



# Presbytery of Arkansas

154<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting  
of the Presbytery of Arkansas  
Friday-Saturday, October 6-7, 2023  
Westover Hills Presbyterian Church  
Little Rock, Arkansas



**MAIN PACKET**



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

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

Presbytery Facebook Group **PresbyArkConnect**: <https://tinyurl.com/4938rjb7>

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

Passphrase: **presbyarkconnect**

Presbytery Online Resources: <https://presbyark.org/our-presbytery/helpful-resources-2/>

To Receive the “Update,” the Presbytery’s email newsletter, contact Presbytery Connector, Julie Price at [julietannerprice@gmail.com](mailto:julietannerprice@gmail.com).

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

September 21, 2023

Dear Fellow Presbyters,

We are about two weeks away from our final Presbytery meeting of 2023. We will assemble in **Little Rock at Westover Hills Presbyterian Church on Friday evening, October 6** in the sanctuary and **Saturday, October 7**, we will move downstairs and have our meeting in the Fellowship Hall/Gym. For those unable to travel to Little Rock, we plan to offer an electronic presence. Friday evening will be live-streamed on the Presbytery's Zoom account. Saturday's meeting will be on the same Zoom account with the opportunity to speak and vote through Zoom. But please be aware, this is subject to the technology working in the room. Your best option for participating in the meeting is to be physically present!!

Registration for the meeting is [here](#). On-site check-in will begin at **5:30 pm in the parlor** behind the sanctuary and the meeting will begin at **6:30 pm**. On Saturday morning, check-in will be open at **8:00 am** (outside the Fellowship Hall/Gym) and the meeting will begin at **8:30 am**.

**Meals:** Friday evening and Saturday morning are on your own. A lunch will be provided on Saturday at the church for **\$10.00** and a vegetarian option will be available. **Please reserve your meal in advance.**

**Lodging:** Please check the travel website of your choice to make your reservation.

Ferncliff has a limited number of rooms available and they are offering a discounted price of \$75.00. Ferncliff is about a 25 minute drive from Westover Hills. Contact Chellie at Ferncliff to make your reservation (501-821-3063).

The closest hotels to the church are the Markham House Inn and Suites (across from War Memorial Stadium and about 5-6 minutes), Guest Inn and Suites near St. Vincent's Hospital (about 6-7 minutes) and the Four Points by Sheraton and the Staybridge Suites at University Avenue and Interstate 630 (about 7-8 minutes from Westover).

Downtown hotels will be about 12 minutes from Westover Hills PC and West Little Rock Hotels (Chenal Parkway area – Shackelford area) will be about 15 minutes from Westover Hills PC.

**Childcare:** Please call the Presbytery office (501-663-2424) if you need childcare. Childcare will not be provided unless arrangements are made in advance.

**Display Tables:** Display tables will only be available on Saturday in the Fellowship Hall/Gym. Tables will be set up on Friday for those who want to have those ready for Saturday morning.

**Meeting Packet:** Look for the Presbytery packet to be posted on the website ([presbyark.org](http://presbyark.org)) next week (no later than Friday, Sept. 29). There will possibly be an addendum packet posted the week of the meeting.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Little Rock!!

*Stewart*

J. Stewart Smith  
General Presbyter

Blake Brinegar  
Stated Clerk

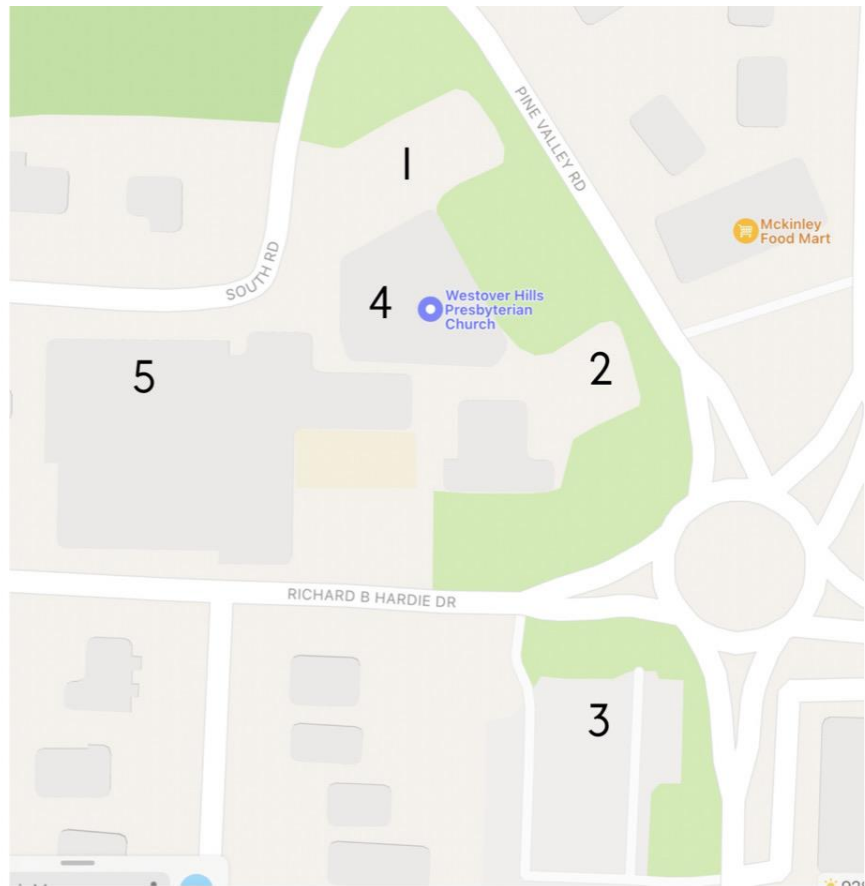
Julie Price  
Presbytery Connector

Sarah Leer  
Interim Director of Youth Ministries

Kim Palmer  
Administrator

1. NORTH PARKING
2. EAST PARKING
3. SOUTH PARKING
4. SANCTUARY
5. GYM

EAST PARKING IS  
STAFF AND  
HANDICAP PARKING  
ONLY



### From I-630

Take University Ave. North exit

Proceed north on University Ave. to Kavanaugh Blvd.

Turn left on Kavanaugh Blvd.

WHPC is at the roundabout

### From I-430

Take Cantrell Rd. East exit

Follow Cantrell Rd. To University Ave.

Turn left on University Ave. to Kavanaugh Blvd.

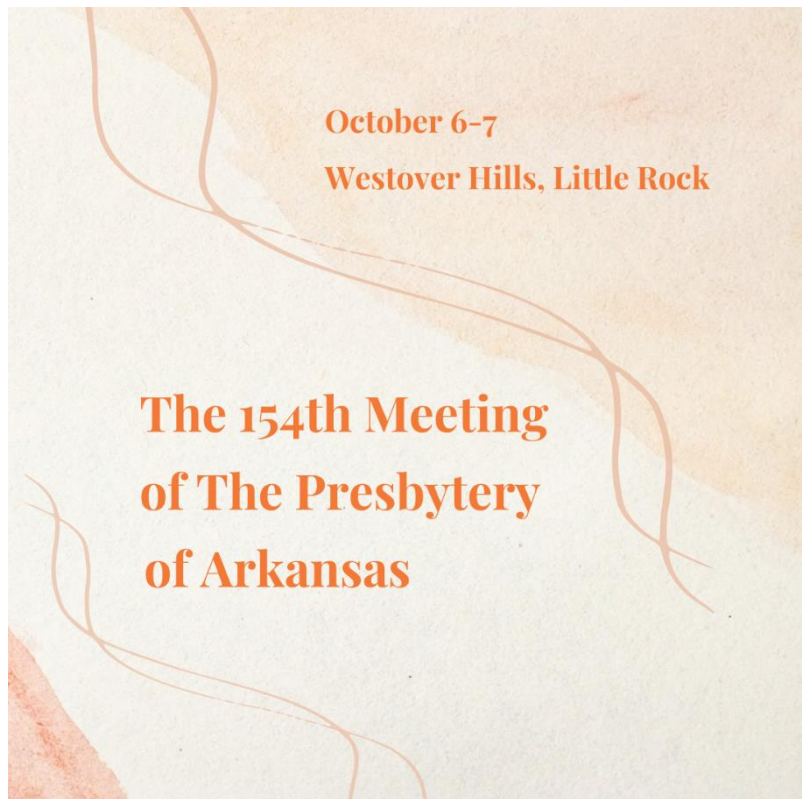
Turn left on Kavanaugh Blvd.

WHPC is at the roundabout

The Friday meeting will be held in the sanctuary. Ground level access is from the upper campus level.

The Saturday meeting will be held in the gym. Ground level access is from the lower campus level.

Elevator access is available from all floors.



## Next Meetings

March 1-2, 2024  
University of the Ozarks in  
Clarksville  
In person + Electronic

June 1, 2024  
Zoom

October?? Place and Date to be  
determined

\*All dates tentative subject to  
change

## Meeting Schedule

### Friday, October 6

5:30 pm	Registration in Parlor behind sanctuary
6:30 pm	Gavel for the Start of the Meeting
6:45 pm	Report of the General Presbyter
7:00 pm	Worship with the Offering to benefit Westover Hills Mission Project—Prison Literacy Program

Everyone is invited to a Reception following the worship service.

