



Presbytery OF
Greater Atlanta

*Growing Healthy, Vital Congregations
Equipping Healthy, Innovative Leaders*

Commissioner Handbook

Stated Meeting
August 16, 2022
via Zoom

8:50-9:00 – Pre-Presbytery Music

9:00-Noon – Meeting

Pre-Registration required

The link for this meeting will be emailed once you have registered.

Requests for an **excused absence** should be sent to Stated Clerk Andy James at cajames@atpcusa.org.

ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS

1. Download and install Zoom onto your device.
 - a. Computer - go to https://zoom.us/download#client_4meeting
 - b. Tablets and smartphones, install Zoom from your App Store. This version of Zoom will look different than the computer version.
2. Joining the Meeting:
 - a. You should have received a “Registration” link in order to register for the meeting (commissioners from churches should have received this from their pastor; minister members from the Stated Clerk. The website will also have this link for registration)
 - b. After you register, you will be emailed a link to join the meeting. This link is unique to you. We will send a reminder on Monday, August 15, 2022.
 - c. To join the meeting, click the link and allow Zoom to open on your device.
 - d. Choose your audio input setting; choose computer audio if you are unsure.
 - e. You will be placed in the waiting room when you join the meeting. Please do not disconnect. The hosts will let you in when we are ready to begin. There will be pre-presbytery music 10 minutes before the start of the meeting.
3. Meeting Settings:
 - a. If there are multiple voting commissioners in a household, you will need to use one device per commissioner to vote. This is to allow each vote in the household to be counted.
 - b. Please be a few minutes early and adjust your settings during this time. Double check that your video and audio are working. If you are using video, check that lighting is good and minimize background distractions if possible. We will be admitting attendees beginning at 8:45 if you want to join early to be sure you are able to connect.
 - c. Please note: **You must use the link from your computer or other smart device to participate in the meeting.** If you join using the dial-in numbers, you will be able to listen to the meeting but you will not be able to vote, speak, or otherwise participate, and the attendance information will not reflect your presence.
 - d. Please keep your audio on mute. If you have a question or comment, use the chat feature to message the meeting host, Chip Blankinship. The host will let the Moderator know and the Moderator will call on you to speak. The host will unmute you when called on and resume muting after you are finished speaking.
 - e. Turning on your video feed is optional but audio is required to participate in discussion.
4. There will be times when votes are necessary. At those times, you will be instructed as to how to cast your vote.

PRESBYTERY OF GREATER ATLANTA....

WE ARE A MATTHEW 25 PRESBYTERY AND PARTICIPATING IN THE VITAL CONGREGATIONS INITIATIVE! (VCI)



Building Congregational Vitality

Dismantling Structural Racism

Eradicating Systemic Poverty



SAVE THE DATES FOR UPCOMING PRESBYTERY MEETINGS

Saturday, November 12, 2022 <i>in-person, location TBA</i>	9:00-12:30	VCI Mark Four: Empowering Servant Leadership
Saturday, February 11, 2023 <i>format and location TBA</i>	9:00-12:30	VCI Mark Five: Spirit-Inspired Worship
Tuesday, May 2, 2023 <i>format and location TBA</i>	9:00-12:30	VCI Mark Six: Caring Relationships

OFFERING INFORMATION

Today's offering supports CHRIS 180, a behavioral health organization that is committed to addressing the social determinants of health to better help individuals, children and adults heal and be able to change directions and change their lives. CHRIS 180 seeks to improve the community by providing children, adults, and families with high-quality, trauma-informed behavioral health services and support systems. CHRIS stands for the core values of the organization: Creativity, Honor, Respect, Integrity and Safety.



CHRIS 180 was established in 1981 as Georgia CHARLEE (Children Have All Rights-Legal, Educational, and Emotional) to fill a gap in services for children and youth with behavioral and emotional challenges who were not thriving in foster homes and needed small specialized group homes. In 1986, the organization recognized another gap in services and created Georgia's first independent living program to help youth aging out of foster care.

In the years since, CHRIS 180 has added services to homeless youth, including targeted outreach to LGBTQ+ youth; permanent supportive housing for single and parenting youth; adoption services; and counseling services for mental health and substance abuse treatment.

To make a donation, use the QR code above, visit our website at www.atlpcusa.org and click on the green "Give" button found in the middle of the website, or use the link provided in the chat.

