



PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS

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October 14, 2016

Dear Commissioners:

Welcome to the 133rd Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas! Thank you for your service to your congregations and to the church and a big thank you to First Presbyterian Harrison for hosting our meeting.

This is the “Presbytery Meeting Packet.” It includes nearly all of the documents and resources you will need for the meeting. The packet is laid out in the order of the meeting and follows the flow of the docket. Occasionally business has to be added at the last minute during the days leading up to the presbytery meeting. In the event there is last minute business, it will be available to you in hard copy form at the registration table.

There is one section in the packet that may not be familiar. At the 133rd and 134th Stated Meetings, we will be considering business referred from the 222nd General Assembly. Each amendment to the constitution requires the ascent of a majority of the 172 presbyteries. To save space in the packet, only the actual text of the amendments is included in the packet. For more information or to read the full rationale for each amendment, you may visit http://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/oga/pdf/2016_proposed_boa.pdf The business referred from GA is different than that referred by presbytery committees. With each motion from the GA, the presbytery will take a simple yes or no vote. Because this business is being considered by all presbyteries at the same time, the motions may not be amended. The process for considering this business will be more fully explained at the meeting in Harrison.

This meeting will also feature two theological conversations. On Friday evening, we will have a conversation about proposed changes to the Book of Order concerning the Lord’s Supper. Following our conversation, we will gather at the table during evening worship. Saturday will feature a conversation on issues of mental health and how congregations can be advocates in their communities. Information for Friday’s conversation can be found in Section K of this packet.

Please take some time to review the materials in the packet and make note of any questions you would like answered about the business before the presbytery. If you have any questions about the meeting packet itself, please don’t hesitate to contact me at robert@presbyteryofarkansas.org I look forward to seeing you in Harrison next week!

Peace,

The Rev. Dr. Robert Wm Lowry
Stated Clerk

Stewart Smith
General Presbyter

Kenneth Rich
Director of Mission Support

NiAnn Thompson
Resourcing Center Director

Robert W. Lowry
Stated Clerk

Britton Varn
Youth Ministry

Michael Vinson
Vital Congregations



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September 14, 2016

Sisters and Brothers,

Greetings from Harrison, the Gateway to the Buffalo National River! We at First Presbyterian are excited to share our home with you during one of the most beautiful seasons of the year. From the "Grand Canyon of Arkansas" in Jasper to the free-ranging elk of Ponca, our area boasts some of the most amazing sights in our wonderful state (and we believe in the whole world). While you are here, we hope you will take some time to leaf peep and explore the Buffalo National River area.

The members are busy preparing everything for your arrival. Our worship service will feature hymns from *Glory to God* that reflect sounds from around the world. From the resolute sounds of African American spirituals to the fervent rhythms of Latin America, we will sing praises to our God as a family. Once the Word is read and proclaimed, we will feast together at the Lord's Table. We are praying that this worship service will prepare your hearts and minds to do the Lord's work for our church and the Church Universal with a trusting heart.

Our preparations include making sure everyone is comfortable and have all the tools necessary to participate fully in the service of worship and meetings. We have hearing devices for those who need them. We have a nursery for children 0 to 4 years-old planned for the entire time you are here. Please make sure to reserve your child's place by calling the church office no later than **October 19th**. We will be serving lunch on Saturday. The menu will include Pulled Pork sandwiches, baked beans, potato salad, and cookies for dessert. If you have any dietary requests, please feel free to contact our office and we will accommodate any restrictions. You will find a list of area hotels in this packet, the hotels listed will give you their very best prices if you reserve using the code: "Presbytery of Arkansas." Also, if you book under that code, the Chamber of Commerce will place a goody bag in your room! We want you to enjoy your time in our area, if we can do anything to make your stay more pleasant, please let us know.

Blessings,

Rev. DC Adams
Pastor

REV. DC ADAMS
PASTOR

EMAIL dc@fpcharrison.org

133rd Stated Meeting

The Presbytery of Arkansas

Meeting Schedule

Friday

- 3pm Exhibitor Set-up
- 3pm Clerk of Session Training
- 4pm Registration Opens
- 6:45pm The Presbytery Convenes
- 7pm Theological Discussion
- 7:45pm Worship including the Lord's Supper

Saturday

- 8:30am The Presbytery Reconvenes
- 8:35am Morning Prayer
- Noon Lunch

First Presbyterian Church
Harrison

October 21-22, 2016

Next Meetings

134th Stated Meeting
Univ. of the Ozarks,
Clarksville
February 17-18, 2017

135th Stated Meeting TBD

136th Stated Meeting TBD

Presbytery Leadership

Moderator TE Lacy Sellers

Vice-Moderator RE Ruth Hamilton

Moderator of CT RE Ed Wilkinson

General Presbyter TE Stewart Smith

Stated Clerk TE Robert Lowry

Moderator of Administration
TE Catherine Alsbury

Moderator of CCM TE Dari Rowen

Moderator of CLD TE Kade Curry

Moderator of Future of the Church
RE Leah Shell

Moderator of Church & Its Mission
RE Kelley Pearson

Moderator of Youth, Campus & YA
RE Mary Shaw

Moderator of Nominations
TE Elizabeth Gabbard

Docket

Friday October 21

We Gather in God's Name

- 6:45 pm Call to Order
Opening Prayer
Report of Enrollment and Declaration of Quorum
Adoption of the Docket
Seating of Corresponding Members and Granting of Privilege of the Floor/Voice
Welcome to First Time Commissioners
Introduction of Presbytery Staff
Welcome from Host Church
Adoption of Consent Agenda (Section A)
Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings (Section S)

We Encounter God's Word

- 7:15 pm Order of the Day-Theological Discussion on the Lord's Supper (Section L)
8pm Worship including the Lord's Supper

Saturday October 22

We Respond to God's Call

- 8:30 am Call to Order
Morning Prayer
Report of the Stated Clerk (Section B,N,P)
Report of the Coordinating Team (Section C)
Report of the General Presbyter
Report of the Administration Ministry Area (Section D)
Report of the Committee on the Church's Ministries (Sections E and R)

- Report of the Committee on Leadership Development (Section F)
- Report of the Committee on Nominations (Section G,N)
- Report of the Future of the Church Ministry Area (Section H)
- Report of the Mission of the Church Area (Section J)
- Report of the Subcommittee on Disaster Preparedness (Section K)
- 11am Order of the Day-Theological Discussion on Mental Health Issues
- Minute Announcements
- Noon Lunch
- 12:45 pm Order of the Day-Report of the Polity Committee (Section M)
- Report from Youth Triennium
- Report of the Presbyterian Women
- New Business
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
- Report of the Leaves of Absence Committee

We Are Sent in God's Service

Closing Prayer Service

Presbyterian to English Cheat Sheet

From time to time abbreviations and acronyms will be peppered through the meeting. The following is a quick primer on Presby-speak. If you have questions about any of these terms or the way they fit into the larger picture of the life of the church, feel free to ask the Stated Clerk!

- **AC-** An **A**dministrative **C**ommission is a group of Teaching Elders and Ruling Elders given specific responsibilities and authority to act on behalf of the presbytery between meetings. They are typically formed to ordain and/or install pastors, perform the tasks associated with dismissing, closing, or merging congregations, deal with difficulties in a particular church, or assist a church in times of transition.
- **Board of Pensions-** The General Assembly agency charged with overseeing the benefits plans for pastors and some other church employees.
- **Candidate-** A person in the latter portion of the ordination process for the ministry of Teaching Elder.
- **CCM/COM-** The **C**ommittee on the **C**hurch's **M**inistries (formerly Committee on Ministry) provides oversight and advocacy for congregations and teaching elders. It receives teaching elders from other presbyteries, approves calls for pastoral services, oversees congregations without pastors, dissolves pastoral relationships, dismisses teaching elders to other presbyteries, determines of the criteria for validating ministries of non-parish clergy, and oversees Commissioned Ruling Elders serving congregations.
- **CLD-** The **C**ommittee on **L**eadership **D**evelopment oversees the process of preparation for the ministry of Teaching Elder, training of Commissioned Ruling Elders, and the process of certification for Christian Educators.
- **Council-** In the context of Presbyterian polity and governance, a council is a governing body of the church. The councils of the PC(USA) are the session, the presbytery, the synod and the General Assembly.
- **CT-** The Coordinating Team of the presbytery acts on the presbytery's behalf on routine matters between stated meetings, coordinates the ministries of the presbytery, and

- **GA-** The **G**eneral **A**ssembly of the PC(USA) is the highest council of the church. It meets in even numbered years for approx. 12 days. The 2016 meeting will be held in late June in Portland, Oregon.
- **HR- H**onorably **R**etired is a designation for Teaching Elders retired from active service to the church who remain in good standing with the PC(USA).
- **Inquirer-** A person in the initial phase of the process of preparation for ministry as a Teaching Elder.
- **MIF-** A **M**inistry **I**nformation **F**orm is the standardized format for advertising certain church professional positions through the PC(USA) Church Leadership Connection.
- **Moderator-** The Moderator is the person elected to keep order and chair the meetings of the presbytery. The pastor or CRE of a local congregation serves as the moderator of the local session.
- **NCD-** **N**ew **C**hurch **D**evelopments are new ministries of the presbytery engaged in a formal process to work toward establishing a new congregation.
- **PDA-** Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is an agency of the Presbyterian Church (USA) Mission Agency. PDA assists communities coping with natural and human-caused disasters.
- **PJC-** Permanent Judicial Commission implements the disciplinary procedures required by the Book of Order. There is a Judicial Process Manual which gives details on these duties.
- **PMA-** The Presbyterian Mission Agency is part of the larger PC(USA) and is located at national church headquarters in Louisville, KY.
- **PNC-** Pastor Nominating Committee is a search committee elected by a congregation to seek, interview, and recommend a new pastor.
- **RE/Ruling Elder-** Ruling Elder is a lay member of a congregation who has been elected, ordained and installed to serve on the session of a church. Ruling elders are eligible for election as commissioners to presbytery, synod and General Assembly.
- **Stated Clerk-** Stated Clerk is the officer elected by the presbytery to maintain the official records, provide extracts when asked, prepare the docket for presbytery meetings, and answer questions about the records, Presbyterian polity, policies, procedures and history. The Stated Clerk is authorized to certify ministers and

congregations are in good standing and qualify under the tax exemption of the PCUSA.

- ***Synod of the Sun***- The governing body council which includes all the presbyteries in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Louisiana. It coordinates the work of the PCUSA in this region.
- ***TE/Teaching Elder***- Teaching Elder is an ordained Presbyterian minister member of the clergy.
- ***TPF***- Texas Presbyterian Foundation is a financial service organization for Presbyterian members, councils and institutions. It invests funds and provides bookkeeping services for Grace Presbytery.
- ***Validated Ministries***- Positions served by chaplains, professors and other teaching elders who are not currently serving a congregation. Sometimes they are referred to as non-parish clergy.

Tips for Commissioners on Procedure and Parliamentary Practice

Parliamentary procedure enables the presbytery to become a deliberative assembly, to seek the will of God and to witness to our faith in Jesus Christ. It is never an end in itself. Parliamentary gamesmanship is never appropriate.

The will of the majority shall prevail, but the rights of the minority shall always be protected. Parliamentary principles balance individual conscience with the will of the majority. It takes seriously the following rights of individual members: (1) the right to know (due notice); (2) the right to speak (rules of debate); (3) the right to vote (membership); and (4) the right to hold office (fair representation).

The Moderator represents the unity of the body. The Moderator preserves decorum and protects the rights listed above.

Parliamentary procedure allows discussion of a subject only when a motion about that subject has been made. To speak during the meeting, first go to a microphone. When recognized by the Moderator, state your name, church, city and status – such as ruling elder or Honorably Retired. You may speak to a pending motion or ask a question. The person making the motion will have first opportunity to speak to the motion. Only motions coming from individuals need a second. A motion made on behalf of a committee already has a second: the majority vote of the committee.

Only commissioners may speak and vote on motions. It is advisable to speak only once on a subject, but you may seek to speak a second time only after everyone who wishes to speak has spoken. All remarks during debate shall be addressed to the Moderator. Questions seeking information from a person who has the floor shall be addressed to the Moderator. Speeches to an individual or the whole presbytery are not permitted during debate. Reading reports or documents out loud requires the permission of the body. In debate, remarks shall be confined to the pending motion. Remarks shall not impugn another commissioner or that person's motives.

Commissioners' names shall not be used.

To end debate, a commissioner must go to a microphone and, when recognized by the Moderator, state: "I move the previous question." It is not appropriate to call the question without going to a microphone.

If you offer a substitute motion or a new item of business, you should give the Moderator and Stated Clerk advance notice and written copy. An electronic copy is preferred – using Microsoft Word on a memory stick or thumb drive. Not only will this help these officers facilitate the work of presbytery, they may also be able to help you with suggestions as to how and when it would be appropriate to make the motion. The Stated Clerk and the Moderator are available to advise commissioners on the wording of any motion so that it can clearly express the concerns of the commissioner. When in doubt, ask. The Moderator and the Stated Clerk are eager to help you understand and use the process.

Section A

Consent Agenda

Stated Clerk TE Robert Wm Lowry

NB: In the past, actions of the General Committee have been included on the Consent Agenda. Because the Coordinating Team (and formerly General Committee) is a commission of the presbytery, only certain actions require affirmation by the presbytery.

1. That the Synod Minutes Review report be received and that the presbytery minutes reflect appreciation to NiAnn Thompson for her work on preparing the year-end minutes.
2. That the presbytery affirm that current insurance coverage for the presbytery is adequate and instruct the Stated Clerk to include a summary of coverage upon the minutes of this meeting.
3. That the presbytery affirm that sexual misconduct and child and youth safety policies are in effect in the presbytery and instruct the Stated Clerk to include copies of both upon the minutes of this meeting.

Section B

Report of the Stated Clerk

TE Robert Wm Lowry
Stated Clerk

For Information:

1. The Synod of the Sun has reviewed 2015 minutes and reported only minor exceptions. The exceptions noted will be corrected in the next reporting period.
2. All Teaching Elders (including those who are Honorably Retired-Active) are reminded that a condition of continued employment and membership in the Presbytery of Arkansas requires periodic background checks. ALL Teaching Elders must complete a background check Authorization and Release form (found in Section M of the packet) and forward \$10 for the cost of the background check. All releases must be received by February 1, 2017. Congregations employing Teaching Elders are encouraged to cover the cost of the background check.
3. All Teaching Elders must complete and return to the Stated Clerk an Acknowledgement of Receipt of the presbytery's Sexual Misconduct Policy (found in Section M of the packet). Completed Acknowledgements of Receipt must be returned to the Stated Clerk no later than February 1, 2017.
4. Moderators and Clerks of Session are reminded that Church Record and Session Minutes reviews are to be completed no later than December 1, 2016. Reading assignments and checklists are included in Section N of the packet and Appendix C of the Clerks Manual. Please contact the Stated Clerk with any questions or concerns.
5. Urgent correspondence has been received from the Board of Pensions concerning new Board of Pension changes. ALL institutions utilizing or planning to utilize the Board for employee benefits (this includes ALL congregations whether or not they currently have a Teaching Elder) must submit certain information for the plan. An informational flyer is included in Section N in this packet. The electronic version contains live links to the appropriate websites.

