

159th Meeting of The Presbytery of Arkansas

May 31, 2025
Ferncliff Camp & Conference Center



MAIN PACKET

159th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas
Saturday, May 31, 2025
Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center
Little Rock, Arkansas



159th Stated Meeting

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

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

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

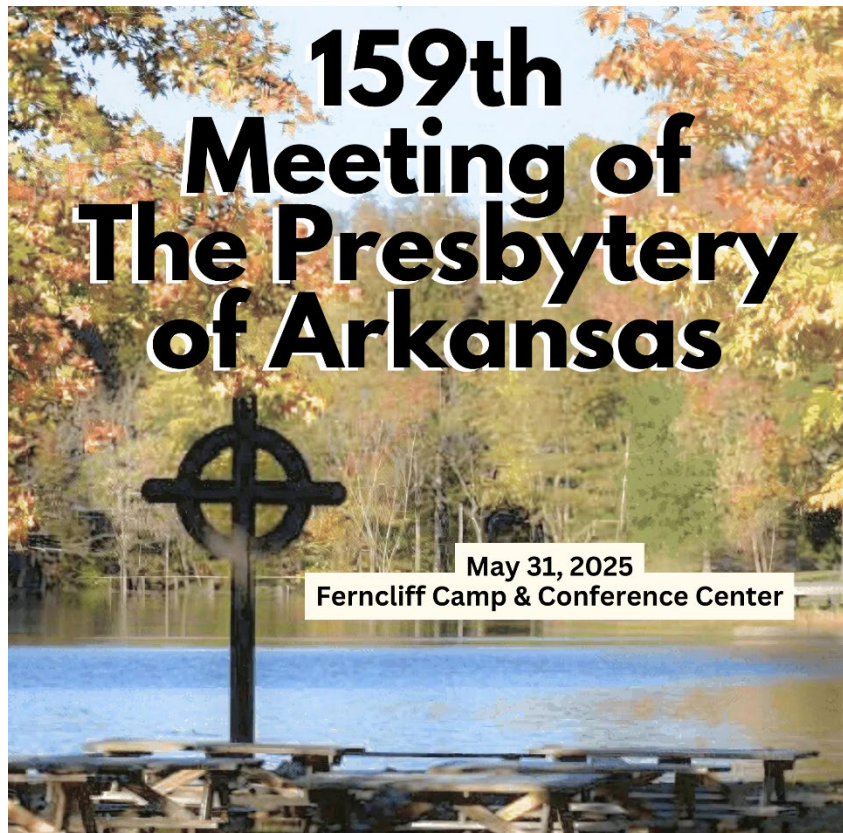
Passphrase: **presbyarkconnect**

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>

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2025 Meetings

160th Stated Meeting
October 17-18, 2025
TBA

*All dates are tentative and subject to change

Meeting Schedule

Saturday, May 31, 2025

8:30 am	Registration and Check-In Evergreen Hall
9:00 am	Commissioner Training
9:30 am	159 th Stated Meeting Called to Order
9:35 am	Business of the Presbytery
10:00 am	Worship with offering to benefit Youth Summer Trips Scholarships
11:45 am	Order of the Day-Group Picture Outside
12:00 pm	Lunch in Evergreen Hall
1:00 pm	Business of the Presbytery Continues
2:30 pm	Adjournment

Presbytery Leadership

Moderator MWS Judi McMillan
Vice-Moderator RE Jane Webb
Moderator of CT RE Jane Webb
Interim General Presbyter MWS Jim Poinsett
Stated Clerk MWS Blake Brinegar
Presbytery Connector RE Julie Price
Youth and Young Adult Developer Dr. Sarah Leer
Presbytery Administrator Kimberly Palmer

Moderator of Administration RE Hank Breshears
Moderator of COM MWS Leslie Roper
Moderator of CPM MWS Elizabeth Brinegar
Moderator of Subcommittee on Disaster
Preparedness and Response RE Ray Stephens
Co-Moderators of the Subcommittee on Honduran
Ministry
RE Leigh Woodruff & MWS Jesse Gonzalez
Moderator of Mission of the Church
CRE Peg Falls-Corbitt
Co-Moderators of the Subcommittee Resource Team
MWS Tasha Blackburn and Kristi Button CCE
Moderator of Nominations MWS Robert Lowry
Co-Moderators of Presbyterian Women
RE Patty Minga and RE Cathy Rogers
Moderator of Youth, Young Adults, and Campus
Ministry
MWS Maggie Alsup



159th Stated Meeting
Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center
Little Rock, Arkansas

Docket

Saturday, May 31, 2025

8:30am	Registration	Evergreen Hall
9:00am	Commissioner Training (for those who want to attend)	MWS Blake Brinegar, Stated Clerk
9:30am	Call the Meeting to Order Welcome, lighting of the Christ candle, Opening Prayer and Land Acknowledgement Welcome from Ferncliff Camp	MWS Judi McMillan, Moderator Joel Gill, Ferncliff Executive Director
9:40am	Consent Agenda & Report of the Stated Clerk	MWS Blake Brinegar, Stated Clerk
9:45am	Queer Collective	MWS Marie Mainard O'Connell
9:55am	Report of the Nominating Committee	MWS Robert Lowry, Moderator
10:00am	Worship Commissioning of Camp Counselors & Dedication of Evergreen Hall Communion and Offering to benefit Youth Summer Trips Scholarships	Rev. Mitch Miller, Synod Exec & Stated Clerk
11:45am	Order of Day—Picture outside	
12:00pm	Lunch	Evergreen Hall
1:00pm	Strategic Planning Leadership Team	MWS Jocelyn Wildwright, Moderator
1:30pm	Report of the General Presbyter	MWS Jim Poinsett
1:35pm	Report of the Mission of the Church Honduran Ministry Sub-committee Resource Team New Website Faith Formation Resource Grant	CRE Peg Falls-Corbitt
2:00pm	Report of the Coordinating Team	RE Jane Webb, Moderator
2:10pm	Committee on Ministry	MWS Leslie Roper, Moderator
2:30pm	Closing Prayer	

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 158th Meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas, March 6, 2025, held at Central Presbyterian Church in Russellville, Arkansas.
3. Motion to enroll corresponding members with voice but no vote.
4. Motion to grant privilege of the floor (voice) to those registered, but without vote.
5. Motion for the stated clerk to record those absent and those present and include those names and numbers in the minutes, serving as what the Presbytery of Arkansas has historically termed the “Leaves of Absence Committee

Section B
Report of the Stated Clerk
MWS Blake Brinegar

1. Minutes for 2023 have been reviewed without exception.
2. Attended a meeting in Denver regarding an update on the Board of Pensions.
3. Assisted congregations with CLC issues.
4. Assisted congregations with record keeping questions and concerns.
5. Continued in assisting another presbytery with a judicial case.
6. Completed the Minister Summary and Church Summary on behalf of the Presbytery. This is a part of the Annual Statistical Reporting.
7. Attended a Stated Clerks gathering in Dallas pertaining to Judicial Process.
8. Addressed questions about selling church property.
9. The next printed edition of the Book of Order will be delayed as at least one amendment has not been resolved yet. PDF versions of the Book of Order will be available in early July.
10. A change has been made to the EAP of the Board of Pensions. No longer will there be 6 free counseling sessions per issue, just 6 free counseling sessions per year.
11. Also don't forget about the short-term disability we have through the Board of Pensions.
12. Don't forget to send in your compensation form for 2025.

Section C
Report from Committee on Nominations
MWS Robert Lowry
Moderator of Committee

Report to the Presbytery
May 31, 2025

For Information

1. As instructed by the Presbytery, the committee gave a slate of candidates to the Coordinating Team for the new Innovation and Incubation Ministry. The slate was approved. One position remains unfilled, and nominations are welcome. Because no number for the committee's membership was included in the motion, the committee proceeded with three equal classes of three members.
2. The committee will begin accepting nominations today for all presbytery positions. To ease the nominations process, we will transition to an online nomination form available on the presbytery website, in the presbytery newsletter, and on the presbytery Facebook page. If you have difficulty accessing the form or finding the correct link, please email committee moderator TE Robert Lowry (robertwilliamlowry@gmail.com) for a link. The same form may be used for self-nominations.

Section D

Report of the Committee on the Mission of the Church

May 2025

CRE Peg Falls-Corbitt Moderator

2025 Members in addition to the moderator are: Jan Butin, Allison Richardson, LaWanda Harris, Cindy Saul, Carla Taylor, Lindy Vogado, and David Gill, with Renee Nestor as the Presbyterian Women representative. Julie Price, Presbytery Connector is ex officio.

