



147th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas

Technology-Aided Meeting

Presbytery Website: <https://www.presbyark.org>

Presbytery Facebook Page: **PresbyArkConnect**

Presbytery Database: <https://directory.in-c.net/arkansas/>

Passphrase: **presbyarkconnect**

To Receive the “Update,” the Presbytery’s email newsletter, contact Presbytery Connector Julie Price at julietannerprice@gmail.com.

What You’ll Find in This Packet:

Letter from the Presbytery Builder	Page 2
Meeting Schedule	Page 3
Docket	Page 4
Consent Agenda	Page 6
Report of the Coordinating Team	Page 7
Report of the Committee on Ministry	Page 11
Report of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry.....	Page 13
Report of the Stated Clerk	Page 17
Report of the Committee on the Future of the Church	Page 19
Report of the Committee on Youth, Young Adults, and Campus Ministry	Page 21
Report of the Committee on Administration	Page 22
Presbytery Helps (Acronyms & Parliamentary Procedure).....	Page 29



PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS

9221 North Rodney Parham Road
Little Rock, Arkansas 72227
501.663.2424 • 501.224.2429 FX
www.presbyark.org

May 21, 2021

Dear Friends in the Presbytery of Arkansas,

Don't miss a single minute of our June 5th virtual Presbytery meeting! And why, you may ask will I spend a fine June Saturday morning from 8:30am-1pm at a meeting? The answer is that you don't want to miss our special guest Rev. Jason Tucker. Jason is a PCUSA minister of word and sacrament who has a MDiv from Princeton Theological Seminary and a Doctoral Degree in Church Revitalization from Fuller Seminary. He is co-presenter of the Reclaimed Leader podcast, a church consultant, and continues his work as Senior Pastor of Tower Hill Presbyterian Church in Red Bank, NJ. I first 'met' Jason on a virtual church seminar and immediately appreciated his passion for church revitalization, particularly with traditional congregations, his enthusiasm and pastor's heart for the challenge and beauty of churches, his knowledge and humor about the day-to-day life of a church and his desire to see PCUSA churches reach new generations. Jason will be leading our theological discussion (which will include break-out/discussion sessions and Q&A as time allows) and will be preaching from Acts 2 in our closing worship service. He will join us for a follow-up zoom meeting on Wednesday, June 9th at 10am (Presbytery zoom) where there'll be time to ask more questions and discuss our churches.

I often let my excitement run away with me, but of course, the Presbytery meeting is a 'no-miss' for other reasons, such as a report of exciting possibilities at the First NLR church property, meeting candidates and inquirers, chatting throughout the meeting with friends, and worship with many different people joining Jason to led us in praise and prayer.

Everyone must pre-register prior to the meeting, whether a commissioner, minister member, other voting member, or visitor, so that we can take attendance. Access to Zoom will be the same as for our June meeting and other on-line gatherings of the Presbytery:

<https://zoom.us/j/8271054504>

Password: trinity

Pre-Registration is important, so please pre-register today on the Presbytery's website: <https://www.presbyark.org!>

In Christ,

Carol Clark

J. Stewart Smith
General Presbyter

Kim Porter
Office Manager

Leslie Belden
Stated Clerk

Brianne Christiansen
Director of Youth Ministries

Carol Clark
Presbytery Builder

Julie Price
Presbytery Connector

147th Stated Meeting

Zoom Meeting

June 5, 2021

Next Meetings

148th Stated Meeting
Fayetteville, Arkansas
October 9, 2021

149th Stated Meeting
University of the Ozarks
Date TBD

Meeting Schedule

Saturday, June 5, 2021 - Zoom Meeting

- 8:30 am Prelude & Written Announcements
- 8:45 am Preliminaries
- 9:00 am Call to Order with Prayer
- 9:15 am Decisions of the Presbytery
- 10:00 am Order of the Day: Theological
Discussion with MWS Jason Tucker
- 11:30 am Staff Reports
- 11:50 am. New Possibilities: Argenta
- 12:05 pm Worship
- 1:00 pm Benediction and Adjournment

Presbytery Leadership

Moderator RE Julie Gillaspay
Vice-Moderator MWS Susan Arnold
Moderator of CT MWS Marion Humphrey
General Presbyter MWS Stewart Smith
Stated Clerk MWS Leslie Belden

Moderator of Administration
RE Tom Verdery
Moderator of COM RE Don Eilbott
Moderator of CPM MWS Susan Gray
Moderator of Subcommittee on Disaster
Preparedness and Response
RE Ray Stephens
Moderator of Future of the Church
MWS Becky Purcell
Co-Moderators of Subcommittee on
Honduran Ministry
RE Leah Woodruff
MWS Phil Butin
Moderator of Mission of the Church
CRE Mary Shaw
Moderator of Nominations
CRE Chuck Olson
Co-Moderators of Presbyterian Women
RE Maryann Sweeney
RE Vicki Erickson
Moderator of Representation
MWS Marie Mainard O'Connell
Moderator of Youth, Young Adults, and
Campus Ministry - MWS Maggie Alsup

Docket

Saturday, June 5, 2021

- 8:30 am** **Prelude**
Written minute announcements, news, and directions
Chat function turned on.
- 8:45 am** **Preliminaries**
Welcome – Moderator RE Julie Gillaspy
Explanation of Technology – Moderator RE Julie Gillaspy
Welcome to all in Attendance– Stated Clerk MWS Leslie Belden
Explanation of Voting, Counting Votes, and Taking Role – Stated Clerk Belden
- 9:00 am** **Call to Order and Declaration of a Quorum** – Moderator Gillaspy
With the lighting of the Christ Candle and Prayer
- 9:05 am** **Consent Agenda**
Motion to approve the Consent Agenda - Stated Clerk Belden (requires a second) (The Consent Agenda is Section A.)
- 9:10 am** **Introduction of the Theological Emphasis of the Meeting** – MWS Carol Clark,
Presbytery Builder
Matthew 25 Focus: Congregational Vitality
- 9:15 am** **Decisions of the Presbytery**
- Motions of the Coordinating Team** – Moderator MWS Marion Humphrey
(The report is Section B.)
- Motions of the Committee on Ministry** – Moderator RE Don Eilbott (The
report is Section C.)
- Motions of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry** – Moderator
MWS Susan Gray (The report is Section D.)
- 10:00 am** **Order of the Day: Theological Discussion** – MWS Jason Tucker
- 11:30 am** **Staff Reports**
- Report of the General Presbyter** – MWS Stewart Smith
Report of the Stated Clerk – MWS Leslie Belden (Section E)
Report of the Treasurer – RE Bob Boehmler (Section F)

11:50 am **New Possibilities from First, North Little Rock/Argenta Administrative Commission** – RE Ted Belden, AC Member, and MWS Stewart Smith, General
Presbyter

12:05 am **Worship** – MWS Jason Tucker Preaching

12:50 pm **Benediction and Adjournment**
Fellowship to follow with the chat function remaining on for half-an-hour following
adjournment.

