted permission to the Rev. Ozu Meija, member of the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico, to labor within the bounds of Northeast Georgia Presbytery.
17. Approved the Covenant Pastor Contract between Mountain and Paul Min.
18. Granted permission to S. Harrison Cain to labor outside the bounds of Presbytery in 2023 at Ebenezer Presbyterian Church in Greater Atlanta Presbytery.
19. Approved the MIF of Athens First.
20. Approved the MIF of Madison.
21. Approved the Covenant Pastor Contract between Janet Williams and Homer.
22. Approved the Covenant Pastor Contract between Jacob Douylliez and Eatonton.
23. Approved adding Harold Harris to the Pulpit Supply List.
24. Recommended dismissing the Rev. Andrew Casto-Waters to Trinity Presbytery.
25. Recommended the reception of the Rev. Peter Thornton, from Greater Atlanta Presbytery, as a Member-at-Large.
26. Recommended the reception of the Rev. Amy Baer, from Tropical Florida Presbytery, as a Member-at-Large.

27. Recommended the reception of the Rev. Paul Min, from Abingdon Presbytery, as Covenant Pastor at Mountain.
28. Approved the Contract between Hebron and RE Rick Billingslea for service as a Commissioned Ruling Elder.
29. Granted permission to RE Karen Fletcher (having finished her work at Columbia Theological Seminary and under care of Greater Atlanta Presbytery) to serve Hartwell in the following ways: To moderate a congregational meeting for the purpose of forming a Nominating Committee; to preside at the celebration of the Eucharist; and to moderate Session.
30. Approved the Mission Study of Nacoochee PC and granted permission to form a PNC.
31. Removed the Rev. Robert Abernathy from the Pulpit Supply List per his request.
32. Approved Monticello's MIF and granted the PNC permission to upload it to the Church Leadership Connection (CLC).
33. Appointed the Rev. Peter Thornton as Moderator of Session at Homer through July 16, 2023.
34. Received the Annual Pastors' Salary Review Report for 2023 and are reporting same. Those pastors listed with incomplete information were contacted by their congregations' COM liaisons.
35. Approved the additions of the Rev. Travis Adams and RE Faye Acres to the Trinity PC Administrative Commission.
36. Recommended the re-admission into presbytery membership the Rev. Andrew Casto-Waters from Trinity Presbytery, without re-examination.
37. Recommended to Presbytery that the Rev. Jeff Reynolds be dismissed to Salem Presbytery, effective February 23, 2023
38. Recommended the Honorable Retirement of the Rev. Tom Query.
39. Recommended the Honorable Retirement of the Rev. Janet Williams, effective March 31, 2023.
40. Recommended the reception of the Rev. Amy Baer, from Tropical Florida Presbytery, as a Member-at-Large.
41. Recommended the reception of the Rev. Steven Barnes, from Greater Atlanta Presbytery, to serve as Pastor at Oconee Presbyterian Church, and approving his Terms of Call.
42. Recommended the approval of the members of an Administrative Commission to install the Rev. Steven Barnes as Pastor at Oconee Presbyterian Church on Sunday, June 25, at 4:00 PM.
43. Appointed the Rev. Charles Romine to serve as Moderator of Elberton's Congregational Meeting on June 4.
44. Approved the Rev. Peter Thornton's Assistant Chaplain position at the Presbyterian Village Athens as a Validated Ministry.
45. Adopted an addition to the COM's Manual of Operations – Appendix Q: "Policy for Honorable Retirement" – providing a means going forward for granting "Honorably Retired" status to retiring ministers.
46. Added the Rev. Holly Shoaf-O'Kula to the Presbytery's Pulpit Supply List.
47. Added the Rev. Greg Loskoski to the Presbytery's Pulpit Supply List.
48. Recommended the dismissal with gratitude of the Administrative Commission that installed the Rev. Steven Barnes as Pastor at Oconee Presbyterian Church on Sunday, June 25, at 4:00 PM.
49. Recommended granting the Westminster and Elberton congregations, in accordance with G-2.0404, a waiver of the 6-year limit on Ruling Elder terms.
50. Recommended granting that the COM be commissioned by the Presbytery with the authority to grant waivers of the 6-year limit on Ruling Elder terms, at the written request of congregations.
51. Recommended the reception of the Rev. Greg Loskoski (Honorably Retired) as a member of Northeast Georgia Presbytery, coming to us from Savannah Presbytery.
52. Re-authorized the observance of the sacraments at the PSC for the new academic year 2023-24.
53. Approved the MDP for Nacoochee.

54. Approved the MDP for Athens First.
55. Formed a task force to address issues that may arise among congregations in our Presbytery regarding the new Family Leave requirements, including guidance for congregations with contract pastors in providing appropriate family leave.
56. Added the Rev. John McCroskey to the Presbytery's Pulpit Supply List, upon the completion of his Interim pastorate at Monticello.
57. Added ELCA Pastor Delmer Chilton to the Presbytery's Pulpit Supply List.
58. Approved expenditure of \$495 to support the Rev. Jacob Douylliez attending the Polity & Benefits Conference.

Work in progress in 2023

1. Recommending to Presbytery Minimum Salary Standards for 2024, which include the addition of the recently added Book of Order requirement for a minimum of 12 weeks of Family Leave for all called and installed ministers.
2. Recommending to Presbytery that the Rev. Corey Ingold's terms of call to serve as Pastor & Head of Staff at Monticello be accepted and that he be received into Presbytery membership.
3. Recommending to Presbytery that Courtney Pittman be examined for ordination to the Ministry of Word & Sacrament, and that if the way be clear, her terms of call to serve as Pastor and Head of Staff at Madison be accepted and she be received into Presbytery membership.
4. Recommending to Presbytery the Honorable Retirement of the Rev. Dr. Haruko Nawata Ward, effective January 1, 2024.
5. Soon to examine the Rev. Dale Chapin towards the end of recommending that he be received into presbytery membership.
6. Our task force to address issues that may arise among congregations in our Presbytery regarding the new Family Leave requirements, including guidance for congregations with contract pastors in providing appropriate family leave, begins its work in this last quarter of 2023.

Work planned for 2024

1. The work of our task force to address issues that may arise among congregations in our Presbytery regarding the new Family Leave requirements, including guidance for congregations with contract pastors in providing appropriate family leave, will certainly continue in 2024.
2. We anticipate that further work will be done on the COM and Presbytery level to address the need for pastoral leadership for small congregations, including new emphasis on training of Commissioned Ruling Elders.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Tom Buchanan
Chair, Committee on Ministry
September 30, 2023

Committee on Preparation for Ministry
2023 Annual Report

Purpose: To implement the requirements of the denomination for the preparation of persons called to the ministry and to encourage recruitment of persons who sense a call to church vocations.

Our primary work is to assist inquirers and candidates under our care as they discern their call to ordained ministry.

We currently have three individuals under care: Inquirer Kris Steinmann, Inquirer Thad Dixon, and Candidate Courtney Pittman. In 2023, we held annual consultations with Inquirers Kris Steinmann and Thad Dixon, and certified Courtney Pittman ready to receive a call.