PASTORAL CARE CONCERNS

The Pastor-to-Pastor/Educator Team is available to minister to all clergy and educators. If you are sick or have any need to have a confidential conversation about personal matters, they will respond. Please contact any of the following people listed below. For more information about the Pastor-to-Pastor Team, visit www.atlpcusa.org/pastortopastor

To join email distribution of the monthly pastoral care reports, visit: www.atlpcusa.org/newsletter

Jane Hubbard, Coordinator	404-200-6283	Jonathan Ball	404-273-0979
Brian Daoust	303-475-3267	Laura Dorsey	678-793-1234
Richard Allen Farmer	469-951-6985	Jerry Leath	404-358-8002
Nicole Lock	678-628-4880	Catherine Lukens	404-285-4568
Sam Pope	501-984-1719	Steven Son	770-880-9485
George Tatro	404-784-0384	Scott Tucker	404-842-5800
Jill Ulrici	404-550-4812		
John Roark, Emeritus P2P Team Member			

STAY CONNECTED

If you would like to join the email distribution list for weekly pastoral care reports, the Presbytery newsletter or to download the Handbook, please send your email /contact information to Mark Sauls at msauls@atlpcusa.org and indicate which of the three publications you would like to receive. For more information, please visit our website at www.atlpcusa.org/newsletter. Connect with us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @atlpcusa and use #atlpcusa to join the conversation.

CHURCH CONFLICT PHONE CONSULTS

Are you a leader struggling to find an appropriate response to a sticky situation or challenging issue in your church? Did you know members of the Presbytery's Shalom Team are available to provide brief (45-50 mins) conflict consultations? In most cases, they offer strategic perspective to help leaders balance both situations and relationships in the church. If you could benefit from this confidential service, please contact any of the following Shalom Team members to arrange a phone consultation:

Jody Andrade, jody@pleasanthillpc.org
Joy Fisher, jfisher@atlpcusa.org
Diane Duane, duane.diane.l@gmail.com
Julie Ferguson, revjulieferg@gmail.com
Romona Lavender, rmlavender@bellsouth.net
Karen Mason, kmason55@gmail.com
Brady Radford, bradyradford@gmail.com
David York, yorkdav@gmail.com

DOCKET

Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta
August 16, 2022, via Zoom | Co-Hosted by Emory and Morningside Presbyterian Churches
Theme: VCI Mark 3: Outward Incarnational Focus

8:50	Pre-Presbytery Music	First Afrikan Presbyterian Musicians
9:00	Opening Prayer Welcome by Host Pastors Call to Worship	Moderator Juan Herrera Andy Acton and Katie Aumann Alex Rodgers
9:10	Declaration of Quorum Instructions for the Meeting Omnibus Motion Communications Report	Andy James Chip Blankinship Andy James Andy James
9:20	Executive Presbyter Report	Aisha Brooks-Johnson
9:30	Hymn #363: "Rejoice, the Lord is King!"	Emory Presbyterian Musicians
9:35	General Assembly Commissioners Reports	
9:45	Scripture: Luke 19:1-10 Sermon: <i>When the Invitation Comes</i>	Irene Wong
10:10	Litany	Brenda Smith and Keeva Kase
10:15	Celebration of Presbytery Partnerships	Beverly Markham
10:30	Nominating Committee and Committee on Representation	Debbie Durden and Tully Fletcher
10:35	Call for Offering Offertory: "Prayer for the Children" by Kurt Bestor Prayer of Dedication <i>Offering to Benefit CHRIS 180</i>	Morningside Presbyterian Musicians Juan Herrera
10:40	New Church Development Commission Chartering of El Nazareno	Lindsay Armstrong
10:45	Committee on Preparation for Ministry	Alex Rodgers
10:50	Examinations Commission	Jeanne Simpson & Alex Moses
11:00	Committee on Ministry Honorable Retirement of Jan Tolbert	Julie Ferguson
11:05	Closing Hymn 773: "Heaven Shall Not Wait" Benediction and Adjournment	Morningside Presbyterian Musicians Juan Herrera

11:10 Breakout Rooms for Partnership Conversations (select one at registration)

AMIS

Buckhead Christian Ministries

Earth Covenant Ministry/GA Interfaith Power and Light

Joining Hands for Justice in Palestine and Israel

La Gonave Haiti Partners

Memorial Drive Ministries

Peace and Global Witness

Presbyterian Council for Chaplains and Military Personnel

Presbyterians for a Better Georgia

Presbyterian Youth Ministry Collaboration of Atlanta

Street Grace

UKirk

Westminster Christian Fellowship

Worship Leaders for Today's Meeting:

Musicians from First Afrikan Presbyterian Church

Rev. Juan Herrera, Moderator of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta

Rev. Alex Rodgers, Board of Directors, UKirk Atlanta

Emory Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir

Rev. Irene Wong, Executive Director, AMIS Atlanta

Brenda Smith, Peace & Global Witness Partnership

Keeva Kase, BCM Georgia

Morningside Presbyterian Church Choir

PROPOSED OMNIBUS MOTION

The following items are proposed for approval in the omnibus motion:

- Docket for the Meeting (pg. 6-7)
- Minutes of the Stated Meeting of May 3, 2022 ([available on the presbytery website](#))
- Admit to Record items in the Communications Report (pg. 9-10)
- Admit to Record items in the Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report (pg. 22)
- Admit to Record items in the Committee on Ministry Report (pg. 36-40)
- Admit to Record item in the Operations Report (pg. 41)