1:20 pm **Zoom Off**

Section A

Consent Agenda

MWS Leslie Belden
Stated Clerk

- 1. Motion to adopt the docket.**
- 2. Motion to approve the minutes of the 146th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas, March 5-6, 2021, held through Zoom technology, with worship led by the Youth and Young Adults of the Presbytery, and with outgoing Moderator MWS Marion Humphrey preaching.**
- 3. Motion to enroll corresponding members with voice but not vote.**
- 4. Motion to grant privilege of the floor (voice) to those persons registered, but without vote.**
- 5. Motion for the technology of Zoom Room to count votes, serving as what the Presbytery of Arkansas has historically termed the “Tellers.”**
- 6. Motion for the Stated Clerk to record those absent and those present and include those names and numbers in the minutes, serving as what the Presbytery of Arkansas has historically termed the “Leaves of Absence Committee.”**

Section B

Report of the Coordinating Team

MWS Marion Humphrey
Moderator

For Action

Motion to approve the proposed changes to the Presbytery of Arkansas' Ministry Manual: Part I Organization and Structure, which requires a 3/5 vote of Presbytery, and Standing Rules, which requires a simple majority vote of Presbytery. (See Section B – Attachment I.)

For Information

The Coordinating Team took the following actions at their March 31, May 5, and May 13, 2021 meetings, plus an email vote between May 17-19, 2021:

Approved allocating \$1,000 from the budget of the Coordinating Team as an honorarium for a speaker, MWS Jason Tucker, for the June 5, 2021 meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas. MWS Tucker will also preach at the June meeting, and will lead a follow-up “We Are Listening” session. With this motion the topic of Building Congregational Vitality, the third point of the Matthew 25 initiative, was also approved as the theological discussion topic for the June 5, 2021 meeting.

Authorized the reclassification of up to \$32,500 of funds previously set aside for the Covid-19 short-term assistance program, to be made available to the Disaster Preparedness and Response Subcommittee to offer as grants for churches that suffered damage from the February Winter Storms.

Authorized MWS Becky Purcell to celebrate the Lord’s Supper during a United Campus Ministry retreat on Maundy Thursday.

Added First Presbyterian Church of Helena to the list of congregations with which the Standing Administrative Commission “charged with the responsibilities and authority to represent the Presbytery of Arkansas in working with the session and membership of congregations expressing the desire to close” works. *(Note: The Session of First Presbyterian Church of Helena is not seeking dissolution at this time.)*

Granted permission for the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Clarksville to appoint a Ruling Elder to serve on the Administrative Commission charged with working with First, Clarksville.

Approved commissioning Ruling Elder Ronnie Prevost as the CRE at First Presbyterian Church of Springdale, pending the approval of the covenant/contract between RE Ronnie Prevost and First Presbyterian Church of Springdale by the Committee on Ministry effective May 3 (with that covenant to include authorizing him to moderate the session beginning April 26, and to celebrate the sacraments). (Note: The COM approved the covenant/contract.) And approved that the following serve on an Administrative Commission to commission him at a regular Sunday morning worship service of First Presbyterian Church of Springdale, at a date to be determined by that Administrative Commission:

MWS Leslie Belden, Stated Clerk
MWS Stewart Smith, General Presbyter
RE Charlie Harwell of First Presbyterian Church of Springdale
RE Barbara Verdery of First United Presbyterian Church of Fayetteville
CRE Kelly Pearson of First Presbyterian Church of Pea Ridge and Lincoln to Chair the AC

(Note: CRE Ronnie Prevost was commissioned at the May 25, 2021 regular Sunday worship service of First Presbyterian Church of Springdale.)

Approved that the Committee on Nominations bring forth names for a committee to explore the possibility of modifying the staff structure to incorporate the needs for a technical person.

Approved allowing the Committee on the Future of the Church to have access to up to \$75,000 from the Texas Presbyterian Foundation for their 2021 budget to respond to grant requests.

Set the date for the Fall meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas as October 8-9, 2021, and later accepted the invitation of First United Presbyterian Church of Fayetteville for the meeting to be held there.

Referred the Implementation Plan, approved by the Presbytery, to the Committees on Future of the Church, Mission of the Church, and Youth, Young Adults and Campus Ministry for them to review the goals, strategies, and measurements, and edit them in light of the transformational changes the Presbytery and its congregations went through with COVID-19, and since the hiring of the Presbytery Builder and Connector.

Discussed a request by the Arkansas Black Caucus to take action in response to the Presbytery's commitment to Matthew 25, and particularly with respect to dismantling structural racism. MWS Jeff Price, RE Ted Belden, MWS Emily Hook, and MWS Marion Humphrey, with General Presbyter MWS Stewart Smith as staff support, were appointed to converse with representatives of the Arkansas Black Caucus about how to best take action, expanding ideas beyond writing a letter.

Section B – Attachment I

Part I: Organization and Structure

A. **Coordinating Team-** The Coordinating Team shall serve as the coordinating and program oversight body of the Presbytery between meetings. When necessary, the Coordinating Team may act on behalf of the Presbytery for routine business or when a called, special, or regular meeting of the Presbytery is impractical.

1. Membership- There shall be ~~twelve~~ **sixteen** members of the Coordinating Team, ~~plus the Moderator, who is the thirteenth member, and six ex-officio members,~~ appointed and elected in the following ways:
 - a) Members from Ministry Areas: One appointed member from each of the following committees: Administration; **Nominations**; Ministry; Preparation for Ministry; Mission of the Church; Future of the Church; and Youth, Young Adults, and Campus Ministry. Appointment by a committee is for one year, with that person eligible to be reappointed for up to six years.
 - b) At-Large Members: Six at-large members shall be elected for a three-year term, divided into classes of two members each, with each region of the Presbytery represented by at least one member. Members may serve no more than two terms, or six years total, without at least one year off the committee.
 - c) Moderator: The Moderator of the Coordinating Team shall be the most recent Moderator of the Presbytery. S/he shall serve with voice and vote. In the event the most recent past moderator is unable or unwilling to serve, the Nominations Committee shall bring a name to the Presbytery to fill the role of Moderator of the Coordinating Team. The nominee will normally come from the roster of past moderators.
 - d) ~~Ex-officio Members~~ **Presbytery Officers:** The ~~General/Executive Presbyter, Treasurer, Stated Clerk, Moderator of Presbytery, Moderator or designee of Moderator of Committee on Nominations,~~ and Moderator-in-election (Vice-Moderator) of Presbytery shall be ~~ex-officio~~ members with voice **and** ~~but not~~ vote. ~~Other ex-officio members may be provided for by policy.~~

Standing Rule #4
Ex-Officio Members and Quorum

~~Ex-officio members of the Coordinating Team (Moderator of Presbytery, Vice-Moderator of Presbytery, General Presbyter, Stated Clerk, Treasurer, and representative of the Committee on Nominations) shall count toward the presence of a quorum pursuant to the rules set forth in the Organization and Structure and Committee and Ministry Duties sections of the Presbytery Ministry Manual. (Approved 2/17/17; Revised 3/6/20)~~

Rationale:

Former Coordinating Team Moderator RE David Stricklin called the Coordinating Team's attention to the fact that the Coordinating Team is charged with making decisions on behalf of the Presbytery between meetings of the Presbytery when such action is either needed due to timing issues or the decision is not deemed significant enough to require the action of the whole Presbytery. At the same time the Moderator and Vice Moderator of Presbytery are not voting members of the Coordinating Team, but rather are ex-officio members, counting toward the quorum but without the right to vote. Other ex-officio members of the Coordinating Team include the Moderator of the Committee on Nominations and staff members including the General Presbyter, Stated Clerk, and Treasurer, all counting toward the quorum with voice but not vote.

