

Minutes of the One Hundred Forth-Seventh Stated Meeting of The Presbytery of Arkansas

June 5, 2021

Prelude and Announcements

The meeting began at 8:30 am with a prelude by David Glaze, Director of Music Ministries at Trinity Presbyterian Church of Little Rock, and announcements scrolled for fifteen minutes.

Preliminaries

Moderator RE Julie Gillaspay welcomed attendees to the 147th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas at 8:45 am, followed by an explanation of the technology associated with meeting by Zoom. Stated Clerk MWS Leslie Belden welcomed Corresponding Members, first-time commissioners, and all non-Commissioners, asking that first-time commissioners raise their virtual hand to be counted. Nine were counted, and Stated Clerk Belden thanked them for their commitment to serve the greater church as a Presbytery commissioner.

Stated Clerk Belden also explained information that would be found in the Consent Agenda and who was eligible to vote. She encouraged those in attendance to fill out the evaluation forms that they would receive by email following the meeting, and introduced and thanked Emma Gillaspay of First Presbyterian Church in Conway, the technical moderator for the meeting, and the video editor and manager, Jared Brown of Trinity Presbyterian Church, Little Rock.

Call to Order and Declaration of a Quorum

Moderator MWS RE Julie Gillaspay called the 147th meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas to order at 9:00 am with the lighting of the Christ candle and prayer, and declared a quorum, with a quorum being 20 Ruling Elders and 20 Ministers of the Word and Sacrament with at least 20 congregations represented overall, as approved at the February 10, 2018 Stated Meeting. The attendance of those registered is included in the Appendix as Attachment I. Moderator Gillaspay asked that Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries Brianne Christiansen open the meeting with prayer.

Consent Agenda

Stated Clerk MWS Leslie Belden moved the adoption of the Consent Agenda, consisting of the following motions (Attachment II):

- 1. Motion to adopt the docket as amended.**
- 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 of Arkansas, 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."**

The motion was second to the motion and the youth unanimously voted to advise the Presbytery to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed.

Introduction of the Theological Emphasis of the Meeting

MWS Carol Clark, the Presbytery Builder, read from Matthew 25 and shared how the Presbytery is committed both to ministries to address social justice issues as well as sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. The emphasis of this meeting is Congregational Vitality and Carol expressed her joy that MWS Jason Tucker would be leading the theological discussion as well as preaching during worship later in the meeting.

Report of the Coordinating Team

MWS Marion Humphrey, Moderator of the Coordinating Team presented the following motion: **That the Presbytery of Arkansas 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 the Standing Rules, which requires a simple majority vote of Presbytery.** After explaining the rationale for the proposed changes to the Ministry Manual Moderator Humphrey asked that the motion be divided into two so that the body could vote on the changes to the two parts of the ministry manual separately since Part I of the Ministry Manual requires a 3/5 majority to be amended while the Standing Rules require only a simple majority. Hearing no objection it was so ordered.

Motion to approve the proposed changes to the Presbytery of Arkansas' Ministry Manual: Part I Organization and Structure. Approved. (64-0)

Motion to approve the proposed changes to the Presbytery of Arkansas' Ministry Manual: Part III Standing Rules. Approved. (70-0)

MWS Humphrey encouraged those present to please review the actions of the Coordinating Team in their report in the packet (Attachment III) and concluded his report. There were 125 participants at 9:16 am.

Report of the Committee on Ministry

Moderator Don Eilbott asked for a moment of silence to commemorate the life, ministry, and resurrection of MWS Bud Hearn, HR, and MWS Donald Trent, who have entered their eternal rest.