Kris graduated from seminary in May of 2020 and continues to discern whether she is called to ordained ministry as Minister of Word and Sacrament, or to serve God in another role. Thad is in his final year at Columbia Seminary and is moving toward candidacy. Courtney graduated from Columbia last May and has just received a call to be Pastor of Madison Presbyterian Church.

In 2024, we will continue to guide Kris and Thad in their discernment process and are expecting to enroll at least one new inquirer.

Congregational Connections Committee

Purpose: To foster connections between the various churches in our Presbytery.

This might be through communications, gatherings, studies, or even grants (such as the technology grant from synod that we administered a few years ago) — really anything that reminds us that we are blessed to be part of a connectional church.

Members:

- Burnetta Armor
- Dowdy DeGaria
- Nadine Ellsworth-Moran
- Denise Horton
- Betty Jean Jordan (chair)
- Will Norman
- Janet Timmons

Accomplishments/2023:

Established a stipend program (within the focus of the Matthew 25 initiative and dismantling structural racism) for Seminary Students of Color.

Appointed the Nourish the Seed Ministry Team to provide support and oversight of the Backyard Ministry and other future new worshipping communities. Congregational Connections appointed the following team members: Rev. Don Barber, Rev. Andy Chambers, Ruling Elder Chad Chitworth (Cornelia), Commissioned Pastor Fred DiMaio, Ruling Elder Denise Horton (First Presbyterian Athens).

Coordinated the Hope & Healing Mental Health Training with Pittsburg Theological Seminary during Mental Health Awareness Month.

Provided the required \$2,000 matching funds for Athens Korean Presbyterian Church's application to the Presbyterian Mission Agency Mental Health Grant Program.

Presbyterian Women Report to the Presbytery Coordinating Team

October 3, 2023

Purpose:

Presbyterian Women Purpose

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ,

and empowered by the Holy Spirit,

we commit ourselves:

- to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study,
- to support the mission of the church worldwide,
- to work for justice and peace,
- and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.

Work Accomplished in 2023:

- Annual Gathering, March 18, 2023 was held at First Presbyterian Church Athens.
 - Hosted by Pw First Presbyterian Church Athens and PW Covenant Presbyterian Church, Athens.
 - Collected Reading glasses and used prescription glasses collected for Missions in Malawi and The South Sudan
 - Collected Food Staples for Columbia Theological Seminary Students
 - P Gathering W Share of the Offering Benefited Columbia Friendship Circle
- Annual Business Meeting – The bylaws were revised to include a Treasurer -Elect, Officers were installed by Shelagh Wirth, Moderator, PW Synod.
- PW Moderator attended the Spring Board meetings of Mission Haven and Columbia Friendship Circle.
- PW Moderator attending the spring meeting of the PW Synod CT meeting.
- August Workshops, Introduction to Horizons Bible Study, Making Prayer Beads, *Be the Bridge* Book Discussion, Spirituality Center, were held on August 19 at Commerce Presbyterian Church
- PW Moderator attended all Presbytery CT meetings and Presbytery meetings.

Work in Progress 2023:

- Justice and Peace Symposium, Working Toward Justice for All will be held at First Presbyterian Church Athens, October 14, 2023
 - Rev. Dr. Alonzo Johnson from the Self Development of People will lead worship.
 - Three breakout sessions will be available after worship -The Least of These, This is What Hope Looks Like for the Church, and Welcoming, Including and Loving All Gods Children.
- Complete revisions on the Annual Directory
- PW Moderator will attend the fall Board meetings of Columbia Friendship Circle and Mission Haven
- PW Moderator will attend the fall PW Synod CT meeting.

Work Planned in 2024:

- Annual Gathering will take place at Covenant Presbyterian Church, Augusta on March 16, 2024. The Gathering will be hosted by the PW in the Augusta Cluster.
- Annual Business meeting will be held in conjunction with the Annual Gathering.
- The Directory will be updated.
- PW Moderator will attend spring and fall Board meetings of Columbia Friendship Circle and Mission Haven.
- PW Moderator will attend the spring and fall meetings of the PW Synod CT
- PW Moderator will attend Presbytery CT meetings and Presbytery Meetings
- PW Moderator will promote and attend the Churhwide Gathering of PW in St. Louis, Missouri.
- Fall Workshop to introduce the new Horizons Bible Study

Report to Coordinating Team
from Budget/Finance Initiative Team
October 3, 2023

Information:

- Reviewed roster and discussed future membership and leadership
- Reviewed August 2023 financial reports (attachment)

Actions:

- Reviewed a \$1000 grant request from the Association of Smaller Congregations and voted NOT to recommend this request to Coordinating Team.

Recommendations for Approval by Coordination Team:

- The team reviewed a grant request of \$2,295 from the Assistance Fund by Christin Johnson Norman and recommends that the Coordinating Team approve this grant from the Justice and Peacemaking Fund (2 attachments).
- With the pending sale of the Trinity Presbyterian Church property at an estimated \$1,325,000, the team discussed the most responsible way to hold these funds on behalf of the presbytery. Anita has recommended looking into an IntraFi bank account, which is deposited in one bank but spreads the funds across several banks to minimize risk and make sure that all funds are covered by FDIC insurance. B/FIT recommends that Coordinating Team direct the appropriate staff and/or officers to open a new bank account that will accommodate and insure the funds from the sale of the Trinity Presbyterian Church property.

Recommendations for Approval by Presbytery:

- B/FIT recommends that Coordinating Team recommend to presbytery a 3.3% increase in presbytery per capita rate from \$9.10 in 2023 to \$9.40 in 2024.
- B/FIT recommends that Coordinating Team recommend to presbytery the attached 2024 budget of \$406,423 (attachment).
- B/FIT recommends that Coordinating Team recommend to presbytery the following resolution to accompany the budget.
“In the event of extraordinary circumstances in the coming fiscal year that require emergency expenditures by the Committee on Ministry, Permanent Judicial Commission, Property Commission, or Sexual Misconduct Pastoral Response Committee, the presbytery authorizes the Coordinating Team to spend up to \$5,000 from Undesignated Reserves, which shall be reported at the subsequent presbytery meeting. In the event that the Committee on Preparation for Ministry adds inquirers or candidates which necessitate additional expenditures, then they are permitted to exceed their budget accordingly.”

Proposal for the Frank Colladay Cottage

The Rev. Andy Cooke

May 16, 2023

As board member of the William Black Lodge (WBL) in Montreat, NC and the treasurer of Northeast Georgia Presbytery (NEGP), I see an opportunity for these two organizations that I serve to mutually benefit from a partnership.

William Black Lodge is a three-story lodge with 25 guest rooms on North Carolina Terrace in Montreat, NC. Adjacent to the lodge, but fronting on West Virginia Terrace, WBL owns a small cottage that is lovely, but somewhat burdensome (for pictures, please visit <https://williamblacklodge.org/cottage.html>) It doesn't produce the level of income that the rest of the lodge produces, which makes it difficult to justify the expense of maintaining it. Ideas of mothballing it or selling it have been floated among the board, but others do not want to let go of it. This is an ongoing challenge for WBL.

