



Presbytery of Arkansas

156th Stated Meeting
of the Presbytery of Arkansas
Saturday, June 1, 2024
Central Presbyterian Church
Russellville, Arkansas



ADDENDUM PACKET



156th 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/>

Click below to sign up to receive the "Update", the Presbytery newsletter:
<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sl/2FgWN9K>

Click here to [Live Stream This Meeting](#)

What You'll Find in This Addendum Packet:

Worship Bulletin	Page	3
Report from the Future of the Church Committee	Page	7
Report from the Committee on Ministry	Page	8
Report from the Financial Requests Task Force	Page	9
Report from the Coordinating Team	Page	13
Draft Vision Documents	Page	15

Today's offering will go to help with expenses for the Presbytery of Arkansas Youth Summer Trips. This summer Middle School Youth will attend for the first time, the Montreat Middle School Conference on July 17-21 at Maryville College in Maryville, TN. Senior High Youth will attend the Montreat Youth Conference the week of July 21-27 at the Montreat Conference Center. Former Arkansas Presbytery youth Maggie Johnson Phillips and her brother Cade Johnson (Second Presbyterian Church - Little Rock) will serve the Senior High conference this week as recreation leaders.

You can contribute electronically with the QR code below or by visiting the Presbytery Website (presbyark.org) and clicking on the Donate Now button. Then click on Montreat Youth trip. Or - you can place cash or checks made payable to the Presbytery of Arkansas in the offering plate on the small table in front of the dais during the offertory or during the meeting. Or - you can mail a check to the Presbytery office at 9221 N. Rodney Parham Road, Little Rock, AR 72227.



Morning Service of Worship
June 1, 2024

156th Meeting

A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
(Isaiah 35:8)

Worship Leaders		
Elizabeth Cahoon	Preacher	Associate Pastor-Elect Second PC, Little Rock
Wynn Brock	Liturgist	Ruling Elder Central PC, Russellville
Garrett Snavely	Pianist	Musician Central PC, Russellville

We Gather Around God's Word

Chiming of the Hour Garrett Snavelly

Prelude Mark Hayes
"O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go"

*Call to Worship Wynn Brock

Praise the LORD!

Let my whole being praise the LORD!

I will praise the LORD with all my life;

I will sing praises to my God as long as I live.

God: who is faithful forever,

who gives justice to the oppressed, and bread to the starving!

The LORD: who frees prisoners and makes the blind see;

who straightens up those who are bent low and loves the righteous.

The LORD: who protects immigrants, orphans, and widows,

but who makes the way of the wicked twist and turn!

The LORD will rule forever!

Praise the LORD!

*Hymn: *"Morning Has Broken"* Insert

*Call to Confession

*Responsive Prayer of Confession:

Wondrous God... and your fashioning hand!

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Wondrous God... how seldom have we really loved and followed you!

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Wondrous God... or accepted your gifts!

Lord, have mercy upon us. Amen.

*Silent Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

... in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Gloria Patri

*The Peace of Christ

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

We Proclaim God's Word

*Hymn: *"Guide My Feet"* Insert

Prayer for Illumination

Hebrew Testament Reading: Isaiah 35:1 - 10

Sermon Elizabeth Cahoon
"Life Is a Highway"

We Respond to God's Word

Offering

Offertory Penny Rodriguez
"O Could I Speak the Matchless Worth"

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

We Are Sent with God's Word

*Hymn: *"We All Are One in Mission"* Insert

*Benediction

**All are invited to stand in body or spirit as you are able.*

We All Are One in Mission

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVOGELCHEN T.674 D

Mettlingen ms., 17th century

Harr. George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1904

Rusty Edwards, 1986; alt.

1. We all are one in mis - sion, We all are one in call.
 2. We all are called for ser - vice To wit - ness in God's name;
 3. Now let us be u - nit - ed And let our song be heard.