### Saturday, October 7

8:00 am	Late Registration & Display Tables in Fellowship Hall/Gym
8:30 am	Reconvene for the Business of the Presbytery
11:55 am	Lunch
1:00 pm	Business of the Presbytery Continues
3:00 pm	Benediction and Adjournment

## Presbytery Leadership

Moderator RE Mike Szabo  
Vice-Moderator MWS Emmett Powers  
Moderator of CT MWS Susan Arnold  
General Presbyter MWS Stewart Smith  
Stated Clerk MWS Blake Brinegar  
Presbytery Connector RE Julie Price  
Interim Director of Youth Ministries Dr. Sarah Leer  
Presbytery Administrator Kimberly Palmer

Moderator of Administration  
RE Carolyn Willis  
Moderator of COM to be appointed  
Moderator of CPM MWS Elizabeth Brinegar  
Moderator of Subcommittee on Disaster  
Preparedness and Response RE Doug Forsman  
Moderator of Future of the Church  
RE Cindy Lanphear  
Co-Moderators of the Subcommittee on Honduran  
Ministry  
RE Leigh Woodruff & MWS Phil Butin  
Moderator of Mission of the Church  
CRE Peg Falls-Corbitt  
Moderator of Nominations MWS Robert Lowry  
Co-Moderators of Presbyterian Women  
RE Patty Minga  
RE Cathy Rogers  
Moderator of Representation  
MWS Marie Mainard O'Connell  
Moderator of Youth, Young Adults, and Campus  
Ministry  
MWS Maggie Alsup



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

### Docket

**Friday, October 6, 2023**

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<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>Call to Order/Opening Gavel</b>	
	Lighting of the Christ Candle	<b>Moderator RE Mike Szabo</b>
	Opening Prayer	
	Welcome to all in Attendance	<b>General Presbyter - MWS Stewart Smith</b>
	Introduction of Presbytery Staff	
	Electronic Participation	<b>Stated Clerk MWS Blake Brinegar</b>
	Appointment of Tellers	<b>Moderator – RE Mike Szabo</b>
	Welcome to Westover Hills Presbyterian	<b>Pastor – MWS Robert Lowry</b>
<b>6:45 pm</b>	<b>Report of the General Presbyter</b>	
<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Opening Worship</b> —with Offering to benefit the Westover Hills Mission Project— Prison Literacy Program	

**Everyone is invited to attend a reception to be held immediately following the worship service.**





## **154<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting**

### **Docket**

**Saturday, October 7, 2023**

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<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>Late Registration and Display Tables in Fellowship Hall/Gym</b>	
<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>Meeting reconvenes with the Business of the Presbytery</b>	
	<b>Consent Agenda</b>	<b>MWS Blake Brinegar</b>
	<b>Report of the Stated Clerk</b>	<b>MWS Blake Brinegar</b>
<b>8:40 am</b>	<b>Opening Worship Candidate Grant Wildwright, Preaching</b>	
<b>9:10 am</b>	<b>Report of the Committee on Ministry</b>	<b>MWS Stewart Smith</b>
<b>9:50 am</b>	<b>Presentations</b>	
	<b>Lindy Vogado, Narcan</b>	
	<b>Leigh Woodruff, Sub-Committee on Honduran Ministry</b>	
	<b>MWS Steve Shive, Interim/Bridge Synod Exec. Synod of the Sun</b>	
	<b>Vera Lloyd Centennial</b>	
<b>10:15 am</b>	<b>Order of the Day—Theological Discussion Dr. Lester Ruth</b>	
<b>11:55 am</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	
<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>Business of the Presbytery Continues with Short Announcements</b>	
<b>1:10 pm</b>	<b>Report of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry</b>	<b>MWS Elizabeth Brinegar</b>
<b>1:25 pm</b>	<b>Report of the Committee on Administration/Treasurer</b>	<b>RE Carolyn Willis</b>
<b>1:40 pm</b>	<b>Report of the Coordinating Team</b>	<b>MWS Susan Arnold</b>
<b>2:10 pm</b>	<b>Report of the Mission of the Church</b>	<b>CRE Peg Falls-Corbitt</b>
<b>2:20 pm</b>	<b>Report of Nomination Committee</b>	<b>MWS Robert Lowry</b>
<b>2:35 pm</b>	<b>Benediction and Adjournment</b>	

**Section A**  
**Consent Agenda**  
MWS Blake Brinegar  
Stated Clerk

**For Action:**

1. **Motion to adopt the docket.**
2. **Motion to approve the minutes of the 153rd Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas, June 3, 2023, held through Zoom technology, with worship led by the Reverend Phil Blackburn.**
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 Technology 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.”**
7. **Motion to receive the minutes of the Administrative Commission to Install MWS John Arnold at First Presbyterian Church, Rogers, on June 25, 2023, at 3 pm and to dismiss them with thanks.**
8. **Motion to receive the minutes of the Administrative Commission to commission CRE Janet Benson to Wynne Presbyterian Church, Wynne, AR, on July 16<sup>th</sup>, at 3pm, and to dismiss them with thanks.**



**Section B**  
**Report of the Stated Clerk**  
MWS Blake Brinegar

For Information

1. The 2022 minutes of the Presbytery of Arkansas were approved without exception.
2. Worked on drafting templates for the new Book of Order mandated policies.
3. Working on the Anti-Racism Policy Template.
4. Attended the Synod COM/CLC training event in Dallas, TX.
5. Will be attending the Polity, Benefits, Mission Conference in St. Louis October 9-12, 2023.
6. The 2024 Prayer List for Congregations is included in the packet following this report as Section B – Exhibit I. The Prayer List is available any time at the presbytery's website, [presbyark.org/Resources/Presbytery Documents](https://presbyark.org/Resources/Presbytery%20Documents) under the Stated Clerk section.

## Section B – Exhibit I

### Prayer List for Congregations, Presbytery of Arkansas – 2024

Jan.	7	First, Clarksville	Park Hill, North Little Rock
Jan.	14	Mt. Vernon, Pea Ridge	First, Huntsville
Jan.	21	Ferncliff Camp & Conference Center	Active Ruling Elders
Jan.	28	University of the Ozarks, Clarksville	Faith, Horseshoe Bend
Feb.	4	First, McGehee	Inquirers and Candidates for Ministry
Feb.	11	First, Lincoln	First, Heber Springs
Feb.	18	Synod of the Sun	Church Musicians
Feb.	25	First, Jacksonville	Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
Mar.	3	Church Secretaries and Treasurers	Holiday Island Presbyterian
Mar.	10	Second, Little Rock	First, Yellville
Mar.	17	Directors of Children's Programs	First, Mena
Mar.	24	First United, Fayetteville	Lyon College, Batesville
Mar.	31	Kirk of the Hills, Fairfield Bay	Church Pre-Schools
Apr.	7	Mt. Comfort, Fayetteville	First, Dardanelle
Apr.	14	Good Shepherd, Greenwood	Presbyterian Church of Bella Vista
Apr.	21	Central, Fort Smith	Active Deacons
Apr.	28	Alpine Church, Amity	Church Groundskeepers
May	5	Presbyterian Village	Vaughn, Bentonville
May	12	First, Hot Springs	Ministries to Hispanic Persons in Arkansas
May	19	Westover Hills, Little Rock	Allison Memorial, Little Rock
May	26	Holly Grove Church, Holly Grove	First, Alma
June	2	Mission Trip Participants	First, Fort Smith
June	9	Presbyterian Women Ministry	Harmony Church, Clarksville
June	16	New Worshipping Communities	First, Pine Bluff
June	23	Graham Memorial, Forrest City	Elkins Church, Elkins
June	30	Pulaski Heights, Little Rock	Presbytery Committees
July	7	Grace, Little Rock	First, Malvern
July	14	Barr Memorial, Norman	Hopewell Church, Morrilton
July	21	First, Mountain Home	First, Newport
July	28	First, Little Rock	Presbytery Staff
Aug.	4	Trinity, Little Rock	Spring River, Hardy
Aug.	11	First, Bentonville	Westminster, Little Rock
Aug.	18	First, Conway	First, Prairie Grove
Aug.	25	First, Morrilton	First, Springdale
Sept.	1	Faith, Pine Bluff	First, Beebe
Sept.	8	Central, Pine Bluff	Church Camp Ministries
Sept.	15	First, Brinkley	First, Jonesboro
Sept.	22	First, Gurdon	Churches in Presbyteries in Honduras
Sept.	29	Wynne Church, Wynne	Commissioned Ruling Elders
Oct.	6	Cane Hill Church, Cane Hill	Active and Retired Christian Educators
Oct.	13	First, Van Buren	First, Batesville
Oct.	20	First, Benton	Central, Russellville
Oct.	27	First, Helena	West End, Arkadelphia
Nov.	3	Presbyterian Church of Bull Shoals	First, Arkadelphia
Nov.	10	Campus Ministries	Hospital Chaplains and Counselors
Nov.	17	Church Nursery Workers	First, Rogers
Nov.	24	First, Harrison	Westminster, Hot Springs
Dec.	1	Mountainburg Church, Mountainburg	Active and Retired Ministers
Dec.	8	Laotian Ministry, Fort Smith	Youth and Young Adults and Directors
Dec.	15	Memorial Church, Atkins	First, Walnut Ridge
Dec.	22	First, Paragould	Church Custodians
Dec.	29	Kirk in the Pines, Hot Springs Village	First, Searcy