FOR SILENT REFLECTION

Celtic Rune of Hospitality

We saw a stranger yesterday.
We put food in the eating place,
drink in the drinking place,
music in the listening place.
And with the sacred name of the triune God
he blessed us and our house,
our cattle and our dear ones.
As the lark says in her song:
Often, often, often, goes the Christ
in the stranger's guise.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come!
Wanderers, seekers, pilgrims on the journey —
there is a place prepared for you.
All: **We gather from places far and near —
strangers, yet siblings within the household of God.**

Leader: Come!
There is food in the eating place, drink in the drinking place —
the fruit of creation for the children of the Creator.
All: **We gather 'round pulpit, font and table
to feast on the Word that nurtures,
to drink deeply from the well of grace.**

Leader: Come!
Open your eyes, open your hearts,
that you might glimpse the glory of the Almighty.
All: **We gather in the sacred name of the Triune God
to behold Christ, the Light of the World!**

COMMUNICATIONS AND STATED CLERK'S REPORT

What a joy it is to serve as your Stated Clerk! Thank you for your warm welcome to the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta—and not just because of the heat of the summer!!

As I get settled, I am happy to be visiting our congregations and new worshiping communities to learn more about how God is at work in our midst and how best I can walk alongside you all in that work. If there is a particular time or event that would be good for me to visit your congregation, please reach out to me at cajames@atlpusa.org or contact your congregational consultant.

Over the next few months, I will also be hosting a series of *Conversations with the Clerk* on Zoom as an opportunity to share information and get to know one another. This will also be an opportunity to learn more about what has been going on in the larger church through the work of the General Assembly. Mark your calendars and look for more information soon!

Monday, August 22, 7pm	General Assembly Actions on National/International Issues
Saturday, October 1, 9am	General Assembly Actions on Church Issues
Monday, October 24, 7pm	Church Discipline in the Book of Order
Saturday, January 7, 2023, 9am	Book of Order Amendments

Andy James

For Information

Received a letter of thanks from Presbyterian Mission Engagement and Support for the Presbytery's financial contribution.

Received a letter on June 19, 2022, dated June 9, 2022, from **Victoria Chappell**, minister member of the Presbytery, renouncing jurisdiction and resigning from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in accordance with G-2.0509.

Celebrating with the following persons upon their election to committees and boards of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) at the 225th General Assembly:

Mark Douglas, minister member, to the Committee on Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI)

George Hauptfuhrer, ruling elder at Northwest, to the Board of the Board of Pensions

Ximena Leroux, ruling elder at Central, to the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board

Ken Whitehurst, ruling elder at Trinity Decatur, to the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board

Admit to Record

That the minutes of the ordination of **Mary Beth Walker** on April 30, 2022, as a chaplain at Canterbury Court be admitted to the record. The ordination took place at Kairos Church in Atlanta, GA.

The following people served on the commission to install **Megan Johnson** as pastor of Clairmont Presbyterian Church in Decatur on May 15, 2022.

Rev. Lyndsay Slocum, Roswell Presbyterian Church

Rev. Erin Noh, Alpharetta Presbyterian Church

Elder Linda Massey, Clairmont Presbyterian Church
Elder Glenice Johnson, North Avenue Presbyterian Church
Elder Larry Fossett, Decatur Presbyterian Church

That the minutes of the installation of **Megan Johnson** as pastor of Clairmont Presbyterian Church in Decatur on May 15, 2022, be admitted to the record.

The following people served on the commission to ordain **Prince Davies-Venn** as a Contract Call Associate Pastor for North Avenue Presbyterian Church on May 29, 2022.

Rev. Shayne Wheeler, North Avenue Presbyterian Church
Rev. Frank Eldridge, Honorably Retired
Rev. Francis Githieya, Transformation Church New Worshiping Community
Elder Neale Hightower, North Avenue Presbyterian Church
Elder Brenda Gales, Presbyterian Church of the Resurrection
Elder Tome McWhirter, North Avenue Presbyterian Church
The following people were guests of the commission:
Rev. Jane Kagia, Validated Ministry
Elder Boyd Lyons, North Avenue Presbyterian Church
Mr. Boyd Nixon, Campus Crusade
Elder Ann Carter McDonald, North Avenue Presbyterian Church
Deacon Leroy Davies-Venn, North Avenue Presbyterian Church

That the minutes of the ordination of **Prince Davies-Venn** as Minister of Word and Sacrament serving as a Contract Call Associate Pastor for North Avenue Presbyterian Church on May 29, 2022, be admitted to the record.

The following people served on the commission to install **Erin Gaston Morgan** as associate pastor at Covington First Presbyterian Church on June 12, 2022.

Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane, Covington First Presbyterian Church
Rev. Larry Kennon, Honorably Retired
Elder Ray Johnston, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Snellville
Elder Brenda Gales, Presbyterian Church of the Resurrection
Elder Pam Stillerman, Covington First Presbyterian Church
The following person was a guest of the commission:
Rev. Joseph S. Gaston, Foothills Presbytery

That the minutes of the installation of **Erin Gaston Morgan** as associate pastor at Covington First Presbyterian Church on June 12, 2022, be admitted to the record.

In Memoriam

The Stated Clerk has been informed of the death of the following minister members of the presbytery since the last presbytery handbook was published:

- **Nancy Kinzer**, November 9, 1957-June 28, 2022
- **Clifford A. Sandell**, October 4, 1949-June 1, 2022

If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. — Romans 14:8

EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER'S REPORT

Aisha Brooks-Johnson



(From Roanoke Island Presbyterian Church, Manteo, NC)



Vital Congregations Initiative – Mark #3 – Outward Incarnational Focus

Our third mark on the VCI journey is “Outward Incarnational Focus.” It is a reminder of the mission of the church to reach out to others. It is a reminder that we are called to be a tangible expression of Christ’s love and compassion in the world. It also reminds me of my mother’s words to me as a child: “Remember, Aisha, you may be the only Bible a person has a chance to read.” It was her way of instilling in me the importance of knowing that my faith should lead me to see others, to hear their needs, and to be a reflection of God’s love to all.

I have often seen congregations post a sign near the exit that says, “You are now entering the mission field.” These words are a similar reminder to the church that their mission stretches beyond the church’s walls. At times, the church can become so concerned with getting people in the pews that we miss the opportunity to be the church in the mall, at the cafeteria, in the coffee shop, in the park, at the laundromat, in the library, and every place in between. I am so thankful for the ministry partners we have within our own presbytery. They remind us to keep an outward focus that represents Christ’s own call to preach good news to the poor, to release the captives, to give sight to the blind, to set the oppressed free, and to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor. At our Stated Meeting, I pray that we all get to learn something new about our partnerships and reimagine ways each of us can have an outward Christ-embodied focus as we continue to spread the good news of God’s unfailing love for us all.

-ABJ

#YouAreVital #YouAreLoved

Biography of Rev. Irene Eng Wong



Rev. Irene Wong has been the Executive Director of AMIS Atlanta since 2017 and is a validated minister. Irene is an American of Chinese descent. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, she grew up in Queens, New York City, and graduated from Brown University with a degree in East Asian Studies. After college, Irene served as campus ministry staff with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship for 10 years, mainly in New England, and moved to Atlanta in 2000 to serve at Emory University.

Irene graduated from Fuller Theological Seminary with her M.Div. and was the English Ministry Director at the Atlanta Taiwanese Presbyterian Church from 2005-2008. After her children came along, she stepped away from ministry to be a stay-at-home mother while becoming active at North Avenue Presbyterian Church with her family. Irene enjoys spending time with her three daughters who are in high school and middle school and is married to William Wong.

You can connect with Irene at irene@amisatlanta.org.

Litany

Leader 1: Creator God, you stirred the dust
and made us for service;
You breathed into our lungs
so we could share your good news;
You shaped our hearts
with the tools of compassion
so we may seek justice for all.

People: We thank you, God of grace, gifts and glory.

Leader 2: In the hospitality of Jesus and in the response of Zaccheus,
we see your openness toward all who are different;
in the grumbling of neighbors, we hear the echoes
of our own prejudices and fears;
in fellowship at the table we see the transformation of
people, places, circumstances and situations;
in fellowship at the table which is prepared for us all,
we see your grace,
we experience your love,
and we hear your challenge to be a more beloved
community.

**People: We thank you, Christ our Savior,
companion to strangers and neighbors.**

Leader 1: You cradle us in the peace of the resting night;
You awaken us with the light of dawn
and the warmth of your gentleness;
You walk with us through each day,
nudging us to answer the call to be a blessing to others.

People: We thank you, surprising and sanctifying Spirit.

Leader 2: Triune God in Community, Holy in One,
we lift our gratitude to You,
for the work and ministry that you invite us
to do together in your sacred name.
May the light you have placed within us shine outward:

**People: In our homes, in our churches, in our communities
and in the world. Amen.**

(Adapted from Lectionary Liturgies by Rev. Thom M. Shuman
<http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2016/10/liturgy-wcommunion-for-october-30-2016.html>)

Partnership Info for August 16, 2022 PGA Meeting Handbook

AMIS (Atlanta Ministry with International Students) is the French word for “friends” and describes our mission, which is to promote cultural and global understanding through friendship and hospitality with international students and scholars in the greater Atlanta area. We are currently looking for volunteers to welcome and connect with international students as Amigo friends. Our International Friendship program matches an international student with a volunteer in the local community for friendship and sharing of cultures. Your support can help an international student in their adjustment to American life, culture, and language, as well as introduce them to our city. We ask you to meet at least once for a meal, event, or outing and continue your friendship over the year as you have time and opportunity. Learn more at: amis-inc.org/amigovolunteer or email us at office@amis-inc.org.