Moderator Eilbott brought the motion of the Committee on Ministry before the Presbytery, which could be found in the addendum. **He moved that the Presbytery of Arkansas approve commissioning Ruling Elder Michelle Hall, of First Presbyterian Church of Lincoln, to serve as the Commissioned Ruling Elder of First Presbyterian Church of Lincoln and First Presbyterian Church of Prairie Grove with the following to serve on the Administrative Commission to commission her at a regular Sunday morning worship service, at a date to be determined by that Administrative Commission:**

**MWS Leslie Belden, Stated Clerk
MWS Kade Curry, Chaplain at the Springdale Police Department
RE Kelly Pearson, First Presbyterian Church of Prairie Grove
RE Barbara Verdery, First Presbyterian Church of Fayetteville
RE Jane Webb, First Presbyterian Church of Rogers**

The motion was approved. (72-0) The rest of the Report of the Committee on Ministry may be found in the Appendix - IV. There were 127 participants for the vote at 9:26 am.

Report of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry

MWS Susan Gray, Moderator of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry made the following motion: **The Committee on Preparation for Ministry moves that Maggie Johnson be enrolled as an Inquirer.** Ms Johnson introduced herself to the Presbytery and was put in the waiting room for the vote. **The motion was approved.** (82-0, with 124 participants at 9:30 am) Inquirer Maggie Johnson returned to the meeting where her family and church family from Second Presbyterian Church in Little Rock were recognized, and CCE Jeannie Ford, HR, prayed on her behalf.

MWS Gray then made the following motion: **The Committee on Preparation for Ministry moves that Liz Larkin be enrolled as an Inquirer.** Ms Larkin introduced herself to the Presbytery and was put in the waiting room for the vote. **The motion was approved.** (70-0) Inquirer Liz Larkin returned to the meeting where her family and church family from First Presbyterian Church in Rogers were recognized, and MWS Valerie Bell prayed on her behalf.

MWS Gray made the following motion: **The Committee on Preparation for Ministry moves that Alex Pickell be enrolled as an Inquirer.** Ms Pickell introduced herself to the Presbytery and was put in the waiting room for the vote. **The motion was approved.** (78-0, out of 125 participants at 9:45 am) Inquirer Alex Pickell returned to the meeting where her family and church family from Second Presbyterian Church in Little Rock were recognized, and CCE Kristi Button prayed on her behalf.

MWS Gray made the fourth and final motion of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry: **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.** Inquirer Flood introduced herself to the Presbytery, expressing her joy in her sense of call. Questions on her Statement of Faith were requested, but none were asked. Ms Flood was put in the waiting room for the vote. **The motion was approved.** (78-1) Candidate Flood returned to the meeting where her family and church family from First Presbyterian Church in Bentonville were recognized, and fellow Candidate and Western Theological Seminary colleague Brianne Christiansen prayed on her behalf.

New Possibilities from First, North Little Rock/Argenta Administrative Commission

RE Ted Belden, a member of the Administrative Commission charged with working with First Presbyterian Church of North Little Rock in Argenta, screen-shared a powerpoint presentation that illustrated where the church is located. He oriented those present to the work of the Administrative Commission and what the AC has accomplished to this point in time. He further explained that the value of the property is at least half a million dollars, and that there is an opportunity to try out new ways of utilizing Presbytery's resources for mission and ministry. He went on to share that two different developers are interested in working with the Presbytery to re-develop the property, including remodeling the existing structure and building apartments on the underutilized portion of the property. He went through various ways in which the existing buildings are currently in use, including that a worshipping community utilizes the sanctuary. General Presbyter Stewart Smith added his enthusiasm about the possibilities that the property brings, and that revenue generated from such an endeavor could fund the ministry of the Presbytery into the future.

At the conclusion of the report of the Administrative Commission Moderator Gillaspay called for a seven-minute break to resume again at 10:35 with the Order of the Day.

Order of the Day: Theological Discussion – MWS Jason Tucker

Technical Moderator Emma Gillaspay began recording the meeting and Moderator Julie Gillaspay alerted those present of that fact. MWS Carol Clark, Presbytery Builder, introduced MWS Jason Tucker, explaining that she has become one of his "groupies" after learning about him and his enthusiasm for church vitality. MWS Jason Tucker gave an inspiring presentation on being the church, inviting others to come enthusiastically, and ways that congregations can approach change. He emphasized that the mission of the church to share the Gospel doesn't change, but the method changes with the culture.