The Presbytery of Arkansas does not include staff as ex-officio members of other committees, and the only committee that has ex-officio members is the Committee on Youth, Young Adults, and Campus Ministry, and they do not count toward the quorum. The Coordinating Team believes that it is in the best interest of the Presbytery for the Moderator and Vice Moderator to be actual voting members of the Coordinating Team as elected leaders of the Presbytery, and that there not be any ex-officio members who count toward a quorum but without vote. At the same time, the Coordinating Team believes that staff should not count toward the quorum, but attend as support staff to the work of the committee.

Section C

Report of the Committee on Ministry

RE Don Eilbott
Moderator

Necrology

The Committee on Ministry requests a moment of silence to reflect on the life and ministry of MWS Donald (Don) Trent, HR, and MWS Raymond (Bud) Hearn, III, HR, whose work on this earth has ended, and who have received their reward and are at home with God and all the saints in the Kingdom of God. (See Section C – Attachment I.)

For Information

Kevin S. Keaton, Church Consultant, with the Board of Pensions, presented to the Committee on Ministry regarding the difference between Pastor's Participation and Minister's Choice coverages. For pastors or church leaders who would like more clarification, or need to visit with Kevin concerning benefits of the Board of Pensions, his contact information is: kkeaton@pensions.org or 215-435-1301.

The Committee on Ministry approved the recommendation of the Northwest Arkansas Examinations Subcommittee to commission Ruling Elder Ronnie Prevost as the CRE at First Presbyterian Church of Springdale, pending the approval of the covenant/contract between RE Ronnie Prevost and First Presbyterian Church of Springdale by the Committee on Ministry. The effective date of the call is May 3, 2021, with the covenant to include authorizing him to moderate the session beginning April 26, and to celebrate the sacraments. The Coordinating Team previously approved an Administrative Commission to conduct the commissioning at a regular Sunday morning worship service of First Presbyterian Church of Springdale, since the commissioning is needed prior to the June 5, 2021 meeting of the Presbytery.

Permission was granted to First Presbyterian Church of Morrilton and First Presbyterian Church of Searcy to elect a Pastor Nominating Committee.

MWS Kade Curry was appointed as the Moderator of the Bella Vista Presbyterian Church.

The COM approved the request of MWS Laura Fleetwood, HR, to transfer her membership to John Calvin Presbytery pending their request for that transfer. MWS Fleetwood's new address will be: 852 E. Turnbridge St., Springfield, MO. 65810

The COM approved the ministry of MWS Phil Blackburn, Co-Pastor at First Presbyterian Church of Fort Smith, as Director of Thriving in Ministry for the University of the Ozarks Lilly Grant as a validated ministry.

Section C – Attachment I

Necrology

MWS Raymond (Bud) Hearn III, HR
April 12, 1929 – March 18, 2021

Reverend Dr. Raymond (Bud) Hearn III, HR, a retired member of the Presbytery of Arkansas, died on March 18, 2021 at CHI St. Vincent Hospital in Hot Springs Arkansas. Bud was born in Carlisle Pennsylvania to Raymond and Mildred Spence Hearn. He attended Rutgers University and Montclair State University and received his B.A. from Upsala College and his Master of Arts from The College of New Jersey. Bud served as a corporal in Germany during the Korean War. Following his armed forces service, for six years Bud served as an administrator at Livingston Junior High School in Livingston, New Jersey. He was a ruling elder at Hilldale Park Presbyterian Church in Cedar Knolls, New Jersey. After discerning a call to ministry, Bud attended and received his Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from Dubuque Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Bud served churches in Mount Vernon and Des Moines, Iowa; Laramie, Wyoming; Englewood, Colorado; Fort Scott, Kansas; and Orange, Texas, from where he retired in 1994.

Bud and his wife Pat moved to Hot Springs Village, Arkansas in 1995, and Bud served for a time as Parish Associate at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Hot Springs. Bud had a love for and gift of teaching and during retirement shared his teaching gifts occasionally at the Kirk in the Pines Presbyterian Church in Hot Springs Village and also at Hot Springs Community College. Bud served in his later years as an interim minister at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Hot Springs Village and became a Unitarian for his final years. That church established a library in his name honoring his love of education. He is survived by his wife Patricia Hearn of Hot Springs Village, 3 children, 8 grand-children and 9 great grand-children. Memorials can be made to the Southern Poverty Law Center, or the ACLU.

MWS Donald Trent, HR (*Obituary not available*)
May 28, 1031 – March 22, 2021

MWS Don Trent, HR, retired member of the Presbytery of Arkansas died on March 22, 2021 at Hot Springs Village, Arkansas. Don was born on May 28, 1931 and graduated high school in Reidsville, NC. Don received his Master of Divinity and Master of Theology degrees from Columbia Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia. Don spent many years in ministry in New Covenant Presbytery where he served as pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Dickinson, Texas, where he was later given the title of Pastor Emeritus. Don retired in 1996 and served in interim positions at St. Stephen Presbyterian Church in Houston, Texas and First Presbyterian Church in Texas City, Texas. After moving to Arkansas, Don served as an Interim pastor at Highland Presbyterian Church in Hot Springs and as a Parish Associate at Kirk in the Pines Presbyterian Church in Hot Springs Village. Don is survived by his wife Peggy and sons Bruce and Mike. Memorials may be sent to Kirk in the Pines Presbyterian Church in Hot Springs Village.

Section D

Report of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry

MWS Susan Gray
Moderator

For Action

- 1. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry moves that Maggie Johnson be enrolled as an Inquirer.**
- 2. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry moves that Liz Larkin be enrolled as an Inquirer.**
- 3. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry moves that Alex Pickell be enrolled as an Inquirer.**
- 4. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry moves the transfer of Katie Flood's Inquirer status from the Presbytery of Mackinac, Michigan, to the Presbytery of Arkansas, and that she be enrolled as a Candidate for Minister of the Word and Sacrament.**

For Information

Rev. Matt Bussell has been elected as Vice-Moderator of the COPM.

The COPM attests that Michelle Hall has completed the requirements to be commissioned as a Commissioned Ruling Elder.

Interviews

Maggie Johnson was interviewed per her request to become an Inquirer. She is a child of Second Presbyterian Church, Little Rock, and is currently working with the youth ministry at Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church in Dallas. She is especially interested in pastoral care. She plans to attend Columbia Seminary in the fall of 2021.