For Action:

1. The revision of the map of regions by the Coordinating Team necessitates changes to the Organization and Structure of the presbytery to accommodate the reduced number of regions for nominations. In order to prevent disruption of ministry work and in an effort to simplify the process of nominations, the Stated Clerk recommends the following actions:

- a. That the presbytery declare all committee, subcommittee, and ministry positions formerly designated as Region 5 as “at-large.”
- b. That the Organization and Structure be amended as follows (text to be deleted indicated by a ~~strikethrough~~ and text to be added indicated by *italics*):
 - i. 5.B.1 One member from each of the ~~five~~ regions...up to ~~three~~ *four* at-large
 - ii. 5.C.a.1 ~~Four~~ *five* additional at-large...
 - iii. 5.C.b.1 ~~Eight~~ *ten* additional at-large...
 - iv. 5.D.1 Two members from each of the ~~five~~ regions...Up to ~~three~~ *additional five* at-large
 - v. 5.D.3 ideally one from each of the ~~five~~ regions
 - vi. 5.E.1 Two members from each of the ~~five~~ regions
 - vii. 5.F.1 Two members from each of the ~~five~~ regions and ~~four~~ *six* at-large
 - viii. 5.H.1.b ~~Five additional members shall be elected from the presbytery (one from each region.)~~ Five at-large members shall be elected from the presbytery (no more than two from any region.)
- c. That the Committee and Ministry Duties section be amended to reflect the changes to the Organization and Structure.

Section C

Report of the Coordinating Team

RE Ed Wilkinson
Good Shepherd, Greenwood

For Information:

The Coordinating Team took the following actions on behalf of the presbytery at their Stated Meeting August 31, 2016:

1. Approved three requests concerning the October Stated Meeting of the Presbytery:
 - From Second, Little Rock a request to include a flyer and registration information on an Eneagram workshop
 - From Presbyterian Pilgrimage to include information on upcoming pilgrimage events.
 - From TE Marie Mainard O'Connell to present a short video introduction of the new PC(USA) Young Adult Volunteers at Ferncliff.
2. Revised the presbytery region map to eliminate current Region 5 (east Arkansas) and reduce the number of regions to four. The churches from Region 5 have been reassigned as follows:
 - Faith, First, and Central Pine Bluff and First McGehee move from Region 5 to Region 3
 - All other churches in Region 5 move to Region 4
3. To balance the remaining regions, the following churches have been reassigned:
 - Central, Russellville and Memorial, Atkins move from Region 4 to Region 2
 - Yellville and Bull Shoals move from Region 4 to Region 1
4. On the advice of the Nominating Committee, named Jennifer McCracken (Wynne) to an unexpired term in the class of 2016 on the Ministry with Youth, Campus, and Young Adults.
5. On the advice of the Nominating Committee, named TE Ike Brighton (member at-large) to an unexpired term in the class of 2016 on the Subcommittee on Disaster Preparedness.
6. On the advice of the Nominating Committee, named TE Paul Fulks (First, Heber Springs) to an unexpired term in the class of 2016 on the Church and Its Mission ministry.
7. The Moderator of Coordinating Team was asked to communicate with the Moderator of Nominations to ensure that the at-large positions on CT are filled in

keeping with the needs of the CT. It was noted that two current members, TE Ruskin Falls and RE Laura Pierce, rotate off at the end of 2016.

8. The Nominating Committee asked the CT for guidance concerning volunteers willing to serve on committees and ministries where there was no vacancy. It was decided that by reducing the number of regions and eliminating the difficulty with finding Region 5 representatives, this was no longer a pressing concern.
9. The Stated Clerk informed the CT that declines in membership in next year's statistical reporting may drop the presbytery below the threshold for GA Commissioners. Since it is not necessary to elect commissioners until next year, it was suggested that Nominations not bring those names to the presbytery until it is clear how many commissioners we will need.
10. The Stated Clerk presented the corrected minutes of the 130th Stated Meeting. The CT was asked to approve the revised minutes so they may be presented to the Synod of the Sun for review. A motion was made and seconded to approve the revised minutes.
11. The CT returned to the discussion begun in May concerning the scope, design, frequency, location, and purpose of presbytery meetings.
 - Data gathered during the Restructure process was presented along with some statistics on attendance and past experience with various locations for presbytery meetings.
 - The relative advantages and disadvantages of different potential models were discussed.
 - Following a lengthy conversation, it was decided that for the near term, the presbytery will continue with its current meeting schedule. Attention will be paid to the flow and content of the meetings in October, February, and June. The CT will return to the questions of logistics, timing, etc. at the October 1 meeting.
 - The Stated Clerk asked for guidance in seeking a host for the June 2017 meeting. A preference was expressed during the Restructure for meeting around tables if possible. The CT was in general agreement with that preference but did not act to make it a requirement. The Stated Clerk was instructed to seek a host for the June 2017 meeting in accordance with current criteria with a preference (but not requirement) for meeting space allowing for table gathering.
12. Decided that the topic for primary theological discussion at the October meeting will be issues surrounding mental health and that TE D.C. Adams be charged with coordinating it. After lengthy discussion, it was decided that a second discussion concerning the new Directory for Worship and the proposed changes to language

concerning admittance to the Lord's Supper will be a second theological discussion if time permits. TE Ruskin Falls will coordinate the second discussion.

13. At the request of the Stated Clerk, adopted the following policy as a Standing Rule (numbered as Standing Rule #1) for the filing of business for presbytery meetings.
 - All business to come before the presbytery must be submitted in writing to the Stated Clerk no later than 21 days prior to the date of the stated or called meeting.
 - Business not submitted by the deadline is treated as new business. It is the responsibility of the maker of the motion to provide hard copies for all commissioners.
 - The Stated Clerk will post the docket and all relevant documents no later than 7 days prior to a Stated Meeting.
14. Decided that due to conflicting existing policies, the CT determined that the host congregation (First, Harrison) shall plan worship for the October Stated Meeting.
15. The Stated Clerk informed the CT of a referral made by the presbytery at the 130th Stated Meeting. The referral reads:
 - *“That our General Committee (now Coordinating Team) study, discuss, and propose to our presbytery and its congregations action and strategies by which we may be “salt” and “light” amidst a culture increasingly violent, to include but not be limited to issues of the proliferation of fire arms, the treatment and care of the mentally ill, alienation among younger generations, racism, and poverty.”*
 - The CT chooses to begin answering the referral with the Theological Discussion on mental health at the 133rd Stated Meeting. The Stated Clerk will include in his October report to presbytery communication acknowledging this ongoing consideration.
16. The Stated Clerk is working on completion of the revised Policies and Procedures section of the Presbytery Ministry Manual. Two presbytery policies in need of revision are the Emergency Loans to Pastors and the Emergency Loans to Congregations policies. Those policies were referred to the Administration Ministry with a request that they report back to the CT by December.
17. TE Roper raised the issue of how the families of former pastors relate to congregations. She noted that there is a policy for former pastors but no guidance for their families. The question was referred to the CCM with instructions to consider the issue and report back no later than November 30, 2016 with any policy recommendations.

The Coordinating Team took the following actions on behalf of the presbytery during a called conference call September 9, 2016:

1. The Stated Clerk presented the referral from the CCM concerning formation of an Administrative Commission with power to assume original jurisdiction to inquire into difficulties and work with the congregation and Session of First Presbyterian Church of Little Rock. The General Presbyter and TE Leslie Belden (CCM representative to CT) described the situation and referral from CCM. Members discussed the timing of the AC, the scope of its business, and the proposed membership.
2. The CT adopted the following motions:
 - a. That the Presbytery of Arkansas elect an Administrative Commission to counsel with the Session and congregation of First Presbyterian Church of Little Rock in discerning God's future for the church and its effective witness to the community. The Administrative Commission shall have the power to assume original jurisdiction.
 - b. Elect the following members of the AC:
 - i. TE Bill Bailey Kirk in the Pines, Hot Springs Village
 - ii. TE Debbie Freeman First, Jacksonville
 - iii. TE David Dyer Westminster, Little Rock
 - iv. RE Ruth Hamilton Kirk in the Pines, Hot Springs Village
 - v. RE Cyril Hollingsworth Second, Little Rock
 - vi. RE Mike Szabo First, Searcy
 - c. That the AC appointed to work with First Presbyterian Church of Little Rock be charged with reporting back to the Coordinating Team no later than November 10, 2016. The Stated Clerk is instructed to forward the report to the CCM and Future of the Church Ministry prior to their November retreat. In addition to reports of any actions taken by the AC on behalf of the presbytery, the report shall include at least answers to the following:
 - i. Shall the Session continue as presently constituted?
 - ii. Is there a viable remnant to move forward?
 - iii. If the answer to question 2 is yes, what necessary steps need to be taken in budgeting and relationships with current and former staff to prepare the remnant church for the future?

The Coordinating Team took the following actions on behalf of the presbytery during a stated meeting via conference call on October 1, 2016:

1. A motion was made and seconded naming the following as the slate for at-large membership on the Nominations Committee:

- RE Susie Wright (Westminster, HS)
 - RE Mike Harden (First, Arkadelphia)
 - RE Matt Curry (First, Jonesboro)
 - RE Kathy Rogers (First, Bentonville)
 - The Stated Clerk was instructed to contact the list in this order.
 - The slate will be presented to the presbytery at the 133rd Stated Meeting.
2. A motion was made and seconded to present the following to the presbytery for adoption as a Standing Rule:

In an effort to engage diverse voices from across the presbytery and honor the commitment of time and energy of ministry members, individuals may not serve concurrently on more than one of the following committees and subcommittees: CCM, CLD, Mission, Youth, Campus, and Young Adults, Campus Ministry subcommittee (except those automatically assigned to Youth, Campus, and Young Adults), Administration, Future of the Church, or Disaster Preparedness.

An exception is made for those who are automatically members of more than one ministry, committee or subcommittee by virtue of office or role in the presbytery.

3. The docket for the 133rd Stated Meeting was distributed before the meeting. Based on requests for time from committees, the needs of the host church, and discussion on the best way to ensure flow for the meeting, a motion was made and seconded to set the docket as discussed. (*NB: Due to the later than usual start time and the addition of theological discussion on Friday night, the CT chose not to have a reception following worship on Friday night.*)
4. The date and length of the June 2017 meeting (135th Stated Meeting) was discussed. The Mission Ministry shared that there is at present no leader for the 2017 PLACE event. The possibility of combining the PLACE event with the June meeting was discussed at length. It was decided that since the June docket is normally light, combining the two would be possible and potentially beneficial to the presbytery. In anticipation of this possibility, the Stated Clerk was instructed to secure a host church with sufficient facilities to host PLACE as well as the meeting. The consensus of the group was to abide by the tradition of holding the June meeting in central Arkansas.
5. The 2017 contract with Wellspring Renewal Center was presented for approval. Following a lengthy discussion about the contract and the program of providing referral services for church professionals and their families, the CT took the following actions:
- Approved the 2017 contract.

- A motion was made and seconded to instruct the Committee on the Church's Ministries to review the program with attention to the following:
 - Rates of utilization
 - Whether the program as it stands meets the needs of the presbytery
 - Report back their findings to the CT prior to the April 2017 CT meeting.
6. A request was received from the Ozark church for permission to sell vacant land and use the proceeds to make essential repairs to the church building. The AC assigned to Ozark agreed with the request. Following lengthy conversation about the context of the situation including Ozark's financial position and the fact that the congregation is pursuing dismissal from the PC(USA), a motion was made and seconded to:
 - Approve the sale of the property with proceeds earmarked for repairs to the church building.
 - Require that any sale be approved by the Ozark Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission prior to sale.
 7. Dissolved the Woodlands Presbyterian Church (HSV) Administrative Commission with the thanks of the presbytery. The AC was dissolved because litigation is pending with WPC.
 8. The report from the Administration Ministry Area distributed before the meeting was discussed. GP Smith offered insights into the history of the budget and the unrestricted mission giving to Synod and GA above and beyond per capita giving.

Smith explained the financing of the presbytery office building and the repayment plan to the NCD fund of the presbytery.

A lengthy conversation followed focused on the following:

- The need to interpret the mission of the PC(USA) and the funding streams (per capita vs. mission giving) within the church to congregations.
- The need to evaluate our giving priorities in light of changing budget demands and lower levels of income. (NB: GP Smith will address this and other financial issues in his report to the presbytery at the 133rd Stated Meeting)
- The need to evaluate our budget in light of presbytery priorities.

After the discussion focused on next steps, the sense of the CT was expressed that RE Jan Enke (Moderator, Administration), RE Leah Shell (Moderator, Future of the Church), and GP Smith should begin a process of conversation addressing the issues above. No formal motion was made, however Enke and Smith indicated their willingness to begin this conversation soon and report back to the CT on progress.

For Action:

1. The Coordinating Team recommends that the presbytery adopt the following as a Standing Rule (numbered as Standing Rule #2):

Committee Membership

In an effort to engage diverse voices from across the presbytery and honor the commitment of time and energy of ministry members, individuals may not serve concurrently on more than one of the following committees and subcommittees: CCM, CLD, Mission, Youth, Campus, and Young Adults, Campus Ministry subcommittee (except those automatically assigned to Youth, Campus, and Young Adults), Administration, Future of the Church, or Disaster Preparedness.

An exception is made for those who are automatically members of more than one ministry, committee or subcommittee by virtue of office or role in the presbytery.

Section D

Report of the Administration Ministry Area

TE Catherine Allsbury
Second, Little Rock

For Information:

1. Income & Expense as of June 2016:
 - a. As approved in February, the budget anticipated a **shortfall of \$133,928** – to be met by taking funds from the Presbytery investments (to meet the total budget of \$885,428).
 - b. Interest income is higher than expected, (+ **\$20,000**) as of June 2016.
 - c. Giving by local congregations is slow, but will be close to budget (**\$615,000**) by the end of December 2016.
 - d. Some discretionary spending has been more conservative than budgeted, which will bring us closer to a balanced picture at the end of the year.
2. Areas of Greatest Expense for 2017
 - a. Administration of the Presbytery Office (costs of personnel, building and equipment).
 - i. The General Presbyter and the Administration Ministry Area will be scrutinizing this portion of the budget for potential savings.
 - ii. This section includes repayment to the Presbytery of \$36,000 annually:
 1. \$2,000/month for New Church Development;
 2. \$1,000 to a Building Maintenance & Repair fund; fund currently has a balance of \$100,000. *Administration Ministry has voted to suspend those payments.*
 3. The presbytery could save money if the debt to the NCD fund were forgiven, or payments reduced.
 - b. Commitments to the Greater Church
 - i. Total giving to G.A. and Synod is nearly 16% of expected giving from churches. *Currently, we are giving a tithe in addition to the Per Capita tax.*
 - ii. We believe the original intent was to model good stewardship by tithing to the greater church, in faith that churches of the presbytery would follow that example by tithing to presbytery.
 - iii. The Administration Ministry is seeking guidance from other bodies in this Presbytery, in the form of theological or missional statement of intent for support of the Greater Church.
 - c. Expenses for Committees and Ministry Areas

- i. Traditionally, we have tried to balance the budget by asking each committee to trim their expenses by a flat rate. We have reached a point where asking the Committees on Nominations (\$360 annually) and Representation (\$45 annually) will not bear much fruit.
 - ii. The groups spending the most are those that are driving the mission of our Presbytery: Mission of the Church; Future of the Church; Ministries of the Church; Youth Collegiate and Young Adults.
 - iii. These areas of mission are at the heart of what we believe the church is called to do.
 - iv. *We encourage those Ministry Areas to carefully consider the financial resources available, and the most fruitful use of those resources. We cannot continue business as usual.* The Administration Ministry does not intend to micromanage by suggesting line item cuts, but we believe there is room for saving.
 - d. Payments on Loan for Ferncliff
 - i. The two loans totaling \$1,000,000 continue to be a source of distress.
 - ii. Interest-only payments have been **\$32,304.00 annually** since 1/1/2015. Reducing or eliminating those payments would be a big step forward in balancing our budget.
 - iii. To date, no relief in the form of property sales have arrived.
3. Funds from sale of Presbytery owned property.
 - a. The long standing policy has been that sale of property (either donated, or from churches that close) automatically goes into an endowment for New Church Development. We find ourselves in a time when New Church Development is rare.
 - b. The Administration Ministry suggests that it is time to revisit that position. Perhaps it could be reshaped to say that funds will be used where the *greatest need or call to mission presents itself*.
 - c. This would give the Presbytery greater flexibility in responding to areas of need, and calls to mission (locally and abroad).