Our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed By Christ, the Lord of all.
 Our min - is - tries are dif - ferent, Our pur - pose is the same:
 Now let us be a ves - sel For God's re - deem - ing word.

A sin - gle, great com - mis - sion Com - pels us from a - bove
 To touch the lives of oth - ers By God's sur - pris - ing grace
 We all are one in mis - sion, We all are one in call.

To plan and work to - geth - er That all may know Christ's love.
 So ev - ery folk and na - tion May feel God's warm em - brace.
 Our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed By Christ, the Lord of all.

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4-53-56

Morning Has Broken

BUNESSAN. 5354 D

Gaelic melody

Arr. Dale Grottenhuis, 1985

Eleanor Farjeon, 1931

1. Morn - ing has bro - ken Like the first morn - ing, Black - bird has
 2. Sweet the rain's new fall Sun - lit from heav - en, Like the first
 3. Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing Born of the

spo - ken Like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
 dew - fall On the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness Of the wet
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, Praise ev - ery

morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing Fresh from the Word!
 gar - den, Sprung in com - plete - ness Where God's feet pass.
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion Of the new day!

Text: From *Eclogues of Praise*, 1931. Used by permission of David Higham Assoc., Ltd. All rights reserved.
 Music: Arrangement © 1987 by CBC Publications, Grand Rapids, MI 49508. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Guide My Feet

GUIDE MY FEET 88830

African-American spiritual

African-American spiritual
Harr. Wendell Whalum (1932-1987)

1. Guide my feet
2. Hold my hand
3. Stand by me
4. I'm Your child

while I run this race,
yes, my Lord!

Guide my feet
Hold my hand
Stand by me
I'm Your child

while I run this race,
yes, my Lord!

Guide my feet
Hold my hand
Stand by me
I'm Your child

while I run this race, For I

don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain!)

5. Search my heart . . .

6. Guide my feet . . .

Music: Harmonization © by the estate of Wendell Whalum. Used by permission.

Isaiah 35: 1 - 10

1 The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus 2 it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and shouting.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the Lord,
the majesty of our God.]]
3 Strengthen the weak hands
and make firm the feeble knees.
4 Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you."
5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf shall be opened;
6 then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness
and streams in the desert;
7 the burning sand shall become a pool
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp;
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
8 A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
9 No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.
10 And the ransomed of the Lord shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Addendum Section A
Future of the Church (FOTC) Committee Report
June 2024

RE Cindy Lanphear, Moderator

Every year since 2018, the Future of the Church Committee has awarded grants (up to \$5,000 each) to congregations who are engaged in initiatives that are aimed at strengthening or changing directions in the life of the church. The FOTC grants are not for general property improvements **BUT** they are for specific kinds of programs, events or projects that engage our churches with the community, encourage connections within the community and share the good news of Jesus Christ in creative and innovative ways.

This committee worked diligently on receiving grants and met many times to review and discuss all the proposals. It was a difficult task that required multiple revisits to the chartered mission of the FOTC committee to ensure the proper allocation of these funds. As a result, for this past year the FOTC committee received 10 grants and due to the extremely varied nature of the grant proposals this year, the committee is still in the process of considering those to be funded. Final decisions will be made and publicized by June 30 so that all funded grant projects can begin on time for the August 1 fiscal year. Also, there were two grant applications outside of the typical congregational grants. These were to support two 1001 worshipping communities, awarding \$15,000 each.

While the grant cycle is over for this year, the FOTC committee would like to encourage congregations to be thinking and planning for next year's cycle for ways that the Presbytery can assist in building and supporting all the great work that is already happening as well as new initiatives that can be created. You can find the application on the Presbytery's website or email/text Cindy Lanphear, (cjlanphear@ca-mfg.com; 479-979-7160).