Mission Initiative Grants

In the April round of grant proposals a total of \$7535.44 was granted to six churches: First Alma; First Bentonville; First Dardanelle; First Jacksonville; Mt. Comfort; Wynne. Funds remaining to be distributed in July and October rounds: \$12,466.

The Committee asks that churches wishing to apply for future Mission Initiative Grants follow the guidelines in providing information to the committee. The Committee discussed other information that would be helpful and anticipates making changes in the near future.

Next Due Date July 15

Please see the next page for the flyer with guidelines and instructions for applying.

THE PURPOSE of funding for the Mission Initiative Grant portion of the Mission of the Church Committee's budget is to assist congregations and ministries of the Presbytery of Arkansas in proclaiming the love of Christ beyond their walls; efforts that extend the power of congregations and ministries to serve the most vulnerable in our society are particularly welcome.

Additional Mission Grant Funds

There are limited funds for scholarships for mission trips and international Mission Initiative. The Committee has a subcommittee working to develop an application form for these funds. Until then, please send your inquiries or proposals to the moderator Peg Falls-Corbitt at fallscorbitt@hendrix.edu.

Additional Mission Budget Support

Funds from the MOC budget continue to support the **Ferncliff, Stewpot, the Presbyterian Pilgrimage, Presbyterian Women Retreat travel, the Presbyterian Village, both Lyon College and University of the Ozarks.**

Presbytery Educational Ministry Resourcing.

Funds for Christian Education Programming are also part of the Mission of the Church budget. At its April meeting the MOC reviewed and gave its blessing to the Resource Team's form for **Faith Formation Grants**. **Julie Price** will report for the Resource Team.

Section D, Attachment 1

Presbytery of Arkansas & The Mission of the Church Committee

GUIDELINES FOR FUNDING FROM MISSION INITIATIVE GRANTS BUDGET



THE PURPOSE of funding for the Mission Initiative Grant portion of the Mission of the Church Committee's budget is to assist congregations and ministries of the Presbytery of Arkansas in proclaiming the love of Christ beyond their walls; efforts that extend the power of congregations and ministries to serve the most vulnerable in our society are particularly welcome.

Application Process

1. The Mission of the Church Committee receives and acts on grant proposals three times a year. The three submission deadlines are as follows: April 15, July 15, and October 15.
2. A request to the Mission of the Church Ministry Area should include a written proposal, no longer than two pages, detailing:
 - a. the amount of funding requested;
 - b. the need or needs the Session or Ministry wants to address with that funding;
 - c. a brief description of specific goals of the project and how the funds requested will be used;
 - d. a copy of the budget for the project;
 - e. total estimated costs and other sources of funding that are committed or have been applied for;
 - f. the date the Session *or* Ministry approved the request,
 - g. Session's *or* Ministry's designated contact for the project, including name, address, telephone number and email address;
 - h. name of Treasurer or other administrative official to whose attention the check should be sent.
3. To submit your request:
 - i. Send the written proposal as an **attachment to an email** (not in the body of the email) to Peg Falls-Corbitt (fallsorbitt@hendrix.edu), Moderator of Mission Committee, AR Presbytery;
 - ii. **Include the church or ministry name in the title of the attachment and subject line of email.** For example: [church name]. Mission Initiative Grant 2025

Other Details:

4. The Committee's budget is limited, and **requests of more than \$1,500 are generally not approved.** However, there may be occasions when a larger amount could be granted:
 - a. if the applicant can make a case for it, and
 - b. if they have made a good-faith effort to secure other funds but are still short of their goal.
5. The Mission of the Church Committee will give priority to requests where:
 - a. the applicant is addressing this need with their own gift or gifts;
 - b. other sources of funding have been secured or are being sought.

The Committee reviews and acts on applications within 30 days of each deadline. *Revised 1/23/25*

Section D, Attachment 2

Sub-Committee on Honduran Ministry

May 2025

Honduras AR Presbytery Mission Team Returns with Renewed Spirit and Stronger Bonds

The Arkansas Presbytery Mission Team has returned safely from its 9th mission trip to Honduras, full of gratitude, stories, and strengthened friendships. From March 22–29, 2025, twenty dedicated participants representing churches across Arkansas and students from three colleges joined hands with our Honduran partners to continue our shared ministry grounded in faith, service, and love.



The team spent much of the week at Bethel Presbyterian Church in Guaimaca, where they tackled renovation projects alongside local church members. Funds were sent ahead to replace an aging, damaged roof just before the team arrived. The team's work included cleaning the worksite, building a block wall, and interior painting—all aimed at creating a safer and more welcoming environment for ministry. But even more meaningful than the physical work was the time spent in community: sharing meals, praying together, worshipping, singing, and laughing with old and new friends.

The group worshiped with the congregation at the Peña de Horeb Church in Tegucigalpa on their first Sunday. After, the two Presbyteries celebrated their covenant relationship with a signing ceremony. Later, they visited Cristo del Picacho Park to enjoy the night views of the capital and time together. The team also traveled to Puerto Grande as a day trip, which offered time to visit a more rural church, share a meal, and listen to their desires for future building and program expansion.

One of the trip highlights was visiting a local school for a morning. The students were instantly thrilled to see a new soccer ball and to welcome new playmates as they ran around the courtyard. Team members were divided into small groups in classrooms across the school, participating in Music, English, Home EC, Computer Class, and Library. Groups of excited children surrounded the team members, requesting signatures as if they were celebrities. Sheer joy on the children's faces was a powerful reminder that this continued relationship and small gestures can carry deep meaning for all involved. The school leadership and teachers were overjoyed at the visit.



The team stayed at Villa Gracia—a conference center run by the Presbyterian Women of Honduras, which once again offered a warm and nurturing home base. From the early morning debriefs and mealtime devotionals, Villa Gracia became a sacred space for reflection and connection.



by the offered a breakfasts to became a

Another special highlight of this trip was a demonstration award-winning tree-to-bar chocolate company, Atucún. The week ended with a day of browsing souvenir shopping in Valle de Ángeles while Revs. Jesse Gonzales and Phil Butin visited churches of El Horno, El Sute, and El Inherito, further strengthening pastoral ties. The morning before departing, the team had a brief tour of Comayagua and saw the oldest working clock in the world.

We also said goodbye to Rev. Dori Hjalmarson, as PCUSA eliminated co-worker positions and closed the World Mission offices, citing financial constraints. Dori lived in Honduras for nearly 8 years and remains a dear friend to many. We wish her the best with God's plan for her future.



all foreign financial dear friend

We thank everyone who supported this mission through prayer, gifts, and encouragement. Your generosity made it possible to extend Christ's love and shared Sun, not just through tools and materials, but through presence, partnership, purpose. Together, we raised over \$26,000 through the Synod of the Presbyterian of Arkansas, churches, and individuals. These funds supported trip scholarships for team members, two guitars gifted to Villa Gracia visiting mission groups, a dozen Sunday School material kits, and 180 Bibles.

financial Christ's love and shared Sun, supported for use by all Children's

Next trip is planned for Spring Break 2026. As we look to the future of our vibrant connection with the Presbytery of Honduras, we give thanks for the Spirit moving through relationships and every block laid. May the seeds planted continue to grow in faith, hope, and love.

[AR Presbytery Honduras Mission Trip March 2025 Movie](#)

Respectfully Submitted by: Leigh Woodruff

Section D, Attachment 3

Resource Team Sub-Committee



Faith Formation Resource Grant

Purpose

To provide seed money to support Presbytery of Arkansas congregations and ministries in creatively engaging their faith community in practices of faith formation, Christian education, spiritual growth, and discipleship.

Eligibility Criteria

To apply for the Faith Formation Resource Grant, applicants must:

- Be a congregation or validated ministry within the Presbytery of Arkansas.
- Propose a project that supports faith formation and spiritual growth.

Note: Individuals are not eligible to apply for this grant.

Grant Amount

Grants will be awarded up to a maximum of \$500.

Application Process

Submit a letter that includes:

1. Name of the church or validated ministry.
2. Contact person, their phone number, email address, and role in church ministry
3. Brief description of the proposed project.
4. Objectives and goals.
5. Target audience and desired outcomes.
6. List of items to be purchased with the funds and their approximate costs.
7. Total estimated budget.
8. Name of the church or ministry treasurer to whom the check should be mailed, along with the mailing address.