## Section C

### Report of the Committee on Ministry

MWS Stewart Smith, Acting Moderator

#### For Information: COM Approved at stated meeting.

1. The Committee on Ministry approved the covenant between MWS Dennis Ritchie and the Holiday Island Presbyterian Church with the following compensation:  
  
Sundays – preaching only .....250.00 plus mileage reimbursement  
Sundays – preaching plus meetings.....300.00 plus mileage reimbursement  
The pastor’s pay for funeral services will be negotiated with the family of the deceased. Special worship services such as Christmas Eve and Holy Week will be negotiated with the session.
2. The Committee on Ministry approved the “re-commissioning” of RE Bruce Schegel (First United - Fayetteville) to Cane Hill Presbyterian Church with the compensation listed below and authorized RE Kelly Pearson to conduct the commissioning service which was held on June 18, 2023.  
Salary.....\$175.00 weekly  
Mileage.....\$ 25.00 weekly  
4 weeks paid vacation per year
3. The Committee on Ministry granted permission to RE Nancy Deen, First Van Buren, to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism pending successful completion of a Baptism training course offered by MWS Phil Butin on August 24,2023. RE Don Harris, First Pine Bluff also participated in the training.

#### For Action:

1. **Motion to approve the call of MWS Rev. Ben Kane as Pastor of Second Presbyterian Church of Little Rock, effective September 1, 2023 and enroll him as a member of the Presbytery of Arkansas following his transfer from New Hope Presbytery with the following terms of call:**

Cash and Housing.....\$135,000.00  
Professional Expenses Reimbursed by voucher up to.....\$ 9,500.00  
Board of Pensions –Full Family.....\$ 52,650.00  
Moving Costs (One Time Expense).....Paid by Church  
Vacation.....4 weeks paid  
Continuing Education Time.....2 weeks paid  
Parental Leave.....6 weeks paid  
Sabbatical Leave.....12 weeks paid  
to be taken in the 7th year with Presbytery approval

Total Compensation Package .....\$197,150.00.

MWS Ben Kane’s Statement of Faith is included as Section C, Exhibit I.

1. **Motion to examine Candidate Grant Wildwright for ordination to pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Benton. Grant Wildwright's Statement of Faith is included in the packet as Section C – Exhibit 2. Grant is under care of Wyoming Presbytery.**
  
2. **Motion to approve the call (pending a successful examination) of Grant Wildwright and First Presbyterian Church of Benton effective September 1, 2023 and enroll him as a member of the Presbytery of Arkansas with the following terms of call:**

Cash and Housing.....	\$ 37,000.00
Continuing Education (Reimbursed).....	\$ 1,200.00
Mileage Expense (Reimbursed).....	\$ 2,400.00
Professional Expenses (Reimbursed).....	\$ 1,200.00
Cell Phone Reimbursement.....	\$ 600.00
Board of Pensions.....	\$ 14,430.00
Vacation.....	4 weeks paid
Continuing Education.....	2 weeks paid
Parental Leave.....	6 weeks paid
Sabbatical Leave.....	3 weeks paid
(to be taken in the 7th year with Presbytery approval)	
<b>Total Compensation Package.....</b>	<b>\$ 56,830.00</b>

## Section C—Exhibit I

### MWS Ben Kane Statement of Faith

I believe in the one and only Triune God made manifest in three persons: Father/Mother, Son, and Holy Spirit and understood as Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

I believe in the mystery of the Trinity, acknowledging that we know God best in and through the stories of the Bible—made up of the Old and New Testaments. God is the Creator who ordered everything out of chaos, called forth a nation of people known as Israel, loving, and reprimanding and dispensing unconditional grace upon them through God's fidelity to God's covenants. When the Triune God deemed it necessary, Jesus, born of Mary and the Holy Spirit, came to earth and the Word became flesh. Jesus taught, healed, preached, and listened to, ate with, and called all of humanity to witness that God loved them and that was in their midst. In his death and resurrection, Jesus' secured our salvation by overcoming the power of sin and death. At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit was unleashed upon the earth calling forth all people to carry the Good News of the Gospels to the ends of the earth.

I believe the Bible—made up of the Old and New Testaments—is the unique and authoritative Word of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit and written by humans. I believe the church is called to proclaim the Word and administer the two sacraments: Baptism and The Lord's Supper. The sacraments as signs and symbols of the covenant God created with us and make God's grace manifest in the lives of God's people, reminding us that God claims us and never lets us go.

I affirm the reality of sin and its debilitating effects on our individual and communal lives. Sadly, I affirm humanity's propensity to routinely choose to sin and transgress against God and one another. Joyously, I affirm God's sovereignty in all things and proclaim that we are saved by grace through faith—we don't earn our salvation or do anything to secure it because Christ's life, death on a cross, and resurrection fulfilled this for us.

For Christians, the church is a local place whereby our faith is lived most fully, most notably in weekly worship when we gather as an imperfect community of faith to worship and glorify a perfect God through the proclamation of the Word, the singing of songs and hymns, confessing of sins, receiving of forgiveness and grace, praying of prayers, extending of hospitality and welcome, and the celebration of the sacraments.

The Triune God is the God of all—therefore we are called to care for all. I believe in the need to care for our bodies, our relationships, and the perseverance of all creation. I affirm the call from each member of the Triune God to act with justice and mercy, to extend grace to all, welcome anyone in need, and work to heal the wounds inflicted upon others. We are God's people; therefore, we are called to engage with the world around us to see where the Kingdom of God is not being lived or proclaimed and embrace those spaces with love, hope, and grace.

## **Section C—Exhibit II**

### **Grant Wildwright Statement of Faith**

I believe the whole universe and everything in it was fashioned by God the Creator. This creation was made good and includes human beings that bear the likeness of God in their imagination, will, and capability to love. But we humans let darkness into the world. Through this, both we and our world became broken--separated from our Creator. God cares for this broken world. God is unbroken, perfect... and God's perfection is our broken world's only hope.

So God showed us signs and wonders, to give us understanding of our Creator. The mouths of prophets were opened by the Holy Spirit to teach humanity the ways of God: justice, mercy, and faithfulness. The definitive revelation of God's character was made two thousand years ago when a child was born who was both fully God and fully human, named Jesus and called the Christ.

Jesus lived as we ought to live: teaching about God's justice, healing the sick, caring for the brokenhearted, rebuking injustice, and celebrating the diversity of humanity. Jesus insisted on ordering the world according to the laws of love, charity, and kindness. Jesus rejected all the laws we erect to oppress and control. By those very laws we sought to oppress and control Jesus, and when he refused to submit, we killed him.

Jesus' death was not the end. Through God's power, Jesus rose again and was seen by many, teaching that love is stronger than death, compassion more powerful than the grave. Because of the death and resurrection of Jesus, we have been reconciled to God.

Jesus called a group of witnesses to his life, death and resurrection, commanding them to tell all the world of God's abundant love. The Spirit of God who spoke through the prophets was with them as they spread across the world.

This group, the Church, accepts converts through the seal of Baptism, and is spiritually fed through the Eucharist. For the last two millennia, the Church has struggled to guard the creation of the Creator, understand the teaching of the Christ, and obey the commands of the Spirit. Composed of broken creatures, it has often failed to live up to its high ideals. But the Church is constantly under the guiding influence of the Spirit, and we are continually being reformed by the power of God.

Our creeds and the writing of our theologians bear witness to God's continuing provision for the Church. In all things, we are informed of God's nature through the story of faith told in Holy Scripture. Our right response to God's unconditional love toward us is to graciously serve God and one another. Both as communities and individuals, we have a part to play in God's plan. God has chosen each of us for a particular purpose, calling us to work together to further the healing of our broken world.

## **Section D**

### **Report of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry MWS Elizabeth Brinegar**

On September 9<sup>th</sup>, CPM undertook the following actions:

1. To move Isaac Thomas to the purview of COM for the purpose of being commissioned as a CRE.
2. To certify Maggie Johnson ready to receive a call.
3. To certify Katie Flood ready to receive a call.

#### **For action:**

**The committee recommends that Alex Pickell be changed from Inquirer to Candidate status under the care of the Presbytery of Arkansas.** Her Statement of Faith is included in the packet, Section D, Exhibit I.



## **Section D – Exhibit I**

### **Alex Pickell Statement of Faith 2023**

God created all things, from the magnificent cosmos to the smallest ladybug. Without God, nothing would exist. God is always creating, and God's essence can be found in every corner of God's creation. Too complex for us to singularly define or fully understand, God is the greatest mystery that ever existed. As humans, we understand God according to our unique contexts and experiences.

Humankind was created in God's image. Since God cannot be defined in one way, neither can people. Every person is complex and wonderfully made by God, whose goodness lives within us all. Furthermore, we are called to reflect God's goodness outward into the world. Diversity is one of God's greatest blessings, in that it allows us to witness the infinite possibilities of God's beauty in our neighbors. All people are beloved and chosen by God to share the gospel of justice and love in their own time and place.