Section E

Report of the Committee on the Church's Ministries

TE Dari Rowen
First, Benton

For Information:

- TE Gordon Garlington was granted Honorably Retired status effective July 31, 2016.
- TE David Gill was granted Honorably Retired status effective January 31, 2017.
- The membership of TE Debbie Spangler was transferred to Grace Presbytery.
- The CCM will henceforth use the following terminology for pastoral relationships:
 - Pastor/co-Pastor/Associate Pastor;
 - Transitional Pastor;
 - Stated Supply Pastor;
 - and Pulpit Supply.
- The CCM will no longer use the terms:
 - Temporary Supply
 - Designated Pastor/Associate Pastor/coPastor
 - Interim Pastor/Associate Pastor/co-Pastor
 - *NB: the Parish Associate designation will continue to be used.*
- The CCM will present a key-ring on the 5-year anniversary of ordinations, certifications, and commissionings, at the October presbytery meeting, and that subsequent anniversaries will be appropriately commemorated by an announcement in the October CCM report.
- TE Jeremy Wilhelmi was announced as the new chaplain of the University of the Ozarks.
- TE Carol Clark was approved as the Transitional Pastor of Park Hill Presbyterian Church, effective August 1, 2016 through August 1, 2017, with the following terms of call:
 - Salary \$38,679
 - Pension/Medical 21,790
 - ½ Social Security 4,301*
 - Travel 1,550
 - Housing 19,125
 - Continuing Ed 600
 - Total compensation \$86,045

- The CCM requested that the Presbytery, through the Coordinating Team, elect/appoint an Administrative Commission to work with the Session and congregation of First Presbyterian Church of Little Rock in moving toward God's future for the church, with the power to assume original jurisdiction. *(NB: The details of the AC are included in the Coordinating Team report.)*
- Rev. Don Hubbard resigned as the Transitional Pastor of Central Presbyterian Church, Fort Smith, effective September 30, 2016, to take the position of Transitional Pastor of First Christian Church, Fort Smith. Rev. Hubbard is an ordained pastor in the Disciples of Christ denomination.
- Central Presbyterian Church of Fort Smith, First Presbyterian Church of Springdale, and First Presbyterian Church of Jonesboro were granted permission to elect Pastor Nominating Committees.
- The Session of Grace Presbyterian Church, Little Rock, was granted permission to serve as that congregation's Pastor Nominating Committee.
- The CCM re-constituted appropriate members for a subcommittee that will establish guidelines for (1) Transitional Pastors, and (2) the needs of our congregations to have pastoral leadership and the lack of available PC(USA) Teaching Elders, including (3) how will we work with those who are not ordained as a PC(USA) Teaching Elder and what we will require of them.

For Action:

1. Motion to approve the call of TE Karen Akin as Pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church Little Rock for a designated term of 3 years with the following terms of call:
 - a. Effective Salary
 - i. Cash Salary: \$29,154
 - ii. Housing Allowance: \$18,000
 - b. Benefits
 - i. Full medical, disability, and death benefit coverage under the Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (USA)
 - ii. Paid Vacation (6 weeks including 3 Sundays)
 - iii. Paid Continuing Education (2 weeks including 2 Sundays)
 - c. Reimbursable Expenses (by voucher)
 - i. Mileage (\$0.54 per mile): \$1200
 - ii. Business/Professional Expenses: \$0
 - iii. SECA Supplement (up to 50%): \$0
 - iv. Continuing Education: \$3500

2. Motion to approve the following details concerning the Installation Service of TE Karen Akin as Pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church:
 - a. Date and Time of Installation: November 20, 2016 at 3:00 pm
 - b. Offering Recipient: Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center
 - c. Members to serve on the Administrative Commission to include:
 - i. TE Lacy Sellars, Moderator of the Presbytery, to moderate and propound the Constitutional Questions
 - ii. TE David Gill, Director, Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center, to preach,
 - iii. TE Lindy Vogado, Associate Pastor, Second Presbyterian Church, to charge the congregation
 - iv. RE Cyril Hollingsworth, elder, Second Presbyterian Church, to charge the pastor
 - v. RE Betty Glenn, elder, Westover Hills Presbyterian Church
 - vi. TE Anne Russ, pastor, First Presbyterian Church, North Little Rock
 - vii. RE Betty Winter or Jerry Herbert, Grace Presbyterian Church

3. Motion to approve the call of TE Paul Fulks as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Heber Springs with the following terms of call:

4. Motion to approve the following details concerning the Installation Service for Paul Fulks:
 - a. Date and Time of Installation: November 6, 2016 at 3:00 pm
 - b. Offering Recipient: Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center
 - c. Members to serve on the Administrative Commission to include:
 - i. TE Lacy Sellars to Moderate and Propound Constitutional Questions
 - ii. TE Stewart Smith to Preach
 - iii. TE Dari Rowen
 - iv. TE Carol Clark to Charge the Pastor
 - v. TE Kade Curry to Charge the Congregation
 - vi. RE Ruth Hamilton, Kirk in the Pines, Hot Springs Village
 - vii. RE Carolyn Buchanan, First, Batesville
 - viii. RE Anton Bucher, First, Heber Springs
 - ix. Sitting with the Commission: TE Milton Davis RE David Clark, First, Heber Springs

5. Motion to approve the call of Rev. Jai Deok Kwak as Pastor (part-time) of Central Presbyterian Church of Pine Bluff with the following terms of call:
 - a. Effective Salary

- i. Cash Salary: \$15, 867.78
 - ii. Housing Allowance: \$12,000
 - iii. Deferred Compensation: \$11,652.54
 - b. Benefits
 - i. Full medical, disability, and death benefit coverage under the Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (USA)
 - ii. Moving Expenses (negotiated)
 - iii. Paid Vacation (3 weeks including 3 Sundays)
 - iv. Paid Continuing Education (2 weeks including 2 Sundays)
 - v. Clergy Renewal Leave (3 months including Sundays) with continued salary and benefits following the seventh year of service.
 - vi. *NB: This position is ¾ time and is therefore exempt from presbytery minimum requirements for leave.*
 - c. Reimbursable Expenses (by voucher)
 - i. Mileage (\$0.54 per mile): \$1200
 - ii. Business/Professional Expenses: \$0
 - iii. SECA Supplement (up to 50%): \$0
 - iv. Continuing Education: \$1200
6. Motion to approve the following details concerning the Installation Service of Jai Deok Kwak: *(NB: details to be distributed at the presbytery meeting.)*
7. Motion to receive the Rev. Jai Deok Kwak as a member of the Presbytery of Arkansas. Rev. Kwak's statement of faith is below:

Statement of Faith

Rev. Jai Deok Kwak

I believe in One God, the triune God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, three divine persons in one God. Three distinctive beings, yet One God for they are in same substance and share the eternity together. They suffer together, and sacrifice together to give new life to humanity and the renewing of the creation. They share the everlasting, uninterrupted love relationship forever.

I believe the divinity of the Son, Jesus Christ. I believe that through Christ, the Trinity God reveals Himself to humanity. Jesus is the most comprehensive and substantial revelation of the Triune God to humanity. His birth, His Baptism, His teachings, His miracles, His Crucifixion, and His resurrection display the identity and the works of three divine beings. I believe that the truth -- that there is only ONE God -- means that the Creator of the Universe, and the incarnated Son, and the one who indwells within the believers and do the work of sanctification are the same

“ONE God.” Though there are peculiarities in the work each person does, they work together for the salvation of humanity.

I also confess that I believe Jesus is a man. The Second person of the Trinity became a human being in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. He took the nature of humanity from the substance of a woman, a virgin, by mean of the Holy Ghost. And so was born the “just seed of David,” the very Messiah promised. In His humanity, the promises of God, the Prophecies of the Old Testament Prophets were fulfilled. In His humanity, Jesus became the Lamb of God, the suffering servant for the whole world. Through the humanity of Jesus Christ, the power of God made perfect in weakness. As a man Jesus experienced every human needs and limitation. He also was tempted to sin, and yet lived a sinless life. In the mystery of “incarnation,” the Creator (God) became the created (human). In this union, the fallen humanity sees the way of salvation, the way of reconciliation to God and others. In this sense, Jesus is the perfect link between two quiet distinct beings, God and humanity. For Christ is both God and human, not partially but in perfect form, Jesus can be one and only Mediator between God and man. In Him, God is really with us. Humanity of Jesus Christ exhibits God’s genuine love toward the humanity. In Jesus Christ, human life was accepted, and reconciled to God. God embraces who we really are. I believe that I am a beloved child of God, and God called me out of this world to live a Christ-like life. I believe that God desires the reconciliation of the world through Jesus. For this work of reconciliation, God called Christians out of darkness and placed the Spirit of Christ in them. Just as the Christ was predestined to be the mediator between the God and the Humanity, Christians are predestined to be the agents of the Christ to bring the world back to the Christ. I was formed in His image. I am called to be in likeness of Christ. I find my value and purpose of my life only in Him.

8. Approve the renewed CRE covenant between Kenneth and Claire Rhodes and the congregation of West End, Arkadelphia. (NB: A copy is included in Section

Section F

Report of the Committee on Leadership Development

TE Kade Curry
First, Searcy

For Information:

The Committee on Church Leadership Development of Arkansas Presbytery met at Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center at 9:30 am on Saturday, September 3, 2016. A quorum was present.

The process for examining the candidates was discussed prior to their joining the meeting. Because of the number of candidates, there will be a group interview process where all candidates may participate and also hear other answers. This will be followed by individual interviews. Time will be flexible based on the needs of the Candidates/Inquirers.

It was suggested that the Mentors be given a schedule to enforce for candidates to turn in paperwork and to move the process forward. It will be the responsibility of the Candidates/Inquirers to enforce their own schedules.

Two Liaisons are being assigned for each Candidate/Inquirer. Some Liaisons who have begun the process but are no longer on the Committee will continue with their assignments. Kathy White will set up a file of all the documents and status of each Candidate/Inquirer. The *Book of Order* has no rules as to how long a person must be in each stage of the process, but the total time between acceptance as Inquirer and Ordination should be at least three years.

Liaison assignments:

- Katherine Norwood – Susan Anderson and Lynn Condra
- Molly DeWitt – Susan Rose and Kade Curry
- Krista Denne – Debbie Freeman and Sherry Miller
- Brittany Fiscus Van Rossum – Kade Curry and Debbie Freeman
- Stacey Hammons – Debbie Freeman and Kathy White
- David Mills – Mike McCrackin and Debbie Freeman
- Jordan Akin – Susan Anderson and Bill Henning
- Max Hill – Debbie Freeman and Lynn Condra

A repository will be developed on the Presbytery website to contain our forms. Kade Curry will arrange for this. He will also send an e-mail to each Candidate with copies to Liaisons to establish communication.

Interview Process

The Candidates joined the meeting, and the entire group participated in an icebreaker activity.

Group interview then began. Questions which were discussed included:

- What created the desire or urge to look into becoming a minister?
- How will ordination as a Teaching Elder enhance your opportunities to serve God?
- How can creative and bi-vocational ministry opportunities be developed?

Individual Interviews

Jordan Akin

Jordan indicated that she sees the Inquiry status as definitely a time for discernment for her as she begins her seminary studies. She has spent two years as a YAV which has given her insight into possibilities for ministry. She has spent two weeks at Louisville Seminary in an introductory course. She hopes this committee will be there to support her through her time of discernment. She was encouraged to develop new mentors in her new situation. Louisville Seminary offers field placements during the summer which Jordan plans to take advantage of. She was informed that the pastoral internship required by this committee can generally be coordinated with seminary requirements. Jordan was given information on her liaisons. Motion was approved to accept Jordan Akin as an Inquirer. Kade offered prayer for this relationship.

Stacey Hammons

Stacey has already graduated from seminary and is transferring from another denomination which did not allow ordination of women. She is currently working as a Chaplain at Presbyterian Village. She had graduated from seminary without a church but established a relationship with Karen Akin of Second Presbyterian. When Stacey first attended Second, she worried about how her theology would mesh with Presbyterianism. She was very comfortable with the encouragement to ask questions and ability to be accepting. She doesn't always agree with Calvin, but she is becoming more able to live with ambiguity. The committee discussed educational requirements which she needs to complete ordination requirements. She has to complete Hebrew and Greek language requirement. The committee does not want to require any unnecessary classes, but some study in Reformed theology and polity would be helpful. She hopes to start her studies as soon as possible. The committee agreed that she needs to concentrate on what is needed to pass her ordination exams. There has been a question as to whether Stacey can officiate at the Sacrament of Communion under her current status. She has not been ordained as a Ruling Elder in the PC(USA) and therefore cannot officiate at the monthly Sunday Sacrament of Communion at Presbyterian Village under the *Book of Order* but that she can participate in a service led by a minister of another denomination. Stacey was given information about her liaisons. Motion was approved to accept Stacey Hammons as an Inquirer. Kade offered prayer for this relationship.

David Mills

David indicated that he is still deciding on whether to work on a Masters or to go to seminary. He has toured several seminaries and is also considering studying in Northern Ireland. He is currently serving as Interim Director of Youth Ministries at Second in Little Rock. This position will allow him to save money for school during this year and to work through his options for the next year. David had discussed with his pastor Steve Hancock as to whether he should apply for Inquirer status or wait until he decides whether he is going to seminary. David shared some of his experience in growing up in a small church and how he vacillated in a leadership roll. He indicated that helping others has always been a part of his life. Motion was approved to accept David Mills as an Inquirer. Debbie offered prayer for this relationship. He was given information about his liaisons.

Max Hill

Max indicated that he had gone through a process of wanting to avoid organized religion to deciding that he would be attending seminary. He had been turned off by the narrow-minded view of Christianity he had grown up with and their lack of acceptance of him as a gay person. His family encouraged him to search out other religions which he did. He eventually became involved with UCM at the University of Arkansas and was accepted for who he was. He became very involved there, finally becoming president and student director. He will be starting at Princeton Seminary next week. He has received scholarships to Princeton and is currently involved in the “1001 Worshipping Communities” movement. Motion was approved to accept Max Hill as an Inquirer. Lynn offered prayer for this relationship. He was given information about his liaisons.

Katherine Norwood

Katherine has been an Inquirer for a while, but this is the first time she has met with the committee in person. She indicated that her studies at Louisville Seminary are going well. The seminary has a good mix of older and traditional students. She is starting her field studies next year at Central Presbyterian in Louisville, an urban church. It was agreed that a semester rather than quarterly report from her supervisor would be adequate. She has completed her Hebrew and Old Testament exegesis courses. She will be doing Greek and New Testament next year. Katherine was reminded that this committee requires a field internship that her seminary field study will satisfy. Katherine is looking as possibilities of campus ministry but is open to other possibilities. She will fill out the required paperwork. Kade is working on an outline of the Candidacy process to post on the Arkansas Presbytery website. Liaisons will work on planning the ordination exams with the candidates. Taking these exams can be spread out over the Candidacy stage. Katherine may apply to become a Candidate whenever she feels ready; she needs to ask the Session of her home church to approve her application so it can be presented to Presbytery for approval. Forms will be available on the Presbytery web site. Stewart Smith offered a prayer for this relationship.

Molly DeWitt

Molly has found an advocate at her seminary to see that she is able to have the courses she needs for ordination. She is now placed as a pastoral intern at a small church with an older membership, a change from the youth emphasis she has had working in a camp situation. She is looking at a CPE internship as the next stage in her preparation. She is currently on a three-year program. She is having to be creative in planning for her language courses. She has not yet talked with her liaison about applying for candidacy and planning for her ordination exams. The camp where she is employed is actively working to build bridges to churches who disagree with the denomination. The process for becoming a Candidate was explained to Molly. She indicated that she is weak in Bible knowledge and will need to work very hard to pass the ordination exams. Molly may apply to become a Candidate whenever she feels ready; she needs to ask the Session of her home church to approve her application so it can be presented to Presbytery for approval. Forms will be available on the Presbytery web site. Debbie Freeman offered a prayer for this relationship.