Buckhead Christian Ministries’ (BCM) mission is to keep people from becoming homeless and to work to elevate their possibilities for economic empowerment. We provide emergency assistance, supportive housing, and financial education programs that strengthen our community and empower our neighbors. <https://bcmgeorgia.org>

Earth Covenant Ministry (GIPL)

Georgia Interfaith Power and Light is an interfaith non-profit whose mission is to engage communities of faith in the stewardship of Creation as a direct expression of our faithfulness and as a religious response to global climate change, resource depletion, environmental injustice, pollution, and other disruptions in Creation. <https://gipl.org/>

Evangelical Coalition of Korean American Ministries

ECKAM (Evangelical Coalition of Korean American Ministries) is a partnership of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta. It is formed by Korean congregations and fellowships within the bounds of Greater Atlanta Presbytery. ECKAM’s focus shall be mission and ministry that specifically addresses the Korean cultural context and language needs. ECKAM is part of the Presbytery subject to all the policies and procedures of the presbytery and Book of Order, yet will have a certain degree of autonomy in addressing ministry in the Korean context, and in some process issues in the presbytery.

The mission of **Joining Hands for Justice in Palestine and Israel (JHJPI)** is to promote peace with



justice in the Holy Land. We promote bringing an end to the Israeli Occupation and exploitation of land and resources by applying Christ's teaching through prayer, advocacy, and education. Our hope is to build relationships on the basis of equality and human rights so that all may live in peace with dignity.

Join Us! We meet, via Zoom, on the second Thursday of every month at noon.

Support Our Work: donate online – jhjpi.com/support or send check to: P.O. Box 2123, Tucker, GA, 30085

Like our Facebook Page: Joining Hands for Justice in Palestine and Israel

Visit Our Website: jhjpi.com for more information and resource materials.

Or contact: Sarah Humphrey: sarah.h.humphrey@gmail.com

Our Vision: A future where everyone on la Gonâve experiences thriving, abundant life.

Our Mission: Haitian and American partners, working side by side in mutually-transformative relationships, to build vibrant, hopeful, and resilient communities on the island of la Gonâve.



www.lagonavepartners.org.



For more than 30 years, la Gonâve Haiti Partners has been working in collaboration with the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti to support programs that build capacity for an improved quality of life for Haitians living on la Gonâve island. Nineteen churches across eight states, individuals, and other institutions partner with our Haitian brothers and sisters to support pre K-12 education for over 1500 students, healthcare for thousands of patients, and economic development opportunities to families through micro finance loans and the Kid-for-a-Kid goat program. Recent initiatives include a new rural middle school that will open this fall, and a computer literacy curriculum for students

attending the K-12 school with the arrival of the St. Francis computer lab, and creation of an integrated network of health care providers across the island that addresses maternal and infant health and childhood malnutrition. We welcome new churches to learn more about joining our partnership.

Memorial Drive Ministries envisions the end of disconnectedness for refugees and the diverse community of Clarkston. This summer, Memorial Drive Ministries welcomed 3 new partners onto our campus to join our community: a new congregation worshipping in Burmese on Sundays, an International Rescue Committee summer camp for resettled refugee students, and the Center for Victims of Torture external relations staff. As we move into the fall, stay in touch by following Memorial Drive Ministries on Facebook, signing up for our E-newsletter through our website, or giving a gift through our Amazon Wishlist.

<https://www.facebook.com/MemorialDriveMinistries>

<https://mdmatl.org/sign-up-for-newsletter/>

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1KZ6V7DYWQ4SP?ref=wl_share

Volunteer opportunities at MDM:

- **MDM** is seeking a Communications Volunteer to assist with Mailchimp emails and social media posts as well as a Grounds & Gardens Volunteer to oversee planters on campus, seasonal grounds beautification, and to liaise with Global Growers Network in the management of our on-campus gardens. If interested, email a resume to info@mdmatl.org
- **Just Bakery** of Atlanta is looking for volunteers to help sell their baked goods on weekends at pop-ups and farmers markets. These volunteers help set up tables, package products for customers, answer questions, collect money, and help clean up after the sale. They're also looking for a volunteer who can oversee oil changes for the generator for their new food truck. If interested, email: jenny@justbakeryatl.org
- **Solid Foundation** is looking for reading tutors for their students (ages 5-16). Must be available in the window of 8am – 2pm starting August 15th and go through a background check for working with children. If interested, email: administrator46@solidfoundationchristianacademy.com
- **Friends of Refugees** is hosting volunteer orientations for those who want to get involved. Learn more and register here: <https://friendsofrefugees.com/volunteer-orientation/>
- **Global Growers Network** is hosting a number of upcoming garden workdays in the Clarkston area. Learn more and sign up here: <https://portal.goldenvolunteer.com/organization/6lzefJejVP/Global%20Growers%20Network>

Peace and Global Witness Partnership

The Peace and Global Witness Partnership is established to promote the efficacy of Peace throughout our global community and nation. To effectuate this process of Peace, the Partnership has incorporated several Ministries which range in service population to International Students (Ministry of Amis), The Prison Movement (Ncart), Local homelessness Service projects, El Refugio and detainee programs as well as the Sanctuary Movement located at Columbia Presbyterian Church. In addition, collaborations are underway to integrate the work of Mission Haven with local church ministries. Further the development of the Institute for Public Theology under the auspices of Columbia Presbyterian Church has begun preliminary

discussions with Columbia Seminary in an effort to develop a cross section of curricular designed to enhance public theology praxis with seminary training.