Submissions must be received by June 30.

To Submit Your Application

1. Send your written proposal as an attachment to an email (not in the body of the email) to the moderator of the Resource team, Tasha Blackburn at tasha@lpres.org
2. Include the church or ministry name in the title of the attachment and subject line of the email. For example: [church name]. Faith Formation Resource Grant 2025

Submissions must be received by June 30.

Review and Selection

Applications will be reviewed by the Resource Team based on the following criteria:

3. Innovation and creativity in faith formation.
4. Potential for impact and adaptability.
5. Feasibility and sustainability of the project.
6. Priority given to less financially able churches or ministries.

Grant recipients will be notified by August 1.

Reporting Requirements

Grant recipients should:

Submit a brief final report (one paragraph) after project completion, including:

- Summary of outcomes.
- Evaluation of impact.
- Photos of the project.

Note: Failure to comply with reporting requirements may impact eligibility for future grants.

We look forward to partnering with you in creating new programs and ministries that inspire faith and discipleship within the Presbytery of Arkansas.

Section E

Report from Coordinating Team

Moderator RE Jane Webb

1. Accepted the resignation of MWS Emmett Powers as Moderator of the Coordinating Team and elected RE Jane Webb to chair the Coordinating Team for this year.
2. Heard from RE Tom Verdery, Presbytery Treasurer, about the potential impacts the tariffs would have on the presbytery's investments.
3. Approved the request of First Presbyterian Church, Newport, to sell their education building for \$42,500 and close on April 21, 2025.
4. Approved extending the contract with Ministry Architects for one year. The contract will start no more than 30 days before a two-day summit is scheduled, with the understanding work will continue on the strategic plan in anticipation and preparation of the retreat.
5. Discussed upcoming presbytery meetings, with a request for a theological conversation to occur at the October Meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas.

6. In accordance with the Presbytery Manual, filled vacant spots on the Nominating Committee of the Presbytery. Those individuals are:

Class of 2027

RE Loretta Mansell, Springdale

RE Geoff Ryken, Conway

MWS Sara Anne Berger, Member at Large

Class of 2028

RE David Clark, Heber Springs

MWS Robert Lowry, Westover Hills, LR

MWS Becky Purcell, Jonesboro

For Action:

1. **Motion to recommend approval of the renewal of the Synod Preparedness and Disaster Relief Covenant, increasing the presbytery's commitment to \$8,500 a year. The covenant will run from 2026-2030. See Section E, Attachment 1.**
2. **Motion to approve the covenant with Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center. See Section E, Attachment 2.**

3. **Motion to concur with the action taken by the Coordinating Team in naming the Innovation and Incubation Committee consisting of:**

Class of 2026

MWS Doug Cartwright, Harrison

RE Richard Freer, Jonesboro

Class of 2027

MWS John Arnold, Rogers

RE Melanie Gibson, Little Rock, Grace

RE Kathy Middleton, Greenwood, Good Shepherd

Class of 2028

RE Tamara Boggs, North Little Rock, Park Hill

MWS Shea McGinnis, Member at Large

RE HK Stewart, Little Rock, Westover Hills

(Action was taken by the Coordinating Team so the committee could begin their work, as provided in the Presbytery Manual. But it does require the concurrence of the presbytery.)

Section E, Attachment 1



March 28, 2025

Presbytery of Arkansas
9221 N Rodney Parham Rd
Little Rock, AR 72227

Dear Rev. Jim Poinsett,

Since 2022, the Presbytery of Arkansas has provided a \$7,500 annual contribution to the Synod Partnership for Disaster Recovery. Thank you for your generous support and engagement in this partnership as together we seek to serve Christ by connecting, equipping, and empowering communities adversely affected by crises and catastrophic events across Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas and beyond.

As we enter the final year of the SPDR pilot program, we are asking each presbytery to consider the following:

- Will you renew the SPDR Covenant for an additional five years (2026-2030)?
- Will you continue providing \$7,500 annually in support of SPDR through 2030?
- Will you consider increasing your presbytery's annual gift to SPDR? If you increase your annual support beyond \$7,500, the Synod of the Sun will provide matching funds to SPDR up to \$20,000 per year over the next five years.

If your presbytery's Council would like to hear more about the impact of SPDR, please reach out to Rev. Richard Williams to schedule a time with the SPDR Leadership Group. **We request that your decision regarding the SPDR Covenant renewal and funding be made by August 1st.**

Reflecting on the ministry of SPDR, the Rev. Dr. Jim Kirk, PDA's Associate for Disaster Response (U.S.) says, "There is no doubt in my mind that SPDR has been an overwhelming success.... SPDR is helping Presbyterians to more faithfully witness to the healing love of Christ in impacted communities throughout the Synod of the Sun." Thank you for your partnership in this important ministry.

Grace and peace,

Kathy Lee-Cornell

Director, Synod Partnership for Disaster Recovery

April 8, 2025

Rev. Emmett Powers, Moderator
Coordinating Committee
Arkansas Presbytery

Dear Rev. Powers and Committee,

It is my privilege to recommend the renewal of the Synod Partnership for Disaster Recovery (SPDR) to Arkansas Presbytery. As the Presbytery's Liaison to the SPDR, I have been on the ground floor of this pilot program and have seen it grow into a cohesive group of individuals who freely share ideas, resources and care for their brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the Synod of the Sun. Arkansas Presbytery has benefited directly from its participation by receiving a \$10,000 gift from the Synod to help with the 2024 northwest Arkansas tornado outbreak. Other tangible benefits include the exchange of information through our quarterly zoom conference calls and the monthly newsletters that Synod Partnership Director Kathy Lee-Cornell publishes. Rev. Jim Kirk, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Associate for Disaster Response (US), has said that regional partnerships such as SPDR, are the future of disaster recovery for PDA. I have provided a description and value document for your committee. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Grace and peace,

Ray Stephens, RE
Westover Hills Presbyterian Church
SPDR Liaison and member of the Presbytery's Disaster Preparedness and Response Subcommittee

Section E, Attachment 2

COVENANT BETWEEN FERNCLIFF CAMP AND CONFERENCE CENTER AND THE PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS APPENDIX B

(revised May 2025)

Nature of the Covenant

The covenant is a traditional document honored by people of faith. It represents a continuing agreement between Ferncliff and the Presbytery of Arkansas to affirm and support one another as distinct entities yoked in mutual mission. This covenant articulates commitments from and to each organization and seeks to perpetuate the good relations currently enjoyed. It is the hope of both parties that this document of faith will serve to bring even greater effectiveness and esteem to a positive and growing relationship.

Agencies in the Covenant

The agencies involved in this covenant agreement are the Presbytery of Arkansas PC(USA) and Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center represented by the Ferncliff Board of Directors.

Mission of the Agencies

The mission of the Presbytery of Arkansas is “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”.

The mission of Ferncliff is “As an expression of God’s love, we welcome people into a life of caring for Creation, others and themselves.”

History of the Relationship

In 1937 Ferncliff was purchased by a group of Presbyterians ‘for the use and benefit of the Presbyterian Church in Arkansas.’ Through the years Ferncliff has gradually developed into a camp and conference facility of service to Presbyterians in ministry and mission. With 1,209 acres, Ferncliff is one of the largest sites among the denomination’s camps in the US. In 1976 Presbytery voted to transfer title to the Presbyterian Foundation of Arkansas. In 2023 a long-term lease (100 years) was renewed with the Foundation and Ferncliff’s Board.

Governance

The reorganized Ferncliff Board of Directors, a 501(c)3 non-profit, had their first meeting in 1985. Ferncliff's Board normally has 18 members in three classes. The Board elects its members, paying attention to diversity and representation, and with an eye to bringing together the gifts and talents to effectively manage such a significant asset and diverse program. New members are elected in concurrence with the Presbytery of Arkansas via an annual consent agenda at a Presbytery meeting. At least one member of the Ferncliff Board shall also be serving concurrently as a member of the Board of the Presbyterian Foundation of Arkansas that holds title to the Ferncliff property. The General Presbyter is an ex officio member with vote. Ferncliff's minutes are sent to the General Presbyter who shares them with the Coordinating Team.

Commitments to One Another In order to nourish this covenant, there is a mutual commitment to active and open communication.