Jesus Christ, a Palestinian Jew living through imperial occupation, is the human incarnation of God. A person who lived on the fringes of society all his life, Jesus' ministry was largely concerned with serving the outcast and forgotten. He spoke boldly and subversively, preaching that a new age of justice and reconciliation was at hand. When Jesus broke bread and said, "This is my body, broken for you," he invited the world into his ministry. While Jesus' crucifixion was the result of systemic injustice at the hands of the empire, it also stands as God's ultimate act of solidarity with all oppressed people. Jesus' resurrection defeated the forces of death that attempted to separate us from God. A new, revolutionary sense of hope is the good news that Christ brings to the world, and as Christians we are tasked with embodying that hope in all that we do.

Completing the trinity is the often overlooked Holy Spirit, who is the breath of God and the wind of change. The Holy Spirit moves in unfathomable ways, changing hearts and igniting movements. Faith itself is a direct product of the work of the Spirit, which touches each person differently in order to show them God's grace. The Spirit works in all of us, through big and small actions, to extend the love of Christ with everyone we meet. The Church needs the work of the Spirit in all it does to bring hope and direction to its mission. The Holy Spirit is also a source of wondrous creativity, inspiring people to make art and, indeed, sacred writings.

The Bible is a body of holy scripture, authored by humankind and inspired by God. Each book of the Bible contains numerous voices, responses to trauma, praise, poetry, and different images of God. Because of its variety, scripture should be handled with care. Additionally, the history of its composition and the Jewish culture that it came from should never be taken for granted. Everyone comes to scripture with their own experiences and values, so what someone might then interpret from scripture will also be unique. There is beauty and power in the fact that the God who cannot be singularly defined would create a Word that cannot be understood in one way.

In its infancy, the Church's mission was to share the good news to Jews and Greeks alike. That mission is still alive today, albeit in new ways. Indeed, the Church is Christ's broken body, spread out and diverse. Despite its diversity, the Church has a common cause: to prepare the way for God's kingdom on earth.

The Church has many important roles, including worship, public witness, Christian formation, caring for those who need comfort, evangelism, and the sacraments. Through the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper, we remember Jesus' life and acknowledge God's faithfulness. The sacraments are meant to be practiced in community, and shared with all who want to know God. People can know God through practices besides the sacraments, too. At its core, the Church is made of complex and beautiful people. It is because of this fact that the Church has not always succeeded in sharing God's love with others. Indeed, it is imperfect and flawed. Yet, with the help of the Holy Spirit, the Church is constantly being transformed and revitalized. In the Reformed tradition, the Church is to always be reforming, adapting, and challenging itself to see how God is working in new ways.

## **Section E**

### **Report of the Coordinating Team**

#### **October 7, 2023**

The following actions were taken at meetings of the Coordinating Team held in July and September.

1. Accepted the invitation from Westover Hills Presbyterian Church, Little Rock, to host the 154<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas on October 6-7, 2023.
2. Approved the Prison Literacy Program at Westover Hills Presbyterian Church as the offering recipient for the October Presbytery meeting.
3. Approved the request from the Resource Center Board to significantly reduce the holdings in the presbytery's resource center. Usage has significantly decreased over the last decade. A limited number of physical resources will be kept and the Resource Center Board will continue to promote online resources. Resources no longer needed will be made available for congregations.
4. Approved a fundraising request from Sarah Leer, Youth and Young Adult Developer. Sarah plans to share the stories of people that have been impacted by the Presbytery of Arkansas Youth Ministry over the years and invite them and others to contribute to a fund that will supplement the Youth A-Team budget and reduce the cost of A-Team events.
5. Received the report from Kirk of the Hills Presbyterian Church to begin a period of "re-branding" that seeks to increase visibility and outreach in the community. Included will be a name change to "The Church on the Hill". Signage will also reflect "A congregation of the PC(USA)" as the congregation is firmly committed to its Reformed Faith relationship in the PC(USA).
6. Approved the following dates for 2024 Presbytery Meetings

March 1,2 2024	University of the Ozarks	In-person+electronic
June 1, 2024	Tentatively by Zoom. Our visioning process, if approved, could necessitate an overnight "in-person" meeting. an in-person presence and overnight meeting.	
October ??	Place and date to be determined. Before the pandemic, the Coordinating Team designated Ferncliff as the default location for the fall meeting if there were no invitations from congregations to host the meeting.	
7. Approved a task force consisting of the Presbytery Leadership Team, Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Moderator of Coordinating Team, Stated Clerk, General Presbyter, along with member Susan Morris to bring 4 names back to the Coordinating Team for the Presbytery Nominating Committee. The Coordinating Team will elect them at a meeting before the end of the year.

8. Approved the request from Central Presbyterian Church, Fort Smith to sell a portion of its property, Lot A, Block 12 on Sweet Avenue for \$52,000.00. The property has not been used for years and is vacant except for a garage. The congregation approved the sale at a duly called congregational meeting on July 9, 2023.
9. Approved the request from First Presbyterian Church, Hot Springs to sell property located at 301 Walter Street in Hot Springs. This property was once used by Trinity Presbyterian Church and was most recently used by Quapaw House. The Presbytery of Arkansas, which formerly owned the property, had given ownership to First Presbyterian Church of Hot Springs while the property was used by Quapaw House. Quapaw House stopped using the property without letting the church know, and it has remained vacant for several years. The Session of First Presbyterian decided that the best use of the property would be to put it up for sale. The congregation approved the sale at a duly called congregational meeting on June 11, 2023.

**For Presbytery Action:**

**Motion: The Coordinating Team moves that the Presbytery of Arkansas approve the selection of Ministry Architects, led by Mark Devries, to lead the presbytery in a process of visioning and strategic planning. The cost to the presbytery will be approximately \$51,000.00. (Proposal follows this report.)**

*Healthy Systems. Innovative Change.  
For the Future of the Church.*



MINISTRY  
ARCHITECTS

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**PROPOSAL FOR**  
**Presbytery of**  
**Arkansas**  
**Little Rock, AR**

*This proposal is valid for 60 days from today's date.*

**September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

# A Proven Process

PHASE 1	PHASE 2	PHASE 3
DEEP LISTENING ASSESSMENT	CUSTOMIZED BLUEPRINT	STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION
First we listen to get a full picture of the unique needs and aspirations of your ministry.	Based on what we learn of your ministry, we design a plan focused on sustainability, health, and results.	We work with each of our clients not just to design plans but to implement them in alignment with each ministry's unique DNA.

Each Ministry Architects project combines three essential elements.

More and more ministry leaders are discovering the profound benefit of having a coach, a consultant, or project manager to help lead their organizations through smothering complexity to the actual execution of clarified vision.

Ministry Architects helps you build healthy systems that create space for deliberate, often disruptive, innovation.

# Needs Overview

The Presbytery of Arkansas includes approximately 75 churches in the northern two-thirds of the state, with 14 of those churches situated in the larger metro area of Little Rock. General Presbyter, the Rev. Stewart Smith, has served in his role for almost 8 years, during which time the presbytery has demonstrated a commitment to adapt and thrive in the ever-evolving landscape of the church.

Recognizing the need for the presbytery to adjust to the new realities of the post-pandemic and post-Christendom world, Rev Smith recently reached out to Ministry Architects to explore consulting possibilities for the presbytery. With less than half the presbytery's congregations able to afford a full-time, installed pastor, it has become imperative to reassess the presbytery's structure, strategy, and resources for ensuring effective ministry.

Another factor driving the need for a strategic reassessment of the presbytery's work is Stewart's desire to transition out of his position in 2024. This impending transition presents an opportunity for the presbytery to engage in a strategic planning process and intentionally discern the future direction, structure, and priorities of the presbytery. The goal is to establish a clear vision and structure that aligns with the current landscape and sets the stage for the presbytery's continued growth and impact.

Approximately six months ago, a pipe burst in the presbytery offices, leaving the entire staff still working remotely, offering the opportunity to reimagine the presbytery's physical space needs. This is also a season of repurposing church property assets, as a few churches downsize to new buildings and sell or close their facilities. A portion of the \$7,000,000 invested for the presbytery at the Texas Presbyterian Foundation is earmarked for new church developments (NCD's). With the last two NCD's not going well, there is a need to reimagine what NCD's ought to look like in this new season in the church.

With an annual budget of around \$800,000, one quarter of which comes from endowment proceeds, the presbytery is seeking guidance on more sustainable and strategic investment of its resources. With two staff positions in transition (the presbytery builder and the director of youth ministries), along with a desire to reengage and revitalize youth and young adult ministry, leadership views this as an ideal time for the presbytery to reimagine its staffing model.

This multi-layered season of transition for the presbytery presents an ideal time to redefine its identity, purpose, and structure in the changing landscape of the post-pandemic church. The following proposal offers support in the development of a strategic plan, with a particular focus on an updated staffing model, ensuring the continued health of the presbytery's work with youth and young adults, property repurposing, and strategies for long-term financial sustainability to support the thriving of churches under the presbytery's care.