Presbyterians Caring for Chaplains and Military Personnel helps the PC(USA) endorsing agency, Presbyterian Federal Chaplaincies (www.pccmp.org), provide Presbyterian and reformed ministry to federal personnel with the mission, “That all may practice in peace.” We help recruit and support Presbyterian clergy who serve members and families of our Armed Forces worldwide, Veterans and their families receiving care from the Department of Veterans Affairs, inmates confined in Bureau of Prison facilities and their families, and members and cadets of the Civil Air Patrol. In August 2022, Chaplain Training and Credentialing events will be held at Calvin Crest Conferences outside Oakhurst, CA on August 1-5 and at Montreat Conference Center in Montreat NC on August 8-12. Presbytery’s Peace and Global Witness Partnership financially supports these events. Minister members of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta that currently serve as Chaplains are Patrick Day with the Georgia National Guard, Victoria Kelly Chappell with the US Navy Reserve and Michael Chaney in the US Navy. For more information contact Rev. Bill Nisbet, retired Army Reserve Chaplain, at wonisbet@bellsouth.net. Contributions from individuals or churches to support Presbyterians Caring for Chaplains can be made through the website above.

Presbyterians for a Better Georgia

Presbyterians for a Better Georgia has been a voice for Presbyterians at the state capitol during the 2022 legislative session, working especially hard to achieve positive results on our two focus issues: 1) increasing affordable housing/ending homelessness and 2) increasing access to healthcare. Please visit our website (www.p4bg.org) or our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter feeds to learn more about how you can partner with PBG.

Street Grace is a faith-driven organization collaborating with faith, business and community leaders providing a comprehensive path to end the sexual exploitation of minors. CSEC involves the recruitment, harboring, transportation, and/or the obtaining of a child under the age of 18 for the purpose of a commercial sex act. Street Grace mobilizes community resources – financial, human, and material – to fight CSEC through **prevention, protection, policy and pursuit.**

MISSION: To eradicate the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC).

VISION: A world where all children are free from sexual exploitation.

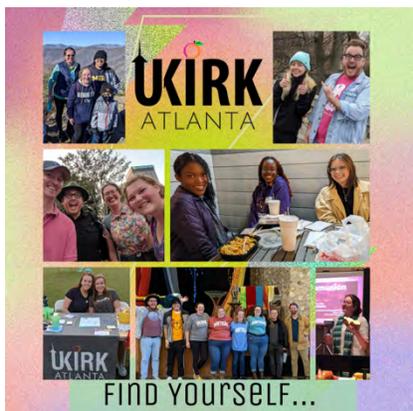
<https://www.streetgrace.org/>

Presbyterian Youth Ministry Collaboration of Atlanta



Save the Date for the PGA Fall Middle School Retreat at Calvin Center, November 2-4. All youth 6th-8th grade are invited for a weekend of worship, service, and fellowship.

UKirk Atlanta



The mission of UKirk Atlanta is to energize, coordinate, and develop relationship-based ministries on Atlanta area college campuses and to build connections between college students and PC(USA) congregations.

UKirk Atlanta strives to foster supportive, faithful communities of students who together seek to engage faith in their everyday lives, particularly for the students at Agnes Scott College, Emory University, and Georgia State University.

We are proudly a member of More Light Presbyterians and a Matthew 25 Faith Community. Our partnership as a More

Light ministry gives us a foundation for the future of our ministry that we are proud to stand upon so that we can “be lovingly present for those who most need support in our communities, encouraging us to better attend to their spiritual needs.”

We are also called by our faith to stand against the systems of white supremacy and racism, seeking justice and wholeness in God’s beloved community.

As we enter the summer break season, UKirk Atlanta is focusing on fundraising for the sustainability of our ministry and partnering with congregations and incoming college students to equip them with faith formation opportunities ahead of them. If you are interested in

inviting UKirk leaders to speak with your graduating seniors or with your congregation as a whole about the importance of college ministry please reach out.

www.ukirkatlanta.com

Westminster Christian Fellowship at Georgia Tech

We are an organization on the campus of Georgia Tech that introduces students and Chinese scholars to Christianity and walks with Christians through this pivotal time of life. Our general student group meets weekly for fellowship, worship, prayer, and small group Bible studies. Our Chinese student group meets weekly to build community and study the Bible. Every year we serve over 300 Chinese students in August by welcoming them to Georgia Tech by offering transportation and temporary housing before the school year



begins. We also have a weekly group and their families to learn about group provide many adults with Christianity.