Presbytery's Commitment to Ferncliff

1. The Presbytery understands that Ferncliff, like virtually all Presbyterian camps and conference centers, needs the financial support of the Presbytery, its churches and laypersons. Facilities, staffing and programs at Ferncliff will be considered among the priorities in the Presbytery annual budget, with appropriate lead time given if there are any significant changes with their annual budget.
2. The Presbytery and its professional staff will actively encourage and promote the use of Ferncliff by its churches, committees, adults and youth. In selecting locations for camps, conferences, retreats and meetings, the Presbytery will look to give preference to Ferncliff while maintaining the need for responsible financial stewardship and constituency concerns. This covenant document will be shared with new ministers and Christian Educators in their orientation to the Presbytery.
3. The Presbytery commits itself to prayer and spiritual support for the staff and programs of Ferncliff.
4. While Ferncliff is a host site for events, it is also a valued partner in mission and the Presbytery commits itself to considering Ferncliff in strategic plans and visioning.

Ferncliff's Commitment to the Presbytery

1. Ferncliff commits to viewing the Presbytery (its churches, committees, laypeople, educators, ministers) as a critical constituency. In scheduling facilities, setting rates and selecting programs, Ferncliff will look to give preference to Presbyterians while balancing the need for financial sustainability, ecumenical relations and mission opportunities.
2. Ferncliff will seek to be a good steward of those material and natural resources entrusted to it. It will aim to be transparent in disclosing its finances and all decisions with regular reports to Presbytery and minutes available on request.

3. Ferncliff will work collaboratively with Presbytery, committees, staff and church professionals. Among services presently offered are one free weekend or two free nights annually to all ministers and Christian Education professionals for rest and relaxation; a pool of scholarship funds for campers needing financial assistance; a reduced rate to congregations of the presbytery, and to the presbytery and its committees; complimentary rooms for Presbyterians needing short term respite accommodations or attending to family members in hospitals, when space is available.

4. Ferncliff will work to honor the denominational commitment to issues such as diversity, inclusiveness, peacemaking, sound ecological principles and social justice.

5. Ferncliff is committed to connectionism among other camps and conference centers. It will continue as an active participant in the Presbyterian Camp and Conference Center Association (PCCCA) and will meet the accreditation standards of the American Camp Association

Schedule for Reviewing the Covenant

The Presbytery of Arkansas General Presbyter and Stated Clerk will meet with and the Ferncliff Executive Director and at least one of their Board of Directors no less often than every five years to review this covenant and make recommendations concerning the reformation of the covenant relationship. Additional members of both organizations are also welcome to participate in these covenant reviews.

Date:

Ferncliff Camp & Conference Center

Date:

Presbytery of Arkansas

Section F
Report from Committee on Ministry
MWS Leslie Roper
Moderator of Committee

Presbytery report

For information:

1. Permission was given for RE Ken Coker to preside at the Lord's Table on July 13th at Central Presbyterian Church in Russellville.
2. Permission was given for CRE Kelly Pearson to reside at the Lord's Table at any church without the bounds of the Presbytery for the remainder of 2025.
3. The Administrative Commission for First, Little Rock, first formed in 2016, was dismissed with the thanks of the Presbytery. Their final report is included (See Section F, Attachment 1)
4. The committee approved a renewal of the covenant between Kirk in the Pines Presbyterian Church, Hot Springs Village and Rev. Randy Hyde. (See Section F, Attachment 2)
5. The committee approved the use of the free video resources from Practical Resources for Churches to fulfill a session's Boundary Training Requirement. The link to those resources may be found in the most recent Presbytery Update.
6. Approved the following Administrative Commission and offering recipient for the installation of the Rev. Dr. Jim Freeman as pastor of First, Batesville. The service took place Sunday, May 18, 2025 at 4pm.
RE Mike Szabo of First, Searcy, to Moderate the Commission and ask the constitutional questions
MWS David Reed (HR) of First, Newport
MWS Ruskin Falls of Pulaski Heights, Little Rock to preach
RE Gerri Coleman of First, Batesville
MWS Sara Anne Berger of the Town Square Collaborative, University of the Ozarks
RE David Stricklin of Westover Hills, Little Rock to charge the pastor
MWS Rebecca Spooner Barber, Wellspring Renewal Center, Little Rock to charge the congregation
RE Barbara Callaway of Broadmoor Presbyterian, Shreveport, LA to sit with the commission
Offering to go to Solar Under the Sun.
7. Appointed CRE Ed Wilkinson moderator of the session at First, Van Buren for the period of June through September of 2025.

For Action:

1. **Motion to dismiss the Administrative Committee to Install the Rev. Dr. Jim Freeman as pastor at First, Batesville.**
2. **Necrology Report.**

Section F, Attachment 1
Administrative Commission Report
First Presbyterian Little Rock
January 10, 2025

The Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Little Rock was initiated in September of 2016. Since that time the AC has worked with, supported, and been available to the session and pastor. As our previous reports have described, First LR has been through a lot over these years. It took several plus years for the congregation to work through the types of concerns that caused the AC to be formed, including significant interpersonal divisions within the congregation, which over time have been resolved. The impact of Covid hit First LR as it did every congregation, but the impact on worship attendance was important and continues to be a real concern.

The congregation had been wrestling with financial reporting and its spending habits since the inception of the AC. John Giessmann, a member and recent session member has undertaken to handle the congregation's finances and issue regular reports on the same, which is a long needed and extremely beneficial service being rendered. At this time the congregation is breaking even financially.

Stephen Moody continues as the pastor, and transitioned to a part time basis in 2023 in view of the financial condition of the congregation. Over the years Stephen, who also is quite experienced in construction, which he now pursues part time also, has spent countless hours restoring and updating various aspects of some of the primary spaces being used.

During the 2022-2023 time period, as they considered the situation of the congregation, the session had the benefit of engaging with Paul Grier and Joseph Moore of the Presbyterian Foundation, who are gifted and experienced in working with congregations on assessing their possible futures and faithful responses.

In 2024 the Stewpot ministry made a transition to a new location. First LR was the location for the Stewpot for almost 50 years, with a ministry of feeding whoever came for food at lunch during the work week. Stewpot is now at the Salvation Army location in downtown Little Rock, with bigger and better facilities and a good relationship with the Salvation Army.

The 1001 worshipping community, First Church, continues to have Sunday worship services at the congregation.

The session now has six members, and meets after worship on the second Sunday of each month. While attendance has not been what is wanted, the congregation now is a harmonious group who are continuing to worship and have some activities, even with the challenges faced by every congregation regarding how to attract and engage new members.

First LR is an historic congregation and facility. It was formed in 1828, meaning that it will be 200 years old in 2028. Its sanctuary and accompanying facilities were built in 1921, and the additional education building completed in 1957. The adjoining parking area is part of the one-half of a city block owned by the congregation. The work by Stephen Moody on these facilities as well as the handling of some insurance issues by him have been important and helpful. At the same time, the large facilities and their nature present continuing challenges regarding maintenance, insurance costs, and related considerations.

The AC believes that it has fulfilled its role and no longer is needed as an AC. The AC members would be available for information and consultation, and over the last year or so have assumed that posture with Stephen and the session, letting them know that we wish to be supportive in any way that we can.

While aware that First LR is not at all alone in continuing to try to maintain and grow as a congregation, with the ongoing responsibility for significant facilities, we believe that the Presbytery needs to continue to have in mind and be aware of this challenging dynamic which now is playing out in downtown Little Rock.

Our original group included David Dyer and Debbie Freeman as well as those remaining, Ruth Hamilton, Mike Szabo, Bill Bailey, and me. Stewart Smith was involved throughout this time, serving as Moderator of the session of First Little Rock for most of the years, which was an important contribution.