Brittany Fiscus-van Rossum

Brittany has completed four of her ordination exams and needs to pass Bible Content. She is entering her last year of seminary at Columbia and will be doing an internship in CPE. She should meet all requirements for ordination by the end of the school year. As soon as she passes Bible Content, she hopes to start looking for a church. There is a possibility of continuing at the church where she is doing supervised ministry which serves the homeless, but she would also like to explore other possibilities. It was noted that she does not have to appear before Presbytery when she is approved to receive a call. When she receives a call, she will be examined by the Presbytery where the call is issued. It was recommended that she begin work on her PIF so that she can seek a call as soon as she completes ordination requirements.

Krista Denne

Krista has completed two of her ordination exams. She will complete her required seminary classes in January but does plan to take additional classes the next semester. She has been working as an Intern at First Presbyterian in Clarksville and would consider staying there if possible. She would also consider going overseas. It was noted that she does not have to appear before Presbytery when she is approved to receive a call. When she receives a call, she will be examined by the Presbytery where the call is issued. It was recommended that she begin work on her PIF so that she can seek a call as soon as she completes ordination requirements.

For Action:

1. That Jordan Akin (Second, LR) be enrolled as an Inquirer.
2. That Stacy Hammons (Second, LR) be enrolled as an Inquirer.
3. That David Mills (Second, LR) be enrolled as an Inquirer.
4. That Max Hill (Second, LR) be enrolled as an Inquirer.

Section G

Report of the Committee on Nominations

TE Elizabeth Gabbard
First, Arkadelphia

For Information:

The form to self-nominate or nominate someone from your congregation is in packet Section M (Forms and Registration Documents).

For Action:

1. The Committee on Nominations moves the election of the following persons for a two-year term, Class of 2018
 - a. Coordinating Team (at-large members):
 - i. TE Ruskin Falls, Pulaski Heights, Little Rock
 - ii. TE Mike McCracken, Wynne Presbyterian
 - b. Commissioner to Synod of the Sun:
 - i. RE Emily Laurel, First, Benton
 - c. Committee on Representation:
 - i. RE Ledridge Davis, First, Malvern
 - ii. RE Jeannie Maples, First, Harrison
 - iii. RE Barry Matthews, First, Jacksonville
 - iv. Ms. Yuri Hernandez, Barr Memorial, Norman
 - d. General Assembly Young Adult Advisory Delegate
 - i. Ms. Emma Gillaspay, First, Conway/Lyon College

2. The Committee on Nominations moves the election of the following persons for three-year terms, Class of 2019:
 - a. Stated Clerk:
 - i. TE Robert Lowry, at-large
 - b. Counselor-at-law:
 - i. RE Ed McCorkle, First, Arkadelphia
 - c. Committee on Administration:
 - i. TE Catherine Allsbury, HR, Second, Little Rock
 - ii. TE David Dyer, HR, Westminster, Little Rock
 - d. Committee on the Church and Its Ministries:
 - i. TE Phil Butin, First United, Fayetteville
 - ii. RE Don Eilbott, Trinity, Little Rock

- iii. RE Sue Johnston, First, Batesville
 - iv. RE Jim Pedersen, First, Rogers
 - e. Committee on the Church and Its Mission:
 - i. TE Paul Fulks, First, Heber Springs
 - ii. RE Kelly Pearson, First, Dardanelle
 - iii. RE Marty Shepherd, First, Dardanelle
 - f. Committee on Leadership Development:
 - i. TE Kade Curry, First, Searcy
 - ii. RE Mike Easley, Graham Memorial, Forrest City
 - iii. TE Debra Carl Freeman, First, Jacksonville
 - g. Committee on the Future of the Church:
 - i. TE Phil Blackburn, First, Fort Smith
 - ii. TE Brian Brock, Central, Russellville
 - iii. TE Steven Frazier, First, Morrilton
 - iv. TE Marie Mainard O'Connell, at-large
 - h. Committee on Youth, Campus, and Young Adults:
 - i. RE Justin Clark, First, North Little Rock
 - ii. Ms. Jennifer McCracken, Wynne Presbyterian
 - iii. Ms. Carolyn Ward, First, Batesville/Lyon College
 - i. Subcommittee on Disaster Preparedness
 - i. TE Ira "Ike" Brighton, HR, at-large
 - ii. RE Betty Powell, Park Hill, North Little Rock
 - iii. TE David Schaller, Faith, Horseshoe Bend
 - j. Readers of Theological Exams:
 - i. TE Steve Hancock, Second, Little Rock
 - ii. RE Sherry Miller, First, Hot Springs
 - iii. RE Wendell Phillips, Park Hill, North Little Rock
 - iv. TE Ward Rudolph, at-large
 - k. Alternate Reader of Theological Exams:
 - i. TE Katie Cummings, First, Bentonville
- 3. The Committee on Nominations moves the election of the following for one-year terms in Class of 2017:
 - a. RE Jan Enke, First, Van Buren, moderator, Committee on Administration
 - b. TE Dari Rowen, First, Benton, moderator, Committee on Church and Its Ministries
 - c. RE Kelly Pearson, First, Dardanelle, moderator, Committee on Church and Its Missio
 - d. TE Kade Curry, First, Searcy, moderator, Committee on Leadership Development
 - e. RE Ledridge Davis, First, Malvern, moderator, Committee on Representation
 - f. RE Leah Shell, Second, Little Rock, moderator, Committee on the Future of the Church

- g. RE Krista Denne', First, Clarksville, moderator, Committee on Youth, Campus and Young Adult
- h. TE Lacy Sellars, First, Hot Springs, moderator, Coordinating Tea
- i. TE Ira (Ike) Brighton, HR, at-large, moderator, Disaster Preparedness Subcommittee
- j. RE Ruth Hamilton, Kirk in the Pines, Hot Springs Village, moderator, Presbytery of Arkansas

Section H

Report of the Future of the Church Committee

RE Leah Shell
Second, Little Rock

For Information:

The Future of the Church committee met twice since the last Presbytery meeting. The first meeting was on June 9, 2016 while the second meeting occurred on August 11, 2016. A summary of both meetings is noted below.

- Peg Falls-Corbitt and Ted Belden serve on the Coordinating Team as representatives for the Future of the Church. Ted Belden will serve for two years on this committee while Peg Falls-Corbitt will roll off the Coordinating Team at the end of 2016.
- During our August meeting a discussion of current and anticipated budget constraints was led by Stewart Smith. A motion was made and seconded to reduce portion of the 2017 FOTC budget by \$15,000. The committee will work on allocation of the anticipated budget during our retreat on the 18th and 19th of November in Russellville, AR.
- **Property:** Melanie Gibson, the listing agent for the Chenal Property reports interest from a developer for the possible use as a site for senior living community. A formal offer has not been submitted. Ted Belden is arranging to have some preliminary engineering work done to aid with marketing efforts. An Administrative Commission was formed during the June Presbytery meeting for the purpose of marketing and selling the Crossover Property. Ted Belden and Leah Shell are the representatives from FOTC for this Commission. The Commission has met via two conference calls and an appraisal of the Crossover Property was ordered and prepared. The Commission is in the process of listing this property.
- We are working on a celebration of life of the Gravette Church.
- **Technology:** Stewart Smith has encouraged our committee to look outside the Presbytery for answers to some of our technology needs. A discussion of virtual meeting platforms was discussed.
- **Community Resourcing:** Brian Brock continues to work with the Van Buren Church to look for ways to fund the needed repairs to their building. He has reached out to others within this committee for aid. We are continuing to work on developing new policies for grant request and procedures for awarding funds to congregations.

- **Visioning and Vitality:** A motion was made and seconded to fund a portion of the Food with Family Program at the Argenta Church. A motion was made and seconded to fund 12 weeks at \$125 per week plus the salary for the intern. The total voted to be paid from Small Church Miscellaneous – Account 7500-28-1-000 is \$2460. We continue to reach out to the churches that the FOTC helps support yearly to find out if the level of support is needed and what the funds will be used for in the future.
- **New Worshipping Communities:** Marie Mainard O’Connell gave us a report on the Mercy Church, a congregation whose focus is the homeless population in downtown Little Rock. She also gave us a report on the Walnut Grove Church. The former intern from United Campus Ministries is now attending Seminary and is no longer involved with this congregation. A motion was made and seconded to **approve UCM’s adding liability-only insurance for Walnut Grove to the UCM policy, to be paid for through UCM’s grant funding. Motion was seconded and passed.**
- **Visioning:** The First Presbyterian Church in Beebe has approach the FOTC. They desire some help with some steps their congregation can make. Mike Vinson, who serves as the Staff Liaison from the Presbytery for the FOTC expressed a desire to work on visioning projects within the Presbytery.
- Members of the Future of the Church continue serving on several Administrative Commissions. These include Lonoke, Rogers and Ozark.
- The FOTC has scheduled a retreat on the 18th and 19th of November in Russellville Arkansas.

Section J

Report of the Mission of the Church Ministry Area

RE Kelly Pearson
CRE First, Dardanelle

For Information:

- A letter from Journey into Hope

To: Committee on Mission Presbytery of Arkansas

Dear Colleagues in Ministry,

Members and a friend of Faith Presbyterian Church, Horseshoe Bend, Arkansas, have recently completed our third mission trip to the Dominican Republic in July and August of 2016, to work with Journey into Hope.

Journey into Hope is a mission that works with Haitians in the town of Sabaneta de Yasica, Dominican Republic. Haitians in the DR are the “poorest of the poor” in our hemisphere. The mission includes community nutrition support through a soup kitchen (serving up to 60 children per day), spiritual support through the New Life Christian Church, basic medical service through an on-site clinic (when medical staff are available), housing support through several residences, job training, education support through scholarship and uniform assistance for kindergarten through medical & nursing school students, assistance in securing passports and work documents, and general encouragement and support.

Journey into Hope, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) private charitable foundation, dedicated to serving the desperately poor in Latin America and the Caribbean. Richard Taylor, the foundation's director, is a professional luthier (guitar builder). Several years ago he accompanied a medical mission team to Sabaneta, DR as a translator, where he was introduced to a small community of Haitians. That meeting turned into a calling.

Haiti and the Dominican Republic share the Caribbean island of Hispanola. But since Haiti was formed in 1804 following a slave revolt, the relationship between the two sides of the island have been rocky. Haitian agricultural workers have been brought into the DR since the early 20th century. Many Haitians in the DR today are descendants of those early sugar cane workers. But according to new laws in the DR, they do not qualify for citizenship, either in the Dominican or Haiti.

Journey into Hope has worked closely with a private elementary school in the neighborhood for several years. In 2014 JIH constructed a building for the school on their compound. Intentionally bi-racial and bi-cultural, the school is heavily subsidized by scholarships, in an effort to raise a generation of

Haitian and Dominican children who can live and work comfortably together.

Faith Presbyterian, along with several other congregations of various denominations around the country, has been instrumental in the construction of residences, a soup kitchen, the church, clinic and school, both through the donation of funds, and on-site work over the past several years. In 2016 this small congregation in north central Arkansas raised over \$7000 toward an addition to the elementary school building. Along with a \$2000 contribution from the Presbytery of Arkansas, this was enough to construct the addition, as well as security walls around the compound. Our team of five had the privilege of putting the finishing touches on the school addition, allowing an expansion to 150 students.

Please visit www.journeyintohope.org or Journey into Hope on Facebook for a more close-up and personal view of the work of this ministry.

*In Christ,
Faith Presbyterian Church
David Schaller, Pastor Horseshoe Bend, AR
870.750.0028*

- Since the presbytery meeting in June, the Church and Its Mission ministry-area has met twice to allocate missional funds and provide educational opportunities.
- The P.L.A.C.E. was held on August 6th, making this the third consecutive annual venue in our presbytery. Our gracious thanks are given to Christian Educator Kristi Button, of FUPC-Fayetteville, who was this year's coordinator. A task-force has been established to ascertain options on how to provide an *en masse* venue(s) for Christian education, spiritual development, and/or evangelistic skills/tools in 2017.
- The mission of the presbytery has included the Disaster and Response Permanent Subcommittee sponsoring two mission work-weeks in McGehee to repair homes damaged from Spring flooding. One trip was in August and the other the first full week of October. Your presbytery made a grant for the initial trip of \$2,500 to assist in buying materials.
- Other grant recipients have or will include: Stop Hunger Now--\$2,000; The Food-pantry/meal ministry of FPC-Van Buren--\$1,000; Arkansas Interfaith--\$5,600(\$2,000 for 2015); Journey into Hope (Dominican Republic), mission-trip sponsored by Faith PC-Horseshoe Bend--\$2,000; the Arkansas Presbyterian Pilgrimage--\$1,800 for two 4-day retreats; Vera Lloyd--\$2,520; Solar Under the Sun--\$2,500; Evergreen Ministries Flood-damage repairs--\$1,000; and, FPC-McGehee's backpack ministry--\$1,500.
- The ministry-area made the decision in July to trim its 2017 budget request by 17%, to then approve the budget-lines in its September meeting to equal the \$70,000 figure. Believing that most ministry-areas will face major cuts, the Church and Its Mission ministry-area anticipates

a significant reduction in outgoing grants even for this year.

- Though committed to reducing expenditures, monies remain for which we encourage interested congregations to apply, especially for these two purposes:
 - Because expenditures for evangelism have not been made this year, grant-requests will be considered for up to \$500 to help five churches needing assistance with an evangelism-endeavor, such as: improving signage, updating or creating a website, running newspaper or other media advertisements; and,
 - The notice again is being announced for grant-requests from congregations having or wanting to do ministries for the vulnerable, “*especially among the very young and very old.*”
 - A grant request, along with ministry explanations/purpose, participant numbers, and/or specific planned use(s) of the grant money, may be sent to the email of Moderator Kelly Pearson: ktpearson@suddenlink.net.
- It is anticipated that at our presbytery meetings next year we shall have reports from officials of Arkansas Interfaith and Vera Lloyd, that we may stay current on these ministries in our state which the presbytery supports.
- Trusting that the oversight of donations given by the presbytery’s churches and allocated for the purposes of Christian Education and Mission of the Church are being administered with diligent stewardship, we solicit not only the continuation of faithful financial giving but prayers. We give thanks to God for those who volunteer to be traveling agents of God’s love to places like McGehee, Honduras, south Louisiana, and the Dominican Republic. As well, we give thanks for the witness of Christ through the entities and partnerships hereto unnoted: the Arkansas Black Presbyterian Caucus, Ferncliff Camp & Conference Center, and the Presbyterian Women.

Section K

Subcommittee on Disaster Preparedness

For Information:

March 10, 2016, McGehee, AR received over 15 ½” rain in a very short time. As you may know, there is nothing but flat land in McGehee, AR; and the rain drenched the first floor of a lot of houses. Very few people in the flooded area had flood insurance.

About 32 houses came to the attention of the McGehee Disaster Recovery Committee (a committee appointed by the mayor of McGehee). With United Methodist Church layperson Gen. Wesley Jacobs in charge, the committee has used a case management process to determine needs not met by insurance or other personal resources. The committee is using volunteer work teams to meet needs that the homeowners themselves cannot meet: restoring flooring, insulation, dry wall, and paint in the houses.

The Presbytery of AR, led by Susie Wright, organized two mission trips, Aug. 8-12 and Oct. 3-7, to help with repairs. The first week, 24 people from 6 different churches collaborated to restore 4 houses and to offer emotional and spiritual care to the homeowners. Oct. 3-7, 16 people from 3 different churches worked on 3 more houses in McGehee. Thanks to donations from AR churches, the DPRS was able to contribute \$5,000 toward a materials fund. According to Gen. Jacobs, community recovery could be finished by winter. A mission trip report is attached.