Please feel free to contact any of us if you have questions or comments about the grant process or any other way you think we may be able to help you and your congregation. We are eager to help! And, we are always open to suggestions if you have a new idea. The members of our committee are:

Committee Members: Greg Fairchild, Amanda Jones, Cindy Lanphear, Sally Roden, Dawn Cattaneo, Patricia Donlow-Wright, Brenda Holder, John Arnold, and Michala Gallup

Respectfully submitted,
RE Cindy Lanphear, Moderator

Addendum Section B
Report of the Committee on Ministry
MWS Leslie Roper Moderator

For Information:

1. The Committee on Ministry approved the validated ministry with MWS LaWanda Harris as chaplain related to her nursing work with Arkansas Hospice.
2. Approved the sabbatical plan for MWS Lindy Vogado (Second Presbyterian Church, Little Rock).

For Presbytery Action:

1. **Motion to approve the following Administrative Commission for a service of installation for MWS Doug Cartwright on Sunday, June 23 at 3:00 pm at First Christian Church of Harrison (location where First Presbyterian of Harrison worships).**

Moderate and ask Constitutional QuestionsMWS Emmett Powers, Fairfield Bay
PreachMWS Kade Curry, Validated Ministry
Charge the PastorMWS Stewart Smith, General Presbyter
Charge the Congregation.....RE Jane Webb, First Presbyterian Church, Rogers
RE Claudia BrighamFirst Presbyterian Church, Yellville
RE Gwen HoffmanFirst Presbyterian Church, Harrison
RE Carla TaylorFirst Presbyterian Church, Huntsville

The offering recipient will be for NW Arkansas tornado relief for the Subcommittee on Disaster Preparedness and Response of the Presbytery of Arkansas.

2. **Pending the completion of a successful examination, motion to approve the following Administrative Commission for a service of ordination and installation for Candidate Elizabeth Cahoon on Sunday, August 17 at 2:00 pm at Second Presbyterian Church of Little Rock.**

Moderate & ask Constitutional QuestionsMWS Emmett Powers (Or his designee)
Charge the PastorMWS Marie Mainard O’Connell, At-Large
Charge the Congregation..... MWS Robert Lowry, Westover Hills, Little Rock
MWS Jeff PriceTrinity Presbyterian Church, Little Rock
MWS Ruskin FallsPulaski Heights Presbyterian Church, Little Rock
RE Karen Herbert.....Grace Presbyterian Church, Little Rock
RE Liz BranchWestover Hills Presbyterian, Little Rock
RE Marge Anna LuttrellSecond Presbyterian Church, Little Rock
Seated with the commission will be: Dorothy White (Ordained Episcopal Church of Minnesota) to preach.

The offering recipient will be the Youth Advisory Team Summer Trip Scholarship Fund.

Addendum Section C

Report of the Financial Requests Task Force

The Presbytery of Arkansas approved the formation of a task force at the 155th Stated Meeting of Presbytery held on March 2, 2024 at the University of the Ozarks to study the three requests for funding from presentations made at the 155th meeting and the recommendations made from the First Presbyterian Church of North Little Rock (Argenta) Administrative Commission for possible uses from the proceeds of the property sale. The presbytery approved that the task force be comprised of the General Presbyter, the Stated Clerk, the Presbytery Treasurer, one member from each of the following committees; Committee on Administration, Future of the Church Committee, Mission of the Church Committee, and one “at-large” member from the presbytery elected by the Committee on Nominations. The following members comprised the task force.

General Presbyter – MWS Stewart Smith

Stated Clerk – MWS Blake Brinegar

Presbytery Treasurer – RE Tom Verdery

Committee on Administration – MWS Carl McCormack

Mission of the Church – MWS Cindy Saul

Future of the Church – RE Cindy Lanphear

At Large from Presbytery – MWS Brian Brock

The Task Force received an overview of the Presbytery’s financial assets and received updates on recent sales of property from closed churches and learned of other church property in the process of being sold. The Task Force looked at the suggestions from the First Presbyterian Church of North Little Rock (Argenta) Administrative Commission for possible uses of proceeds from the Dec. 29, 2023 sale of property. Task Force members were oriented on the mission of “The Van” a ministry to the homeless community of downtown Little Rock and North Little Rock.