At the same time, Northeast Georgia Presbytery has a potentially related challenge with an account at the Presbyterian Foundation called the *Retreat Endowment Fund*. This fund has its origins with a presbytery capital campaign in the early 1980s, which had the purchase of a retreat center as one of its stated goals. In the late 1990s, the presbytery invested these funds with the Presbyterian Foundation and the funds became restricted to the purchase of buildings or property for a retreat center. At the end of the first quarter of 2023, these funds totaled approximately \$168,000. This amount is probably not enough to ever purchase land or build a retreat center, let alone maintain it. As far as I could see, this money looked like it would never be able to be utilized and would remain with the Foundation in perpetuity.

WBL and NEGP both have challenges here that could be overcome by the other organization. WBL has a building that doesn't make economic sense to utilize, and NEGP has funds that are nearly impossible to utilize. A partnership between these organizations might allow us both to be better stewards of all that God has given us.

As a member of both organizations, it has occurred to me that it might make more sense for WBL to sell the cottage to NEGP for the full amount of the Retreat Endowment Fund, but for WBL to keep the land beneath it (a ground lease). WBL could maintain the

property, including all capital expenditures, in exchange for the revenue generated from it. NEGP could have free access to the property for a set number of days each year (perhaps 30 days), which they could give to their clergy for retreats.

If this partnership were to happen, then it would be appropriate to rename this cottage the Frank Colladay Cottage since Frank was such a beloved presence in both NEGP and at Montreat. I believe that the members of NEGP would be grateful for the chance to remember Frank in this way and to be able to enjoy a retreat center named for him.

This would benefit WBL with an infusion of funds into this cottage and the publicity of their ministry among the members of a presbytery with which it does not have a historical or formal connection. It would also fit well with WBL's historical mission to provide a place of retreat and renewal for persons serving in professional and avocational ministries.

I spoke with a few leaders from both NEGP and WBL in late 2022, and I found enthusiastic responses from both. I contacted Robert Hay at the Presbyterian Foundation to ask if this might be feasible, and he said that it was, though it would require a special review by a committee at the Foundation. In February 2023, I officially brought it to the Board of Directors at WBL. At the May 2023 board meeting, the board voted to invite NEGP to make a proposal. I took responsibility for formally communicating this action to NEGP on behalf of WBL.

As a member of NEGP, I am glad that we have the opportunity to craft this proposal rather than receive it. I think that it would be wise to bring this to the attention of the Coordinating Team on July 25 and the Church Property Commission. If we decide that we would like to explore this further, then I think that it might also be wise to hire a real estate attorney in Buncombe County, NC to advise us along the way and to help us close what would be an unusual real estate transaction.

At the same time, I would respect members of NEGP who thought that this may not be the best use of the Retreat Endowment Fund. I acknowledge that I have a conflict of interest, and I may not be able to see the interests of one organization apart from the other. I am happy to put it into the hands of the leaders of Northeast Georgia Presbytery and to follow their lead as we attempt to be wise stewards of God's gifts.

**NORTHEAST GEORGIA PRESBYTERY
2024 PROPOSED BUDGET**

	2023 BUDGET	2024 PROPOSED BUDGET	INCREASE / (DECREASE)
INCOME			
SHARED MISSION	226,587	243,120	16,533
PER CAPITA	127,731	120,039 ¹	(7,692)
INVESTMENT INCOME	1,500	5,000 ²	3,500
TRANSFER FROM UNDESIGNATED RESERVES	45,933 ²	38,710 ³	(7,223)
TOTAL	401,751	406,869	5,118
EXPENSES			
CAMPUS MINISTRY AT UGA - Annual Support	18,000	18,000	0
CAMPUS MINISTRY - Montreat College Conference	2,600	2,600	0
CLERGY CARE	6,170	6,170	0
COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY	2,500	2,500	0
COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY	6,030	2,955	(3,075)
COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION	100	100	0
CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS	5,000	3,500	(1,500)
COORDINATING TEAM	28,550	32,375	3,825
GENERAL ASSEMBLY PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT	61,523	56,830	(4,693)
GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHARED MISSION	4,500	3,500	(1,000)
MISSION PERSONNEL SUPPORT	1,500	0	(1,500)
NOMINATING COMMITTEE	325	500	175
PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION	500	250	(250)
PROPERTY COMMISSION	100	100	0
SEXUAL MISCONDUCT RESPONSE TEAM	200	170	(30)
STAFF SALARIES	250,284	264,622	14,338
SYNOD PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT	9,369	8,697	(672)
SYNOD SHARED MISSION	3,000	1,500	(1,500)
THE BACKYARD MINISTRY	1,500	2,500	1,000
TOTAL PRESBYTERY EXPENSES	401,751	406,869	5,118
BALANCE	0	(0)	

¹ Based on 3.3% increase in the rate of presbytery's portion of per capita, Synod is unchanged, and 0.5% decrease in General Assembly rate.

² Reflects only the increase in interest rates for current savings deposits. Does not reflect anticipated interest earned from proceeds of Trinity property sale.

³ Undesignated Reserves used to balance budget.

CLERGY CARE COMMITTEE

Proposed Budget 2024

	2023 Budget	2024 Proposed Budget	Increase / (Decrease) Budget
Pby Support, \$500 per participant	5,500	5,500	0
Online workshops	300	0	(300)
HR minister gatherings	200	500	300
Clergy pictorial directory	120	120	0
Supplies and miscellaneous	50	50	0
TOTAL EXPENSES	6,170	6,170	0

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Proposed Budget 2024

	2023 Budget	2024 Proposed Budget	Increase / (Decrease) Budget
Background Checks	300	300	0
Committee Meeting Expense	2,000	2,000	0
A/C & Other Expenses	200	200	0
TOTAL EXPENSES	2,500	2,500	0

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

Proposed Budget 2024

	2023 Budget	2024 Proposed Budget	Increase / (Decrease) Budget
Aid to Candidates	4,000	2,125	(1,875)
Career Assessment	1,280	330	(950)
Committee Meeting Expense	750	500	(250)
TOTAL EXPENSES	6,030	2,955	(3,075)

CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS COMMITTEE

Proposed Budget 2024

	2023 Budget	2024 Proposed Budget	Increase / (Decrease) Budget
Hope & Healing Conference	2,000	0	(2,000)
Mental Health Training		500	500
Matthew 25	3,000	3,000	0
TOTAL EXPENSES	5,000	3,500	(1,500)

COORDINATING TEAM
Proposed Budget 2024

	2023 Budget	2024 Proposed Budget	Increase/ (Decrease)
Committee Meeting Expenses	1,200	1,000	(200)
Copier Support	750	1,200	450
Financial Review (CPA)	7,000	7,500	500
GA/Synod Commissioners Exp	300	300	0
GP Discretionary Fund	1,000	1,000	0
Insurance	3,550	3,500	(50)
IT Support/Software	4,300	4,700	400
Miscellaneous	500	500	0
Moderator Expenses	1,000	1,250	250
Office Equipment	2,500	1,000	(1,500)
Office Supplies	900	1,200	300
Postage	350	400	50
Presbytery Meeting-Expense	1,000	4,750	3,750
Recording Clerk Stipend	900	900	0
Recording Clerk Expenses	300	300	0
Telephone	2,050	2,275	225
Workers' Compensation	950	600	(350)
TOTAL EXPENSES	28,550	32,375	3,825