Liz Larkin was interviewed per her request to become an Inquirer. She completed Phillips Theological Seminary in 2012, as a United Methodist student. She is a member of First Presbyterian Church, Rogers. She has a Presbyterian background and feels theologically attuned to the Reformed tradition, and feels called to be a chaplain. She has recently completed four units of CPE at Washington Regional Medical Center, and is endorsed by her supervisor, C.J. Malone. She is willing to do all remedial work to prepare for ordination in the PC(USA).

Alex Pickell was interviewed per her request to become an Inquirer. She grew up in Second Presbyterian Church, Little Rock. She recently graduated from the U of A in Fayetteville with majors in history and French. She has always felt a call to ministry and has discerned that it is time to answer the call. She has been accepted at Louisville Theological Seminary in the fall of 2021 and has received the Presidential Scholarship which includes nearly all tuition and rent.

Katie Flood was interviewed on April 17 per her request to move her Inquirer status from the Presbytery of Mackinac, Michigan, to the Presbytery of Arkansas. She is currently studying at Western Theological Seminary in Holland, MI and is serving as Director of Children and Youth Ministries at First Presbyterian Church, Bentonville, where she is a member. She has been an Inquirer since August 13, 2019. During the interview, the committee encouraged her to pursue Candidacy.

Katie Flood was also interviewed on May 11, per her request to become a Candidate for Minister of Word and Sacrament. Rev. Katie Cummings spoke highly of Katie Flood's work in Bentonville. The committee strongly endorses Katie's movement to Candidacy.

Section D – Attachment I

Katie Flood’s Statement of Faith

God identifies God’s self by saying, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.”¹ The God who freed the Israelites and called Moses is the same God who is creator of the universe. This God is the one true God who established the hopeful promise of redemption. The same God promises a day where “there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain.”² The one true creator God of the universe is Triune. God is one God in three persons, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

God cares for creation by being present and active in the world. Christians can trust in God’s capability of caring for God’s people because the Lord created and sustains the world. God knows exactly what the world needs and God is mighty enough to protect and care for the world because God is all-knowing, all-powerful, all-present, and steadfast. God’s attributes assure the people of faith that God is capable and willing to fulfill God’s promises to the world.

Jesus is God, the Father’s Son who, “moves into the neighborhood.”³ In Christ’s full divinity and full humanity, God meets humankind right where they are; in the midst of the broken world. God enters into humanity, God dwells with humanity, and God redeems humanity within the person of Jesus Christ who justifies those who have been called and who place their trust in Him.

In humility, Christ entered this world as an infant. Christ embraced those who had been marginalized by society, which shows Christ’s heart for humanity and his determination to restore all things.

Christ died humbly by sacrificing himself on the cross. After three days, Christ was resurrected from the grave. In his death and resurrection, Christ defeated death itself. Christ was the ultimate sacrifice and serves as an intermediary for his people.

Now Jesus, “has gone into heaven and is at God’s right hand- with angels, authorities, and powers in submission to him.”⁴ Christ continues to redeem and sanctify humanity. Christians wait for the day when Jesus will return and “make all things new”⁵

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity. The gospel of John says, “the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.”⁶ It is through the work of the Holy Spirit that Christians and the Church are nourished, sustained, corrected, and directed in their faith. The Holy Spirit’s work is active and thriving.

The Holy Spirit works to further the Kingdom of God through the Church. Christians are united with God through the Holy Spirit. Through baptism, Christians are called children of God, and through

¹ Exodus 3:6, NRSV

² Revelation 21:4, NIV

³ John 1:14, The Message

⁴ 1 Peter 3:22, NIV

⁵ Revelation 21:5, NIV

⁶ John 14:26, NRSV

the Lord's Supper, Christians are nourished in their faith. This call into relationship with God and neighbor is lived out in the life of the Church. Christians are called to join in God's work of restoring the Kingdom of God by loving God, loving neighbor, and stewarding God's created world only by God's grace.

The Church earnestly awaits the restoration of all things, but until then, "With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God."⁷

⁷ The Confession of 1967, 9.55.

Section E

Report of the Stated Clerk

MWS Leslie Belden
Stated Clerk

The Database and Website

Since COVID-19 hit in March of 2020 the Presbytery of Arkansas has been doing its best to better connect our congregations, and to simplify access to information through the Presbytery. We've developed an excellent means of sharing information on our Facebook page, PresbyArkConnect, purchased a new database system, amped up what we put on the website, and hosted on-line conversations. Also a twice-monthly "Update" is sent out via email. Please send email addresses of session members or others who would like to receive it to RE Julie Price, our Presbytery Connector, at julietannerprice@gmail.com.

To access the Presbytery's database, in-C, go to: <https://directory.in-c.net/arkansas/> and the passphrase is presbyarkconnect. The database has information on all churches, pastors and other church leaders, and committees. The database should be invaluable to those in local congregations who need to know who to contact and how to do that. It may also be accessed through the Presbytery's website, <https://www.presbyark.org>, by clicking on "Directory" in the menu running across the top of the page. You'll need the password to access it.

Congregations can also benefit from other resources accessible on the website. I would encourage everyone to explore the various options that you can click on and find. Particularly, under "Resources" there are a variety of resources that are just a click away. Check out the plethora of helps under the tab "Ministry Resources" - <https://www.presbyark.org/our-presbytery/helpful-resources-2/>. Resources specific to Clerks of Session are under the tab "Presbytery Documents" in the list under "Stated Clerk," and there are also grant request forms and other helpful documents under "Administration," "Mission of the Church," and "Future of the Church." Those resources are one click away through this link: <https://www.presbyark.org/our-presbytery/presbytery-documents/>. Churches who are seeking a pastor have resources available through the "COM Resources" tab: <https://www.presbyark.org/resources/com-resources/>.

The following Administrative Commissions continue to work on behalf of the Presbytery:

First, Clarksville Administrative Commission charged with selling the property – RE Ted Belden and MWS Clare Kelley, Co-Moderators

First, Little Rock Administrative Commission – RE Cyril Hollingsworth, Moderator

Northwest Arkansas Hispanic Ministry Administrative Commission – MWS Phil Butin, Moderator

Pine Bluff Administrative Commission – RE Ruth Hamilton, Moderator

Standing AC for the Dissolution of Churches – RE Leah Shell, Moderator

First, Stuttgart – The AC is beginning to work with a new realtor.

First, Helena – The Session is committed to continue providing worship for members and will work toward establishing a non-profit organization/foundation which could permanently care for the building.

First, Marianna – Has asked that the AC beginning working with them toward dissolution.

Washington County Property Administrative Commission – RE Ted Belden, Moderator

First, North Little Rock/Argenta – MWS Carol Clark, Moderator

Information about this AC will be shared later in the meeting.