# Needs Overview (cont.)

## DESIRED OUTCOMES

- **A Long-Term Vision** that defines its mission, values, and goals of the presbytery in a way that aligns and inspires all those contributing to and reliant on the presbytery, whether staff, clergy, or congregations
- **A Strategic Staffing Plan** for the presbytery that aligns its staffing with agreed-upon priorities and within the limits of the financial realities of the presbytery
- **Implementation Support** to guide the work of the general presbyter and key stakeholders through the assessment, visioning, and staffing processes
- **Laying the Framework for Succession** by conducting a job analysis, creating development plans, and developing a transition plan to ensure continuity of leadership, maintain organizational stability, and support the presbytery's long-term vision and mission

Ministry Architects can work alongside the Presbytery of Arkansas to accomplish these outcomes. To that end, this proposal offers three options of support, all of which could begin as early November 2023. All totals include travel expenses.



# Ideal Investment Option

Through April 2025

Ministry Architects can provide the following results to the Presbytery of Arkansas:

1. **A three-day onsite assessment** with two Ministry Architects consultants to provide an analysis of the presbytery's current situation, including its congregations, staffing, resources, and financial status, resulting in specific recommendations and action steps to address challenges and leverage opportunities, utilizing the following methods:
  1. *A digital survey to be made available to all constituencies of the presbytery*
  2. *Focus groups with key stakeholders throughout the presbytery*
  3. *Individual or smaller-group conversations with the general presbyter, the stated clerk, the director of youth ministries, the administrator, the presbytery connector, the moderator and vice-moderator of the presbytery, the moderator of the coordinating team, and the treasurer*
2. **An onsite 2-day Vision Summit** with Mark DeVries resulting in a mission statement, core values, and three-year goals with one-year benchmarks appropriate to the post-pandemic and post-Christendom landscape faced by the church
3. **A strategic plan for the presbytery**, collaboratively developed with key stakeholders to guide the presbytery through the transition and launch of its new leadership structure, to include:
  - **A strategic staffing review and plan** for the presbytery's staffing structure and roles, considering the need for presbytery leadership, youth and young adult ministry, administrative support, and other key positions and providing recommendations for optimizing staffing resources to effectively meet the presbytery's needs
  - **A succession plan** for the general presbyter to ensure ongoing sustainability of the long-term vision of the presbytery
  - **A building transition plan** that assists the presbytery in determining its own space requirements and helps evaluate options for utilizing existing space for the presbytery itself as well as assessing opportunities for the transition and/or repurposing of church facilities within the presbytery

## Endorsements

“ Ministry Architects is really good at making the theoretical practical, and making the emotional manageable. Churches have a tendency to stay in the theoretical a lot. We tend to let the practical things happen organically. Ministry Architects gives churches tools to have a road map rather than wandering. It’s not unfaithful to take a mechanistic view of ministry or to have a pastoral care plan. In fact it is faithful to try to structure a system so that it can fulfill a particular mission. I feel confident going in to a new pastoral role because it’s not about me. I’m a leader of a set of systems. The only way my talents are worth anything is if there are train tracks for those talents to be driven on. Ministry Architects has given me those tracks.

DREW  
COLBY

Senior Pastor  
Grace United Methodist Church Manassas,  
VA

”

“ Our ministry was going fine, but I knew it could be better, so we hired Ministry Architects to help us see our flaws, gaps, and areas of potential growth. They helped us refine our goals and set a plan in place to move forward. Sometimes we all need fresh eyes and Ministry Architects helped us see what we weren't seeing so we could grow in new ways.

SCOTT  
MCDERMID

Senior Pastor  
Six Points Church Sheridan,  
IN

”

“ Ministry Architects has been a life-saver for our children’s ministry. They came on during a time of turmoil and distress and walked alongside us to help us lay a strong and healthy foundation for our future. Ministry Architects guided us as we got back on our feet and learned how to move forward. One of the most beneficial outcomes was that we came out on the other side being strong and stable enough to make our own decisions and goals for the future.

COURTNEY  
WESTFALL

Nursery and Preschool Director First  
United Methodist Church Tulsa, OK

”

“ As I think about the impact of working with Ministry Architects this past year in a new ministry context, I can truly say that they were a God-send! Although I've been serving in ministry to youth and families for over 25 years, having the expertise and structure and coaching from outside resources really helped me focus on priority items, instead of being overwhelmed by trying to accomplish everything on my own in a new season in a new place. Not only were they extremely personable and affirming of our ministry, they led our team into a process of refining vision and direction in a way that created such positive momentum for us. Folks might try to do all the work of evaluating and listening and dreaming about taking their ministry to the next level on their own, but I'm certainly grateful that our congregation made the investment of having these great partners at Ministry Architects to help lead and guide the way!

CHRIS LYONS

Pastor of Children, Youth and Families  
Bethany Community Church – Green Lake  
Seattle, WA—

”

# Ideal Investment Option

Through January 2025

- **A plan for financial sustainability** of the presbytery's current resources, including the endowment, investments, and property holdings, while developing strategies for maximizing the use of these resources in a faithful and sustainable manner, ensuring financial stability and supporting the presbytery's mission and initiatives
  - **An iterative design for cultivating new worshipping communities** that leaves room for innovative approaches to new church development
4. **Implementation support for the general presbyter with Mark DeVries** following the vision summit as he coordinates the work outlined by those events and works toward the goals outlined in the strategic staffing plan

In the option above, Ministry Architects takes responsibility for leading the assessment and vision summit, the creation of the presbytery's strategic plan, and implementation support for the General presbyter throughout the process.

*Please note that the assessment process can result in the discover of additional needs that have either gone unnoticed, undiscovered, or currently unknown. These will be included and identified in the assessment report along with recommendations to address them even though they may not be included in the contract.*

18-month Investment: \$50,650\*  
First month's payment: \$8,150  
Remaining monthly payment (for 17 months): \$2,500

*\*All travel expenses included*

## **Section G**

### **Report of the Committee on the Mission of the Church**

CRE Peg Falls-Corbitt Moderator

October 2023

**NEXT ROUND OF MISSION INITIATIVE GRANTS!**

**DEADLINE: October 15th**

**CLICK [THIS LINK](#) TO SEE APPLICATION GUIDELINES!**

#### **REPORT ON RECENT ACTIVITY:**

At its meeting August 3, 2023 the Mission of the Church reviewed grant applications received by the July 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. The following congregations received Mission Initiative Grants:

**First Presbyterian, Beebe (\$1,175)**

To build a tool shed and tools for their Community Garden that is already established.

**Central Presbyterian, Russellville (\$1,500)**

To support supplies and/or equipment for an already established food pantry.

Total spending thus far this year for Mission Initiative Grants is \$13,175 spread across nine (9) congregations.

## Section H

### Report of the Nominating Committee MWS Robert Lowry

#### October 2023 Report to Presbytery

The Nominating Committee met over the summer and brings the following items to the presbytery for their approval:

1. Nominations for Presbytery Committees and Commissions:
  - a. Committee on Administration
    - i. RE Mary Ellen Holder Westover Hills, LR Class of 2026
    - ii. RE John Hall Second, LR Class of 2026
    - iii. RE Dick Freer First, Jonesboro Class of 2026
    - iv. RE Hank Bashears First, Springdale Class of 2025
  - b. Coordinating Team (at-large members)
    - i. MWS Yvonne Thurmond First, Yellville Class of 2026
    - ii. RE Tamara Boggs Park Hill, NLR Class of 2026
  - c. Committee on the Future of the Church
    - i. RE Greg Fairchild First, LR Class of 2026
    - ii. MWS John Arnold First, Rogers Class of 2026
    - iii. Michaela Gallup The Table, LR Class of 2026
  - d. Committee on Ministry
    - i. MWS Robert Lowry Westover Hills, LR Class of 2025
    - ii. MWS Leslie Roper First, Hot Springs Class of 2026
    - iii. CRE Ed Wilkinson First, Greenwood Class of 2026
    - iv. RE Doug Corbitt Pulaski Heights, LR Class of 2026
    - v. RE Donn Mixon First, Jonesboro Class of 2026
    - vi. CRE Janet Benson First, Wynne Class of 2026
    - vii. MWS Brian Brock Central, Russellville Class of 2026
  - e. Committee on the Mission of the Church
    - i. CRE Peg Falls-Corbitt First, Morrilton Class of 2026
    - ii. MWS Cindy Saul First, Mtn Home Class of 2026
    - iii. MWS LaWanda Harris Pulaski Heights, LR Class of 2026
  - f. Committee on Preparation for Ministry
    - i. MWS Michael Gallup The Table, LR Class of 2026
    - ii. MWS Jeff Price Trinity, LR Class of 2026
    - iii. MWS Elizabeth Brinegar First, Batesville Class of 2026
  - g. NB: All nominees for the Class of 2026 will begin service in January. All others will begin upon election.
2. Permanent Judicial Commission
  - a. The Committee on Nominations recommends that: **The Presbytery of Arkansas suspend the rules for terms of service on the Permanent Judicial Commission, declare the terms of the class of 2023 complete, and declare that the terms of nominees to the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Presbytery of Arkansas class of 2026 begin on October 8, 2023.**
  - b. Rationale: There is currently an Investigating Committee at work in the Presbytery of Arkansas. On the advice of the Office of the General Assembly and to ensure continuity of process in the event a PJC trial is necessary, the above recommendation is made.
  - c. Permanent Judicial Commission