Staff Salaries
Proposed Budget 2024

	2023 Budget	2024 Proposed Budget	Increase / (Decrease)
Medicare-Employer Portion	700	723	23
Social Security-Employer Portion	2,970	3,065	95
Stated Clerk (3.2% COLA, 2.4% Merit)			
Travel/Professional Expenses	1,400	1,400	0
Continuing Education	650	650	0
Salary	31,023	32,760	1,737
Total Stated Clerk	33,073	34,810	1,737
General Presbyter (3.2% COLA)			
Travel/Professional Expenses	5,500	8,500	3,000
Board of Pensions Dues	36,360	37,523	1,163
Continuing Education	1,500	1,600	100
Social Security & Medicare	7,140	7,360	220
Salary	63,230	66,213 ¹	2,983
Housing Allowance	30,000	30,000	0
Total General Presbyter	143,730	151,196	7,466
Business Administrator (3.2% COLA, 2.4% Merit)			
Travel/Professional Expenses	1,875	2,500	625
Continuing Education	500	500	0
Board of Pensions Dues	15,054	16,597	1,543
Matching Contribution to RSP	1,500	1,500	0
Gross Wages	50,882	53,731	2,849
Total Business Administrator	69,811	74,828	5,017
TOTAL EXPENSES	250,284	264,622	14,338

¹ CPI increase calculated on salary plus housing allowance



Bills and Overtures Committee
Report to Presbytery October 2023

The Session of First Presbyterian Church of Cleveland respectfully overtures the Northeast Georgia Presbytery to send the following overture to the 226th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

The Presbytery of Northeast Georgia respectfully overtures the 226th General Assembly (2024) to send to the presbyteries the following proposed amendment for their affirmative or negative votes.

Shall D-7.0302(e) be amended as follows:

~~When Jurisdiction Ends~~ **[Upon Renunciation of Jurisdiction]**

~~Jurisdiction in a~~ **[The]** disciplinary process **[does not]** ends when a church member or a minister of the Word and Sacrament against whom an allegation has been filed renounces the jurisdiction of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in accordance with G-2.0407 or G-2.0509. In this case, the clerk of session or stated clerk of the presbytery shall report to the council both the renunciation and the status of the matter at that time, including the name of the accused, the date and fact of renunciation during an investigation or trial, and the charges, if filed. If no charges have been filed, the report shall include the nature of the alleged offense. **[The judicial process shall then proceed, per Church Discipline. At the discretion of the person alleging harm, a pastoral inquiry may be made in lieu of or concurrent to a full investigation and disciplinary trial, in accordance with G-3.0109b(6). The clerk of session or stated clerk shall report to the council the results of any pastoral inquiry.]**

RATIONALE

The text of this overture is similar to text that was approved by the 225th General Assembly (2022) and was subsequently ratified by a majority of presbyteries. This amendment was not included in Church Discipline, the replacement to the Rules of Discipline. The new Church Discipline emphasizes the right of the person making the accusation to pursue a pastoral inquiry in the event that a person who has been accused renounces jurisdiction. However, there are situations in which it would be wholly appropriate for the investigating body to conclude the full disciplinary process. This overture preserves the intent in the new Church Discipline to provide for pastoral sensitivity while giving those who have made an accusation the opportunity to continue seeking justice, correction, and restoration through the full judicial process, regardless of whether or not the person accused recognizes jurisdiction.

The Session of First Presbyterian Church of Cleveland respectfully overtures the Northeast Georgia Presbytery to send the following overture to the 226th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

The Presbytery of Northeast Georgia respectfully overtures the 226th General Assembly (2024) to send to the presbyteries the following proposed amendment for their affirmative or negative votes.

Shall the fourth paragraph of G-3.0106 in the Form of Government be amended as follows?

“G-3.0106 Administration of Mission ...

... “All councils shall adopt and implement the following policies: a sexual misconduct policy, a child[,] youth[,] and vulnerable adult protection policy, and an antiracism policy

RATIONALE

This amendment builds upon the important work carried out by previous assemblies to provide for institutional protections for at-risk populations within our congregations and councils. Specifically, this amendment would create a constitutional mandate for all councils of the church to include vulnerable adults in our protection policies. The amended language fosters a deeper sense of accountability. By explicitly mentioning "vulnerable adults," we acknowledge our responsibility to protect those who may be at risk due to various factors. This enhancement to the policy framework demonstrates our dedication to a comprehensive approach in upholding the highest standards of ethical conduct. Inclusion is a key value of our faith community. By extending the protection of policies to vulnerable adults, we reaffirm our commitment to inclusivity, compassion, and justice. This addition reflects our core values and emphasizes our mission to create a community that embraces and protects every member.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Bills and Overtures Committee presents the above two overtures to be sent on to the 226th General Assembly in 2024, and enthusiastically recommends their approval. We thank you for your consideration.



Congregational Connections Committee
Betty Jean Jordan, Chair

The Congregational Connections Committee met on June 20, 2023 and on August 23, 2023, both times via Zoom. They took the following actions and are making the following recommendations to presbytery:

For Information:

1. The Hope and Healing mental health training went well. Participants are to be contacted to determine their preference on the next steps to continue our presbytery's mental health training. Future training will be made available to everyone in Northeast Georgia Presbytery, not just the participants in the initial Hope and Healing training.
2. The Presbyterian Mission Agency has produced two videos describing the Matthew 25 initiative. One is 6 minutes long, and the other is 30 seconds long. Both have been made available to public broadcasting stations across the country to be broadcast between regular programming. These are also good resources to share with congregations in Northeast Georgia Presbytery.
 - 6-minute video: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/>
 - 30-second video: <https://vimeo.com/810186869>
3. Trinity Presbytery had sent a challenge letter to Northeast Georgia Presbytery requesting that it establish a scholarship fund to encourage attendance at the annual conference of the Association of Smaller Congregations (ASC). Potential funding for the ASC conference is already available through two types of grants that Northeast Georgia Presbytery offers: the Assistance Fund and the Connectional Events Fund. Therefore, the Congregational Connections Committee took no action on establishing a separate budget line item for an ASC conference scholarship fund.
4. The Congregational Connections Committee will provide information in the presbytery newsletter and at the October 24, 2023 presbytery meeting about the Hunger Action Congregations program that the Presbyterian Mission Agency coordinates. The Hunger Action Congregations program is also an excellent connection to the Matthew 25 initiative, which has Eradicating Systemic Poverty as one of its focuses.
5. A Matthew 25 Summit will be held January 16-18, 2024 in Atlanta. The Congregational Connections Committee will share information about this summit as it becomes available with churches in Northeast Georgia Presbytery.