Cyril Hollingsworth, Chair

Section F, Attachment 2

A Covenant of Pastoral Relationship

Rev. Randy Hyde and Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines, Hot Springs Village, AR

1. This agreement is by and between Rev. Randy Hyde and the Session of the Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines, the terms of which are subject to the approval of the Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery of Arkansas. It establishes a temporary pastoral relationship between the two parties subject to the requirements of G-2.0504(b) of the Book of Church Order of the PCUSA and commences on June 1st, 2024.
2. The designated title for the positions shall be “Transitional Pastor,” and the terms of service shall be for twelve months, renewable upon the mutual consent of both parties and subject to the approval of the presbytery. Either party may terminate the agreement for any reason upon thirty days’ written notice to the other party.
3. Rev. Hyde agrees to perform various duties typical of a pastor serving the needs of a congregation, the weekly hours of which are not to exceed 24 hours, as follows:
 - preparing for and leading worship, including funeral and special services;
 - visiting the sick and providing pastoral care for the congregation;
 - leading 2 or 3 short Christian Education studies during the year;
 - participating in fellowship programs to the extent possible;
 - facilitating the Session in planning and executing a Mission Study;
 - moderating meetings of the Session and of the congregation;
 - serving as a resource for various committees;
 - supervising the church staff.
4. The Session of the Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines agrees to pay to Rev. Hyde the following annual compensation payable in even monthly installments:

Salary	\$43,200
Housing	\$21,800
Automobile Allowance	up to \$2000 (reimbursement as used)
Continuing Education	up to \$1000 (reimbursement as used)
Vacation and Study Leave	Four Weeks

Rev. Randy Hyde

Date: _____

Ruth Hamilton, Clerk of Session

Date: _____

For the Committee on Ministry

Date: _____

Motion: That the Covenant Pastoral Relationship between Rev. Randy Hyde and the Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines whereby he serves as Transitional Pastor for the Kirk be extended until such time as the Kirk can secure a permanent pastor, unless the parties to this Covenant mutually decide to terminate the relationship at some earlier time.

Motion: that the Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines will increase Rev. Hyde's Salary and Housing during this extension by 3.5%. All other terms and conditions of the original Covenant will remain unchanged.

Extension: "A Covenant of Pastoral Relationship between Rev. Randy Hyde and Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines, Hot Springs Village, AR"

The parties to the above-mentioned Covenant Relationship for a "Transitional Pastor" have found it to be mutually beneficial as they work cooperatively during the absence of a full-time pastor at the Kirk in the Pines Presbyterian Church and desire to continue that relationship until a replacement Pastor is available. Either party may terminate this agreement for any reason upon thirty days' written notice to the other party.

All terms of the original agreement commencing on June 1, 2024, are applicable for the extension period with the exception that Rev. Hyde will be given a 3.5% Salary and Housing increase for the extension period.

Rev. Randy Hyde

Date: _____

Ruth Hamilton, Clerk of Session

Date: _____

For the Committee on Ministry

Date: _____

Section F, Attachment 3
Committee on Ministry
Necrology

In Memoriam MWS Rev. Burle Dean Mattingly (1937–2025)

*“Blessed are those who die in the Lord . . . they will rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them.” —
Revelation 14:13*

With gratitude for a life well lived, Rev. Burle Dean Mattingly entered the Church Triumphant on April 11, 2025. A fourth-generation Presbyterian minister and proud Marine veteran, Burle was ordained by this Presbytery in 1970. Over the decades, he served several congregations including Horseshoe Bend, Mountainburg, Mena, and Norman, before being Honorably Retired in 2004.

Rev. Mattingly was known for his deep faith and genuine care for others. Those who knew him often praised his attentive and compassionate way of noticing those who stood alone in a crowd and helping them feel included—a consistent hallmark of his ministry.

Rev. Mattingly was laid to rest with military honors at Fort Smith National Cemetery. We give thanks for his witness and service, and we hold his loved ones in prayer.

Section G
Report from Committee on Preparation for Ministry
MWS Elizabeth Brinegar
Moderator of Committee

On May 3, 2025 the Committee on Preparation for Ministry Met and did the following:

7. Approved Taylor Kronberg for Inquirer Status. Taylor is a member and staff member of First Presbyterian, Fort Smith.
8. Met with several of our CRE candidates for routine check-ins.
9. Met with two of the faculty members at Dubuque Theological Seminary with whom we discussed the CRE education program and continuing education opportunities (including how to transition credit hours from CRE to MDiv).

Currently under care of the Presbytery:

MDiv inquirers & candidates: 7

CRE candidates: 7

*At our next meeting, I expect to welcome one more CRE candidate.

Ongoing work: Evaluating and updating the CRE process and final examination.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Elizabeth Brinegar, Moderator

Section H

Report from Youth, Young Adult, and College Ministry Moderator MWS Margaret Alsup

College Ministry Updates:

Lyon College—With the support of the presbytery we were able to host our Sabbath Scholars Retreat this spring. It was a time to gather and practice sabbath. It is the second year we have hosted this retreat and received support from the presbytery. Students are grateful to the presbytery for helping fund this much needed program and retreat. We also received funds to help with our food pantry that continues to serve and expand services for our students. Due to the current economy and cost of college, the pantry has been visited more and we are serving a larger population than our previous year. We were disappointed we were unable to host the presbytery this spring, but we look forward to doing so in the future.

United Campus Ministry— This spring, United Campus Ministry launched seven graduates and one transfer student into the world. While a few students are still finalizing their post-graduation plans, we have students pursuing graduate school, seminary, military service, human services, corporate work, environmental science, nursing, and journalism. This semester we participated in worship leadership in Fayetteville and Bella Vista. We participated in student led evening prayer and had student-initiated gatherings at a local restaurant patio. We had eight students participate in our spring fundraiser where we pivoted the activity to hiking, something these students enjoy more than biking. This fundraiser is critical to our planning for wonderful opportunities in the fall and we continue to encourage participation through June.

University of the Ozarks— Spiritual Life at U of O continues to provide faith formation opportunities for students in a myriad of ways. A few highlights of the year were: The launch of a two year, grant-funded internship program for students to cultivate leadership in church communities. This year, 3 students participated serving two different local congregations (a Methodist and a non-denominational) to see how each church functions as a church and how they engage the local community. Students were able to serve both congregations to compare and contrast leadership style and approaches both practically and theologically and discern where each student's sense of call may be in serving the Church. Second, thanks to financial support from the Presbytery of Arkansas and a grant from the Synod of the Sun, 13 students were able to travel during spring break to El Paso, Texas and Ciudad Juarez, Mexico for a border encounter. Students learning the history, political, and local dynamics of the border along with engaging with migrants at a shelter in Juarez. Throughout the week, students were overwhelmed by the commitment of the Churches in Juarez caring for migrants, found personal connections to their own stories, and discerned ways to help share the stories from the border with those in their own communities. Third, the U of O was thrilled to host Presbyterian Pastor and current Chaplain for the United States House of Representatives the Rev. Dr. Margaret Kibben for our annual Farmer Lecture. We continue to look for pastors to participate in our Struthers Pastoral Study Leave program - an all-expense paid week of self-guided study leave on campus. We are looking for applicants to come in the fall of 2025, applications are due by June 30. You can contact Chaplain Jeremy Wilhelmi for an application and more information. Lastly, the campus continues to have a thriving weekly chapel service on Tuesdays, offers various spiritual engagements both on and off campus, and provides pastoral care to the campus community.

Youth Trips & Events from the Spring

Mission: Possible— April 4th-6th, Youth from the Presbytery joined together for Mission: Possible, where they participated in hands-on service, play, worship, singing and learning about ministries around Northwest Arkansas. The youth began the weekend with games and devotions led by adult leaders Katie Flood, Grace Blazer, and

Drew Parker. The group woke up early on Saturday morning to serve alongside others at FPC Bentonville's food pantry ministry, a weekly food pantry which serves families throughout the area. The group was then hosted by FPC Rogers for a delicious lunch, songs, and games, where they learned from Rev. John Arnold about all of the ways Rogers serves people in the region - such as holding luggage and food drives and leading GriefShare programs. The youth then piled in the van to travel to Mt. Comfort Presbyterian Church, a historic gem in our Presbytery. They shelled okra pods, and learned all about their composting system and extensive garden ministry which feeds folks in our area. After learning from the folks at Mt. Comfort, the group traveled to FPC Springdale, where we enjoyed an incredible meal and listened as Pastor Jesse told us all about Ministerio a la Vecindad, a Hispanic ministry at FPC Springdale. We ended the evening playing at the retro arcade. On Sunday morning, the group traveled north, where they joined folks at the Presbyterian Church of Bella Vista for an amazing breakfast, and worship. Thank you to all of the congregations who hosted the group over the weekend and for the adult leaders who guided the group through hands-on service, play, worship, and education. The hospitality of the churches in this Presbytery never ceases to amaze me! Thanks be to God for the ways our churches serve God and neighbor in myriad ways.

Confirmation Retreat—We had a great time at the Presbytery Confirmation Retreat February 28-March 5. Nine youth came together to pray and learn together. From playing horseshoes to making s'mores to tackling a "church problem" in a mock Session format, the weekend was full of insightful, thoughtful discussions and asking big questions about faith. Thanks to Drew, Kristi, Jared, and Sarah for leading. A big thank you to the generosity of Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center for partnering with us to make this retreat happen.