There were 129 participants at 10:45 am and 130 at 10:53 am.

Following break-out groups the presentation by MWS Tucker resumed. The presentation by MWS Jason Tucker was recorded to be made available on the Presbytery's website following the meeting. Following the theological discussion there were 124 participants at 11:49 am.

Report of the General Presbyter

MWS Stewart Smith shared information on how to utilize the resources of the Presbytery and encouraged lay people in attendance to support their pastors during this changing time as churches begin to reopen following the COVID-19 shut down.

Report of the Stated Clerk

MWS Leslie Belden moved that the Administrative Commission charged with the commissioning of CRE Ronnie Prevost as Commissioned Ruling Elder of First Presbyterian Church in Springdale be dismissed with thanks. The motion was seconded and approved. (63-0 with 109 participants at 12:16 pm.) MWS Belden shared staff contact info, encouraged everyone to please fill out the evaluation forms that would be emailed to the address at which they registered for the meeting, and explained that the plan is for the October meeting to be both in person as well as accessible on-line on October 8-9, 2021 at First United Presbyterian Church of Fayetteville. She also announced that 160 people had registered for the meeting and that there were 130 present at the highest point at 10:53 am.

Treasurer's Report - Bob Boehmler

RE Bob Boehmler reported on the numbers involved in the financial report, thanking congregations for continuing their pledges, stating that giving is at 70% of anticipated.

Minute Announcements

Minute announcements included RE Leigh Woodruff speaking about the work of the Honduras Subcommittee and how mission trips will resume in 2022; Brianne Christiansen who shared the way for youth to sign up for a conference; and UCM Chaplain Kristi Button who shared her contact info for those who would like to receive information on United Campus Ministry.

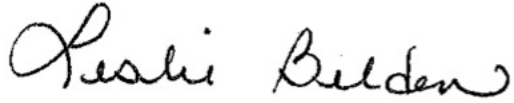
Worship

Worship was led by Park Hill Presbyterian Church and Trinity Presbyterian Church offering introductory music, Stephen Kurtz with the call to worship, Brianne Christiansen and Anna Castleman with Psalm, and The Great Disruption message by MWS Jason Tucker, again lifting up the difference between the message that doesn't change but the method that must. Acts 2:1-11. MWS Tucker emphasized that the never changing truth of Jesus Christ must be translated into the ever-changing language of culture.

Adjournment

The 147th meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas was adjourned with the benediction of worship and the extinguishing of the Christ candle by Moderator Julie Gillaspay at 1:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leslie Belden". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L" and a long, sweeping underline.

MWS Leslie Belden
Stated Clerk

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Attachment I – Roster of Attendance/Enrollment

Voting as Ministers of Word and Sacrament

Ministers of Word and Sacrament – 49 in attendance (voting)

(There were 52 in attendance on March 5-6, 2021; 47 on October, 23-24, 2020; 60 on June 6, 2020; 39 on March 6-7, 2020; 45 on October 4-5, 2019; and 43 on June 8, 2019)

Alsup, Maggie	Curry, Kade	Price, Jeff
Arnold, John	Davis, Fern	Purcell, Becky
Arnold, Susan	Denne', Krista	Rito, Bradley
Bacon-Latina, Courtney	Evans, Jen	Roper, Leslie
Belden, Leslie	Falls, Ruskin	Saul, Cinthia
Bell, Valerie	Frazier, Steven	Secret, Alisa
Berger, Sara Anne	Fulks, Paul	Seitz, Bill
Blackburn, Phillip	Gray, Susan	Senor, Georgia
Brinegar, Blake	Hammons, Stacey	Smith, Stewart
Brinegar, Elizabeth	Hancock, Steve	Spooner, Rebecca
Brock, Brian	Hatcher, Chip	Ulasewich, Mike
Bussell, Matt	Herrick, Ainsley	Vogado, Lindy
Butin, Jan	Highsmith, Cameron	Wildhack, Jocelyn
Butin, Phil	Hook, Emily	Wilhelmi, Jeremy
Carrington, Joy	Humphrey, Marion	Wooley, Dan
Clark, Mark	Kurtz, Steven	
Cummings, Katie	Mainard O'Connell, Marie	