Actions:

1. Athens Korean Presbyterian Church had applied to the Presbyterian Mental Health Grant Program. They needed \$2,000 in matching funds if they received the grant. The committee voted to make available \$2,000 from its approved Matthew 25 budget to Athens Korean Presbyterian Church for this purpose. This left \$500 in the Congregational Connections Committee Matthew 25 budget should another application be made this year under the "Policy for Stipends for Persons of Color from Northeast Georgia Presbytery Attending Seminary." Athens Korean Presbyterian Church subsequently did receive the grant, and \$2,000 from the Congregational Connections Committee Matthew 25 budget was disbursed to them.
2. The committee approved a 2024 budget request to presbytery. The requested budget includes two line items, totaling \$3,500:
 - \$3,000 for Matthew 25 (for stipends for people of color from Northeast Georgia Presbytery attending seminary and other potential Matthew 25 ministry)
 - \$500 for Mental Health Training (for follow up on the 2023 Hope and Healing Conference).

Recommendations:

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



NEGA Presbytery
Clergy Care Committee Report
October 2023

Current roster: Rev. Mike Williams, Coordinating Team Representative; Judy Grieve; Rev. Al Thomas; Rev. Choon Myung Lee; Laurie Peebles; Joyce DeJoie; Rev. John McCrosky; Anita Green (presbytery staff liaison); Ross Brown, Chair

The committee met, via Zoom, so far this year on Jan. 18, Feb. 15, Mar. 15, May 19, Jun. 21, Jul. 19, Aug. 15, and Sep. 20. Our next meeting is scheduled for Oct. 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 and an excellent opportunity for ongoing education; this program accounts for 80% of our annual budget; 2023 is the final year in the three-year terms of two Cohorts. The committee is currently fielding requests to join or continue in Cohorts for the upcoming term.
3. Clergy Spotlight Program
Serves as a platform for ministers to share personal anecdotes. We encourage pastors to avail themselves of this platform. It has been lightly used so far this year.
4. Pictorial Directory
This incipient program will provide a password-protected platform (like the NEGA directory) for ministers to post a photo and few basic bio facts. Mike Williams and Judy Grieve have been collecting photos for the directory.
5. At the recommendation of Tom Buchanan, the committee has assumed 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. An initial fellowship luncheon was held in Augusta on Aug. 22.
6. The Clergy Care Committee will co-host, with the Board of Pensions, an all-NEGA pastors' luncheon at Covenant Presbyterian in Athens on Nov. 17.

The committee budget request for 2024 is on next page.

Clergy Care Committee
2024 Budgeting Worksheet
 Northeast Georgia Presbytery

To chairs of committees and commissions: please complete this form with input from the committee or commission that you chair and **return it to Anita Green by September 11, 2023.**

Please note that the Budget and Finance Initiative Team is working to create accurate budgets rather than budgets that attempt to account for all possible contingencies. To that end, we are showing you the actual expenses from the past five years. If you have an unplanned expense in 2024, it is our intention to work with you to bring appropriate financial support to your committee or commission to do the work that you have been charged to do.

Year	Year-end Actual Total Expenses
2018	60.00
2019	0.00
2020	904.13
2021	6,200.00
2022	6,072.74

Year	Total Approved Budget
2023	6,170.00

Below, you will see your 2023 budget. As you fill in the request for 2024, please consider how your descriptions may help commissioners to presbytery meetings better understand the work that you do when they see the financial report. If you are able, please adjust your request so that it reflects *probable* needs rather than *possible* needs.

2023 Line-Item Descriptions	2023 Approved Budget
Clergy pictorial directory	120.00
HR minister gatherings	200.00
Online workshops	300.00
Support for cohorts	5,500.00
Supplies & misc.	50.00
TOTAL	6,170.00

2024 Line-Item Descriptions	2024 Budget Request
Clergy Pict. Dir.	120.00
HR Minister GATH.	500.00
Online Workshops	0.00
COHORT SUPPORT	5,500.00
SUPPLIES & MISC.	50.00
TOTAL	6,170.00

Thank you for taking the time to help us improve our budgeting process. If you have any questions or comments, then please reach out to Anita Green, Business Administrator (anita@negapby.org), or Andy Cooke, Treasurer (acooke@covenantaugusta.org).



Presbyterian Campus Ministry
Report to Presbytery, October 2023

Back to Growth: PCM is happy to report our first year since the pandemic of student participation growth. There are lots of folks to be thanked for helping make the PSC an hospitable and welcoming environment, but certainly among them are the weekly dinner volunteers from Covenant Athens, First Pres. Athens, Oconee Pres. Presbyterian Village of Athens, and Friendship Presbyterian, and of course, Mike and Pat Waldrip from First Presbyterian, who manage our kitchen and meal prep most weeks. We feed approximately 40 students at weekly meals, and another 150 or so over the course of the year through the PSC Food Pantry. Worship attendance is up as well, with around 30 students participating weekly.

Branching Out: PCM Staff has been out on campus and in the community, hosting a panel discussion on *The Christian Case for Inclusion* in the UGA Chapel on 10/12, and leading a workshop on becoming and inclusive congregation at the Social Justice Symposium on 10/14.

Homecoming Dinner: As members of the Northeast Georgia Presbytery, you are all cordially invited to attend PCM's annual homecoming dinner. It will be held in our dining hall at 7pm Friday Nov. 3, and in addition to a catered dinner, will feature a state of the ministry address and student testimonials. If you plan to attend, please RSVP ASAP at pscuga.org/events/homecoming23

Fall Fundraising Campaign: The Fall Annual Fund campaign is officially underway. This is an especially important year for fundraising, as some of the grants we have relied on for the past number of years are reaching their end. In all cases, these grants were intended as seed grants, given with the hope of achieving financial sustainability. While ministry, budget and staff have all grown over the last five years (for each of which we are thankful to our supporters), with these grants ending, PCM still needs to grow its budget by \$50K continue providing ministry as robustly and efficiently as has led to its growth. For more information about the ministry, and ways to give, visit pscuga.org/donate

NEXT80 Campaign: as of 10/11/23, we are still at 1/3 of the way to our capital campaign goal to renovate the PSC. Two **congregations** have made pledges to support the campaign, and we are hopeful that more will meet the call to support the next 80 years of campus ministry in the Northeast Georgia Presbytery. We are asking sessions to consider supporting the NEXT80 campaign at or near 1/2 a percent of your budget for the next 3-4 years, which would make a significant gain toward the halfway point, at which time we can begin soliciting foundations for support in completing the campaign. 23 **Families** have answered the central call of this campaign (100 Faithful Families/Folks) to contribute \$5,000 over the five years beginning in 2022. That means we are still seeking 77 faithful folks/families to help us secure the future of ministry with students at 1250 S Lumpkin Street. For more information and to give or pledge, visit pscuga.org/next80

Respectfully Submitted
Rev. Will Norman
Executive Campus Minister

Northeast Georgia Presbyterian Women
October 24, 2023
Elaine Wiegert, Moderator Northeast Georgia PW

As this report is being prepared, Presbyterian Women are busy preparing for the **Social Justice Symposium: Working Toward Justice for All** at First Presbyterian Church Athens on October 14th. Rev. Alonzo Johnson, the Coordinator of the Self-Development of People for PC(USA) in Louisville will lead our worship service. After worship, three breakout sessions will be available for attendees: The Least of These: An anti-poverty workshop conducted by Rev. Johnson and Margaret Mwale, his colleague from the Self-Development of People Committee; This is What HOPE Looks Like Through the Church – Conversations on issues such as access to services, equity, participation, and human rights; Welcoming, Loving, and Including ALL of God’s Children. Notification of the event was sent to all Clerks of Session in the Presbytery. Registration has been good, but there is always room for more. By the time this report is read, we are hopeful that we can report that the symposium and breakout sessions were well attended and well received by all.