Congregational Reports and Reviews

Records reviews are being conducted differently this year. Clerks are requested to complete their own review using the form found here:

<https://secureservercdn.net/45.40.146.28/995.241.myftpupload.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Approved-Records-Review-Checklist.pdf>

Please use a separate form for each year, in case years prior to 2020 have not been reviewed. Clerks are asked to do their best, and will not be judged on what has not been done in the past. Hopefully in this way Clerks of Sessions may learn more about what to record in minutes, and to keep track of in records. Please return completed forms by September 1, 2021 to Stated Clerk Leslie Belden at leslie@presbyark.org or lesliebeld@aol.com, or mail them to her home at 504 E. Lafayette Street, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701.

Clergy Compensation Reports

All pastors and commissioned ruling elders are requested to send a compensation report to the Stated Clerk by September 1, 2021. It is the responsibility of the Presbytery, through its Committee on Ministry, to annually review all terms of call and will report them to the Presbytery at the October 8-9, 2021 meeting, to be held in-person and through technology at First United Presbyterian Church of Fayetteville. The form for the report can be found on the Presbytery's website, <http://www.presbyark.org>, at:

<http://www.presbyark.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/2021-MWS-Compensation-Report.pdf>.

Please return completed forms by September 1, 2021 to Stated Clerk Leslie Belden at leslie@presbyark.org or lesliebeld@aol.com, or mail them to her home at 504 E. Lafayette Street, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701.

Report of the Committee on the Future of the Church

MWS Becky Purcell



When we met: Monday, April 26, 2021; 5:30 p.m. pm; ZOOM mtg

Who We Are: Class of 2021- Ruth Amensen*, Richard Freer, Becky Purcell (moderator), Andrea Galindo; Class of 2022- Cameron Highsmith, Steven Kurtz, Michael Ulasewich, Marci Ward, David Webb; Class of 2023- Valerie Bell, Ty Hendricks*, John Gibson

Presbytery Resources: Stewart Smith, MWS, General Presbyter; Carol Clark, MWS, Presbytery Builder

What We Did: We opened and closed (at 6:45 pm) with prayer, of course! Then we

- decided on bi-monthly meetings on the third Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m. We will work at keeping the meetings to one hour.
“brainstormed” a bit on the easy, important things churches could be doing NOW and how FOTC could support these: e.g.: churches to conduct “identity reviews” focusing on church name. Would a different name better communicate your purpose? Join The Bail Project <https://bailproject.org>; Hold Expungement Events/FAITH IN ACTION <http://publicsquaremedia.org/expungement/>; Take Action on Climate Change/Start a local chapter of the Citizen’s Climate Lobby <https://citizensclimatelobby.org>; Join the Poor People’s Campaign <https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org> . FOTC, technical support could be provided by staff or grants;
A theme encouraged in the discussion: How can we become known as the church which takes action in our communities?
- celebrated that 6 applications for FOTC grants had been received as of the meeting time. Since then FOTC has received 22 grant applications for a wide variety of ways of shining Christ’s light out! Truly a cause for celebration! The Grants Review Committee is chaired by Dick Freer, resourced by Carol Clark and has begun its work. The GRC will present its recommendations to FOTC for approval at the June meeting. Checks will be distributed under the direction of the presbytery office before August 1;

- blessed the start of a **Matthew 25 Study- to-Action group**: Steven Kurtz and Peg Falls-Corbett have agreed to co-moderate this group. Others joining are Andrea Galindo, Park Hills Presbyterian, LR; Dave Webb, First, Rogers; Dick Freer, First, Jonesboro; Claire & Kenneth Rhodes, West End, Arkadelphia; and consulting member: Rev. Marie Mainard-O'Connell, Park Hills. "We hope to bring a concrete proposal congregations can use in addressing poverty and racism, especially" Steven said;
- approved revised 1001 Worshipping Communities Guidelines as presented by Andrea Galindo;
- received a report on the Church Comeback Conference by Valerie Bell; and
- explored briefly our presbytery's socioeconomic demographic data source Mission Insite <https://missioninsite.com/> Carol Clark can help anyone who wants to use this excellent resource.

Our Next Meeting: June 21, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. by zoom.

Future meeting dates in 2021 all at 5:30 p.m. : August 16; October 18; December 20.

Report of the Committee on Youth, Young Adults, and Campus Ministry

MWS Margaret Alsup
Moderator

As the school year and academic year wrapped up, we were excited that some of our youth will be able to travel and experience Montreat. There is a group from Second Presbyterian that will be attending Montreat this summer, in addition to our presbytery group that is attending. The presbytery group will consist of five youth and two adults.

Speaking of trips and retreats, we are planning for Youth Quake to be in person this fall! This is extremely exciting for us and for the youth of the presbytery. We cannot wait to gather together for worship, study, prayer, fellowship, and so much fun. The event will take place September 24-26, 2021 at Ferncliff. Please note that the Youth A-team will be sharing information as we get closer to the date. We will also advertise in the Banner and on presbytery social media accounts.

As we look to the fall, we are also excited to announce that we will be hosting a college and young adult retreat for those in the presbytery. This idea came from our committee brainstorming ways to continue the connections and relationships made at the Montreat College Conference. We have settled on a theme: *Grounded in God: Exploring Spirituality Amidst Uncertainty*. The committee is working on setting the date of the event and working on a location. We plan to share all details when they are set with the presbytery social media, the Banner and through email. If you know any college students or young adults who you think would be interested, please pass along their information to Maggie Alsup (margaret.alsup@lyon.edu).

As always, we continue to seek ways to be a resource for the presbytery and to support our youth, young adults, and college aged students. We hope that as we are able to begin in person events, host retreats, and attend conferences, we can continue to build relationships. If you or those you serve have questions or would like to partner with us, please don't hesitate to reach out!

Report of the Committee on Administration

RE Tom Verdery
Moderator

For Information

2021 (Year-To-Date) has been on track financially for our Presbytery, as our income was better than anticipated due to a strong performance in our balanced funds at Texas Presbyterian Foundation through April (+7.2%) and total expenses down versus budget (-13%), due to reduced programming and travel caused by the pandemic. Mission Acceptance (Church Benevolence) to our Presbytery continue to track in line with 2020, thanks to the continued support of our congregations. While 2021 (Year-To-Date) benevolences appear behind 2020 giving (18.4% of 2020), this is due to several congregations giving semi-annually or annually at the end of year. Your Committee on Administration continues to be grateful to all the financial contributions from our congregations in the Presbytery of Arkansas.

As Arkansas begins to open and increase on-campus church activities, we expect expenses will increase to become more in line with pre-pandemic budgets from our Presbytery ministries and committees.

Key activities of your Committee on Administration this year include:

- Annual personnel review for all Presbytery staff during the summer.
- Continued emergency financial support for our congregations and church professionals throughout the Presbytery.
- Program creation support to help all churches as they move back to a more “normal” activities post vaccine/immunity across Arkansas.
- Evaluating our Presbytery insurance coverage and plans as we begin to acquire additional church property due to small church closures.