If you would like more information you can visit our website (gt-wcf.org)

Instagram ([gtwcf](https://www.instagram.com/gtwcf)). If you are interested in volunteering or becoming a financial supporter, you may email our director Jon Keyser (jon@gt-wcf.org).



for Chinese adult scholars Christianity. The scholars their first exposure to

about our organization, or find us on Facebook or

World Mission Partnership

The purpose of the World Mission Partnership is to involve more congregations in our presbytery in the world mission of the PCUSA and to facilitate communication between those congregations. The partnership is able to connect churches interested in the same mission area and to support mission co-workers by providing them connections to area churches.

NCDC Report

For Information

NCDC's Recent Highlights

Since our last Presbytery Meeting, your NCDC:

- **Chartered El Nazareno Presbyterian Church on May 1st, 2022!** We are so thrilled to welcome El Nazareno into our greater Presbyterian family.
- Offered two workshops and two fellowship gatherings for NWCs
- Distributed \$60,000 in grant money to NWCs
- Is facilitating six additional grant applications
- Is working with six communities on chartering

NCDC's fall schedule is filling up! Is your congregation interested in having the NCDC lead a Sunday School series or speak in worship? [Get in touch with Christina](#) to get it on the calendar today!

NCDC's Upcoming Highlights

- **The NCDC Summer Retreat is this month August 24th – 26th** We will be exploring how to best tell NWC stories. The most powerful way to connect people to your church and its mission is through storytelling. At the NCDC's summer retreat, we are moving from **boring** to **brilliant** storytelling, equipping each of us to best share the story of our church, what's going on, and how it matters.
- ***What's the Secret Sauce? Conference coming soon!*** Join us September 12-13 at Decatur Presbyterian Church for two days of listening, sharing, worshiping and savoring the wisdom of immigrant new worshiping communities and discover key ingredients for supporting and encouraging our witness together. Sponsored by 1001 NWC and the New Church Development Commission of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, this event will be heavy on inspiration and practical insight from immigrant leaders as well as presbytery and denominational staff. The full schedule and list of speakers is still being finalized, but you can sign up [here!](#)



COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

Admit to Record:

- The following persons were enrolled as inquirers as of the date shown:
 - a. Melissa Carver, Columbia, May 26, 2022
 - b. Asia Lerner, Shallowford, July 28, 2022

- The following annual consultations took place:
 - a. Karen Fletcher, North Decatur, March 28, 2022
 - b. Nikki Zimmerman, Peachtree, April 12, 2022
 - c. (Robert) Drew Wilmesherr, Decatur, April 14, 2022
 - d. Kevin Lacson, Clairmont, April 27, 2022
 - e. Rachal Little, Atlanta First, May 25, 2022
 - f. Victoria Robinson, Johns Creek, June 20, 2022

- The following churches had Session orientations:
 - a. Alpharetta on April 28, 2022
 - b. Oakhurst on June 23, 2022

- The following candidates were certified ready to receive a call:
 - a. Sarah Lane, Decatur, April 28, 2022
 - b. (Robert) Drew Wilmesherr, Decatur, May 26, 2022

- The following candidates received a call:
 - a. Dana Gray has received a call to serve as a hospital chaplain at Children's Hospital of Atlanta.
 - b. Nell Herring has received a call to work with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.
 - c. Sarah Lane has received a call to serve in a validated ministry with the Zo New Worshiping Community.

For Recommendation:

1. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry recommends that the following inquirer be enrolled as a candidate as of the date shown:

Sun Young Choi, Korean Community, June 23, 2022

A brief statement of the inquirer's faith journey is attached.

Faith Journey Statement

Sun Young Choi

I was born in South Korea and raised in a family having strong traditions of Confucianism with 13 annual ancestral worship ceremonies. My mother, though she was a Christian as a child, was not able to go to church due to her in-law's strong opposition when she married my father. However, by the providence of God, my brother and I were allowed to go to church since we were young. My mother, my brother, and I prayed together for my father's salvation, and the prayer was answered in a very unexpected way.

When I was 15, my father was diagnosed with terminal liver cancer. Facing his death, by the incredible grace of God, he sincerely accepted Jesus as his Lord and savior. In spite of the fervent opposition of family elders, he broke all the traditions of Confucianism and made a path for my family to serve God alone. Although he soon went to eternal peace, since then, most of my family members, including extended family members, have become Christians one by one. Though his physical body perished, his spiritual legacy still lasts in my family through the generations.