Presbytery of Arkansas
Youth

Save the Date

January

2025

FEB 21-22	Youth @ Presbytery For grades 9-12 // Lyon College // Batesville, AR
FEB 28 - MARCH 2	Confirmation Retreat Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center
APRIL 4-6	Mission: Possible For grades 6-8 // NW Arkansas
JUNE 7-14	Montreat Youth Conference For youth who have completed 8th - 12th grade Black Mountain, NC
JULY 16-20	Montreat Middle School Conference For youth who have completed 5th-8th grade Maryville, TN
JULY 28 - 31	Triennium For rising 9th graders through graduated seniors & Young Adults (age 19-23) // Louisville, KY
Questions?	Contact Sarah arpres.ateam@gmail.com

→ [PREBYARK.ORG](https://prebyark.org)

@ARPRES.YOUTHMIN

Section I

Report of the Committee on Administration

Moderator RE Hank Breshears

Action Items

None.

Informational Items

Financial Review

Summary

Overall, the Presbytery's finances continue to be in good condition, primarily due to earnings on investments and cash, and maintaining spending within budgets. However, the volatility of the markets and the effect on investments, the reduced Mission Acceptance from congregations in the Presbytery, and the additional spending that will be required under the long-range plan must continue to be monitored.

Revenues and Expenditures

Through March 31, 2025, year-to-date net revenue was -\$1,725. Excluding \$42,000 of budgeted line items that have not yet been funded (primarily camps & conferences), year-to-date expenditures were about \$9,000 less than budgeted. Revenues were about \$5,000 less than budgeted, primarily Mission Acceptances, many of which are paid annually.

Investments

2025 has been very volatile, primarily due to uncertainty surrounding trade tariffs. The 36-month rolling average on the spend rate helps in leveling out the high and low months.

Mission Acceptance / Benevolence (Congregational Giving to Presbytery)

The decline in Mission Acceptance is an ongoing concern of the CoA.

The following chart shows the reduction in Mission acceptance year-over-year. Note that while the budgeted amount has decreased each year, the actual receipts have declined even more than the budget projections.

Mission Acceptance as Percent of Total Revenues				
	2022	2023	2024	2025
Actual	69%	62%	56%	
Budget	71%	68%	64%	57%

The following chart shows the decline in dollars since 2021.

Post-COVID Giving					
	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Budget
\$ Giving	566,496	555,381	480,950	442,552	413,500
Δ from Prior		(11,115)	(74,431)	(38,397)	(29,052)
Annual % Δ ¹		-2.0%	-13.4%	-8.0%	-6.6%
Cumulative \$ Δ		(11,115)	(85,546)	(123,944)	(152,996)
Cumulative % Δ		-2.0%	-15.1%	-21.9%	-27.0%

The following chart shows the decline in giving from the top 10 giving congregations in 2022. Of the top ten in 2022, only three have not reduced contributions. Note that the percentage of total giving has remained relatively constant.

Top 10 Giving Congregations in 2022			
	2022	2023	2024
\$ Giving	402,270	342,250	327,088
% of Total Giving	73.7%	71.2%	73.9%
Change \$ from 2022		(67,020)	(82,182)
Change % from 2022		-16.4%	-20.1%

Audit

The audit of the Presbytery's financials by Landmark CPAs is ongoing and is expected to be completed in June 2025.

CoA Meeting Actions

April 8, 2025 – Scheduled Meeting

The committee discussed an unsecured emergency loan to a pastor for which a notice of a Chapter 13 bankruptcy was received. Due to the small loan amount and the cost of attorney representation, the committee decided to file a claim but not engage an attorney to represent the Presbytery.

The committee approved a motion to recommend that the Coordinating Team renew the Presbytery's five-year pledge of \$7,500 per year to the Synod of the Sun Partnership for Disaster Recovery, and to increase the pledge to \$8,500 per year.

The committee discussed the renewal of the Ministry Architects' contract to implement the 2024 strategic plan. Funds are available if the contract is renewed. The committee decided to refer the matter of renewing the contract to the Coordinating Team.

¹ Δ is Greek delta, symbol for "change"

May 12, 2025 – Called Meeting

The Moderator called a meeting of CoA on May 12 to discuss deficit spending related to a 1001 New Worshiping Communities congregation. After a lengthy discussion of the issues that led to the deficit, the committee tabled the matter until additional information could be reviewed. The Moderator will request the information from the host church, then schedule a follow-up meeting.

As part of the discussion, the CoA began investigating the Presbytery's policies and processes for matching grants to the 1001 New Worshiping Communities. This is an ongoing process.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hank Breshears", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

RE Hank Breshears
Committee on Administration, Moderator

Section I, Attachment 1

THE PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS

Balance Sheet

April 30, 2025

ASSETS

Current Assets

Simmons Operating Account	169,650.56	
Simmons Restricted Accounts	913,250.82	
TPF Investments	5,194,161.47	
56150 Fin Req Investment Fund	971,889.55	
TPF Mark to Market 52190	1,456,018.50	
N/R Churches	47,081.00	
N/R Ministers	6,000.00	
	<hr/>	

Total Current Assets		8,758,051.90
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Property and Equipment

Furniture & Fixtures	68,609.89	
Land	128,571.00	
Buildings	611,516.12	
	<hr/>	
	808,697.01	

Accumulated Depreciation	(331,498.31)	
	<hr/>	

Net Property and Equipment		9,235,250.60
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TOTAL ASSETS	\$	<u>9,235,250.60</u>
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LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL

Current Liabilities

Payroll & Other Withholdings	0.00	
	<hr/>	
Total Current Liabilities		0.00

Fund Balance

Equity Beginning Balance	\$	4,343,422.31	
Fund Balance		4,303,460.26	
Unrealized Gains/Losses		798,959.70	
Net Income		(210,591.67)	
		<hr/>	

Total Fund Balance		9,235,250.60
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TOTAL LIABILITIES & CAPITAL	\$	<u>9,235,250.60</u>
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Unaudited—For Management Purposes Only

**The Presbytery of Arkansas
Benevolence as of April 30, 2025**

LOCATION	2021 Benevolence	2022 Benevolence	2023 Benevolence	2024 Benevolence	2025 Benevolence
Alma	-	-	-	-	-
Amity	-	-	-	-	-
Arkadelphia, First	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.01	-
Arkadelphia, West End	1,110.00	1,110.00	1,110.00	1,200.00	-
Atkins	-	-	150.00	-	-
Batesville	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	2,500.00
Beebe	1,200.00	900.00	900.00	1,200.00	600.00
Bella Vista	20,000.00	20,000.44	11,250.00	1,963.10	1,005.10
Benton	8,600.00	9,000.00	6,300.00	4,500.00	3,000.00
Bentonville, First	33,500.00	32,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	-
Bentonville, Vaughn	-	-	-	-	-
Bull Shoals	50.00	116.74	116.74	127.40	-
Cane Hill	-	-	-	-	-
Clarksville, First	-	-	-	-	-
Clarksville, Harmony	-	-	-	-	-
Conway	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	2,500.00
Dardanelle	5,500.00	3,500.00	3,000.00	-	-
Elkins	1,000.00	1,000.00	500.00	1,000.00	-
Fairfield Bay	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00
Fayetteville, First United	41,000.00	41,000.00	41,000.00	41,000.00	13,666.68
Fayetteville, Mt. Comfort	1,660.00	900.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	-
Forrest City	9,000.00	8,250.00	9,625.00	7,500.00	3,000.00
Ft. Smith, Central	16,000.00	16,000.00	-	125.00	-
Ft. Smith, First	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Greenwood	-	1,000.00	-	-	-
Gurdon	-	-	-	-	-
Hardy	-	-	-	-	-
Harrison	-	-	-	-	-
Heber Springs	950.00	-	450.00	-	-
Helena	-	-	-	-	-
Holiday Island	6,200.00	6,200.00	6,200.00	6,200.00	1,550.00
Holly Grove	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
Horseshoe Bend	2,290.00	2,300.00	1,600.00	1,300.00	400.00
HSV, Kirk	27,270.00	27,270.00	22,000.44	22,000.00	2,525.00
H. Springs, First	20,013.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	4,000.00
H. Springs, Westminster	8,012.04	8,012.04	8,212.04	8,012.04	2,670.68
Huntsville	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,200.00	2,400.00	800.00
Jacksonville	3,250.00	3,000.00	3,224.95	3,605.00	-
Jonesboro	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	1,000.00
LR, Allison	-	-	-	-	-
LR, First	-	-	-	-	-