- i. MWS David Clark     First, Heber Springs     Class of 2026
  - ii. RE David Stricklin     Westover Hills, LR     Class of 2026
  - iii. MWS Robert Lowry     Westover Hills, LR     Class of 2026
- 3. Nominations for Councils of the Larger Church
  - a. Commissioner to 2024 General Assembly
    - i. MWS Patricia Schaller Faith, Horseshoe Bend
    - ii. FOR INFORMATION: MWS John Arnold, RE Willie Morris, and RE Mary Shaw were previously elected.
  - b. YAAD to 2024 General Assembly
    - i. Christian Kasten     Trinity, LR
  - c. Alternate Commissioner to 2024 General Assembly
    - i. MWS Maggie Alsup     Lyon College
    - ii. MWS Shea McGinnis At-large
    - iii. RE Sahr Lebbe     Westover Hills, LR
    - iv. FOR INFORMATION: A second RE alternate has not yet been confirmed.
  - d. Alternate YAAD to 2024 General Assembly
    - i. Cade Johnson     Second, LR
  - e. Readers for Standard Ordination Exams 2024
    - i. RE Charles Gray     Pulaski Heights, LR
    - ii. TE David Schaller     Faith, Horseshoe Bend
  - f. Alternate Reader for Standard Ordination Exams 2024
    - i. CRE Peg Falls-Corbitt First, Morrilton
- 4. Nominations for a Strategic Planning Leadership Team (Pending approval of hiring a consultant.)
  - a. RE Gail Murdoch     First, Atkins
  - b. MWS Joycelyn Wildright     Ferncliff
  - c. RE Beth Bradshaw     First, Wynne
  - d. RE Ted Belden     FUPC, Fayetteville
  - e. MWS Alisa Seacrest     Second, LR
  - f. RE Jeff Roper     First, Hot Springs
  - g. MWS Michael Gallup     The Table, LR
- 5. Recommendation on referral of Committee on Representation composition to Coordinating Team.
  - a. The Committee on Nominations, after consulting with the Moderator of the Committee on Representation, moves: **That the Presbytery of Arkansas instruct the Coordinating Team, in consultation with the Stated Clerk, to return to the March 2024 stated meeting of the presbytery with necessary revisions to the presbytery by-laws, standing rules, and other policies to reduce the size of the Committee on Representation from nine (9) members in three (3) equal classes to three (3) members in three (3) equal classes.**
  - b. FOR INFORMATION: The classes of 2024 and 2025 constitute a quorum for the committee in the intervening months.
- 6. Officers of the Presbytery of Arkansas
  - a. Vice-Moderator 2024- MWS Judi McMillen First, Bella Vista
  - b. FOR INFORMATION: The Moderator for 2023 will serve as moderator of Coordinating Team and the Vice-Moderator for 2023 will serve as moderator in 2024.
- 7. Moderators for Presbytery Committees and Commissions 2024
  - a. Future of the Church- RE Cindy Lanphear
  - b. Ministry- MWS Leslie Roper
  - c. Preparation for Ministry- MWS Elizabeth Brinegar
  - d. Mission of the Church- CRE Peg Falls-Corbitt
- 8. Concerning still unfilled positions

- a. The Committee on Nominations moves: **That the Presbytery of Arkansas direct the Coordinating Team, upon receipt of nominations, act on behalf of the presbytery to fill the following unfilled positions:**
  - i. **Moderator-Committee on Administration**
  - ii. **Moderator-Committee on Youth, Young Adults, and Campus Ministry**
  - iii. **Alternate Ruling Elder Commissioner to General Assembly 2024** (NB: This action is necessitated by the deadlines set by General Assembly for submission of commissioner names.)
  - iv. **Classes of 2024, 2025, 2026 for the Committee on Youth, Young Adults and Campus Ministry.** (NB: Due to the timing of the hiring of a new staff person for this ministry area, the Committee on Nominations was not able to consult with staff and confirm nominations for this ministry in time for the October meeting.)
  - v. **PJC Position 4 Class of 2026**
9. Statistical report for Representation
  - a. Geographical Distribution
    - i. Northwest- 16%
    - ii. North Central/Northeast- 29%
    - iii. Central- 50%
    - iv. South- 5%
  - b. Ordered Ministry
    - i. Ruling Elder- 48%
    - ii. Minister of the Word and Sacrament- 50%
    - iii. No Ordered Ministry- 2%
  - c. Gender
    - i. Male- 53%
    - ii. Female- 45%
    - iii. Non-binary/Transgender/Queer-2%
  - d. Race
    - i. White- 94%
    - ii. BIPOC- 6%

Respectfully submitted,  
MWS Robert Lowry, Moderator



## **Section I**

### **Report from Youth, Young Adult, and College Ministry**

MWS Margaret Alsup  
Moderator of Committee

We are excited to announce, even if it is already official, that we have a new presbytery leader in the role for youth and young adult ministry. Dr. Sarah Leer was hired this summer to serve as the Transitional Leader for Youth and Young Adult Ministry. She has hit the ground running and hasn't slowed down since. We are grateful for her and her leadership in this season. We look forward to what the future holds for the youth and young adults in our presbytery under her leadership.

Youth Quake was held September 15-17, 2023 at Ferncliff. It is the second year that we combined senior high and junior high youth for the event. We had 67 youth and numerous adult leaders for the event. We want to extend a huge "Thank YOU!" to these adults who drove the youth to Ferncliff, who led small groups, who lead activities, and so much more throughout Youth Quake. With the help of Ferncliff, we had fun activities such as the Neon Cowboy Silent Disco and a scavenger hunt, Fern Clue. The leadership team was outstanding as we engaged with the theme, "A Seat at the Table." For more information about all the fun, fellowship, and learning that took place, check out the Update and other media posts from the presbytery.

Our committee is working on ways to connect our college ministry students in the presbytery. We have the Montreat College Conference coming up in January, but we are also exploring ways to do a joint spring break service-learning trip. Stay tuned for information on that trip and future collaborations. And if you'd like to join the conversation/ planning reach out to the committee.

While the fall is off to a great start, we are working on plans for spring and summer activities and trips. Keep an eye out in the Update and Youth A-team social media for updates on these activities.

## Section J

### THE PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS Balance Sheet August 31, 2023

#### ASSETS

<b>Current Assets</b>	69,880.41	
Cash TPF - undesignated		
TPF Investment Cash - designated	692,267.46	
TPF Investments	4,982,329.77	
N/R Ministers	9,333.40	
N/R Churches	25,000.00	
TPF Mark to Market 52190	<u>991,204.89</u>	
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>6,770,015.93</b>
 <b>Property and Equipment</b>		
Furniture & Fixtures	51,521.89	
Land	128,571.00	
Buildings	<u>1,516,516.12</u>	
	1,696,609.01	
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(359,721.39)</u>	
<b>Net Property and Equipment</b>		<b>8,106,903.55</b>
 <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>\$ 8,106,903.55</b>

#### LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL

<b>Current Liabilities</b>	<u>124.00</u>	
Payroll & Other Withholdings		
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>124.00</b>
 <b>Fund Balance</b>		
Equity Beginning Balance	4,343,422.31	
Fund Balance	4,882,421.88	
Unrealized Gains/Losses	(991,363.95)	
Net Income	<u>(127,700.69)</u>	
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>		<b>8,106,779.55</b>
 <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; CAPITAL</b>		<b>\$ 8,106,903.55</b>

Unaudited - For Management Purposes Only

Section J--Exhibit I							
THE PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS							
Operating Income Statement							
For the Eight Months Ending August 31, 2023							
		Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	Year to Date Actual	2023 Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
6000-01	Mission Acceptance	\$ 24,926.49	28,333.33	(3,406.84)	\$ 184,578.20	520,000.00	(335,421.80)
Misc (Acct. 6015)	Investment Spend Rate	23,049.87	18,562.51	4,487.36	182,070.00	222,750.15	(40,680.15)
6000-01-1-101	Previous Years Pledges	0.00	6,157.33	0.00	6,157.33	6,157.33	0.00
6001-00-1-000	Miscellaneous Revenue	1,350.00	1,350.00	0.00	10,800.92	16,200.00	(5,399.08)
	Total Revenues	49,326.36	54,403.17	1,080.52	383,606.45	765,107.48	(381,501.03)
	Expenses						
7000-01-1-000	Coordinating Team--Meeting Exp, Meals, Worship	1,200.00	8.33	1,191.67	1,200.00	100.00	1,100.00
7000-06-1-000	Coordinating Team--Gifts	0.00	4.17	(4.17)	50.00	50.00	0.00
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	125.00	(125.00)	75.00	1,500.00	(1,425.00)
7000-31-1-000	Coordinating Team--Background Checks	20.00	25.00	(5.00)	211.50	300.00	(88.50)
		1,220.00	291.67	928.33	1,536.50	3,500.00	(1,963.50)
7100-01-1-000	Administration--Meeting Expense, Financial Review	0.00	516.67	(516.67)	7,278.70	6,200.00	1,078.70
7100-05-1-000	Administration--Ferncliff General Site Support	0.00	2,166.67	(2,166.67)	13,000.00	26,000.00	(13,000.00)
7500-21-1-000	West End Operation Support	0.00	1,125.00	(1,125.00)	6,750.00	13,500.00	(6,750.00)
7500-53-1-000	Laotian Ministry support	0.00	300.00	(300.00)	1,800.00	3,600.00	(1,800.00)
7500-98-1-000	Faith Presbyterian Operation Support	0.00	594.00	(594.00)	3,564.00	7,128.00	(3,564.00)
		0.00	4,702.34	(4,702.34)	32,392.70	56,428.00	(24,035.30)
7200-01-1-000	Min. of the Church--Cmte on Prep. for Ministry--Travel, food, lodging, supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7200-02-1-000	Min. of the Church--Cmte on Prep. for Ministry--ConEd--Emergency Fund, Etc.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7700-01-1-000	Committee on Ministry--travel,food,meeting support	0.00	166.67	(166.67)	0.00	2,000.00	(2,000.00)
8000-01-1-000	Min. of the Church--Cmte on Prep. for Ministry--Meeting Expenses, etc.	0.00	41.67	(41.67)	0.00	500.00	(500.00)
8000-09-1-000	Min. of the Church--Cmte on Prep. for Ministry--Eval, Retreat, Support, Bkg Checks	0.00	166.67	(166.67)	850.00	2,000.00	(1,150.00)
8400-08-1-000	Min. of the Church--Wellspring Contract	0.00	850.00	(850.00)	10,200.00	10,200.00	0.00
		0.00	1,225.01	(1,225.01)	11,050.00	14,700.00	(3,650.00)
7300-29-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--Campus Ministry/Program Support	2,356.66	2,500.00	(143.34)	18,853.28	30,000.00	(11,146.72)
7300-71-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT--Planning Retreats & Materials	(796.50)	83.33	(879.83)	909.59	1,000.00	(90.41)
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)	382.65	500.00	(117.35)
7300-76-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT YouthQuake	84.44	750.00	(665.56)	6,066.71	9,000.00	(2,933.29)