Operating Income – April 30, 2021

THE PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS									
Operating Income Statement									
For the Four Months Ending April 30, 2021									
		Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	Year to Date Actual	2021 Budget	Over/(Under) Budget		
6000-01	Mission Acceptance	\$ 34,413.49	31,666.67	2,746.82	\$ 108,261.12	580,000.00	(471,738.88)		
Misc (Acct. 6015)	Investment Spend Rate	17,081.47	16,970.47	111.00	68,013.43	203,645.64	(135,632.21)		
6000-01-1-101	Previous Years Pledges	0.00	0.00	-	4,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00		
6001-00-1-000	Miscellaneous Revenue	1,275.00	1,333.33	(58.33)	5,100.00	16,000.00	(10,900.00)		
	Total Revenues	52,769.96	49,970.47	2,799.49	185,374.55	801,645.64	(616,271.09)		
Expenses									
7000-01-1-000	Coordinating Team--Meeting Exp. Meals, Worship	0.00	100.00	(100.00)	0.00	1,200.00	(1,200.00)		
7000-06-1-000	Coordinating Team--Gifts	0.00	4.17	(4.17)	0.00	50.00	(50.00)		
7000-09-1-000	Coordinating Team--Moderator's Expense	0.00	37.50	(37.50)	0.00	450.00	(450.00)		
7000-10-1-000	Coordinating Team--Vice moderator's Expense	0.00	91.67	(91.67)	0.00	1,100.00	(1,100.00)		
7000-20-1-000	Coordinating Team--Presbytery Workshop/Speaker	0.00	33.33	(33.33)	0.00	400.00	(400.00)		
7000-31-1-000	Coordinating Team--Background Checks	0.00	25.00	(25.00)	0.00	300.00	(300.00)		
		0.00	291.67	(291.67)	0.00	3,500.00	(3,500.00)		
7100-01-1-000	Administration--Meeting Expense Financial Review	912.71	583.33	329.38	912.71	7,000.00	(6,087.29)		
7100-04-1-000	Administration--Debt Reduction Contingency (e.g. land appraisal)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-		
7100-05-1-000	Administration--Fennell General Site Support	14,000.00	2,333.33	11,666.67	14,000.00	28,000.00	(14,000.00)		
8400-46-1-000	Repay COD -- Building mortgage	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	8,000.00	24,000.00	(16,000.00)		
		16,912.71	4,916.66	11,996.05	22,912.71	59,000.00	(36,087.29)		
7200-01-1-000	Min. of the Church--Cmte on Prep. for Ministry--Travel, food, lodging, suppl	0.00	41.25	(41.25)	0.00	495.00	(495.00)		
7200-02-1-000	Min. of the Church--Cmte on Prep. for Ministry--ConEd--EmergencyFund, Etc	0.00	83.33	(83.33)	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)		
7700-01-1-000	Committee on Ministry--travel food mtg. support	0.00	416.67	(416.67)	725.00	5,000.00	(4,275.00)		
8000-01-1-000	Min. of the Church--Cmte on Prep. for Ministry--Mtg. Expenses, etc.	0.00	42.08	(42.08)	0.00	505.00	(505.00)		
8000-09-1-000	Min. of the Church--Cmte on Prep. for Ministry--Eval, Retreat, Support, Bkg Checks	0.00	250.00	(250.00)	0.00	3,000.00	(3,000.00)		
8400-08-1-000	Min. of the Church--Wellspring Contract	0.00	644.58	(644.58)	725.00	7,735.00	(7,010.00)		
		0.00	1,477.91	(1,477.91)	725.00	7,735.00	(7,010.00)		
7300-29-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--Campus Ministry/Program Support	2,356.66	2,500.00	(143.34)	9,426.64	30,000.00	(20,573.36)		
7300-71-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT--Planning Retreats & Materials	0.00	83.33	(83.33)	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)		
7300-73-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT Scholarships	0.00	41.67	(41.67)	0.00	500.00	(500.00)		
7300-74-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT Denomination Trips	0.00	166.67	(166.67)	0.00	2,000.00	(2,000.00)		
7300-75-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT-Youth @ Presbytery	0.00	41.67	(41.67)	365.16	500.00	(134.84)		
7300-76-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT YouthQuake	531.93	416.67	115.26	1,095.20	5,000.00	(3,904.80)		
7300-78-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT Montreat	(50.00)	208.33	(258.33)	950.00	2,500.00	(1,550.00)		
7300-79-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT--JHI Jubilee	0.00	208.33	(208.33)	0.00	2,500.00	(2,500.00)		

THE PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS									
Operating Income Statement									
For the Four Months Ending April 30, 2021									
		Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	Year to Date Actual	2021 Budget	Over/(Under) Budget		
7300-80-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT--Matthew 25 Account	0.00	208.33	(208.33)		2,500.00	(2,500.00)		
7300-84-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--Young Adult Ministries	0.00	208.33	(208.33)		2,500.00	(2,500.00)		
7300-86-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT--Student Leadership Development	0.00	41.67	(41.67)		500.00	(500.00)		
7300-99-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--Campus Ministry-Special Event Support	0.00	1,250.00	(1,250.00)		15,000.00	(15,000.00)		
		2,838.59	5,375.00	(2,536.41)	11,837.00	64,500.00	(62,663.00)		
7500-01-1-000	Future of the Church--CCD--Admin., Listening	0.00	83.33	(83.33)		1,000.00	(1,000.00)		
7500-06-1-000	Future of the Church--CCD--Black Caucus--AI Branch	0.00	64.33	(64.33)		772.00	(772.00)		
7500-21-1-000	Future of the Church--CCD--West End Operation Support	0.00	1,125.00	(1,125.00)	3,375.00	13,500.00	(10,125.00)		
7500-25-1-000	Presbytery Technology Needs	0.00	625.00	(625.00)		7,500.00	(7,500.00)		
7500-51-1-000	Future of the Church--CCD--New Ministries' Development	0.00	2,208.33	(2,208.33)		26,500.00	(26,500.00)		
7500-53-1-000	Future of the Church--Lactian Ministry support	0.00	300.00	(300.00)	900.00	3,600.00	(2,700.00)		
7500-98-1-000	Future of the Church--Faith Presbyterian Operation Support	0.00	594.00	(594.00)	1,782.00	7,128.00	(5,346.00)		
		0.00	4,999.99	(4,999.99)	6,057.00	60,000.00	(53,943.00)		
7300-01-1-000	Christian Education--Meeting Expenses	0.00	37.50	(37.50)		450.00	(450.00)		
7300-10-1-000	Christian Education--Special train. Events/presb	0.00	166.67	(166.67)		2,000.00	(2,000.00)		
7300-21-1-000	Christian Education--Fmc. Prog/Supt. Summer Camp	12,000.00	2,000.00	10,000.00	12,000.00	24,000.00	(12,000.00)		
7300-24-1-000	Mission of the Church--Ferciliff--Block Grant	0.00	416.67	(416.67)		5,000.00	(5,000.00)		
7300-30-1-000	Christian Education--Presbyterian Pilgrimage	0.00	166.67	(166.67)		2,000.00	(2,000.00)		
7300-41-1-000	Christian Education--Diversity--Scholarship	0.00	31.25	(31.25)		375.00	(375.00)		
7300-90-1-000	Christian Education--Resource Center Resources	0.00	166.67	(166.67)		2,000.00	(1,990.97)		
7300-91-1-000	Christian Education--Resource Cntr. Admin.	0.00	91.67	(91.67)	9.03	1,100.00	(1,100.00)		
7600-03-1-000	Mission of the Church--Scholarship for Mission Trip	0.00	83.33	(83.33)		1,000.00	(1,000.00)		
7600-05-1-000	Mission of the Church--International Mission Emphasis	0.00	166.67	(166.67)		2,000.00	(2,000.00)		
7600-26-1-000	Mission of the Church--Arkansas Interfaith Conference	0.00	291.67	(291.67)	875.00	3,500.00	(2,625.00)		
7600-44-1-000	Mission of the Church--Lyon College	0.00	83.33	(83.33)	250.00	1,000.00	(750.00)		
7600-45-1-000	Mission of the Church--Presby. Village Support	0.00	41.67	(41.67)	125.00	500.00	(375.00)		
7600-49-1-000	Mission of the Church--Univ. of Ozarks	0.00	83.33	(83.33)	250.00	1,000.00	(750.00)		
7600-51-1-000	Mission of the Church--Vera Loyd Mission	0.00	208.33	(208.33)	625.00	2,500.00	(1,875.00)		
7600-62-1-000	Mission of the Church--Unified Mission Emphasis	1,000.00	1,172.92	(172.92)	3,400.00	14,075.00	(10,675.00)		
7600-96-1-000	Mission of the Church--Solar Under the Sun	0.00	83.33	(83.33)	250.00	1,000.00	(750.00)		
8300-01-1-000	Mission of the Church--PW Exp., travel, postage, etc.	0.00	41.67	(41.67)		500.00	(500.00)		
8300-07-1-000	Mission of the Church--PW--Spring & Fall Retreats. Synod Gathering	0.00	291.67	(291.67)		3,500.00	(3,500.00)		
9400-01-1-000	Mission of the Church--Disaster Preparedness	0.00	41.67	(41.67)		500.00	(500.00)		
		13,000.00	5,666.69	7,333.31	17,784.03	68,000.00	(50,215.97)		
7800-01-1-000	Nominations--travel, food	0.00	25.00	(25.00)	0.00	300.00	(300.00)		