The task force invited Phil Blackburn, Director of the Thriving in Ministry Program to meet with the task force. Phil gave an overview of the work that has been done and shared plans and possibilities for the program in the future and how the program will benefit leaders and congregations within the presbytery.

The four requests total \$1,560,000 (The Van - \$50,000.00, Vera Lloyd - \$250,000.00, Thriving in Ministry – 500,000.00, Ferncliff Capital Campaign - \$760,000.00.) With the recent addition of funds from the assets of closed churches, the Task Force is recommending that the Presbytery of Arkansas fund all 4 requests with funding from recent church closings and property sales outlined in Addendum Section C, Exhibit 1 and a payment schedule outlined in Addendum Section C, Exhibit 2. All of these assets were received since the last presbytery meeting of 2023 (October 6-7). The task force is also recommending that the presbytery create an advisory group that includes representation from the Committee on Ministry and the Committee on Preparation for Ministry that would work closely with the Thriving in Ministry program to ensure both communication and collaboration with the presbytery.

The Coordinating Team requested the Financial Requests Task Force to separate the motions regarding funding for capital projects from the financial investment being asked of the presbytery for the Thriving in Ministry Program. The task force brings three motions before the presbytery.

For Presbytery Action:

Motion 1: That the presbytery approve the financial requests as outlined in Addendum Section C, Exhibits 1 and 2 from Vera Lloyd and Ferncliff, and make a gift to the Van ministry as suggested by the Administrative Commission of First Presbyterian Church of North Little Rock.

Motion 2: That the presbytery approve the financial request as outlined in Addendum Section C, Exhibits 1 and 2 from the Thriving in Ministry Program.

Motion 3: That the presbytery create an advisory committee of at least 5 members that includes representation from the Committee on Ministry and the Committee on Preparation for Ministry that would work closely with the Thriving in Ministry program on shared goals and benchmarks for the program's ministry with the Presbytery of Arkansas. The Committee on Nominations would bring names for the presbytery to elect at the 157th meeting of presbytery in October.

**Addendum Section C, Exhibit 1
Funding Sources for Financial Requests**

Argenta Property Sales Proceeds		934,743.62
Sales Price	1,000,000.00	
Amount Cleared	975,123.62	
Expenses incurred by AC	40,380.00	
	=====	
	934,743.62	
Partial Proceeds from Brinkley Sale		65,256.38
Used partial proceeds from the Brinkley property sale to purchase a 3 months \$1,000,000 Certificate of Deposit in January 2024.		
Interest from Above Named Certificate of Deposit		13,735.64
Financial Assets -Westminster PC of Little Rock		414,017.33
		=====
Total Used to Fund Financial Requests		1,427,752.97

Addendum Section C, Exhibit 2 Payment Schedule for Financial Requests

	Current Balance – Argenta, Westminster, Brinkley Proceeds	1,427,752.97
2024	Pay Vera Lloyd	(250,000.00)
	Pay “The Van”	(50,000.00)
		=====
	Invest Balance in Texas Presbyterian Foundation	1,127,752.97
	Funds will be invested in the Balanced Fund. These are mutual funds and the estimated rate of return used is 8% which is the average rate of return for the past 5 years.	
2025	Fund Accumulates (estimated 8%)	90,220.24
	Pay Ferncliff – Yr. 1	(190,000.00)
		=====
	Balance	1,027,973.21
2026	Fund Accumulates (estimated 8%)	82,237.86
	Pay Ferncliff – Yr. 2	(190,000.00)
	Pay Lilly Match – Yr.1	(100,000.00)
		=====
	Balance	820,211.07
2027	Fund Accumulates (estimated 8%)	65,616.89
	Pay Ferncliff – Yr. 3	(190,000.00)
	Pay Lilly Match – Yr.2	(100,000.00)
		=====
	Balance	595,827.96
2028	Fund Accumulates (estimated 8%)	47,666.24
	Pay Ferncliff – Yr. 4	(190,000.00)
	Pay Lilly Match – Yr.3	(100,000.00)
		=====
	Balance	353,494.20
2029	Fund Accumulates (estimated 8%)	28,279.54
	Pay Lilly Match – Yr. 4	(100,000.00)
		=====
		281,773.74
2030	Fund Accumulates (estimated 8%)	22,541.90
	Pay Lilly Match – Yr. 5	(100,000.00)
		=====
	Balance	204,315.64