On August 6, 2016, at the P.L.A.C.E., the DPRS brought Heath Whorton, the Director of Emergency Management at AR Tech University, to lead two workshops on dealing with an active shooter situation. About 40 people attended.

The committee is working on a committee protocol for response to low-impact events within the presbytery and on a disaster response protocol for congregations.

The DPRS has provided \$1,500 in support of Katie McGee, the PDA Young Adult Volunteer at Ferncliff for 2016-17, and \$1,500 to help Ferncliff purchase 10 emergency radios for use on campus. The radios have already proven to be valuable.

On Oct. 26, in a PDA-led training at Ferncliff, three Presbyterian women from the Presbytery of AR will be trained as congregational preparedness trainers. The DPRS wants to know that each congregation is prepared for the worst. Please tell us who your disaster contact will be.

Thank you for your support of disaster preparedness and response in AR.

Section L

Theological Discussion on the Lord's Supper

It is the policy of our presbytery that stated meetings “regularly include in their order of business an adequate block of time for a presentation, discussion, and/or debate of a theological nature regarding some matter of ecclesial, confessional, doctrinal, moral, political, spiritual, or otherwise theological importance to our life, thought, and work together as Christians and as Presbyterians.”

Among the amendments to the Book of Order proposed by the 222nd General Assembly (2016), is the following:

16-G. Access to the Lord's Table On Amending W-2.4011a. and b.

Our presbytery will be voting on this amendment at its February meeting. We are taking it up as a topic for theological discussion ahead of time, in order to allow and invite a wider sharing of insights into and consideration of the issues involved, than we'll have time and opportunity for, when the matter is debated in February.

This proposed amendment would strike and replace two paragraphs in the current Book of Order pertaining to the invitation to the Lord's Supper in member congregations of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). *The central change would be to no longer make baptism a requirement for admission to the table.*

In the present Book of Order, *W-2.4011* reads as follows:

(Who May Receive)

- a. The invitation to the Lord's Supper is extended to all who have been baptized, remembering that access to the Table is not a right conferred upon the worthy, but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love. In preparing to receive Christ in this Sacrament, the believer is to confess sin and brokenness, to seek reconciliation with God and neighbor, and to trust in Jesus Christ for cleansing and renewal. Even one who doubts or whose trust is wavering may come to the Table in order to be assured of God's love and grace in Christ Jesus.

(Baptized Children)

- b. Baptized children who are being nurtured and instructed in the significance of the invitation to the Table and the meaning of their response are invited to receive the Lord's Supper, recognizing that their understanding of participation will vary according to their maturity. (W-4.2002)

The proposed replacement for that wording reads as follows:

(Theology of the Lord's Supper)

- a. The opportunity to eat and drink with Christ is not a right bestowed upon the worthy, but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love. All who come to the table are offered the bread and cup, regardless of their age or understanding. If some of those who come have not yet been baptized, an invitation to baptismal preparation and Baptism should be graciously extended. Worshipers prepare themselves to celebrate the Lord's Supper by putting their trust in Christ, confessing their sin, and seeking reconciliation with God and one another. Even those who doubt may come to the table in order to be assured of God's love and grace in Jesus Christ.

(Welcoming to the Table)

- b. In cases where baptized children who have not yet begun to participate in the Lord's Supper express a desire to receive the Sacrament, the session should provide an occasion to welcome them to the table in public worship. Their introduction to the Lord's Supper should include ongoing instruction or formation in the meaning and mystery of the Sacraments.

Again, we will not be voting on this amendment at the October meeting. Rather, in advance of and in preparation for the vote to be taken in February, we are offering an open forum for discussing important issues concerning the Lord's Supper, and for voicing personal hopes, concerns, and views regarding these issues. We trust that YOU will be moved to participate!

Section M

Polity Committee

For Action:

NB: Business referred to the presbyteries by the General Assembly may not be amended. The referrals must be voted on as presented.

1. 16-A. Child and Youth Protection Policy On Amending G-3.0106

Shall the fourth paragraph of G-3.0106 of the Form of Government be amended as follows? [Text to be inserted is shown as italic.]

“All councils shall adopt and implement a sexual misconduct policy and a child and youth protection policy.”

Polity Committee Recommendation: Approve

2. 16-B. Parity in Committees On Amending G-3.0109

Shall the second paragraph of G-3.0109 of the Form of Government be amended as follows? [Text to be deleted is shown with a strike-through; text to be added or inserted is shown as italic.]

“A committee shall study and recommend action or carry out decisions already made by a council. It shall make a full report to the council that created it, and its recommendations shall require action by that body. Committees of councils higher than the session shall consist of both teaching elders and members of congregations, with at least one half being members of congregations in numbers as nearly equal as possible.”

Polity Committee Recommendation: Approve

3. 16-C.1. Ministers of the Word and Sacrament On Amending F-3.0202

Shall F-3.0202 be amended as follows? [Text to be deleted is shown with a strike-through; text to be added or inserted is shown as italic.]

“This church shall be governed by presbyters, that is, ruling elders and teaching elders (also called ministers of the Word and Sacrament). Ruling elders are so named not because they ‘lord it over’ the congregation (Matt. 20:25), but because they are chosen by the congregation to discern and measure guide in its fidelity to the Word of God, and to strengthen and nurture its faith and life. Teaching elders Ministers of

the Word and Sacrament shall be committed in all their work to teaching the faith in word and in deed and equipping the people of God for their ministry and witness.”

Polity Committee Recommendation: Approve

4. 16-C.2. Ministers of the Word and Sacrament On Amending G-2.0102

Shall the third paragraph of G-2.0102 be amended as follows? [Text to be deleted is shown with a strike-through; text to be added or inserted is shown as italic.]

“Ordination to the ministry of ~~teaching elder, ruling elder, or~~ *deacon, ruling elder, or minister of Word and Sacrament (also called teaching elder)* is unique to that order of ministry.”

Polity Committee Recommendation: Approve

5. 16-C.3. Ministers of Word and Sacrament On Amending G-2.0301

Shall G-2.0301 be amended follows? [Text to be deleted is shown with a strike-through; text to be added or inserted is shown as italic.]

“As there were in Old Testament times elders for the government of the people, so the New Testament church provided persons with particular gifts to share in discernment of God’s Spirit and governance of God’s people. Accordingly, congregations should elect persons of wisdom and maturity of faith, having demonstrated skills in leadership and being compassionate in spirit. Ruling elders are so named not because they ‘lord it over’ the congregation (Matt. 20:25), but because they are chosen by the congregation to discern and measure its fidelity to the Word of God, and to strengthen and nurture its faith and life. Ruling elders, together with ~~teaching elders~~ *ministers of the Word and Sacrament*, exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment, and discipline and have responsibilities for the life of a congregation as well as the whole church, including ecumenical relationships. When elected by the congregation, they shall serve faithfully as members of the session. When elected as commissioners to higher councils, ruling elders participate and vote with the same authority as ~~teaching elders~~ *ministers of the Word and Sacrament*, and they are eligible for any office.”

Polity Committee Recommendation: Approve

6. 16-C.4. Ministers of the Word and Sacrament On Amending G-2.05 and G-2.0501

Shall G-2.05 and G-2.0501 be amended as follows? [Text to be deleted is shown with a strikethrough; text to be added or inserted is shown as italic.]

“G-2.05 ~~Teaching Elders~~ *Ministers of the Word and Sacrament*: The Ministry of ~~the Word and Sacrament~~ *Teaching and Pastoral Care*

“G-2.0501 ~~Teaching Elder~~ *Minister of the Word and Sacrament* Defined “~~Teaching elders (also called ministers of the Word and Sacrament)~~ *Ministers of the Word and Sacrament (also called teaching elders and pastors)* shall in all things be committed to teaching the faith in word and deed and equipping the saints for the work of ministry (Eph. 4:12). They may serve in a variety of ministries as authorized by the presbytery. When they serve as preachers and teachers of the Word, they shall preach and teach the faith of the church, so that the people are shaped by the pattern of the gospel and strengthened for witness and service. When they serve at font and table, they shall interpret *and ‘show forth’* the mysteries of grace ~~and lift in word and action, lifting~~ the people’s vision toward the hope of God’s new creation. When they serve as pastors, they shall support the people in the disciplines of the faith amid the struggles of daily life. When they serve as presbyters, they shall participate in the responsibilities of governance, seeking always to discern the mind of Christ and to build up Christ’s body through devotion, debate, and decision.”

Polity Committee Recommendation: Approve

7. 16-C.5. Ministers of the Word and Sacrament On Amending G-2.0701

Shall G-2.0701 be amended as follows? [Text to be deleted is shown with a strikethrough; text to be added or inserted is shown as italic.]

“Ordination to the ordered ministry of ~~teaching elder~~ *minister of Word and Sacrament* is an act of the whole church carried out by the presbytery, setting apart a person to ordered ministry. Such a person shall have fulfilled the ordination requirements of the presbytery of care and received the call of God to service to a congregation or other work in the mission of the church that is acceptable to the candidate and to the presbytery of call.”

Polity Committee Recommendation: Approve

8. 16-C.6. Ministers of the Word and Sacrament and Commissioned Pastors On Amending G-3.0307

Shall the second paragraph of G-3.0307 be amended as follows? [Text to be deleted is shown with a strike-through; text to be added or inserted is shown as italic.]

“G-3.0307 Pastor, Counselor, and Advisor to ~~Teaching Elders~~ *Its Pastors* and Congregations “Presbyteries shall be open at all times to communication regarding the life and ministry of their congregations.

“Each presbytery shall develop and maintain mechanisms and processes to serve as pastor and counselor to ~~teaching elders~~ *its pastors, both ministers of Word and Sacrament and ruling elders commissioned to pastoral service (also called commissioned pastors (also known as commissioned ruling elders))*, as well as the and certified Christian educators of the presbytery; to facilitate the relations between the presbytery and its congregations, ~~teaching elders, ruling elders commissioned to pastoral service, pastors~~ and certified Christian educators; and to settle difficulties on behalf of the presbytery where possible and expedient.”

Polity Committee Recommendation: Approve

9. 16-C.7. Minister of the Word and Sacrament and Commissioned Pastor On Amending the Directory for Worship and the Rules of Discipline

Shall the Directory for Worship and the Rules of Discipline be amended so that the terms “ruling elder commissioned to particular pastoral service” or “ruling elder commissioned to pastoral service” and “teaching elder” shall be replaced with its former terms, “*commissioned pastor (also known as commissioned ruling elder)*” or “*minister*” or “*minister of Word and Sacrament*”, respectively?

Polity Committee Recommendation: Approve

10. 16-C.8. Minister of the Word and Sacrament On Amending W-4.4001a

Shall W-4.4001a. be amended as follows? [Text to be deleted is shown with a strike-through; text to be added or inserted is shown as italic.]

“a. In ordination the church sets apart with prayer and the laying on of hands those who have been called through election by the church to serve as deacons, ruling elders, and teaching elders. (W-2.1005) In installation the church sets apart with prayer those previously ordained as deacons, ruling elders, and ~~teaching elders~~

ministers of Word and Sacrament (also called teaching elders), and called anew to service in that ministry.”

Polity Committee Recommendation: Approve

11. 16-D.1. On Amending G-2.0509 (Item 06-10, Recommendation 1)

Shall the fourth paragraph of G-2.0509 be amended as follows: [Text to be added or inserted is shown as italic.]

“Whenever a former teaching elder has renounced jurisdiction in the midst of a disciplinary proceeding as the accused, that former teaching elder shall not be permitted to perform any work, paid or volunteer, in any congregation or entity under the jurisdiction of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) unless and until the person rejoins the church, comes forward and resubmits to the disciplinary process.”

Polity Committee Recommendation: Approve

12. 16-D.2. On Amending D-10.0401

Shall D-10.0401 be amended by adding new section “d.” to read as follows: [Text to be added or inserted is shown as italic.]

“d. For instances where a former teaching elder comes forward in self-accusation to undergo a disciplinary process to regain permission to perform work under the jurisdiction of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) (G-2.0509), no time limit from the time of the commission of the alleged offense to the filing of charges shall apply. Charges based on all accusations that had been made by the time that the former teaching elder had renounced jurisdiction may be brought regardless of the date on which any such offense is alleged to have occurred.”

Polity Committee Recommendation: Approve

13. 16-E. Certified Service Requirements On Amending G-2.1101

Shall G-2.1101 be amended as follows: [Text to be deleted is shown with a strike-through; text to be added or inserted is shown as italic.]

“Persons may be certified and called to service within congregations, councils, and church-related entities, serving in staff positions. These individuals endeavor to

reflect their faith through their work and to strengthen the church through their dedication. They should be encouraged by their session and presbytery to meet, or be prepared to meet, the certification requirements ~~in a handbook provided~~ of by of a national certifying body approved by the General Assembly. Names of those who have earned certification through a national certifying body shall be transmitted to the appropriate body of the General Assembly, which will forward them to the stated clerk of the presbyteries in which those persons labor.”

Polity Committee Recommendation: Approve

14. 16-F. The Ministry of Members On Amending G-1.0304

Shall G-1.0304 be amended as follows? [Text to be added or inserted is shown as italic.]

“G-1.0304 The Ministry of Members “Membership in the Church of Jesus Christ is a joy and a privilege. It is also a commitment to participate in Christ’s mission. A faithful member bears witness to God’s love and grace and promises to be involved responsibly in the ministry of Christ’s Church. Such involvement includes:

“proclaiming the good news in word and deed,
“taking part in the common life and worship of a congregation,
“lifting one another up in prayer, mutual concern, and active support,
“studying Scripture and the issues of Christian faith and life,
“supporting the ministry of the church through the giving of money, time, and talents,
“demonstrating a new quality of life within and through the church,
“responding to God’s activity in the world through service to others,
“living responsibly in the personal, family, vocational, political, cultural, and social relationships of life,
“working in the world for peace, justice, freedom, and human fulfillment,
“caring for God’s creation,
“participating in the governing responsibilities of the church, and
“reviewing and evaluating regularly the integrity of one’s membership, and considering ways in which one’s participation in the worship and service of the church may be increased and made more meaningful.”

Polity Committee Recommendation: Approve with comment

If approved the following correspondence will be sent to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly with the presbytery’s recorded vote:

*The Reverend Dr. J. Herbert Nelson
Stated Clerk
Office of the General Assembly
Presbyterian Church (USA)
100 Witherspoon Street
Louisville, KY 40202*

Dear Dr. Nelson:

Grace, mercy, and peace to you in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ!

At its 133rd Stated Meeting, the Presbytery of Arkansas voted in favor of item 16-F (on amending G-1.0304) referred from the 222nd General Assembly. The presbytery instructed me to forward the following comment with our recorded vote.

The Presbytery of Arkansas applauds the General Assembly's attention to the importance of our Christian calling to be stewards of God's creation. While we concur that care for creation is an important part of faithful living, we are concerned that the addition of such specific language may leave the impression that the Ministry of Members is an exhaustive list of requirements of membership rather than a descriptive picture of faithful discipleship. We encourage future General Assemblies to proceed with care when considering amending G-1.0304.

On behalf of the Presbytery of Arkansas, I extend congratulations on your election as Stated Clerk. We join our brothers and sisters throughout the church in prayer for you and your ministry. We hope to welcome you to the Presbytery of Arkansas soon.

I am,

Yours in Christ,

*The Rev. Dr. Robert Wm Lowry
Stated Clerk*

For Information:

The Polity Committee recommends approval of items 16-G and 16-H. These items will be discussed and voted on at the 134th Stated Meeting in February 2017. All items of business can be found at:

http://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/oga/pdf/2016_proposed_boa.pdf

Section N

Forms and Registration Documents

INFORMATION FOR NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

2017

PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS

Each year the Presbytery Committee on Nominations invites you, the pastors and current members of all committees and Sessions, to provide names of qualified persons who will feel it is a privilege and joyous responsibility to serve on a presbytery committee. Thank you for your willingness to suggest these leaders to serve in 2017 through 2019 or fill vacancies as they arise.