**The Presbytery of Arkansas
Benevolence as of April 30, 2025**

LOCATION	2021 Benevolence	2022 Benevolence	2023 Benevolence	2024 Benevolence	2025 Benevolence
LR, Grace	7,900.00	7,900.00	3,900.00	3,500.00	-
LR, Pulaski Heights	3,636.00	3,618.00	3,606.00	3,628.00	700.00
Little Rock, Second	200,000.00	200,000.00	190,000.00	190,000.00	-
LR, Trinity	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	7,999.99	1,999.98
LR, Westover Hills	7,500.00	2,500.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	-
Malvern	5,241.72	5,241.60	-	-	-
McGehee	2,520.00	2,520.00	2,520.00	2,520.00	420.00
Mena	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,500.00	4,125.00	4,375.00
Morrilton, First	1,200.00	1,100.00	1,300.00	1,200.00	400.00
Morrilton, Hopewell	-	-	-	-	428.40
Mountain Home	750.00	500.00	-	1,187.96	-
Mountainburg	-	-	-	-	-
Newport	2,700.00	2,700.00	2,700.00	2,700.00	900.00
Norman	-	-	-	-	-
NLR, Park Hill	16,000.00	13,000.00	8,000.00	2,000.00	-
Paragould, First	-	-	-	-	-
Pea Ridge	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	1,000.00
Pine Bluff, Central	-	115.80	-	-	-
Pine Bluff, Faith	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Bluff, First	4,583.26	6,996.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	-
Prairie Grove	6,960.00	4,730.00	6,022.00	1,959.00	300.00
Rogers	6,999.96	7,000.01	7,611.96	6,999.96	1,750.03
Russellville	-	-	-	-	-
Searcy	-	-	2,000.00	-	-
Springdale	30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	7,500.00
Van Buren	-	-	-	-	-
Walnut Ridge	-	-	7,350.48	-	-
Wynne	7,500.00	9,999.96	5,000.00	3,750.00	2,500.00
Yellville	6,000.00	6,000.00	3,000.00	6,000.00	-
TOTAL	566,495.98	555,380.59	480,949.61	442,552.46	67,340.87
				4,000.00	
				(Paid in 2025)	

THE PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS								
Operating Income Statement								
For the Four Months Ending April 30, 2025								
		Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget	2025 Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
6000-01	Mission Acceptance	21,915.33	18,625.00	3,290.33	67,340.87	103,375.00	413,500.00	(346,159.13)
Misc (Acct. 6015)	TPF Investment Spend Rate	24,055.09	23,233.74	821.35	94,069.37	69,701.21	278,804.84	(184,735.47)
6015-01-1-000	Simmons Bank Interest	2,182.35	1,666.67	515.68	8,834.10	5,000.00	20,000.00	(11,165.90)
6000-01-1-101	Previous Years Pledges	-	-	-	4,000.00	1,000.00	4,000.00	-
6001-00-1-000	Miscellaneous Revenue	468.49	416.67	51.82	1,721.58	1,250.00	5,000.00	(3,278.42)
	Total Revenues	48,621.26	43,942.08	4,679.18	175,965.92	180,326.21	721,304.84	(545,338.92)
Expenses								
7000-01-1-000	Coordinating Team--Meeting Exp, Meals, Worship	-	100.00	(100.00)	314.20	300.00	1,200.00	(885.80)
7000-06-1-000	Coordinating Team--Gifts	-	4.17	(4.17)	126.22	12.50	50.00	76.22
7000-09-1-000	Coordinating Team--Moderator's Expense	-	37.50	(37.50)	-	112.50	450.00	(450.00)
7000-10-1-000	Coordinating Team--Vice moderator's Expense	-	95.83	(95.83)	-	287.50	1,150.00	(1,150.00)
7000-11-1-000	Coordinating Team-General Presbyter Search Committee Exp	-	333.33	(333.33)	-	1,000.00	4,000.00	(4,000.00)
7000-20-1-000	Coordinating Team--Presbytery Workshop/Speaker	-	125.00	(125.00)	-	375.00	1,500.00	(1,500.00)
7000-31-1-000	Coordinating Team--Background Checks	20.00	41.67	(21.67)	80.00	125.00	500.00	(420.00)
		20.00	737.50	(717.50)	520.42	2,212.50	8,850.00	(8,329.58)
7100-01-1-000	Administration--Meeting Expense, Financial Review	7,272.48	948.33	6,324.15	7,280.11	2,845.00	11,380.00	(4,099.89)
7100-05-1-000	Administration--Femcliff General Site Support	-	2,000.00	(2,000.00)	-	6,000.00	24,000.00	(24,000.00)
7500-21-1-000	West End Operation Support	-	1,125.00	(1,125.00)	3,375.00	3,375.00	13,500.00	(10,125.00)
7500-53-1-000	Laotian Ministry support	-	300.00	(300.00)	900.00	900.00	3,600.00	(2,700.00)
7500-98-1-000	Faith Presbyterian Operation Support	-	594.00	(594.00)	1,782.00	1,782.00	7,128.00	(5,346.00)
		7,272.48	4,967.33	2,305.15	13,337.11	14,902.00	59,608.00	(46,270.89)
7700-01-1-000	Committee on Ministry--travel, food, meeting support	-	166.67	(166.67)	-	500.00	2,000.00	(2,000.00)
8000-01-1-000	Committee on Preparation for Ministry--Meeting Expenses, etc.	-	41.67	(41.67)	-	125.00	500.00	(500.00)
8000-09-1-000	Committee on Preparation for Ministry--Eval, Retreat, Support, Bkg Checks	850.00	125.00	725.00	850.00	375.00	1,500.00	(650.00)
8400-08-1-000	Committee on Ministry--Wellspring Contract	-	870.00	(870.00)	5,220.00	2,610.00	10,440.00	(5,220.00)
		850.00	1,203.34	(353.34)	6,070.00	3,610.00	14,440.00	(8,370.00)
7300-29-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--Campus Ministry/Program Support	4,206.66	2,666.67	1,539.99	11,276.64	8,000.00	32,000.00	(20,723.36)
7300-71-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT--Planning Retreats & Materials	-	125.00	(125.00)	461.27	375.00	1,500.00	(1,038.73)
7300-73-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT Scholarships	-	41.67	(41.67)	-	125.00	500.00	(500.00)
7300-74-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT Denomination Trips	-	83.33	(83.33)	1,035.00	250.00	1,000.00	35.00
7300-75-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT--Youth @ Presbytery	-	41.67	(41.67)	-	125.00	500.00	(500.00)
7300-76-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT YouthQuake	3,779.00	750.00	3,029.00	3,779.00	2,250.00	9,000.00	(5,221.00)
7300-78-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT Montreat	2,614.94	458.33	2,156.61	6,732.94	1,375.00	5,500.00	1,232.94
7300-79-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT--JR High Summer Trip	2,628.50	250.00	2,378.50	903.50	750.00	3,000.00	(2,096.50)
7300-80-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT--Matthew 25 Account	55.72	41.67	14.05	(394.28)	125.00	500.00	(894.28)
7300-84-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--Young Adult Ministries	-	166.67	(166.67)	-	500.00	2,000.00	(2,000.00)
7300-86-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT--Leadership Admin	-	41.67	(41.67)	73.00	125.00	500.00	(427.00)