Addendum Section D
Report of the Coordinating Team
RE Mike Szabo, Moderator

The following actions were taken at meetings of the Coordinating Team in April and May, 2024.

1. Accepted the names presented by the Committee on Nominations for the Transitional General Presbyter Search Committee and elected the following to serve on the Committee: Katie Flood, Candidate for Ministry, First – Bentonville, Chip Hatcher, MWS, Westminster – Hot Springs, Julie Gillaspay, RE, First – Conway, and David Stricklin, RE, Westover Hills – Little Rock
2. Accepted the name presented by the Committee on Nominations for the Financial Requests Task Force and elected Brian Brock, MWS, Central – Russellville to serve on the Task Force.
3. Accepted the name presented by the Committee on Nominations and elected Robert Lowry, MWS, Westover Hills – Little Rock, to fill the open slot on the Committee on Ministry for the class of 2026.
4. Request was made for the staff of Ministry Architects to offer a second session for input in the visioning/strategic planning work for those who were unable to attend the Visioning Retreat at Ferncliff on April 15. A second session was held on Zoom on April 29.
5. Approved a change in format for the 156th meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas due to the importance of work related to the Strategic Planning and Visioning Process with Ministry Architects. The Coordinating Team approved an “in-person” meeting that would be “live streamed” but without electronic voting and participation. Note: The Coordinating Team revisited this at the following meeting in light of concerns shared, and reaffirmed the decision of the “in-person” meeting.
6. Accepted the invitation from Central Presbyterian Church of Russellville to host the 156th meeting of presbytery. The start time was set at 10:00 am to avoid commissioners needing to have an overnight stay.
7. Concurred with the request of the Mountainburg Presbyterian Church and approved the sale of the church’s manse for a list price of \$179,000.00.
8. Elected RE Ron David, RE Pea Ridge, Mount Vernon to the class of 2024 and Lynn Condra, Fort Smith, First, to the class of 2026 on the Committee on Nominations.
9. Approved In-gathering items of Hygiene kits for NW Arkansas tornado/wind damage.

For Presbytery Action:

The Coordinating Team moves that the presbytery adopt the current draft of the proposed visioning documents, developed in collaboration with Ministry Architects, as a working framework for preliminary implementation between now and our October 2024 presbytery meeting. Between now and the October meeting of presbytery, the Strategic Planning Leadership Team will continue to receive feedback on these documents with the intent of bringing completed documents for approval to the October meeting.

Addendum Section D, Exhibit 1



DRAFT VISION DOCUMENTS

Draft: May 28, 2024

Mission Statement

The Presbytery of Arkansas inspires and connects congregations and their leaders, equips people of every generation to hear and respond to God's call in Jesus Christ, and fosters innovative expressions of ministry in response to the needs of a changing world.

Values:

- **Faith:** We work, serve, and dream in response to the abundant love of God we have experienced in Jesus Christ.
- **Empathy:** We seek first to listen deeply, to understand, and to accompany each other as a supportive community that encourages growth, development, and acts of compassion.
- **Authenticity:** We embrace humble, genuine connection with God and one another, acknowledging that our vulnerabilities and imperfections are not barriers, but opportunities for growth and deeper relationships.
- **Courage:** We recognize systems of oppression in the church and culture, and we take risks faithfully to express God's love to the world.
- **Adaptability:** We remain nimble and willing to change our strategies and structures to address the needs of a changing world with imagination, innovation, and action.
- **Revitalization:** We celebrate and participate in the Holy Spirit's ongoing work of renewal in our communities, our congregations, and our own lives.