**THE PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS**

**Operating Income Statement**

For the Eight Months Ending August 31, 2023

		Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	Year to Date Actual	2023 Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
7300-78-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT Montreat	(2,611.71)	291.67	(2,903.38)	(2,262.41)	3,500.00	(5,762.41)
7300-79-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT--JR High Summer Trip	(205.89)	208.33	(414.22)	2,611.63	2,500.00	111.63
7300-80-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT--Matthew 25 Account	0.00	41.67	(41.67)	373.76	500.00	(126.24)
7300-84-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--Young Adult Ministries	0.00	125.00	(125.00)	0.00	1,500.00	(1,500.00)
7300-86-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT--Student Leadership Development	(145.50)	41.67	(187.17)	(145.50)	500.00	(645.50)
7300-99-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--Campus Ministry-Special Event Support	0.00	916.67	(916.67)	3,028.88	11,000.00	(7,971.12)
		(1,318.50)	5,208.35	(6,526.85)	29,818.59	62,500.00	(32,681.41)
7500-01-1-000	Future of the Church--Admin., Listening	0.00	83.33	(83.33)	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
7500-25-1-000	Future of the Church--Presbytery Technology Needs	0.00	625.00	(625.00)	3,500.00	7,500.00	(4,000.00)
7500-51-1-000	Future of the Church--New Ministries' Development	0.00	2,208.33	(2,208.33)	26,500.00	26,500.00	0.00
		0.00	2,916.66	(2,916.66)	30,000.00	35,000.00	(5,000.00)
7300-01-1-000	Christian Education--Meeting Expenses	0.00	37.50	(37.50)	0.00	450.00	(450.00)
7300-10-1-000	Christian Education--Special train. Events/presb	0.00	166.67	(166.67)	0.00	2,000.00	(2,000.00)
7300-21-1-000	Christian Education--Ferncliff. Prog/Supt. Summer Camp	0.00	1,916.67	(1,916.67)	11,500.00	23,000.00	(11,500.00)
7300-24-1-000	Mission of the Church--Ferncliff--Block Grant	0.00	416.67	(416.67)	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00
7300-30-1-000	Christian Education--Presbyterian Pilgrimage	0.00	166.67	(166.67)	0.00	2,000.00	(2,000.00)
7300-90-1-000	Christian Education--Resource Center Resources	125.00	166.67	(41.67)	125.00	2,000.00	(1,875.00)
7300-91-1-000	Christian Education--Resource Center. Admin.	0.00	91.67	(91.67)	0.00	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	0.00
7600-05-1-000	Mission of the Church--International Mission Initiative	0.00	166.67	(166.67)	1,500.00	2,000.00	(500.00)
7600-26-1-000	Mission of the Church--Arkansas Interfaith Conference	0.00	208.33	(208.33)	1,750.00	2,500.00	(750.00)
7600-44-1-000	Mission of the Church--Lyon College	0.00	83.33	(83.33)	500.00	1,000.00	(500.00)
7600-45-1-000	Mission of the Church--Presbyterian Village Support	0.00	41.67	(41.67)	250.00	500.00	(250.00)
7600-49-1-000	Mission of the Church--University of Ozarks	0.00	83.33	(83.33)	500.00	1,000.00	(500.00)
7600-51-1-000	Mission of the Church--Vera Lloyd Mission	0.00	208.33	(208.33)	1,250.00	2,500.00	(1,250.00)
7600-62-1-000	Mission of the Church--Mission Initiative Grants	2,675.00	1,172.92	1,502.08	13,175.00	14,075.00	(900.00)
7600-96-1-000	Mission of the Church--Solar Under the Sun	0.00	83.33	(83.33)	500.00	1,000.00	(500.00)
8300-01-1-000	Mission of the Church--PW Exp., travel, postage, etc.	0.00	41.67	(41.67)	427.31	500.00	(72.69)
8300-07-1-000	Mission of the Church--PW--Spring & Fall Retreats, Synod Gathering	0.00	291.67	(291.67)	372.40	3,500.00	(3,127.60)
9400-01-1-000	Mission of the Church--Disaster Preparedness	0.00	8.33	(8.33)	50.00	100.00	(50.00)
		2,800.00	5,435.43	(2,635.43)	37,899.71	65,225.00	(27,325.29)
7800-01-1-000	Nominations--travel, food	0.00	8.33	(8.33)	0.00	100.00	(100.00)
8100-01-1-000	Representation--Meeting Expenses	0.00	4.17	(4.17)	0.00	50.00	(50.00)

THE PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS							
Operating Income Statement							
For the Eight Months Ending August 31, 2023							
		Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	Year to Date Actual	2023 Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
8400-01-1-000	POA/Supplies & Office Exp.	945.49	125.00	820.49	2,383.24	1,500.00	883.24
8400-02-1-000	Utilities/Telephone	1,238.02	833.33	404.69	8,580.82	10,000.00	(1,419.18)
8400-03-1-000	Copy Machine	5,577.90	500.00	5,077.90	9,142.82	6,000.00	3,142.82
8400-05-1-000	Technology	691.99	1,291.67	(599.68)	9,977.96	15,500.00	(5,522.04)
8400-07-1-000	Replace Equipment	0.00	83.33	(83.33)	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
8400-09-1-000	Insurance	6,950.98	1,583.33	5,367.65	15,857.50	19,000.00	(3,142.50)
8400-10-1-000	Miscellaneous Expenses	0.00	41.67	(41.67)	300.00	500.00	(200.00)
8400-12-1-000	Maintenance(Grounds, Building Upkeep)	2,855.27	791.67	2,063.60	4,163.83	9,500.00	(5,336.17)
		18,259.65	5,250.00	13,009.65	50,406.17	63,000.00	(12,593.83)
8400-13-1-000	Stated Clerk Professional Exp	1,024.96	0.00	0.00	1,368.72	3,000.00	(1,631.28)
8400-22-1-000	K. Palmer/Professional Exp	190.47	64.58	125.89	477.43	775.00	(297.57)
8400-25-1-000	S. Smith/Professional Exp	3,443.47	1,250.00	2,193.47	10,970.43	15,000.00	(4,029.57)
8400-29-1-000	Salaries	16,022.73	18,490.28	(2,467.55)	134,931.76	221,883.33	(86,951.57)
8400-30-1-000	Pension/Major Medical	1,467.18	1,401.88	65.30	11,737.44	16,822.56	(5,085.12)
8400-31-1-000	S. Smith/Continuing Ed.	0.00	125.00	(125.00)	0.00	1,500.00	(1,500.00)
8400-33-1-000	Payroll Taxes	727.17	883.78	(156.61)	6,333.71	10,605.34	(4,271.63)
8400-34-1-000	Housing	2,725.00	2,725.00	0.00	21,800.00	32,700.00	(10,900.00)
8400-40-1-000	S. Smith/FICA	546.86	560.40	(13.54)	4,374.88	6,724.75	(2,349.87)
8400-41-1-000	Builder/Connector Professional Expenses	0.00	833.33	(833.33)	2,569.55	10,000.00	(7,430.45)
8400-49-1-000	B. Christiansen Professional Expenses	0.00	83.33	(83.33)	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
8400-53-1-000	TPF Bookkeeping Fees	76.23	765.81	(689.58)	4,106.73	9,189.75	(5,083.02)
		26,224.07	27,183.39	(1,984.28)	198,670.65	329,200.73	(130,530.08)
8600-01-1-000	General Assembly	1,186.56	2,166.67	(980.11)	7,982.59	26,000.00	(18,017.41)
8700-01-1-000	GA Per Capita	7,366.98	7,366.98	0.00	58,935.84	88,403.75	(29,467.91)
8800-01-1-000	Synod Mission	1,186.56	1,750.00	(563.44)	7,982.59	21,000.00	(13,017.41)
		9,740.10	11,283.65	(1,543.55)	74,901.02	135,403.75	(60,502.73)
	Total Expenses	56,925.32	63,509.00	(7,608.64)	466,675.34	765,107.48	(298,432.14)
	Net Income	(\$ 7,598.96)	(\$ 9,105.83)	\$ 8,689.16	(\$ 83,068.89)	\$ 0.00	(\$ 83,068.89)