Excused Absences

Blackburn, Tasha	Purcell, Becky	Spooner, Rebecca
Hatcher, Chip	Ratliff, Jim	Wilhelmi, Jeremy

Honorably Retired Ministers of Word and Sacrament – 12 in attendance (voting)

(There were 16 on March 5-6, 2021; 13 on October 23-24, 2020; 22 on June 6, 2020; 7 on March 6-7, 2020; 9 on October 4-5, 2019; and 8 on June 8, 2019)

Akin, Karen	Daniel, Danny	Lizarraga, Libby
Allsbury, Catherine	Daniel, Joyce	McCormack, Carl
Branch, Bill	Garlington, Gordon	Ritchie, Dennis
Clark, Carol	King, John	Whitworth-Reed, Linda

Total of 61 voting as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament

Voting as Ruling Elders

Ruling Elder Commissioners – 47 in attendance (voting) representing congregations

(There were 48 on October 23-24, 2020; 52 on June 6, 2020; 40 on March 6-7, 2020; 44 on October 4-5, 2019; and 48 on June 8, 2019.)

Arkadelphia, West End – Wright, Patricia
Atkins, Memorial – Murdoch, Zackary
Batesville, First – Geary, Laura
Bella Vista – Jones, Elaine
Benton, First – Garrett, Heather
Bentonville, First – Cochran, Cynthia
Bull Shoals, Bull Shoals – Bait, Vicky
Clarksville, First – Rommel, Connie
Conway, First – Gillaspay, Art
Fayetteville, First – Clay, David; Price, Jim,
and Woodruff, Leigh
Forrest City, Graham Memorial – Easley,
Mike
Fort Smith, Central – Cook, Charles
Greenwood, Good Shepherd – Middleton,
Kathy
Hardy, Spring River – McWilliams, Carol
Harrison, First – Timbrook, Susan
Heber Springs, First – Reed, Allison
Jacksonville, First – Finney, Karen
Lincoln, First – Hall, Michelle
Little Rock, Allison Memorial – Harvey,
Rhonda
Little Rock, First – Ingram, Libby
Little Rock, Grace – Choate, Andrea

Little Rock, Pulaski Heights – Harris,
LaWanda
Little Rock, Second – Marsh, Susan;
McVinney, Barry; Villemez, Chris; Young,
Carol
Little Rock, Trinity – Dillenger, David and
Price, Julie
Little Rock, Westover Hills – Joyce, Eileen;
Stephens, Ray
Malvern, First – Walters, Kathy
Mena, First – Hays, Anita
Morrilton, Hopewell – Morris, Susan
Norman, Barr Memorial – Williamson,
Noah
North Little Rock, Park Hill – Boggs,
Tamara
Pea Ridge, Mt. Vernon – David, Ronnie
Pine Bluff, First – Harris, Don
Prairie Grove, First – West, Cheryl
Rogers, First – Gooding, Jean
Russellville, Central – Baker, John; Coker,
Kellie
Springdale, First – Cole, Cherokee;
Dickins, John
Wynne, Wynne – Bassham, Laura
Yellville, First – Kelly, Kay

Excused Absences

Cane Hill Presbyterian Church
Hardy, Spring River

Hot Springs, Westminster

Absent Without Excuse – 36 Congregations

Alma, First
Amity, Alpine
Arkadelphia, First
Beebe, First
Bentonville, Vaughn
Brinkley, First
Clarksville, Harmony
Dardanelle, First
Elkins, Community

Eureka Springs, First
Fairfield Bay, Kirk of the
Hills
Fayetteville, Mt. Comfort
Fort Smith, Central
Fort Smith, First
Gurdon, First
Helena, First
Holiday Island