THE PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS									
Operating Income Statement									
For the Four Months Ending April 30, 2021									
	Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	Year to Date Actual	2021 Budget	Over/(Under) Budget			
8100-01-1-000	0.00	3.75	(3.75)	0.00	45.00	(45.00)			
Representation--Meeting Expenses									
8400-01-1-000	666.10	291.67	374.43	1,214.77	3,500.00	(2,285.23)			
POA/Supplies & Office Exp.									
8400-02-1-000	465.70	625.00	(159.30)	1,713.82	7,500.00	(5,786.18)			
Utilities/Telephone									
8400-03-1-000	477.76	500.00	(22.24)	1,987.98	6,000.00	(4,012.02)			
Copy Machine									
8400-05-1-000	1,075.09	1,233.33	(158.24)	5,181.29	14,800.00	(9,618.71)			
Technology									
8400-07-1-000	0.00	83.33	(83.33)	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)			
Replace Equipment									
8400-09-1-000	6,169.00	683.33	5,485.67	9,970.00	8,200.00	1,770.00			
Insurance									
8400-10-1-000	0.00	41.67	(41.67)	130.00	500.00	(370.00)			
Miscellaneous Expenses									
8400-12-1-000	768.04	833.33	(65.29)	2,387.71	10,000.00	(7,612.29)			
Maintenance(Grounds,Bldg Upkeep)									
	9,621.69	4,291.66	5,330.03	22,585.57	51,500.00	(28,914.43)			
8400-22-1-000	0.00	41.67	(41.67)	0.00	500.00	(500.00)			
K. Palmer/Travel									
8400-25-1-000	1,185.87	1,250.00	(64.13)	1,739.90	15,000.00	(13,260.10)			
S. Smith/Professional Ex									
8400-29-1-000	18,500.02	18,500.00	0.02	74,000.08	222,000.00	(147,999.92)			
Salaries									
8400-30-1-000	1,458.00	1,598.83	(140.83)	5,832.00	19,185.96	(13,353.96)			
Pension/Major Medical									
8400-31-1-000	0.00	125.00	(125.00)	0.00	1,500.00	(1,500.00)			
S. Smith/Continuing Ed.									
8400-33-1-000	1,122.64	1,122.64	0.00	4,490.56	13,471.68	(8,981.12)			
Payroll Taxes									
8400-34-1-000	2,975.00	2,975.00	0.00	11,900.00	35,700.00	(23,800.00)			
Housing									
8400-40-1-000	526.66	563.33	(56.67)	2,106.64	7,000.00	(4,893.36)			
S. Smith/FICA									
8400-41-1-000	(191.00)	833.33	(1,024.33)	238.00	10,000.00	(9,762.00)			
Builder/Connector Professional Expenses									
8400-49-1-000	0.00	125.00	(125.00)	1,105.00	1,500.00	(395.00)			
B. Christiansen Professional Expenses									
8400-53-1-000	2,050.06	916.67	1,133.39	2,405.92	11,000.00	(8,594.08)			
TPF Bookkeeping Fees									
	27,627.25	32,363.13	4,885.81	103,818.10	336,857.64	(261,953.97)			
8600-01-1-000	2,425.00	2,425.00	0.00	9,691.67	29,100.00	(19,408.33)			
General Assembly									
8700-01-1-000	7,250.67	7,250.67	0.00	29,002.68	87,008.00	(58,005.32)			
GA Per Capita									
8800-01-1-000	2,008.33	2,008.33	0.00	8,024.99	24,100.00	(16,075.01)			
Synod Mission									
	11,684.00	11,684.00	0.00	46,719.34	140,208.00	(93,488.66)			
Total Expenses	81,684.24	66,803.80	14,880.44	232,438.75	801,645.64	(569,206.89)			
Net Income	(\$ 28,914.28)	(\$ 16,833.33)	(\$ 12,080.95)	(\$ 47,064.20)	\$ 0.00	(\$ 47,064.20)			