THREE-YEAR REVOLVING GOALS

ANNIVERSARY DATE: JUNE 30, 2027 / ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY DATE: JUNE 30, 2025

1. Receiving New Life

2027: At least five congregations have completed a revitalization process sponsored by the presbytery or one of its partners.

- **2025:** A revitalization process for interested churches in the Presbytery of Arkansas has been designed and approved for prototyping.

2. Deepening Financial Health

2027: The presbytery has a clear, written fundraising plan and has received at least \$100,000 in grant funding and other initiatives in the previous year.

- **2025:** A fundraising plan for the presbytery has been drafted and approved.
- **2025:** The presbytery has named a single missional priority for the 2025-2026 program year and has a plan for inviting members of the presbytery to contribute to this cause.

3. Repurposing Property

2027: In the previous year, three properties in the presbytery have been supported by the presbytery to creatively repurpose their properties in ways that increase the churches' mission and contribute to their ongoing financial health.

- **2025:** "Choice point" congregations throughout the presbytery have been identified and conversations have begun with those congregations about the future of their church property.
- **2025:** A first draft of a property opportunity assessment has been drafted and is ready for prototyping with interested churches.
- **2025:** A recommendation has been made about the repurposing or sale of the presbytery office.
- **2025:** A recommendation has been made about the best, next use of the Fayetteville, Crossover property.

4. Building Capacity

2027: Momentum has been built within the presbytery by tending to the creation of fundamental infrastructure needed to execute on the broad range of desired priorities, such that the presbytery will be ready to move into a rhythm of revolving three-year goals and one-year benchmarks.

- **2025:** The presbytery is positioned with the infrastructure necessary for the execution of future priorities, starting with the following results:
 - i. **Small Churches**
 1. The presbytery and the Thriving in Ministry work of the University of the Ozarks have developed shared goals and benchmarks for the presbytery related to rural churches.
 2. Representatives of every church in the presbytery with an average worship attendance under 20 has had at least four conversations in the previous year with a supportive, collaborative representative from the presbytery.
 - ii. **Innovation**
 1. An incubation process for new expressions of ministry has been designed and approved for testing in the presbytery.
 2. Structures for supporting the emergence of new worshipping communities have been implemented.

3. In alignments with the PCUSA 1001 new worshiping communities initiative, the next prospective worshiping communities for the presbytery have been identified.
4. Alternative metrics for ministry, informed by Gil Rendle's, [Doing the Math of Mission: Fruits, Faithfulness and Metrics](#), has been drafted for the presbytery.
5. Clear, written protocols for all available grant funds in the presbytery has been approved and this information is available on the presbytery website.
6. A game plan for launching a young adult leadership corps in the presbytery has been drafted and approved.

iii. Culture Building

1. The stories of all new worshiping communities in the presbytery since 2015 have been compiled, written, and shared with the Presbytery of Arkansas audience.
2. The presbytery has drafted and begun to implement a game plan for diversity and inclusion.
3. Every presbytery meeting in the previous year included the sharing of stories of marvelous work happening throughout the presbytery.
4. A game plan for the sharing of culture-shaping stories in the presbytery has been drafted.
5. A first draft of a presbytery policy for the utilization of the presbytery's endowment and other designated funds has been drafted.
6. A game plan for the presbytery providing supplemental support for churches in paying pension dues has been drafted.

iv. Leadership Cultivation

1. A survey of the variety of pastoral leadership models being utilized in the presbytery has been completed and a clear picture of how many churches are using which non-traditional models of leadership is now available.
2. A pipeline design for leadership development from high school through senior citizens has been drafted for the presbytery.
3. After listening sessions with pastors, ministry staff, and church officers, at least three initiatives have been identified for implementation in 2025 to deepen their spiritual and emotional health.