Your Church and City/Town: _____

OFFICES, MINISTRY AREAS, AND COMMITTEES OF PRESBYTERY

Administration Ministry Area

Committee on Leadership Development (CLD) (Teaching and Ruling Elders Only)

Committee on the Church's Ministries (CCM) (Teaching and Ruling Elders Only)

Church and Its Mission Area

Sub-Committee of Disaster Preparedness

Moderator of Presbytery

Ministries with Youth, Campus, and Young Adults

Future of the Church Ministry Area

Committee on Representation (Teaching and Ruling Elders Only)

Permanent Judicial Commission (Teaching and Ruling Elders Only)

Nominating Committee (Teaching and Ruling Elders Only)

Please return to:

Presbytery of Arkansas

9221 N. Rodney Parham Rd.

Little Rock, AR 72227

Attention: Nominating Committee

Or Email: robert@presbyteryofarkansas.org

INDIVIDUALS RECOMMENDED

FOR PRESBYTERY MINISTRIES

Name: _____

Work Phone: _____ Home or Cell Phone: _____

Ruling Elder: (Yes)(No): _____ Gender: _____ E-mail address: _____

Committees for Consideration:

Comments:

Name: _____

Work Phone: _____ Home or Cell Phone: _____

Ruling Elder: (Yes)(No): _____ Gender: _____ E-mail address: _____

Committees for Consideration:

Comments:

COMMISSIONER TO SYNOD AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY (must be teaching or ruling elder)

Name: _____

Work Phone: _____ Home or Cell Phone: _____

Gender: _____ E-mail address: _____

Comments:

YOUTH ADVISORY DELEGATE TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Name: _____ DOB: _____

Home or Cell Phone: _____ Gender: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Comments:

Sexual Misconduct Policy of the Presbytery of Arkansas

... tend the flock of God, that is your charge, exercising the oversight, not under compulsion but willingly, as God would have you do it, not for sordid gain, but eagerly. Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock.

I Peter 5:2, 3 (NRSV)

I. Introduction

The Presbytery of Arkansas (“Presbytery”) believes and proclaims that all people are created by God who intends that everyone -- children, women, and men -- have worth and dignity in all relationships. Our sexuality is a gift from God and when rightly expressed leads to the wholeness of life which God intends for all people. In addition, the Presbytery desires to maintain the integrity of the Church at all times. The Presbytery also recognizes that sexual misconduct can have devastating effects on the victim, his or her family, the Church community at large, and all individuals involved. Therefore, the Presbytery adopts this Sexual Misconduct Policy (“Policy”), in accordance with G-3.0106 to present guidelines for responding to allegations of Sexual Misconduct.

II. Reporting of Sexual Misconduct

A.) When an Ecclesiastical Mandated Reporter has Reasonable Suspicion of Sexual Misconduct, a written report should be submitted to the Stated Clerk. If the Accused is the Stated Clerk, the written report should be submitted to the General Presbyter.

B.) The Stated Clerk (or General Presbyter) must then file a written report in accordance with the procedures outlined in the *Book of Order* D3.000 – D10.000 (ff), as amended from time to time, and notify the moderator of Committee on Ministry (“COM”). C.) Persons having ecclesiastical reporting responsibilities under this Policy may also have reporting requirements to secular authorities and must comply with all such requirements. Nothing in this document shall be construed to abrogate or modify the duty of any person under any law of the United States or the State of Arkansas.

III. Response Coordination Team

Whenever notification is made in accordance with II.B, the moderator of COM shall name a Response Coordination Team (“RCT”) to ensure a caring response is made to all impacted by the allegations of Sexual Misconduct. The RCT shall strive to extend to all such persons the love and care of Jesus Christ. Its responsibilities shall include but not be limited to a needs assessment and identification and coordination of resources.

A.) Each RCT shall be composed of three to five persons making all efforts to be diverse with respect to gender and ethnicity. The membership shall be comprised, to the extent possible, to reflect expertise and professional experience in the following areas:

- 1) Psychological counseling
- 2) Child advocacy
- 3) Conflict management and resolution

B.) The COM shall maintain a list of all those who meet the qualifications listed above and who are willing to serve as needed. Individuals shall be on the list no less than three (3) years in staggered terms. The moderator of the COM shall appoint a RCT from the list of qualified individuals within 10 days receipt of notification pursuant to II.B. The RCT shall elect its own moderator, and the administrative costs shall be borne by the Presbytery.

C.) The task of each RCT shall be to ensure, as much as possible, the competent pastoral care of all persons impacted by an allegation of Sexual Misconduct as described in *Section IV Meeting the Needs of All Involved*.

D.) Each RCT on its own initiative and in its own judgment will decide when the need for care is ended. The RCT will inform the COM if the need for care extends beyond twelve (12) months. The RCT shall prepare a summary report of its actions and submit to the Stated Clerk.

IV. Meeting the Needs of All Involved

When there are allegations of Sexual Misconduct, there are needs that have to be met for the good of all persons, groups, and entities. The RCT will not investigate the allegation or in any way function as an investigating committee for disciplining an Accused, but should confine itself to coordinating a process that will meet the specific needs of Victims and their families (if any), the Accused and family (if any), employing entities, congregations, and councils:

A. The Needs of the Victim

The RCT should assure that adequate treatment and care are available for the Victim and the Victim's family. Sometimes, the Victim or family is so angry and alienated from the church that offers of help may be perceived as insincere or as attempts of a cover-up. If the Victim or family at first refuses, the RCT should continue to offer help.

The extent of the damage to Victim will vary from person to person and is influenced by such factors as the degree or severity of abuse, the age and emotional condition of the Victim, human dynamics, and the importance of the Victim's religious faith. The RCT is to assume in all cases that the Victim has been wounded by the experience.

Feelings of guilt, shame, anger, mistrust, lowered self-esteem, unworthiness, and feelings of alienation from God, self, the religious community, and family are frequent injuries suffered by a Victim. It is important for the RCT to be sensitive to the Victim's pain and need for healing and to act by making appropriate pastoral care available.

The following may be needs of the Victim:

1. To be heard and taken seriously.

From the time that Reasonable Suspicion exists, the Victim should receive immediate attention and serious consideration from all church representatives.

2. To receive pastoral and therapeutic support.

The Victim may require spiritual and professional assistance as a result of Sexual Misconduct. The RCT should offer to help arrange for such support from a teaching elder and/or therapist, if the Victim desires. Discussions with such people would be confidential, privileged conversations.

3. To be informed about church process and progress with regard to the accusation.

One member of the RCT should be the church contact person for the Victim. Frequently, this contact person will give the victim information as to what is happening in the church as a result of the allegation of Sexual Misconduct and disclose the progress of the discipline process to the extent possible.

B. The Needs of the Accuser

Attention should also be paid to the needs of the Accuser by applying the steps listed above as needed.

C. The Needs of the Accused

The RCT shall offer treatment and care for the Accused and the Accused's family as well as the Victim and the Victim's family. Feelings of guilt, shame, anger, mistrust, lowered self-esteem, depression, unworthiness, and feelings of alienation from God, self, the religious community, and family are often experienced by the Accused. In addition, there may be fear of job loss, incarceration, and indignation if an allegation is false.

When a person is found not guilty of charges of Sexual Misconduct, it is important for the RCT to see as widely as possible within their power that the decision is disseminated unless doing so would further injure the Accused.

1. Personal Care

Whether the allegations about the Accused are eventually found to be true or not, the Accused deserves to be treated with Christian kindness and respect. The RCT may suggest that the Accused seek spiritual support or professional counseling. People in staff positions should not engage in personal counseling of the Accused because of their potential involvement in the disciplinary process.

2. Economic Security and Care for the Family of Accused

When an allegation of Sexual Misconduct has been made, the economic security of the Accused is directly threatened, along with reputation, career, and family relationships. The Committee on Ministry can be of assistance. The RCT may alert the Committee on Ministry to the possible spiritual, emotional, and financial needs of the family of the Accused and recommend expert resources.

D. The Needs of a Congregation or Employing Entity in a Context of Sexual Misconduct

The RCT should be aware of the problems a congregation or employing entity may experience following allegations of Sexual Misconduct. The allegations may polarize the congregation or employing entity, damage morale, create serious internal problems, and even limit the trust a congregation may place in succeeding teaching elders. Efforts should be taken to recognize and identify the problems and heal any damage that may be done to the congregation or employing entity.

1. Pastoral Care

Members and staff of the congregation will need pastoral care. The teaching elder of the congregation, if not previously trained in this specialty area, should consult with denominational specialists who will advise how to proceed and any anticipated problems. The RCT should provide information regarding appropriate denominational specialists to all teaching elder(s) of the congregation except any teaching elder who is an Accused.

2. Information About the Case

Members of the congregation may need opportunities both to receive and give information, and the RCT should facilitate such opportunities. Such opportunities may include appropriate meetings with individuals, small groups, or with the whole congregation. Such meetings should provide information about Sexual Misconduct in general, Presbyterian polity and judicial processes, and how others who may have been victimized may be heard and ministered to. A teaching elder may perform these functions as long as that teaching elder is not the Accused. At such meetings, one may expect members to vent their feelings. An opportunity for this to happen should be provided. If this venting does not take place, then it may create serious problems for the future of the congregation, for future teaching elders, and for the council.

3. Resource Persons

In light of the above needs, the RCT may recommend persons whose services would be valuable to a congregation in the context of Sexual Misconduct: a trained interim pastor, a Committee on Ministry representative knowledgeable in polity and the effects of Sexual Misconduct in the church, and/or a consultant or therapist with knowledge and experience in dealing with Sexual Misconduct.

V. Risk Management

A. Insurance

The Presbytery shall regularly consult with its liability insurance carriers about coverage for the activities and programs it operates or sponsors and the duties and responsibilities of officers, employees, and volunteers.

B. Employment Practices

1. Record Keeping

Accurate record keeping is an essential part of the hiring and supervision practices of churches, councils, and related entities. The Presbytery should maintain a personnel file on all Covered Persons. The file should contain employment questionnaires and criminal background checks.

2. Prescreening Applicants

The Presbytery shall establish thorough and consistent hiring practices. If an applicant is unknown to the Presbytery, the Presbytery should confirm the applicant's identity by requiring photographic identification such as a driver's license. The Council should perform a background check on all Covered Persons, including a national criminal background check. Part of pre-employment

screening should include specific questions related to discovering previous allegations of Sexual Misconduct.

3. References

The employing council or entity is responsible for contacting references for prospective teaching elders, employees, or volunteers. A written record of conversations or correspondence with references should be kept in the teaching elder's or employee's personnel file.

If false or misleading information is given by the applicant, or relevant information is withheld, the applicant should be eliminated from consideration.

Applicants should be informed of negative comments regarding Sexual Misconduct and shall be given an opportunity to submit additional references or to give other evidence to correct or respond to harmful information obtained from a reference.

The person within any council or entity authorized to give a reference for any person shall, if asked to give such a reference, give truthful and complete information regarding allegations, inquiries, and administrative or disciplinary action related to Sexual Misconduct of the applicant.

VI. Educating and Training—Awareness

The Presbytery shall appoint appropriate committees to regularly train and educate Covered Persons using educational materials or courses on preventing, identifying and responding to Sexual Misconduct.

Definitions

Accused

Covered Person against whom an allegation of Sexual Misconduct is made.

Accuser

Person claiming knowledge of sexual misconduct by a Covered Person.

Child Sexual Abuse

Any contact or interaction between a child (a person under the age of 18) and an adult when the child is being used for the sexual stimulation of the adult person or of a third person. The behavior may or may not involve touching. Such contact or interaction between a child and an adult is always considered to be Child Sexual Abuse regardless of whether consented to by the child or not.

Commissioned Ruling Elder

Ruling elder commissioned to limited pastoral service (G-2.1001)

Council

In this Policy, Presbytery serving as a corporate expression of the church within a certain district and composed of all the congregations and teaching elders within that district. (G-3.0301)

Covered Person

Any teaching elder, commissioned ruling elder, certified Christian educator, or Employee.

Ecclesiastical Mandated Reporter

All Covered Persons are designated by the Presbytery as Ecclesiastical Mandated Reporters.

Employee

Persons who are hired or called to work for salary or wages by the Presbytery.

Reasonable Suspicion

A subjective criterion that refers to a belief or opinion based on facts or circumstances that are sufficient to cause a prudent person to believe that an act of Sexual Misconduct may have been committed.

Response Coordination Team

A body constituted by the Presbytery to respond to the needs of persons impacted by allegations of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Harassment – Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature constitute sexual harassment when:

1. Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or a condition of an individual's employment or their continued status in an institution;
2. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual or;
3. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance by creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment.

Sexual Misconduct

A comprehensive term used in this Policy with respect to the following actions by a Covered Person with respect to an individual with which such Covered Person has a professional, ministerial, or employment relationship:

1. Child Sexual Abuse, as defined above.
2. Sexual Harassment, as defined above.
3. Rape or sexual contact by force, threat, or intimidation.
4. Sexual conduct (such as offensive, obscene or suggestive language or behavior, unacceptable visual contact, unwelcome touching or fondling) that is injurious to the physical or emotional health of another.
5. Sexual Malfeasance, which is defined as sexual conduct within a ministerial, employment or professional relationship. Sexual Malfeasance includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. This definition is not meant to cover relationships between spouses, nor is it meant to restrict church professionals from having normal, social, intimate or marital relationships.
6. Sexual Abuse as defined in *Book of Order*, D-7.1100, as amended from time to time.

Teaching Elder

Minister of the Word and Sacrament (G-2.0501)

Victim

A person who is alleged to have been the object of Sexual Misconduct.

Sexual Misconduct Policy of the Presbytery of Arkansas

Acknowledgement of Receipt

I hereby acknowledge that I received on _____ (date) a copy of the “Sexual Misconduct Policy of the Presbytery of Arkansas.”

Signature

Printed Name

Date

Presbytery of Arkansas Background Check Policy

Adopted February 18, 2012

Who is included?

- All active members of the Presbytery of Arkansas and other teaching elders who are serving within the bounds of AR Presbytery with the exception of non-active honorably retired clergy.
- All persons seeking membership into the Presbytery of Arkansas. (Completion necessary before face-to-face with a nominating committee.)
- All paid staff members of the Presbytery of Arkansas
- It is incumbent on all member churches to follow prudent procedures with their own staff and for persons who work with youth and other vulnerable populations.

What is included?

- National and state criminal records including the sex offender registry.

What is the procedure?

- Current and prospective members of the presbytery are asked to complete a self-reporting form indicating any prior felony convictions and to give written permission to the presbytery to initiate the criminal background check process.
- All results of background checks will be sent to the General Presbyter or designated presbytery staff. If any irregularities appear, the GP will contact the Consultation Committee to determine if any further action is necessary. This Consultation Committee will ordinarily consist of the GP, the Stated Clerk and the Moderator of the Committee on Ministry. Care will be taken to assure fair representation. The GP and the Consultation Committee will make determination about the most appropriate pastoral response.
- Criminal background check records will be kept in a separate personnel file accessible only by the GP, the GP's designee and the Consultation Committee. Each individual upon whom a background check has been done will have access to his or her own background check results. Under normal circumstances, the presbytery office will only indicate that a background check has been done and a clearance has been given.
- Background checks are to be done on all members of the presbytery every five years.

What is the cost?

- Costs associated with the background check for current members of the presbytery will ordinarily be borne by congregations and costs for presbytery staff will be borne by the Presbytery of Arkansas.
- Costs associated with the background checks for incoming presbyters will be borne by the calling congregation.
- For initial and ongoing checks of presbytery members-at large or those in validated ministry, costs will be borne by the individual or the employing agency.

Refusal to give consent to run a background check will disqualify a person for consideration for membership in the Presbytery of Arkansas, or employment by the Presbytery of Arkansas.