**Section J--Exhibit II**  
**The Presbytery of Arkansas**  
**Benevolence as of August 31, 2023**

LOCATION	2020 Benevolence	2021 Benevolence	2022 Benevolence	2023 Benevolence
Alma	-	-	-	-
Amity	-	-	-	-
Arkadelphia, First	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Arkadelphia, West End	1,106.00	1,110.00	1,110.00	-
Atkins	-	-	-	-
Batesville	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	5,000.00
Beebe	600.00	1,200.00	900.00	300.00
Bella Vista	24,999.96	20,000.00	20,000.44	10,000.00
Benton	8,600.00	8,600.00	9,000.00	4,200.00
Bentonville, First	32,000.00	33,500.00	32,000.00	10,000.00
Bentonville, Vaughn	2,000.00	-	-	-
Brinkley	-	-	-	-
Bull Shoals	-	50.00	116.74	116.74
Cane Hill	-	-	-	-
Clarksville, First	-	-	-	-
Clarksville, Harmony	-	-	-	-
Conway	7,700.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	5,000.00
Dardanelle	6,000.00	5,500.00	3,500.00	-
Elkins	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Eureka Springs	2,550.00	2,750.00	2,250.00	1,250.00
Fairfield Bay	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00
Fayetteville, First United	41,000.00	41,000.00	41,000.00	27,058.00
Fayetteville, Mt. Comfort	1,660.00	1,660.00	900.00	1,000.00
Forrest City	9,000.00	9,000.00	8,250.00	6,000.00
Ft. Smith, Central	16,000.00	16,000.00	16,000.00	-
Ft. Smith, First	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Greenwood	-	-	1,000.00	-
Gurdon	300.00	-	-	-
Hardy	297.00	-	-	-
Harrison	-	-	-	-
Heber Springs	525.00	950.00	-	450.00
Helena	500.00	-	-	-
Holiday Island	6,200.00	6,200.00	6,200.00	3,100.00
Holly Grove	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
Horseshoe Bend	3,000.00	2,290.00	2,300.00	800.00
HSV, Kirk	27,270.00	27,270.00	27,270.00	12,833.59
H. Springs, First	20,000.00	20,013.00	20,000.00	10,000.00
H. Springs, Westminster	10,012.04	8,012.04	8,012.04	5,341.36
Huntsville	2,200.00	2,400.00	2,400.00	1,600.00

## The Presbytery of Arkansas Benevolence as of August 31, 2023

LOCATION	2020 Benevolence	2021 Benevolence	2022 Benevolence	2023 Benevolence
Jacksonville	2,800.00	3,250.00	3,000.00	1,872.70
Jonesboro	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	2,000.00
Lincoln	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
LR, Allison	-	-	-	-
LR, First	-	-	-	-
LR, Grace	7,900.00	7,900.00	7,900.00	3,025.00
LR, Pulaski Heights	3,636.00	3,636.00	3,618.00	2,000.00
Little Rock, Second	200,000.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	-
LR, Trinity	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,666.67	4,666.69
LR, Westminster	400.00	400.00	400.00	-
LR, Westover Hills	10,500.00	7,500.00	2,500.00	-
Malvern	5,241.71	5,241.72	5,241.60	-
McGehee	2,520.00	2,520.00	2,520.00	1,260.00
Mena	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	2,750.00
Morrilton, First	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,100.00	900.00
Morrilton, Hopewell	-	-	-	-
Mountain Home	1,000.00	750.00	500.00	-
Mountainburg	-	-	-	-
Newport	3,225.00	2,700.00	2,700.00	1,800.00
Norman	2,000.00	-	-	-
NLR, First	-	-	-	-
NLR, Park Hill	16,000.00	16,000.00	13,000.00	4,000.00
Paragould, First	-	-	-	-
Pea Ridge	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	1,750.00
Pine Bluff, Central	-	-	115.80	-
Pine Bluff, Faith	-	-	-	-
Pine Bluff, First	4,999.92	4,583.26	6,996.00	5,000.00
Prairie Grove	7,150.00	6,960.00	4,730.00	4,025.00
Rogers	6,999.96	6,999.96	7,000.01	5,278.64
Russellville	-	-	-	-
Searcy	2,000.00	-	-	-
Springdale	30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	20,000.00
Van Buren	-	-	-	-
Walnut Ridge	6,400.00	-	-	7,350.48
Wynne	7,500.00	7,500.00	9,999.96	2,500.00
Yellville	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	3,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>589,342.59</b>	<b>566,495.98</b>	<b>556,047.26</b>	<b>184,578.20</b>

## 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 of 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- H**onorably 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 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 - M**inister 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.
- **NCD- N**ew Church Developments are new ministries of the presbytery engaged in a formal process to work toward establishing a new congregation.
- **PDA- P**resbyterian Disaster Assistance is an agency of the Presbyterian Church (USA) Mission Agency. PDA assists communities coping with natural and human-caused disasters.



- **PJC- Permanent Judicial Commission** implements the disciplinary procedures required by the *Book of Order*. There is a Judicial Process Manual which gives details on these duties.
- **PMA- The Presbyterian Mission Agency** is part of the larger PC(USA) and is located at national church headquarters in Louisville, KY.
- **PNC- Pastor Nominating Committee** is a search committee elected by a congregation to seek, interview, and recommend a new pastor.
- **RE/Ruling Elder- Ruling Elder** is a lay member of a congregation who has been elected, ordained and installed to serve on the session of a church. Ruling elders are eligible for election as commissioners to presbytery, synod and General Assembly. Once ordained as a ruling elder one maintains that office whether serving on a session or not.
- **Stated Clerk-** Stated Clerk is the officer elected by the presbytery to maintain the official records, provide extracts when asked, prepare the docket for presbytery meetings, and answer questions about the records, Presbyterian polity, policies, procedures and history. The Stated Clerk is authorized to certify ministers and congregations are in good standing and qualify under the tax exemption of the 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- 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 for Commissioners on Procedure and Parliamentary Practice**

Parliamentary procedure enables the presbytery to become a deliberative assembly, to seek the will of God and to witness to our faith in Jesus Christ. It is never an end in itself. Parliamentary gamesmanship is never appropriate. The will of the majority shall prevail, but the rights of the minority shall always be protected. Parliamentary principles balance individual conscience with the will of the majority. It takes seriously the following rights of individual members:

- (1) the right to know (due notice)
- (2) the right to speak (rules of debate)
- (3) the right to vote (membership)
- (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 ministry area or a committee already has a second because it is the majority vote of the committee.

Ordinarily, only commissioners may speak and vote on motions (Minister of Word and Sacrament members of the Presbytery; Ruling Elders elected by their Session; Ruling Elders elected as General Presbyter, Stated Clerk, Assistant Stated Clerk, Treasurer, Moderator, or Moderator-in-Waiting (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.

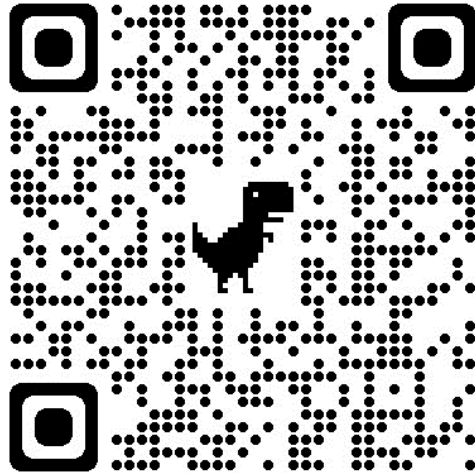
To end debate, a commissioner must go to a microphone and, when recognized by the Moderator, state: “I move the previous question.” It is not appropriate to call the question without going to a microphone. If you offer a substitute motion or a new item of business, you should give the Moderator and Stated Clerk advance notice and written copy. An electronic copy is preferred – using Microsoft Word on a memory stick

or thumb drive. Not only will this help these officers facilitate the work of presbytery, they may also be able to help you with suggestions as to how and when it would be appropriate to make the motion. The Stated Clerk and the Moderator are available to advise commissioners on the wording of any motion so that it can clearly express the concerns of the commissioner. When in doubt, ask. The Moderator and the Stated Clerk are eager to help you understand and use the process.

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 ministry area or 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.

**Take a minute and let us know what you think about this presbytery meeting!**

Take a few minutes and visit this [link](#) to provide feedback on the presbytery meeting held at Westover Hills Presbyterian Church on October 6-7, 2023. We appreciate your input. Or use the camera on your phone and point it at the QR Code below to access the survey on your cellphone.



**Presbytery  
of Arkansas**