Holly Grove
Horseshoe Bend, Faith
Hot Springs Village, Kirk
in the Pines
Hot Springs, First
Huntsville, First
Jonesboro, First
Little Rock, Westminster
Marianna, First

McGehee, First
Morrilton, First
Mountain Home, First
Mountainburg, Mtnburg

Newport, First
Paragould, First
Pine Bluff, Central
Pine Bluff, Faith

Searcy, First
Van Buren, First
Walnut Ridge, First

Ruling Elder Voting Members of Presbytery – 7 in attendance (voting)

(There were 7 on March 5-6, 2021; 10 on October 23-24, 2020; 9 on June 6, 2020; 10 on March 6-7, 2020; 7 on October 4-5, 2019; and 11 on June 8, 2019.)

Belden, Ted – Coordinating Team	Hamilton, Ruth – Coordinating Team
Boehmler, Bob - Treasurer	Verdery, Tom – Administration
Eilbott, Don – COM Moderator	Moderator
Gillaspy, Julie - Moderator	Willis, Carolyn – Coordinating Team

Commissioned Ruling Elders – 7 in attendance (voting)

(There were 7 on March 5-6, 2021; 8 on October 23-24, 2020; 8 on June 6, 2020; 6 on March 6-7, 2020; 6 on October 4-5, 2019; and 5 on June 8, 2019.)

Clark, David – Heber Springs, First	Rhodes, Claire – Arkadelphia, West End
Olson, Chuck – Atkins, Memorial	Rhodes, Kenneth – Arkadelphia, West End
Pearson, Kelly – Lincoln, First	Wilkinson, Ed – Greenwood, Good
Prevost, Ronnie – Springdale, First	Shepherd

Certified Christian Educators – 2 in attendance, 1 voting

(There were 2 on March 5-6, 2021; 2 on June 2, 2020; 3 on March 6-7, 2020; 3 on October 4-5, 2019; and 3 on June 8, 2019)

Button, Kristi (non-voting)	Ford, Jeannie (voting)
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Excused Absences

Thompson, NiAnn

A total of 62 voting as Ruling Elders in attendance.

Non-Voting Attendees

Pastoral Supplies – 2 in attendance (non-voting)

Anderson, Barry – Paragould, First

Shirer, David – Mountainburg

Inquirer/Candidate – 6 in attendance (non-voting)

Christiansen, Brianne – Fayetteville, First
United

Larkin, Liz – Rogers, First

Alex Pickell – Little Rock, Second

Flood, Katie – Bentonville, First

Thompson, Laura – Rogers, First

Johnson, Maggie – Little Rock, Second

Attendees/Visitors – 24 in attendance (non-voting)

Allen, Celia – Harrison, First

Austin, David – Little Rock, Westover Hills

Badd, David – Little Rock, Trinity

Ballard, Bill – Benton, First

Benson, Janet – Forrest City, Graham

Memorial

Branch, Elizabeth – Little Rock, Westover
Hills

Craig, Carol – Little Rock, Trinity

Danehower, Kim – Forrest City, Graham

Memorial

Dixon, Kim – Bentonville, First

Fairchild, Greg

Fischer, Mary Jane – Jacksonville, First

Gardner, Brigita – Little Rock, Trinity

Kuharick, George – Prairie Grove, First

Lysobey, Mary Beth – Norman, Barr

Memorial

McMahon, Clancy – Prairie Grove, First

Misenheimer, Candice – Little Rock,
Westover Hills

Palmer, Kim - Staff

Phillips, Jared – Prairie Grove, First

Richardson, Allison – Little Rock, Trinity

Shuman, Cheryl – Prairie Grove, First

Smith, A

Verdery, Barbara – Fayetteville, First
United

Webb, Jane – Rogers, First

Wilson, Zane

Total Non-Voting – 33 in attendance

Total Attendance

A total of 156 registered or were in attendance at some point in the meeting, of whom 123 could vote.