**PRE-EMPLOYMENT AND CONTINUED EMPLOYMENT/VOLUNTEER DISCLOSURE
AUTHORIZATION AND RELEASE**

I understand that in connection with my application for Employment, Volunteer Services, and/or Continuous Employment, and/or Volunteer Services the Presbytery of Arkansas, its consultant in, IntelliCorp, their agents or employees may be performing, requesting, obtaining or conducting a background check on me. This background check may include an inquiry into my Employment History, Education, General Character or Reputation, Work Experience, Volunteer Experience, Driving, and/or Criminal History. If my position involves handling money and/or having access to monies and/or other transferable monetary instruments, my Credit History may also be checked.

I understand that the Presbytery of Arkansas may rely on any part of all of this Information in determining whether to extend an offer of Employment / Volunteers' duties to me. I further understand that if any adverse action is taken by the Presbytery of Arkansas, or if the Presbytery of Arkansas chooses not to extend an offer of Employment / Volunteer duties to me based upon the Information, that I will be provided a copy of such Information along with a summary of my rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act.

I understand that the background check, which may be performed by Investigators, is being performed as part of the process to evaluate me prior to Employment / Volunteer assignments, and is not conducted for any purpose other than in connection with my Application for Employment, Volunteer status and/or my eligibility for Continued Employment / Volunteer Duties.

I have read this Pre-Employment and Continued Employment / Volunteer Disclosure and by signing below, hereby authorize Investigators to conduct a background check as described herein in conjunction with my application for employment/volunteer duties. I hereby release any and all Investigators, including the Presbytery of Arkansas, from any and all liability related to the procurement or disclosure of any information provided by me or obtained about me in connection with my Application with Employer / Organization to the Synod of the Sun and its affiliated churches, agencies and institutions. I further direct and authorize Investigators to conduct the background check and further authorize any third parties who may be the custodians of or in possession of the requested Information, to disclose such Information to Investigators in connection with this background check.

Although furnishing your Social Security Number is not optional, it shall be used for NO other purpose than to make the process for conducting a background search more accurate. It shall not be sold, or in any way transferred to a third party except for the express purpose of conducting the background check.

Applicant Signature

Date

Printed Name (Complete name: First – Middle – Last)

Social Security Number

Date of Birth

Former Last Name(s) *if applicable*

Current Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Former Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Section P

Reference Documents and Reports



“Annual Enrollment ... This Means You!”

What? If you currently receive benefits from the Board of Pensions, and want to continue to receive these benefits in 2017, **you must select the benefits during Annual Enrollment.** Even if you are not making any changes, even if you have never done so before, and especially if you think the benefits offered by your church/ employing organization will be “automatic”!

Who? Annual Enrollment requires the action of **all plan members** - *including pastors!*

When? The Annual Enrollment period is **October 17 – November 11, 2016.**

How? Annual Enrollment is **only available online!** Use **Benefits Connect** https://benefitsconnect.pensions.org/_layouts/15/BenefitsConnect/Login.aspx on pensions.org to access and make your **benefits elections for 2017.**

Help? The **Annual Enrollment Guide** <http://bit.ly/2d8R9Ko> was sent to the current home address on file of every plan member.

It is highly recommended that members also prepare for enrollment by using the **Annual Enrollment E-learning Module** <http://pensions.adobeconnect.com/annualenrollment>

Additional, pertinent information is available on the **Board of Pensions home page** <http://www.pensions.org/Pages/default.aspx>

Finally, you always may consult **Member Services** at [1-800-773-7752](tel:1-800-773-7752).



Valerie L. Young
Stated Clerk &
Acting Synod Leader
valerie.young@synodsun.org

Reading 2015 Presbytery Minutes

October 6, 2016

To: Rev. Robert Lowry, Stated Clerk, Presbytery of Arkansas
From: Valerie L. Young, Stated Clerk, Synod of the Sun

Earlier this year the Presbytery Stated Clerks within the Synod of the Sun began a process of reading 2015 Presbytery minutes. A Review Sheet for each Presbytery was submitted to the Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Sun and the results of this process for your Presbytery are set forth below.

PRESBYTERY: Arkansas

EXCEPTIONS:

- None Noted
- Recognizing transition of staff and minutes requirements.

COMMENTS:

- Very good minutes, and good work in pulling the October minutes together.
- It was noted on the Guideline that the Financial Audit report was not received in time to record in minutes but results are recorded in 2016 minutes. I did not include as an exception as presbytery has no control over outside auditors.
- Very well done, especially Child Safety Policy.

Reviewed by: Rev. Ruth Clendenin, Stated Clerk, Palo Duro Presbytery
Kay Long, Stated Clerk, Tres Rios Presbytery

Valerie Young
Acting Synod Leader
& Stated Clerk

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Session Minutes and Congregational Records

Reading Assignments 2016

Congregation	Reading	Reader
Alma, First	Van Buren	Van Buren
Amity, Alpine		Arkadelphia, First
Arkadelphia, First	Arkadelphia, West End Amity, Alpine	Arkadelphia, West End
Arkadelphia, West End	Arkadelphia, First	Arkadelphia, First
Atkins, Memorial		Central Russellville
Batesville, First	Jonesboro, First	Jonesboro, First
Beebe, First	Searcy, First	Searcy, First
Bella Vista, PC of	Bentonville, First	Bentonville, First
Benton, First	Malvern, First	Malvern, First
Bentonville, First	Bella Vista, First Bentonville, Vaughn	Bella Vista, First
Bentonville, Vaughn		Bentonville, First
Brinkley, First		Wynne
Bull Shoals, PC of	Holiday Island	Holiday Island
Cane Hill		FUPC
Clarksville, First	Central Russellville	Central Russellville
Clarksville, Harmony	Dardanelle, First	Dardanelle, First
Conway, First	Hopewell, First Heber Springs, First	Heber Springs, First
Dardanelle, First	Clarksville Harmony	Clarksville Harmony
Elkins		Rogers, First
Eureka Springs, First	Yellville, First	Yellville, First
Fairfield Bay, Kirk of the Hills	Morrilton, First	Morrilton, First
Fayetteville, First United	Cane Hill, Rogers First	Springdale, First
Fayetteville, Mt. Comfort	Lincoln, First	Lincoln, First
Forrest City, Graham Mem.	Wynne, Marianna	Wynne
Ft. Smith, Central	Ft. Smith, First	Ft. Smith, First
Ft. Smith, First	Central, Ft. Smith	Central, Ft. Smith
Gamaliel, One o One		Harrison, First
Gravette, First		Rogers, First
Greenwood, Good Shepherd	Mountainburg	Mountainburg

Gurdon, First		Malvern, First
Hardy, Spring River	Horseshoe Bend	Horseshoe Bend
Harrison, First	Mt. Home	Mt. Home
Heber Springs, First	Conway, First	Conway, First
Helena, First	Cleburne Ave.	Cleburne Ave.
Holiday Island	Bull Shoals	Bull Shoals
Holly Grove	Stuttgart	Stuttgart
Horseshoe Bend, Faith	Hardy, Spring River	Hardy, Spring River
Hot Springs, First	HSV, Kirk	Hot Springs, Westminster
Hot Springs, Westminster	Hot Springs, First	HSV, Kirk
Hot Springs Village, Kirk	Hot Springs, Westminster	Hot Springs, First
Huntsville, First	Pea Ridge	Pea Ridge
Jacksonville, First	Westminster, LR	Westminster, LR
Jonesboro, First	Batesville, First Paragould	Batesville, First
Lincoln, First	Fayetteville, Mt. Comfort	Fayetteville, Mt. Comfort
Little Rock, Allison	Westover, LR	Trinity, LR
Little Rock, First		Westover, LR
Little Rock, Grace	Pulaski Heights, LR	Second, LR
Little Rock, Pulaski Heights	Second, LR	Grace, LR
	Lonoke, First Trinity, LR Grace, LR	
Little Rock, Second	Lonoke, First Trinity, LR Grace, LR	Pulaski Heights, LR
Little Rock, Trinity	Allison, LR	Second, LR
Little Rock, Westminster	Jacksonville, First	Jacksonville, First
Little Rock, Westover	First, LR	Allison, LR
Lonoke, First		Second, LR
	Benton, First Gurdon, First	
Malvern, First	Benton, First Gurdon, First	Benton, First
		Graham Memorial, Forrest City
Marianna, First		Graham Memorial, Forrest City
McGehee, First	Pine Bluff, Faith	Pine Bluff, Faith
Mena, First	Barr Memorial	Barr Memorial
Morrilton, First	Fairfield Bay, Kirk	Fairfield Bay, Kirk
Morrilton, Hopewell		Conway, First
Mountain Home, First	Harrison, First	Harrison, First
Mountainburg, First	Greenwood, Good Shepherd	Greenwood, Good Shepherd

Newport, First	Walnut Ridge, First	Walnut Ridge, First
Norman, Barr Memorial	Mena	Mena
NLR, First	Park Hill	Park Hill
NLR, Park Hill	NLR, First	NLR, First
Paragould, First		Jonesboro
Pea Ridge, Mt. Vernon	Huntsville, First	Huntsville, First
Pine Bluff, Central	Pine Bluff, First	Pine Bluff, First
Pine Bluff, Faith	McGehee	McGehee
Pine Bluff, First	Pine Bluff, Central	Pine Bluff, Central
Prairie Grove, First	Mt. Comfort, Fayetteville	Mt. Comfort, Fayetteville
Rogers, First	Elkins, Gravette, Springdale, First	FUPC
Russellville, Central	Memorial Atkins, Clarksville, First	Clarksville, First
Searcy, First	Beebe, First	Beebe, First
Springdale, First	FUPC	Rogers, First
Stuttgart, First	Holly Grove	Holly Grove
Van Buren, First	Alma	Alma
Walnut Ridge	Newport, First	Newport, First
West Helena, Cleburne Ave.	Helena, First	Helena, First
Wynne	Brinkley, First Graham Mem, Forrest City	Graham Mem, Forrest City
Yellville, First	Eureka Springs	Eureka Springs

Records Review Checklist

THE SESSION
Is each meeting opened & closed with prayer? (G-3.0105)
Is a quorum present for each meeting? (G-3.0203)
Did session hold stated meetings at least quarterly? (G-3.0203)
Is a budget prepared & adopted annually? (G-3.0205)
Are periodic reports of all financial transactions made to the session? (G-3.0205c)
Did session annually provide for a full financial review of all financial books & records? (G-3.0113)
Are commissioners to Presbytery elected for each meeting, or, preferably, for one year? (G-3.0202)
Did session receive reports from its commissioners of presbytery? (G-3.0202a)
Do the minutes reflect "a full & accurate record of its proceedings?" (G-3.0107)
Are rolls kept of baptized members, active members & affiliate members? (G-3.0204a)
Does the session have a Manual of Administrative Operations that addresses the following issues?(G-3.0106)
The definition of a quorum for Congregational Meetings? (G-1.0501)
Is the " <i>minimum notification</i> " for Congregational Meeting defined? (G-1.0502)
Is the length of the term of office for the Clerk of Session defined? (G-3.0104)
Is the length of the term of office for the Treasurer defined? (G-3.0205)
Is a procedure in place to assure that all offering shall be counted & recorded by at least two duly appointed persons or by one fidelity bonded person? (G-3.0205a)
Are the financial books & records open at reasonable times to all persons authorized by the session?(G-3.0205b)
Are committees of the session listed & their duties described along with who is eligible to serve, how many members are appointed & the length of service? (G-3.0109)
Does the session have a sexual misconduct policy? (G-3.0106)
Has the session taken actions consistent with G-3.0202b-f that will be for the good of the whole church? (G-3.0202)
THE CONGREGATION
Did the congregation hold an annual meeting, & was a quorum determined to be present? (G-1.0501)
Did the congregation provide for election of a Nominating Committee? (G-2.0401)
Did the congregation elect church officers? (G-2.0401)
Did the Session instruct, examine, ordain, & install officers? (G-2.0402)
Is the congregation incorporated? (G-4.0101) If yes – date:
Who is designated as trustees of the Corporation? (G-4.0102) ___ The Session ___ A Separate Body
PRESBYTERY'S RECOMMENDATIONS
Are called & stated meetings of the session so indicated?
Are the minutes of session meetings signed by the Clerk of Session?
Do the minutes of session reflect the approval of the Annual Statistical Report?
Has the Session considered the Presbytery's Mission Askings?
Are called & annual meetings of the congregation so indicated?
Are the minutes of congregational meetings signed by the Secretary & the Moderator?
Is the name of the church on the front of the session records book?

Insurance Coverage

Mutual Company
Nonassessable Policy

CHURCH MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

3000 Schuster Lane, P.O. Box 357, Merrill, WI 54452

UMBRELLA LIABILITY POLICY DECLARATIONS PAGE EXCESS INSURANCE

POLICY NUMBER: 0082460-81-882118

ITEM 1. NAMED INSURED AND ADDRESS:

PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS
9221 N RODNEY PARHAM RD
LITTLE ROCK AR 72227-6201

ITEM 2. POLICY PERIOD: FROM 04/07/16 TO 04/07/17
12:01 A.M. STANDARD TIME AT YOUR ADDRESS SHOWN ABOVE.

0082460-81-791947
(RENEWAL OF)

ITEM 3. THE NAMED INSURED IS: DENOMINATIONAL OFFICE

ITEM 4. LIMITS OF INSURANCE:

GENERAL AGGREGATE LIMIT - (ANNUAL)	\$ 1,000,000
EACH OCCURRENCE LIMIT- (BODILY INJURY AND PROPERTY DAMAGE COMBINED) (ANNUAL)	\$ 1,000,000
PERSONAL AND ADVERTISING INJURY LIMIT - (COMBINED)	\$ 1,000,000
SELF-INSURED RETENTION (EACH OCCURRENCE OR OFFENSE NOT COVERED BY UNDERLYING INSURANCE)	\$ 10,000

ITEM 5. FORMS AND ENDORSEMENTS WHICH APPLY TO THIS POLICY:

UMB 8000(02-88)	MUTUAL POLICY CONDITIONS
UMB 8001(01-04)	UMBRELLA LIABILITY POLICY
UMB 8111(01-98)	EXCLUSION - PROPERTY DAMAGE LEGAL LIABILITY CHURCH SERVICES LOCATED AT 100 SOUTH GUTENSOHN ROAD, SPRINGDALE, AR.
UMB 8115(02-88)	NUCLEAR ENERGY LIABILITY EXCLUSION - BROAD FORM
UMB 8117(02-88)	ASBESTOS
UMB 8121(09-94)	EXCLUSION - LEAD LIABILITY
UMB 8124(01-15)	CAP ON LOSSES FROM CERTIFIED ACTS OF TERRORISM
UMB 8131AR(01-15)	AR EXCL OF PUN DAMAGES RELATED TO A CERT ACT OF TERROR
UMB 8133(05-03)	WAR LIABILITY EXCLUSION
UMB 8134(04-06)	FUNGI OR BACTERIA EXCLUSION
UMB 8138(01-15)	EXCL OF CERT NUC, BIO, CHEM, RAD ACTS OF TERROR; CAP
UMB 8203(02-88)	COUNSELING PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY
UMB 8204(02-88)	EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY - FOLLOWING FORM
UMB 8208(02-88)	UNINSURED/UNDERINSURED MOTORIST
UMB 8210(03-03)	ACQUIRED AUTOMOBILES ENDORSEMENT
UMB 8214(12-06)	AMENDATORY ENDORSEMENT - PERSONAL INJURY
UMB 8215(12-07)	BODILY INJURY DEFINITION
UMB 8216(12-07)	CORPORATE ENTITY ENDORSEMENT
UMB 8512(09-11)	AMENDATORY ENDORSEMENT - ARKANSAS
UN 914(01-15)	NOTICE - DISCLOSURE OF TERRORISM PREMIUM



UMB D (09-99)

1

ISSUED DATE: 03/03/16

POLICY NO.: 0082460-81-882118

ITEM 6. SCHEDULE OF UNDERLYING INSURANCE (SEE ATTACHED SCHEDULE):

ITEM 7. PREMIUM: IN RETURN FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE PREMIUM, AND SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS IN THIS POLICY, WE AGREE WITH YOU TO PROVIDE THE INSURANCE AS STATED IN THIS POLICY.