Planning for 2024 activities will begin in January. Mission Community Information sheets will be distributed to PWC Moderators in January. The PW Directory will be updated and distributed to PWC Moderators in February.

The Annual Gathering of Presbyterian Women in Northeast Georgia will be held on March 16, 2024, at Covenant, Augusta. Presbyterian Women from the Greater Augusta Mission Community will co-host the Annual Gathering.

The Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women will be held August 8-11, 2024, in St. Louis, Missouri. More information will be available as “The Gathering Quest” continues.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elaine Wiegert

**NORTHEAST GEORGIA PRESBYTERY
GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET
SEPTEMBER 2023**

	JAN - SEPT 2023	BUDGET	OVER (UNDER) BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
INCOME				
SHARED MISSION - CURRENT YEAR	171,412.17	226,587	-55,174.83	75.65%
PER CAPITA	91,041.55	127,731	-36,689.45	71.28%
INVESTMENT INCOME	3,686.73	1,500	2,186.73	245.78%
OTHER INCOME	117.14		117.14	100.0%
TRANSFER FROM UNDESIGNATED RESERVES		45,933		0.0%
TOTAL INCOME	266,257.59	401,751	-135,493.41	66.27%
EXPENSES				
BACKYARD MINISTRY		1,500	-1,500.00	0.0%
CAMPUS MINISTRY AT UGA - Annual Support	13,500.00	18,000	-4,500.00	75.0%
Campus Ministry - Montreat College Conference		2,600	-2,600.00	0.0%
CLERGY CARE	5,614.00	6,170	-556.00	90.99%
COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY	1,249.68	2,500	-1,250.32	49.99%
COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY	1,125.00	6,030	-4,905.00	18.66%
COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION		100	-100.00	0.0%
CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS	2,500.00	5,000	-2,500.00	50.0%
COORDINATING TEAM	19,884.52	28,550	-8,665.48	69.65%
GENERAL ASSEMBLY PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT	46,142.37	61,523	-15,380.63	75.0%
GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHARED MISSION	3,375.00	4,500	-1,125.00	75.0%
MISSION PERSONNEL SUPPORT	1,125.00	1,500	-375.00	75.0%
NOMINATING COMMITTEE		325	-325.00	0.0%
PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION		500	-500.00	0.0%
PROPERTY COMMISSION		100	-100.00	0.0%
SEXUAL MISCONDUCT PASTORAL RESPONSE		200	-200.00	0.0%
STAFF SALARIES	188,415.19	250,284	-61,868.81	75.28%
SYNOD PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT	7,026.75	9,369	-2,342.25	75.0%
SYNOD SHARED MISSION	2,250.00	3,000	-750.00	75.0%
TOTAL PRESBYTERY EXPENSES	292,207.51	401,751	-109,543.49	72.73%
BALANCE	-25,949.92	0	-25,949.92	

NORTHEAST GEORGIA PRESBYTERY
CLERGY CARE
September 2023

	Jan - Sept 2023	Budget	Over (Under) Budget	% of Budget
Clergy pictorial directory	114.00	120	(6.00)	95.0%
HR minister gatherings		200	(200.00)	0.0%
Online Workshops		300	(300.00)	0.0%
Pby Support for cohorts	5,500.00	5,500	0.00	100.0%
Supplies & miscellaneous		50	(50.00)	0.0%
TOTAL EXPENSES	5,614.00	6,170	(556.00)	90.99%

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
September 2023

	Jan - Sept 2023	Budget	Over (Under) Budget	% of Budget
A/C & Other Expense		200	(200.00)	0.0%
Background Checks	127.25	300	(172.75)	42.42%
Committee Meeting Expense	1,122.43	2,000	(877.57)	56.12%
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,249.68	2,500	(1,250.32)	49.99%

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY
September 2023

	Jan - Sept 2023	Budget	Over (Under) Budget	% of Budget
Aid to Candidates	1,125.00	4,000	(2,875.00)	28.13%
Career Assessment		1,280	(1,280.00)	0.00%
Committee Meeting Expense		750	(750.00)	0.00%
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,125.00	6,030	(4,905.00)	18.66%

CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS COMMITTEE
September 2023

	Jan - Sept 2023	Budget	Over (Under) Budget	% of Budget
Hope & Healing Conference		2,000	(2,000.00)	0.00%
Matthew 25 Initiative	2,500.00	3,000	(500.00)	83.33%
TOTAL EXPENSES	2,500.00	5,000	(2,500.00)	50.00%

Northeast Georgia Presbytery
Coordinating Team
September 2023

	Jan - Sept 2023	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	% of Budget
Committee Meeting Expenses	260.68	1,200	-939.32	21.72%
Copier Support	731.64	750	-18.36	97.55%
Financial Review (CPA)	6,875.00	7,000	-125.00	98.21%
GA/Synod Commissioners' Expense	174.00	300	-126.00	58.00%
GP Discretionary Fund		1,000	-1,000.00	0.00%
Insurance	1,956.75	3,550	-1,593.25	55.12%
IT Support/Software	2,702.61	4,300	-1,597.39	62.85%
Miscellaneous	252.00	500	-248.00	50.40%
Moderator Expenses	559.36	1,000	-440.64	55.94%
Office Equipment	1,659.19	2,500	-840.81	66.37%
Office Supplies	698.14	900	-201.86	77.57%
Postage	217.34	350	-132.66	62.10%
Presbytery Meeting Expenses	790.00	1,000	-210.00	79.00%
Recording Clerk Stipend	700.00	900	-200.00	77.78%
Recording Clerk Expense	149.75	300	-150.25	49.92%
Telephone	1,349.72	2,050	-700.28	65.84%
Workers' Compensation Insurance	808.34	950	-141.66	85.09%
TOTAL EXPENSES	19,884.52	28,550	-8,665.48	69.65%

Staff Salaries September 2023				
	Jan - Sept 2023	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	% of Budget
Medicare-Employer Portion	520.19	700	-179.81	74.31%
Social Security-Employer Portion	2,224.28	2,970	-745.72	74.89%
Stated Clerk				
Travel/Professional Expenses	525.00	1,400	-875.00	37.5%
Continuing Education		650	-650.00	0.0%
Salary	23,267.34	31,023	-7,755.66	75.0%
Total Stated Clerk	23,792.34	33,073	-9,280.66	71.94%
General Presbyter				
Travel/Professional Expenses	5,310.05	5,500	-189.95	96.55%
Pension, Health, D&D	27,269.82	36,360	-9,090.18	75.0%
Continuing Education	1,500.00	1,500	0.00	100.0%
Social Security & Medicare	5,355.00	7,140	-1,785.00	75.0%
Salary	47,422.44	63,230	-15,807.56	75.0%
Housing Allowance	22,500.00	30,000	-7,500.00	75.0%
Total General Presbyter	109,357.31	143,730	-34,372.69	76.09%
Business Administrator				
Travel/Professional Expenses	1,521.08	1,875	-353.92	81.12%
Continuing Education	48.14	500	-451.86	9.63%
Pension, Health, D&D	11,290.41	15,054	-3,763.59	75.0%
Matching Contribution to RSP	1,500.00	1,500	0.00	100.0%
Gross Wages	38,161.44	50,882	-12,720.56	75.0%
Total Business Administrator	52,521.07	69,811	-17,289.93	75.23%
TOTAL EXPENSES	188,415.19	250,284	-61,868.81	75.28%