163 total on March 5-6, 2021, of whom 127 could vote; 152 total on October 23-24, 2020, of whom 127 could vote; 215 total on June 6, 2020, of whom 154 could vote; 144 total on March 7, 2020, of whom 105 could vote; 165 total on October 4-5, 2019, of whom 115 could vote; and 158 on June 8, 2019, of whom 117 could vote.

Attachment II - 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."**

Attachment III - 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 Attachment 1 -A.)

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-A

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.

Attachment IV - 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 Attachment IV-A.)

For Action

The Committee on Ministry moves that the Presbytery of Arkansas approve commissioning Ruling Elder Michelle Hall, of First Presbyterian Church of Lincoln, to serve as the Commissioned Ruling Elder of First Presbyterian Church of Lincoln and First Presbyterian Church of Prairie Grove with the following to serve on the Administrative Commission to commission her at a regular Sunday morning worship service, at a date to be determined by that Administrative Commission:

**MWS Leslie Belden, Stated Clerk
MWS Kade Curry, Chaplain at the Springdale Police Department
RE Kelly Pearson, First Presbyterian Church of Prairie Grove
RE Barbara Verdery, First Presbyterian Church of Fayetteville
RE Jane Webb, First Presbyterian Church of Rogers**

For Information

The Committee on Ministry sustained the examination of RE Michelle Hall of First Presbyterian Church of Lincoln by the Northwest Arkansas Examinations Subcommittee and approved the covenant between RE Hall and First Presbyterian Church of Lincoln and the covenant between RE Hall and First Presbyterian Church of Prairie Grove, both effective June 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021. The covenants will be reviewed after three months of the contract/covenant and prior to the end of the year by the CRE, the sessions of each respective congregation, and representatives of the Committee on Ministry, with the option of extending the relationship. The commissioning comes with the authority to moderate the session and to administer the sacraments. MWS Kade Curry has been assigned as the mentor and supervisor for CRE Michelle Hall, as per G-2.1004 of the *Book of Order*.

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.

Attachment IV-A - 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, 1931 – 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.

Attachment V - 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.

Attachment V-A - 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 the Lord's Supper, Christians are nourished in their faith. This call into relationship

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

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.

Attachment VI - 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://securereservercdn.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.

Attachment VII - 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.

Attachment VIII - 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!

Attachment IX - 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.

Balance Sheet - April 30, 2021

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THE PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS

Balance Sheet
April 30, 2021

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash TPF - undesignated	265,001.60	
TPF Investment Cash - designated	866,203.73	
TPF Investments	4,389,973.37	
TPF Mark to Market 52190	2,103,389.96	
	<hr/>	
Total Current Assets		7,624,568.66

Property and Equipment

Furniture & Fixtures	62,857.89	
Land	213,237.00	
Buildings	771,516.12	
	<hr/>	
	1,047,611.01	
Accumulated Depreciation	(421,041.95)	
	<hr/>	
Net Property and Equipment		8,251,137.72

TOTAL ASSETS \$ **8,251,137.72**

LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL

Current Liabilities

Payroll & Other Withholdings	0.00	
Accrued expenses	\$ (13,716.92)	
	<hr/>	
Total Current Liabilities		(13,716.92)

Fund Balance

Equity Beginning Balance	4,488,088.31	
Fund Balance	2,072,209.04	
Unrealized Gains/Losses	1,680,999.76	
Net Income	23,557.53	
	<hr/>	
Total Fund Balance		8,264,854.64

TOTAL LIABILITIES & CAPITAL \$ **8,251,137.72**

Unaudited - For Management Purposes Only

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 CCD -- 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, mgt. 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)	0.00	7,735.00	(7,735.00)		
		0.00	1,477.91	(1,477.91)	725.00	17,735.00	(17,010.00)		
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)		500.00	(500.00)		
7300-74-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT Denomination Trips	0.00	166.67	(166.67)		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)		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, Westminister	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, Westminister	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