\$500.00 DUE AT INCEPTION

**** SUMMARY OF ADDITIONAL CHARGES (INCLUDED IN ANNUAL PREMIUM) ****

TERRORISM RISK INSURANCE: \$.00 ANNUAL CHARGE

ITEM 8. AGENT: 11-067
BRADLEY CATES
SOUTHERN DIVISION
CHURCH MUTUAL INS CO
3000 SCHUSTER LN
MERRILL, WI 54452
(800) 554-2642

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UMB D (09-99)

2

ISSUED DATE: 03/03/16

**CHURCH MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY
UMBRELLA LIABILITY POLICY
SCHEDULE OF UNDERLYING INSURANCE**

POLICY NUMBER: 0082460-81-882118

<u>TYPE OF INSURANCE</u>	<u>LIMIT OF INSURANCE</u>
GENERAL LIABILITY	\$ 3,000,000 GENERAL AGGREGATE
	\$ 1,000,000 PRODUCTS/COMPLETED OPERATIONS AGGREGATE
	\$ 1,000,000 EACH OCCURRENCE (BODILY INJURY AND PROPERTY DAMAGE)
	\$ 1,000,000 PERSONAL AND ADVERTISING INJURY

**COMPANY PROVIDING THE INSURANCE: CHURCH MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY
POLICY PERIOD: 04/07/15 TO 04/07/18**

COUNSELING PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY	\$ 1,000,000 EACH CLAIM
	\$ 3,000,000 AGGREGATE

**COMPANY PROVIDING THE INSURANCE: CHURCH MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY
POLICY PERIOD: 04/07/15 TO 04/07/18**

HIRED AND NONOWNED AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY	\$ 1,000,000 EACH OCCURRENCE
	\$ 3,000,000 AGGREGATE

**COMPANY PROVIDING THE INSURANCE: CHURCH MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY
POLICY PERIOD: 04/07/15 TO 04/07/18**

WORKERS' COMPENSATION	STATUTORY EMPLOYERS LIABILITY
	\$ 500,000 BODILY INJURY BY ACCIDENT-EACH ACCIDENT
	\$ 500,000 BODILY INJURY BY DISEASE-EACH EMPLOYEE
	\$ 500,000 BODILY INJURY BY DISEASE-POLICY LIMIT

**COMPANY PROVIDING THE INSURANCE: CHURCH MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY
POLICY PERIOD: 04/07/16 TO 04/07/17**

UMB SCHED (02-88)

1

Church Mutual
INSURANCE COMPANY
ISSUED DATE: 03/03/16

POLICY NO.: 0082460-81-882118

AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY

\$ 1,000,000 EACH ACCIDENT OR LOSS

COMPANY PROVIDING THE INSURANCE: CHURCH MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY
POLICY PERIOD: 04/14/16 TO 04/14/17

UNINSURED MOTORIST

\$ 1,000,000 EACH ACCIDENT OR LOSS

COMPANY PROVIDING THE INSURANCE: CHURCH MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY
POLICY PERIOD: 04/14/16 TO 04/14/17

UMB SCHED (02-88)

2

ISSUED DATE: 03/03/16

Prayer List for Congregations, Presbytery of Arkansas – 2017

Jan.	1	First, Clarksville	Park Hill, North Little Rock
Jan.	8	Mt. Vernon, Pea Ridge	First, Huntsville
Jan.	15	First, Benton	Active Ruling Elders
Jan.	22	University of the Ozarks, Clarksville	Faith, Horseshoe Bend
Jan.	29	First, McGehee	Inquirers and Candidates for Ministry
Feb.	5	First, Lincoln	First, Heber Springs
Feb.	12	Synod of the Sun	Church Musicians
Feb.	19	First, Jacksonville	Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
Feb.	26	Woodlands, Hot Springs Village	Holiday Island Presbyterian
Mar.	5	Second, Little Rock	First, Yellville
Mar.	12	Directors of Children's Programs	First, Mena
Mar.	19	First United, Fayetteville	Lyon College, Batesville
Mar.	26	First, Harrison	First, North Little Rock
Apr.	2	Mt. Comfort, Fayetteville	First, Dardanelle
Apr.	9	Good Shepherd, Greenwood	Presbyterian Church of Bella Vista
Apr.	16	Central, Fort Smith	Active Deacons
Apr.	23	Alpine Church, Amity	Cleburne Avenue, West Helena
Apr.	30	First, Lonoke	Vaughn, Bentonville
May	7	First, Hot Springs	Ministries to Hispanic Persons
May	14	Westover Hills, Little Rock	Allison Memorial, Little Rock
May	21	Holly Grove Church, Holly Grove	First, Alma
May	28	Kirk in the Pines, Hot Springs Village	First, Searcy
June	4	Mission Trip Participants	First, Fort Smith
June	11	Pulaski Heights, Little Rock	Harmony Church, Clarksville
June	18	New Worshipping Communities	First, Pine Bluff
June	25	Graham Memorial, Forrest City	Elkins Church, Elkins
July	2	Grace, Little Rock	First, Malvern
July	9	Barr Memorial, Norman	Hopewell Church, Morrilton
July	16	First, Mountain Home	First, Newport
July	23	First, Little Rock	Presbytery Staff
July	30	Trinity, Little Rock	Spring River, Hardy
Aug.	6	First, Bentonville	Westminster, Little Rock
Aug.	13	First, Conway	First, Prairie Grove
Aug.	20	First, Morrilton	First, Springdale
Aug.	27	Wynne Church, Wynne	Commissioned Ruling Elders
Sept.	3	Faith, Pine Bluff	First, Beebe
Sept.	10	Central, Pine Bluff	Church Camp Ministries
Sept.	17	First, Brinkley	First, Jonesboro
Sept.	24	First, Gurdon	Churches in Presbyteries in Honduras

Oct.	1	Cane Hill Church, Cane Hill	Active and Retired Educators and Youth Directors
Oct.	8	First, Van Buren	First, Batesville
Oct.	15	First, Eureka Springs	Central, Russellville
Oct.	22	First, Helena	West End, Arkadelphia
Oct.	29	Presbyterian Church of Bull Shoals	First, Arkadelphia
Nov.	5	Campus Ministries	Hospital Chaplains and Counselors
Nov.	12	Church Nursery Workers	First, Rogers
Nov.	19	First, Marianna	Westminster, Hot Springs
Nov.	26	First, Paragould	Church Custodians
Dec.	3	Mountainburg Church, Mountainburg	Active and Retired Ministers
Dec.	10	Laotian Ministry, Fort Smith	First, Stuttgart
Dec.	17	Memorial Church, Atkins	First, Walnut Ridge
Dec.	24	Kirk of the Hills, Fairfield Bay	One-O-One Church, Gamaliel;
Dec.	31	Church Pre-Schools	Prison Ministries

Section Q

Flyers and Announcements

In 2016 Arkansas Presbytery will give the Cents-Ability Offering as follows:

1/3 to Bar Memorial Presbyterian church in Norman to help with their Saturday morning breakfast and food program. This is one of the most depressed areas of our state. Each Saturday they feed up to 100 people a full hot breakfast plus give out bags of groceries to as many as 250 families.

1/3 to STOP HUNGER NOW for the **national** food program

1/3 to STOP HUNGER NOW for the **international** food program

The food packaging will be done by volunteers at Ferncliff. Stop Hunger Now is an international hunger relief non-profit organization that coordinates the packaging and distribution of food and other life-saving aid to people in developing nations.

If your church has a suggestion for the Cents-Ability offering for 2017, please send your suggestions to: Maryann Sweeney, 1 Bugle Lane, Bella Vista AR 72714.
Or email with subject line: Cents-Ability to jwsweeney@cox.net.

Working together we can make a difference. Just a few cents a day will help alleviate hunger. This is a churchwide offering, not just a PW one. Please do your part through your congregation and send your gifts to the Presbytery office.





CONTACT

Rev. Susan Rose
ucm_chaplain@yahoo.com

902 W. Maple Street
Fayetteville, AR 72701

Facebook: UCM at the UofA

Twitter: @ucmuofa

Instagram: @ucmuofa

Website: www.ucmuofa.org

Sign up for our monthly e-newsletter using the "contact us" tab on the website.



ABOUT US

Located at the **University of Arkansas**, UCM is an ecumenical campus ministry of the of the Presbyterian Church (USA), in partnership with First Christian Church in Fayetteville.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Monday: Fellowship Lunch 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
Drop-in lunch between classes for all students and friends of the ministry.

Thursday: Dinner & Discussion 5:30 - 7:00 pm
A home cooked meal followed by discussion over a topic of students' choosing.

SUPPORT UCM

Visit the UCM website: www.ucmuofa.org and find the online giving form under the "support UCM" tab.



Austin Seminary Alumni & Friends Gathering

Gathering at Arkansas Presbytery
Friday, October 21, 2106
(When the presbytery meeting recesses for the day)

Please join us for a time of
fellowship, conversation &
Seminary news.

Brick Oven Pizza of Harrison

814 Highway 62-65 North | Harrison, AR 7260
870-741-0012

See you there!



Section R

Supplemental CCM Documents

A COVENANT Between a Session and a Ruling Elder To Commission or Recommission to Particular Pastoral Service

The Presbytery of Arkansas

This Covenant governs the relationship between the Session of the WEST END Presbyterian Church of ARKADELPHIA and Kenneth + Claire Rhoads Ruling Elders certified by the Committee on Ministry as eligible to serve as ~~a~~ Commissioned Ruling Elders. It establishes the guidelines related to the provision of pastoral services to the Church by the CRE. This relationship shall be effective from 1 January 2017 until 31 December 2019 (first time commissioning up to 12 months, recommissioning for up to 36 months), at which time it may be renewed with the concurrence of the CRE, the Church Session, and the Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery of Arkansas.

It is understood that the Terms of Covenant will be in accord with the provisions found in the PCUSA Book of Order. There shall be an annual evaluation of the work of the CRE by the Session of the Church, along with an annual evaluation by the CRE Oversight Subcommittee of the Committee on Ministry. At that time this covenant may or may not be renewed at the discretion of the Session, the CRE, or the Committee on Ministry.

The CRE shall be provided 4 weeks vacation (including Sundays) annually (four weeks for full time CREs). The CRE shall also be provided two (2) weeks study leave (including Sundays) annually (for all CREs). The Session agrees to pay the CRE \$ 16,000- per year (or month) with a review of the compensation annually. In addition, the Session agrees to reimburse the CRE \$ 0.39 cents per mile for mileage driven to and from the Church and in the execution of other duties for the Church. The CRE is expected to fulfill the following agreed upon duties as initialed by both the Clerk of Session (as the designated representative of the Session) and the CRE.

Clerk	CRE	
_____	✓	Preach regularly on Sundays and at special services
_____	✓	Lead worship on Sundays and for special services
_____	✓	Officiate at funerals/memorial services as requested and as available
_____	✓	Moderate meetings of the Session
_____	✓	Administer the Sacraments (to this congregation only)
_____	✓	Provide pastoral care for the congregation
_____	✓	Make new member and evangelistic visits
_____	✓	Teach Elder training
_____	✓	Teach Confirmation classes
_____	✓	Teach a regular Bible Study class
_____	✓	Participate regularly in meetings of Presbytery
		Other duties as listed:

It is understood that the CRE will ordinarily work no more than 15 hours per week for the Church. If the CRE should exceed those hours in any given week, she/he is entitled to take compensatory time in one of the next few weeks. This time is to be negotiated between the Session and the CRE. If the work exceeds 20 hours per week the Session should strongly consider the possibility of providing Pension and Major Medical for the CRE.

Should the CRE be asked to move to the community in which the Church is located the Church shall provide full moving expenses and a housing allowance or manse.

Anneth Rhodes
Clare Rhodes
Commissioned Ruling Elder

9/24/16
9/24/16
Date

John A. Wright
Clerk of Session

9/27/16
Date

Date of initial commission Sept 2004
Number of Years of this Commission 12 years
Date this commission expires 31 Dec 2017

Approved by the Committee on Ministry _____
Date

Approved by the Presbytery of Arkansas _____
Date

A copy of this covenant should be kept by the church's session with additional copies being provided to the Commissioned Ruling Elder, the CRE Oversight Subcommittee, and the Presbytery office.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

200 North Second Street
Dardanelle, AR 72834

www.firstpresbyteriangardanelle.org

September 12, 2016

The Reverend Dari Rowen,
Moderator of the Committee on Church Ministries
Office of the Presbytery of Arkansas
9221 N. Rodney Parham Road
Little Rock, Arkansas 72227

Dear Ms. Rowen:

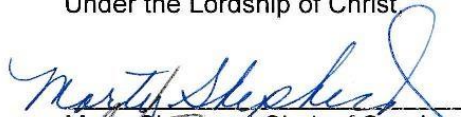
The Session and Kelly Pearson, CRE, are informing you of the decision to renew the covenantal relationship for the three years of 2017-19.

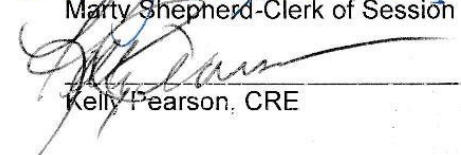
The Session in its meeting of July 6th voted to this and the congregation did so on Sunday, August 21st.

We are asking that the Committee on Church Ministries consider our request that the Presbytery of Arkansas concur to this with us.

Included is a copy of the written covenantal agreement. If any additional information is desired, do not hesitate to contact either of us.

Under the Lordship of Christ


Marty Shepherd-Clerk of Session


Kelly Pearson, CRE

9.10.16
Date

COVENANT WITH COMMISSIONED RULING ELDER(CRE)

First Presbyterian Church of Dardanelle, Arkansas and **Kelly W. Pearson, CRE**, covenant a pastoral-relationship for 01-01-17 until 12-31-19, *renewed* with concurrence of congregation, session, CRE, & COM of the Presbytery of Arkansas. The annual evaluations may make changes to duties, compensations, if agreeable by both parties.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF CRE(desired by congregation, session, and agreed to by CRE):

- Lead worship and preach a minimum of 47 times during year.
- Administer the Sacrament of Lord’s Supper, to the congregation in worship and to the home-bound, those in nursing homes, or otherwise unable to attend regular services of worship and sacraments, so desiring.
- Administer the Sacrament of Baptism
- Moderate session meetings.
- Have a voice/vote in meetings of presbytery
- Other duties as listed in the Job Description.

TIME EXPECTATIONS(*minimum* average hours per week) 35hrs (per Bd of Pensions)

SPECIFIC DAYS IN MINISTRY Monday thru Friday, Sunday

GENERAL DAYS IN MINISTRY Any day/night when called upon or needed

COMPENSATION(effective 1-01-17)

Cash salary \$22,202/yr Books/Resources/Etc.: \$ 250 /yr*

Housing Allowance/ Utility Allowance } \$ 14,000/yr Mileage @ \$ IRS rate up to \$2,500/yr.*

Life Ins. Supplement \$ 594/yr ??? 4 wks Paid Vacation time;

Cont. Ed. -----\$ 250/yr(roll-over)* Up to 5 Sundays off
Up to 7 days Continuing Educ.

Social Security \$ 3000**

Full Annuity/Disability & Medical Insurance for pastor

*denotes reimbursement by accountable plan

**less than half of Soc. Sec./Medicare, therefore, uncountable toward “effective salary”

So signed as agreed upon and certified by the following parties this 11th day of 2016:

Commissioned Ruling Elder Kelly W. Pearson

Clerk of Session Marty Stephens Presbytery COM(chair) Paul Rowen