Northeast Georgia Presbytery

Balance Sheet

As of September 30, 2023

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash-Synovus Checking	173,221.83
First American Money Market Checking	151,705.32
ILP 15 Month Note	102,615.43
New Covenant Balanced Income Fund	125,057.81
Prepaid Expenses	444.32
Notes Receivable - Short Term (GDMS)	797.11

Total Current Assets 553,841.82

Fixed Assets

Land (1250 Lumpkin St.)	71,492.66
Student Center Building	191,199.41
Computer Equipment	10,278.77
Other Fixed Assets	1,086.61
Accumulated Depreciation	-58,137.36

Total Fixed Assets 215,920.09

Other Assets

Notes Receivable - Long Term (GDMS)	21,887.95
Carnesville Church Property	25,000.00
Trinity Church Property	1,325,000.00

Total Other Assets 1,371,887.95

TOTAL ASSETS 2,141,649.86

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Current Liabilities

Credit Cards	196.96
Payroll Liabilities	-42.00

Total Current Liabilities 154.96

Other Liabilities

Property Held in Trust	1,350,000.00
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Total Other Liabilities 1,350,000.00

Total Liabilities 1,350,154.96

Equity

Temporarily Restricted Net Assets

Assistance Fund	16,043.69
Beth Duncan Fund (PW)	39,638.63
Carnesville Church Fund	-1,017.65
Clergy Care Fund	10,322.59
Connectional Events Fund	15,934.51
Georgia Domestic Missionary Society Fund	80,854.51
Justice & Peacemaking Fund	6,418.40
Property Protection & Defense Fund	83,565.38
Spiritual Direction Fund	5,000.00
Trinity Church Fund	112,360.95

Total Temporarily Restricted Net Assets 369,121.01

Unrestricted Net Assets	
Undesignated Reserves	166,601.48
Other Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>277,213.81</u>
Total Unrestricted Net Assets	443,815.29
Net Ordinary Income	-25,949.92
Unrealized Gains/Losses	<u>4,508.52</u>
Total Equity	<u>791,494.90</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>2,141,649.86</u></u>

NORTHEAST GEORGIA PRESBYTERY
CHURCH GIVING
SEPTEMBER 2023

CHURCH	MEMBERS 12/31/2021	SHARED MISSION COMMITMENT	SHARED MISSION RECEIPTS	REMAINING BALANCE	GENERAL ASSEMBLY BENEVOLENCES	PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT	PER CAPITA RECEIPTS	REMAINING BALANCE	TOTAL RECEIPTS
ATHENS FIRST	949	65,000.00	32,500.00	\$ 32,500.00	\$ 1,056.00	\$ 19,407.05	\$ 9,703.50	\$ 9,703.55	\$ 43,259.50
ATHENS KOREAN	80			\$ -		1,636.00	1,636.00	\$ -	\$ 1,636.00
AUGUSTA KOREAN	60	2,373.00	1,473.00	\$ 900.00		1,227.00	1,227.00	\$ -	\$ 2,700.00
BATH	31			\$ -	1,124.00	633.95	633.95	\$ -	\$ 1,757.95
BELLE TERRACE	96		1,459.10	\$ (1,459.10)	189.23	1,963.20	1,963.20	\$ -	\$ 3,611.53
CALVARY	23	1,375.00	1,100.00	\$ 275.00		470.35	470.35	\$ -	\$ 1,570.35
CHRIST	25	1,200.00	200.00	\$ 1,000.00		511.25	511.25	\$ -	\$ 711.25
CLARKESVILLE FIRST	126	0.00		\$ -	787.00	2,576.70	1,932.54	\$ 644.16	\$ 2,719.54
CLAYTON	42	1,000.00	1,000.00	\$ -		858.90	858.90	\$ -	\$ 1,858.90
CLEVELAND FIRST	95	1,850.00	1,457.09	\$ 392.91		1,942.75	1,457.09	\$ 485.66	\$ 2,914.18
CLIFFORD MEMORIAL	40		426.00	\$ (426.00)		818.00	818.00	\$ -	\$ 1,244.00
COMMERCE	64	1,100.00	825.00	\$ 275.00		1,308.80	981.60	\$ 327.20	\$ 1,806.60
CORNELIA FIRST	145			\$ -	525.00	2,965.25	1,000.00	\$ 1,965.25	\$ 1,525.00
COVENANT, ATHENS	330	36,000.00	25,333.36	\$ 10,666.64	4,175.00	6,748.50	4,499.04	\$ 2,249.46	\$ 34,007.40
COVENANT, AUGUSTA	205	15,000.00	11,250.00	\$ 3,750.00	1,661.60	4,192.25	3,144.15	\$ 1,048.10	\$ 16,055.75
DAHLONEGA	33			\$ -	58.00	674.85	674.85	\$ -	\$ 732.85
EATONTON	43	0.00		\$ -		879.35	879.35	\$ -	\$ 879.35
ELBERTON FIRST	10	600.00	500.00	\$ 100.00	111.00	204.50	204.50	\$ -	\$ 815.50
FRIENDSHIP	81	1,200.00	900.00	\$ 300.00		1,656.45	1,656.45	\$ -	\$ 2,556.45
GAINESVILLE FIRST	760	19,458.00	16,215.00	\$ 3,243.00		15,542.00	12,951.70	\$ 2,590.30	\$ 29,166.70
GREENSBORO FIRST	55	1,000.00	1,000.00	\$ -		1,124.75	1,124.75	\$ -	\$ 2,124.75
HARTWELL FIRST	36			\$ -		736.20		\$ 736.20	\$ -
HEBRON	17			\$ -		347.65		\$ 347.65	\$ -
HELEN	40	500.00	500.00	\$ -		818.00	818.00	\$ -	\$ 1,318.00
HOMER	29			\$ -		593.05	593.05	\$ -	\$ 593.05
HOPEWELL	13			\$ -		265.85		\$ 265.85	\$ -
JEFFERSON	47	0.00		\$ -		961.15	961.15	\$ -	\$ 961.15
LAVONIA	16	400.00	400.00	\$ -		327.20	327.20	\$ -	\$ 727.20
MADISON	349	3,000.00	2,250.00	\$ 750.00	690.00	7,137.05	7,137.05	\$ -	\$ 10,077.05
MILLEDGEVILLE FIRST	138	4,000.00	2,924.90	\$ 1,075.10	1,597.20	2,822.10	2,822.10	\$ -	\$ 7,344.20
MONTICELLO	219		11,250.00	\$ (11,250.00)	2,159.55	4,478.55	4,478.55	\$ -	\$ 17,888.10
MOUNT HERMON	62		3,566.84	\$ (3,566.84)	1,735.00	1,267.90	1,267.90	\$ -	\$ 6,569.74
MOUNTAIN	39	1,200.00	1,200.00	\$ -	370.00	797.55	797.55	\$ -	\$ 2,367.55
NACOOCHEE	254	17,000.00	12,753.00	\$ 4,247.00	400.00	5,194.30	3,895.65	\$ 1,298.65	\$ 17,048.65
NEW HOPE	20			\$ -		409.00		\$ 409.00	\$ -