Benevolences – April 30, 2021

Benevolences as of
April 30, 2021

LOCATION	2019 Benevolence	2020 Benevolence	2021 Benevolence
Alma	-	-	-
Amity	-	-	-
Arkadelphia, First	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Arkadelphia, West End	1,106.00	1,106.00	-
Atkins	-	-	-
Batesville	10,000.00	10,000.00	5,000.00
Beebe	900.00	600.00	600.00
Bella Vista	30,000.00	24,999.96	6,666.64
Benton	9,600.00	8,600.00	1,900.00
Bentonville, First	29,500.00	32,000.00	8,375.00
Bentonville, Vaughn	-	2,000.00	-
Brinkley	-	-	-
Bull Shoals	-	-	50.00
Cane Hill	-	-	-
Clarksville, First	-	-	-
Clarksville, Harmony	-	-	-
Conway	8,125.00	7,700.00	1,875.00
Dardanelle	6,000.00	6,000.00	2,000.00
Elkins	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Eureka Springs	3,000.00	2,550.00	750.00
Fairfield Bay	700.00	350.00	-
Fayetteville, First United	41,000.00	41,000.00	10,248.00
Fayetteville, Mt. Comfort	1,660.00	1,660.00	-
Forrest City	8,250.00	9,000.00	3,000.00
Ft. Smith, Central	16,000.00	16,000.00	4,000.00
Ft. Smith, First	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Greenwood	2,000.00	-	-
Gurdon	1,200.00	300.00	-
Hardy	250.60	297.00	-
Harrison	-	-	-
Heber Springs	800.00	525.00	-
Helena	500.00	500.00	-
Holiday Island	6,200.00	6,200.00	1,550.00
Holly Grove	500.00	500.00	500.00
Horseshoe Bend	3,000.00	3,000.00	500.00
HSV, Kirk	27,270.00	27,270.00	6,817.50
H. Springs, First	20,000.00	20,000.00	5,000.00
H. Springs, Westminster	8,013.04	10,012.04	2,670.68
Huntsville	2,400.00	2,200.00	800.00
Jacksonville	2,655.00	2,800.00	1,250.00
Jonesboro	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Lincoln	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
LR, Allison	657.05	-	-
LR, First	-	-	-
LR, Grace	5,625.00	7,900.00	3,750.00
LR, Pulaski Heights	3,228.00	3,636.00	1,000.00
Little Rock, Second	200,000.00	200,000.00	-
LR, Trinity	7,333.33	8,000.00	2,666.68
LR, Westminster	300.00	400.00	100.00
LR, Westover Hills	10,500.00	10,500.00	-
Malvern	5,241.72	5,241.71	-
Marianna	-	-	-
McGehee	2,520.00	2,520.00	630.00
Mena	5,000.00	5,000.00	-
Morrilton, First	-	1,200.00	300.00

Benevolences as of
April 30, 2021

LOCATION	2019 Benevolence	2020 Benevolence	2021 Benevolence
Morrilton, Hopewell	-	-	-
Mountain Home	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Mountainburg	-	-	-
Newport	4,800.00	3,225.00	900.00
Norman	-	2,000.00	-
NLR, First	-	-	-
NLR, Park Hill	16,000.00	16,000.00	5,000.00
Paragould, First	-	-	-
Pea Ridge	3,000.00	3,000.00	750.00
Pine Bluff, Central	-	-	-
Pine Bluff, Faith	500.00	-	-
Pine Bluff, First	4,999.92	4,999.92	2,083.30
Prairie Grove	7,700.00	7,150.00	2,320.00
Rogers	7,000.00	6,999.96	2,333.32
Russellville	-	-	-
Searcy	2,000.00	2,000.00	-
Springdale	30,000.00	30,000.00	10,000.00
Van Buren	4,000.00	-	-
Walnut Ridge	-	6,400.00	-
Wynne	7,500.00	7,500.00	1,875.00
Yellville	6,000.00	6,000.00	1,500.00
Total	588,601.33	589,342.59	108,261.12

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 Admistrative Commission is a group of Ministers of the Word and Sacrament 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 Minister of the Word and Sacrament.
- **COM-** The Committee on Ministry provides oversight and advocacy for congregations and Ministers of the Word and Sacrament. It receives Ministers of the Word and Sacrament from other presbyteries, approves calls for pastoral services, oversees congregations without pastors, dissolves pastoral relationships, dismisses Ministers of the Word and Sacrament to other presbyteries, determines the criteria for validating ministries of non-parish clergy, and oversees Commissioned Ruling Elders serving congregations.
- **CPM-** The Committee on Preparation for Ministry oversees the process of preparation for the ministry of Ministers of Word and Sacrament, 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 plans for presbytery meetings.
- **GA-** The General Assembly of the PC(USA) is the highest council of the church. It meets in even numbered years for a week. The 2020 meeting will be held June 16-23 in Baltimore, Maryland.
- **HR-** Honorably Retired is a designation for Ministers of the Word and Sacrament 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 Minister of the Word and Sacrament.
- **MIF-** A Ministry Information Form is the standardized format for advertising certain church professional positions through the PC(USA) Church Leadership Connection.
- **MWS -** Minister of the Word and Sacrament is an ordained Presbyterian minister member of the clergy, formerly called a Teaching Elder.
- **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, or a moderator will be appointed for that church.

- **NCD- New Church Developments** 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 the national church headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky.
- **PNC- A Pastor Nominating Committee** is a search committee elected by a congregation to seek, interview, and recommend a new pastor.
- **RE/Ruling Elder-** A **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. Once ordained as a ruling elder one maintains that office whether serving on a session or not.
- **Stated Clerk-** The 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 PC(USA).
- **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 PC(USA) in this region.
- **TPF-** The **Texas Presbyterian Foundation** is a financial service organization for Presbyterian members, councils and institutions. It invests funds and provides bookkeeping services for Arkansas Presbytery.
- **Validated Ministries-** Positions served by chaplains, professors and other Ministers of the Word and Sacrament who are not currently serving a congregation. Sometimes they are referred to as non-parish clergy.

Tips on Parliamentary Procedure

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)
- (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 Minister of the Word and Sacrament, Ruling Elder, or Honorably Retired. You may speak to a pending motion or ask a question. The person making the motion will have the 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 because it is the majority vote of the committee.

Ordinarily, only commissioners may speak and vote on motions. That includes Minister of the Word and Sacrament members of the Presbytery; Ruling Elders elected by their Session; Ruling Elders elected as General Presbyter, Stated Clerk, Treasurer, Moderator, Vice Moderator; Commissioned Ruling Elders in current service; members of the Coordinating Team; current commissioners to General Assembly; and Ruling Elders who are Certified Christian Educators.

At the Spring meeting of the Presbytery Youth Advisory Delegates and Young Adult Advisory Delegates have “privilege of the floor,” meaning that they have permission to speak to motions, and they take an advisory vote prior to the vote by commissioners. At any meeting someone in attendance may be given privilege of the floor, allowing that person to speak to the body, which is ordinarily given near the beginning of the meeting. Privilege of the floor does not mean that person may vote.

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 at an in-person meeting, or in the case of a technology aided meeting raise one’s hand, 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 or raising your hand electronically. 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, or sent as an attachment to an email or within the chat function of a technology-aided meeting. 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.

Commissioners should always read all information provided in the packets and subsequent information provided at the registration table. Whenever possible questions concerning reports or motions should be directed to the Moderator of a committee making the report or motion prior to the meeting. Contact info on moderators may be obtained through the presbytery office. Often concerns may be cleared up prior to a meeting rather than on the floor of presbytery.