THE PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS								
Operating Income Statement								
For the Four Months Ending April 30, 2025								
		Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget	2025 Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
7300-99-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--Campus Ministry-Special Event Support	-	833.33	(833.33)	-	2,500.00	10,000.00	(10,000.00)
		13,284.82	5,500.01	7,784.81	23,867.07	16,500.00	66,000.00	(42,132.93)
7500-01-1-000	Future of the Church--Admin., Listening	-	83.33	(83.33)	-	250.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
7500-25-1-000	Future of the Church--Presbytery Technology Needs	-	625.00	(625.00)	-	1,875.00	7,500.00	(7,500.00)
7500-51-1-000	Future of the Church--New Ministries' Development	-	2,208.33	(2,208.33)	-	6,625.00	26,500.00	(26,500.00)
		-	2,916.66	(2,916.66)	-	8,750.00	35,000.00	(35,000.00)
7300-01-1-000	Christian Education--Education Events	455.13	200.00	255.13	765.78	600.00	2,400.00	(1,634.22)
7300-21-1-000	Christian Education--Ferncliff. Prog/Supt. Summer Camp	23,000.00	1,916.67	21,083.33	23,000.00	5,750.00	23,000.00	-
7300-24-1-000	Mission of the Church--Ferncliff--Block Grant	-	416.67	(416.67)	-	1,250.00	5,000.00	(5,000.00)
7300-30-1-000	Christian Education--Presbyterian Pilgrimage	-	166.67	(166.67)	-	500.00	2,000.00	(2,000.00)
7300-91-1-000	Christian Education--Ministry Resourcing	-	333.33	(333.33)	319.81	1,000.00	4,000.00	(3,680.19)
7600-03-1-000	Mission of the Church--Scholarship for Mission Trip	-	83.33	(83.33)	1,000.00	250.00	1,000.00	-
7600-05-1-000	Mission of the Church--International Mission Initiative	-	166.67	(166.67)	1,500.00	500.00	2,000.00	(500.00)
7600-42-1-000	Mission of the Church--Stewpot	-	62.50	(62.50)	187.50	187.50	750.00	(562.50)
7600-44-1-000	Mission of the Church--Lyon College	-	83.33	(83.33)	250.00	250.00	1,000.00	(750.00)
7600-45-1-000	Mission of the Church--Presbyterian Village Support	-	41.67	(41.67)	125.00	125.00	500.00	(375.00)
7600-49-1-000	Mission of the Church--University of Ozarks	-	83.33	(83.33)	250.00	250.00	1,000.00	(750.00)
7600-51-1-000	Mission of the Church--Vera Lloyd Mission	-	208.33	(208.33)	625.00	625.00	2,500.00	(1,875.00)
7600-62-1-000	Mission of the Church--Mission Initiative Grants	-	1,666.67	(1,666.67)	-	5,000.00	20,000.00	(20,000.00)
7600-96-1-000	Mission of the Church--Solar Under the Sun	-	83.33	(83.33)	250.00	250.00	1,000.00	(750.00)
8300-01-1-000	Mission of the Church--PW Exp., travel, postage, etc.	-	33.33	(33.33)	-	100.00	400.00	(400.00)
8300-07-1-000	Mission of the Church--PW--Spring & Fall Retreats, Synod Gathering	-	291.67	(291.67)	-	875.00	3,500.00	(3,500.00)
9400-01-1-000	Mission of the Church--Disaster Preparedness	-	8.33	(8.33)	-	25.00	100.00	(100.00)
		23,455.13	5,845.83	17,609.30	28,273.09	17,537.50	70,150.00	(41,876.91)
7800-01-1-000	Nominations--travel, food	-	8.33	(8.33)	-	25.00	100.00	(100.00)
8100-01-1-000	Representation--Meeting Expenses	-	4.17	(4.17)	-	12.50	50.00	(50.00)

THE PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS

Operating Income Statement

For the Four Months Ending April 30, 2025

		Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget	2025 Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
8400-01-1-000	POA/Supplies & Office Exp.	-	125.00	(125.00)	782.31	375.00	1,500.00	(717.69)
8400-02-1-000	Utilities/Telephone	705.36	833.33	(127.97)	2,454.49	2,500.00	10,000.00	(7,545.51)
8400-03-1-000	Copy Machine	41.49	41.67	(0.18)	211.25	125.00	500.00	(288.75)
8400-05-1-000	Technology	524.98	1,333.33	(808.35)	3,576.16	4,000.00	16,000.00	(12,423.84)
8400-07-1-000	Replace Equipment	-	83.33	(83.33)	-	250.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
8400-09-1-000	Insurance	-	808.33	(808.33)	(437.09)	2,425.00	9,700.00	(10,137.09)
8400-10-1-000	Miscellaneous Expenses	-	25.00	(25.00)	-	75.00	300.00	(300.00)
8400-12-1-000	Maintenance(Grounds, Building Upkeep)	617.14	791.67	(174.53)	1,862.02	2,375.00	9,500.00	(7,637.98)
		1,888.97	4,041.66	(2,152.69)	8,449.14	12,125.00	48,500.00	(40,050.86)
8400-11-1-000	General Presbyter Moving Expenses	-	583.33	(583.33)	-	1,750.00	7,000.00	(7,000.00)
8400-13-1-000	Stated Clerk Professional Exp	-	250.00	(250.00)	134.40	750.00	3,000.00	(2,865.60)
8400-22-1-000	Administrator/Professional Exp	70.49	83.33	(12.84)	202.09	250.00	1,000.00	(797.91)
8400-25-1-000	General Presbyter/Professional Exp	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8400-26-1-000	Interim GP Professional Exp	460.41	1,250.00	(789.59)	4,969.33	3,750.00	15,000.00	(10,030.67)
8400-29-1-000	Salaries	16,328.34	16,678.18	(349.84)	66,362.92	50,034.55	200,138.20	(133,775.28)
8400-30-1-000	Pension/Major Medical	1,727.89	1,727.89	-	6,911.56	5,183.67	20,734.68	(13,823.12)
8400-31-1-000	General Presbyter/Continuing Ed.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8400-32-1-000	Interim GP Continuing Ed	-	125.00	(125.00)	-	375.00	1,500.00	(1,500.00)
8400-33-1-000	Payroll Taxes	741.10	763.33	(22.23)	3,031.08	2,289.98	9,159.92	(6,128.84)
8400-34-1-000	Housing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8400-35-1-000	Interim GP Housing	2,666.67	2,666.67	-	10,666.68	8,000.00	32,000.00	(21,333.32)
8400-40-1-000	General Presbyter/FICA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8400-39-1-000	Interim GP FICA	561.00	561.00	-	2,233.00	1,683.00	6,732.00	(4,499.00)
8400-41-1-000	Connector Professional Expenses	-	416.67	(416.67)	223.25	1,250.00	5,000.00	(4,776.75)
8400-49-1-000	Youth Developer Professional Expenses	-	250.00	-	565.60	750.00	3,000.00	(2,434.40)
		22,555.90	25,355.40	(2,549.50)	95,299.91	74,316.20	304,264.80	(208,964.89)
8600-01-1-000	General Assembly	911.10	1,729.17	(818.07)	2,471.28	5,187.50	20,750.00	(18,278.72)
8700-01-1-000	GA Per Capita	6,486.84	6,486.84	-	25,947.36	19,460.51	77,842.04	(51,894.68)
8800-01-1-000	Synod Mission	911.10	1,312.50	(401.40)	2,471.28	3,937.50	15,750.00	(13,278.72)
		8,309.04	9,528.51	(1,219.47)	30,889.92	28,585.51	114,342.04	(83,452.12)
	Total Expenses	77,636.34	60,108.74	17,777.60	206,706.66	180,326.21	721,304.84	(514,598.18)
	Net Income	\$ (29,015.08)	\$ (16,166.66)	\$ (13,098.42)	\$ (30,740.74)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (30,740.74)

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 Administrative 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.
- **CRE-** A Commissioned Ruling Elder is an ordained elder in good standing in his/her member church and is commissioned to serve in a congregation or validated ministry of the presbytery.
- **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-** Honorably Retired is a designation for Ministers of the Word and Sacrament retired from active service to the church who remain in good standing with the PC(USA).
- **Inquirer-** A person in the initial phase of the process of preparation for ministry as a Minister of Word and Sacrament.
- **MIF-** A Ministry Information Form is the standardized format for advertising certain church professional positions through the PC(USA) Church Leadership Connection.
- **MWS -** Minister of the Word and Sacrament is an ordained Presbyterian minister member of the clergy, formerly called a Teaching Elder.
- **Moderator-** The Moderator is the person elected to keep order and chair the meetings of the presbytery. The pastor or CRE of a local congregation serves as the moderator of the local session.
- **NCD-** New Church Developments are new ministries of the presbytery engaged in a formal process to work toward establishing a new congregation.
- **PDA-** Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is an agency of the Presbyterian Church (USA) Mission Agency. PDA assists communities coping with natural and human-caused disasters.

- **PJC-** Permanent Judicial Commission implements the disciplinary procedures required by the *Book of Order*. There is a Judicial Process Manual which gives details on these duties.
- **PMA-** The Presbyterian Mission Agency is part of the larger PC(USA) and is located at 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 recent presbytery meeting held at Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center in Little Rock, Arkansas on May 31, 2025.

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