NORTHEAST GEORGIA PRESBYTERY
CHURCH GIVING
SEPTEMBER 2023

CHURCH	MEMBERS 12/31/2021	SHARED MISSION COMMITMENT	SHARED MISSION RECEIPTS	REMAINING BALANCE	GENERAL ASSEMBLY BENEVOLENCES	PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT	PER CAPITA RECEIPTS	REMAINING BALANCE	TOTAL RECEIPTS
OCONEE	244	2,200.00	1,797.50	\$ 402.50		4,989.80	1,797.50	\$ 3,192.30	\$ 3,595.00
PLEASANT HILL	30	1,600.00	500.00	\$ 1,100.00		613.50	300.00	\$ 313.50	\$ 800.00
RABUN GAP	205	0.00		\$ -		4,192.25		\$ 4,192.25	\$ -
REID MEMORIAL	715	46,878.23	35,181.35	\$ 11,696.88	2,999.97	14,621.75	10,943.65	\$ 3,678.10	\$ 49,124.97
SAINT ANDREW	118	2,000.04	1,500.03	\$ 500.01		2,413.10	1,809.83	\$ 603.27	\$ 3,309.86
SARDIS	102	300.00	150.00	\$ 150.00		2,085.90	1,042.95	\$ 1,042.95	\$ 1,192.95
TIMPSON	21			\$ -		429.45		\$ 429.45	\$ -
TRINITY	28			\$ -		572.60	572.60	\$ -	\$ 572.60
UNION POINT FIRST	26		1,600.00	\$ (1,600.00)	1,303.00	531.70	531.70	\$ -	\$ 3,434.70
WESTMINSTER	38			\$ -		777.10		\$ 777.10	\$ -
WESTSIDE	45			\$ -		920.25		\$ 920.25	\$ -
WILEY	36	300.00		\$ 300.00		736.20	736.20	\$ -	\$ 736.20
WINDER FIRST	55			\$ -		1,124.75	1,124.75	\$ -	\$ 1,124.75
INDIVIDUAL			200.00	\$ (200.00)				\$ -	\$ 200.00
TOTAL:	6,235	226,534.27	\$ 171,412.17	\$ 55,122.10	\$ 20,941.55	\$ 127,505.75	\$ 90,285.55	\$ 37,220.20	\$ 282,639.27

REPORT OF ATTENDANCE
October 24, 2023

Minister Members:

Burnetta	Armour	Cleveland First	Christin	Johnson Norman	Presbyterian Village Athens
Amy	Baer	Covenant Athens	Sun Jae	Jung	Athens Korean
Ryan	Baer	Athens First	Heather	Koontz	Mount Hermon
Arch	Baker	Madison	Lee	Koontz	Gainesville First
Steven	Barnes	Oconee	John	McCrosky	Monticello
Whitney	Booth Lockard	Validated Ministry	Paul	Min	Mountain
Tom	Buchanan	Friendship	Will	Norman	Presbyterian Campus Min
Jeffrey	Cain	Commerce	Edward	Rees	Stated Clerk
Sharon	Caldwell	Belle Terrace	Decatur	Rodgers	Honorably Retired
Andy	Chambers	Cornelia First	Hilary	Shuford	General Presbyter
Karla	Conditt Daniels	Validated Ministry	Joan	Stevens	Member at Large
Charles	Crane	Winder First	Peter	Thornton	Presbyterian Village Athens
Jacob	Douylliez	Eatonton	Craig	Topple	Pleasant Hill
Teresa	Franklin	Nacoochee	Souvanh	Touralack	The Backyard
Ron	Gilreath	Honorably Retired	Mari	Turner	Dahlonega
Matt	Henderson	Clarkesville First	Dana	Waters	Covenant Athens
Jennifer	Horton	Lavonia	Haruko	Ward	Honorably Retired
Sue	Jacobson	Member at Large	Mike	Williams	Bath

Corresponding Ministers:

Corey	Ingold	New Harmony Presbytery	Lindsay	Armstrong	Presbytery of Greater Atl
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Ruling Elder Commissioners:

Ken	Burel	Athens First	Verley	Dotson	Greensboro First
Denise	Horton	Athens First	Sylvia	McDonald	Jefferson
Pat	Waldrip	Athens First	Raphael	Shiretzki	Lavonia
Maurine	resch	Bath	Jim	Malanowski	Madison
Joyce	Dejoie	Belle Terrace	Christopher	Jones	Madison
Carol	Rountree	Belle Terrace	Dan	Jones	Madison
Claudia	Jessup	Clarkesville First	Miriam	Jordan	Monticello
Debbie	McKinney	Clayton	Donna	Holman	Monticello
Phil	Baughman	Cleveland First	Betty Jean	Jordan	Monticello
Hugh	Walters	Cleveland First	Rick	Reese	Monticello
Melody	Thomason	Cleveland First	Phyllis	McCannon	Mount Hermon
Troy	Webb	Cornelia First	Edith	Brown	Mount Hermon
Nancy	Hendricks	Cornelia First	Jennifer	Thomas	Nacoochee
Jennifer	Frey	Covenant Athens	John	Luhn	Nacoochee
Gijs	Schimmel	Covenant Athens	Cheri	Luhn	Nacoochee
William	David	Covenant Augusta	Kelly	Barrow	Oconee
Judy	Grieve	Covenant Augusta	Anita	York	Oconee
Jack	Spencer	Gainesville First	Caroline	Strobel	Oconee
Karen	Schaap	Gainesville First	Sandy	Denney	Oconee
Tina	de Waart	Gainesville First	Marc	Galvin	Oconee
Chris	Nish	Gainesville First	Charles	Colbert	Sardis
Barbara	Allen	Greensboro First	Esther	Moore	Westminster

Other Ruling Elders with Vote:

Rick	Billingslea	Hebron	Fred	DiMaio	Clayton
Gloria	Burnes	Certified Christian Educator	Elaine	Wiegert	PW Moderator

Visitors:

Natalie	Bishop	Athens First	Mary Ann	Orr	Madison
Anita	Green	Presbytery Staff	Allen	Orr	Madison
Ed	Hendricks	Cornelia First	Courtney	Pittman	Candidate for Ordination
Christie	Jones	Madison	Louise	Schimmel	Covenant Athens
Lynne	Jordan	Monticello	Linda	Sky	Madison
Lauren	Kelly	Madison	Matthew	Smith	Madison

Jake
John
Kim
Dorothy

Moore
Moore
Ness
Newton

Madison
Madison
Athens First
Madison

Lisa
John
Becky
Jean

Stork
Stork
Thompson
Workman

Monticello
Monticello
Madison
Monticello