Through this experience, I came to know God as Creator, the Almighty, and a loving father; however, it wasn't until my second year of college that I finally accepted Jesus as my true savior. At that time, I was actively serving my home church as a praise & worship team member; however, deep inside my heart, I was struggling with the dilemma that though I loved God, I still liked to sin. I started to clearly face my sinful nature which I could not solve or eradicate by my own human endeavor. The only thing I could do was desperately ask for God's mercy. Then, I began to feel that the Holy Spirit came to me and gave me an understanding of what I had heard of Jesus more than a hundred times before - a pure lamb, atonement, redemption, paying my debt, and much more. It was like pieces of a puzzle finally found their place. Finally, I began to understand the priceless love on the Cross given "not by human endeavor, but by the blood of the lamb," and the sacrificial love "taking away the sin of the world."

This amazing love has also changed my whole world view, from an 'I-centered' view to a 'Jesus and others - centered' view. Having grown more in the love of Christ, I came to realize how God so loved the world and that God called me to live an abundant Christian life of sharing God's love with other people. This led me to search for God's specific calling on me to use my gifts for God and for others and the world, and that was to dedicate my life to recover the image of God and the fullness of God's plan in people. After graduating from college in Korea, I fulfilled my calling by being professionally trained as a Marriage and Family Therapist at Fuller Theological Seminary.

Through my training and then working as a Marriage and Family Therapist, I gratefully had the experience to bring hope and encouragement to individuals, couples, families, and groups who were in times of despair and emotional breakdown. In particular, as I was given plenty of opportunities to work with the Korean-American/Korean immigrant population, I, myself as a Korean immigrant, came to understand and deeply empathize with their unique struggles related to acculturational discrepancy among generations and family disorganization, along with general psychological and relational issues.

And now, I hope to expand my boundary as an MFT and help people with a more spiritually-focused perspective by being equipped as a pastor at Columbia Theological Seminary and under the care of PCUSA. I feel my heart pounding with passion for the Korean immigrant

families and churches/communities. Particularly, since female ministers are short in number in Korean immigrant churches, and still are not very welcomed in its patriarchal cultural context, I have witnessed that the delicate needs of women are often disregarded or even ignored. As a woman, a wife, and a mother myself, I do hope to serve them with empathy, sensitivity, and cultural understandings in order that they can be equipped as God's transforming agents for their families, churches, and the broader society. I also hope to continue to develop and organize Bible study groups designed for wives and mothers, couples and families, and Christian parenting education groups, so that people can experience God's healing and restoration as a body of Christ as they hold each other accountable with love and respect. Currently, I am serving as a children's minister at one of the PCUSA churches in the Greater Atlanta Presbytery. I believe that God is transforming each family through these kids and will eventually bring positive changes to the whole church, the Korean American communities, and the broader society.

EXAMINATIONS COMMISSION REPORT

August 16, 2022

For Information:

The commission examined and received the following Ministers of the Word and Sacrament into membership on behalf of the presbytery. They will be introduced at the meeting.

- **Victor Aloyo** (Northeast New Jersey Presbytery) has been called to a validated ministry as President of Columbia Theological Seminary, effective August 1, 2022.
- **Jasmine Evans** (Salem Presbytery) has been called as Associate Pastor of Young Adults at North Avenue Presbyterian Church, effective July 11, 2022.

Their faith journeys and statements of faith follow this report.

For Action:

The commission examined the following candidates in the areas of polity, theology, and worship and sacraments and heard a brief sermon from each. The commission recommends the following persons for ordination:

- **Dana Gray** (candidate of Greater Atlanta) has been called to a validated ministry as a chaplain at Children's Hospital of Atlanta, effective July 5, 2022.
- **Nell Herring** (candidate of Greater Atlanta) has been called to a validated ministry as Mission Specialist II with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, effective June 6, 2022.
- **Sarah Lane** (candidate of Greater Atlanta) has been called to a validated ministry as pastor of the Zo Presbyterian Church New Worshiping Community, effective May 19, 2022.

Their faith journeys and statements of faith follow this report.

Rev. Dr. Victor Aloyo, Jr., M.Div., Ed.D.
Statement of Faith Journey

The poet John O'Donohue writes that a dynamic life can be distilled to this: coming to thresholds—to points of inflection, to edges, to entryways—and crossing them "worthily." That's a difficult word for me. It suggests that my interactions are impactful in a meaningful way; that the God who shaped me from clay has placed a unique and wonderful calling in my heart; that it matters who I'm with, where I am, and what I do. My faith journey comprises transformative moments of thresholds that have moved me closer to myself, my calling, and God. In a hundred signs and secret languages, God has called me to study, reflect, and serve in the company of the whole people of God and diverse communities.

My faith journey and aspirations are based on a critical understanding and recognition of God's presence in my life through the saving grace of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit. This salvific plan includes my developing story of who I am as a son, husband, father, friend, minister, and trusted colleague. I am the son of the late Esperanza Aloyo and Victorino Aloyo from Vieques, Puerto Rico. Married to Suzette Aloyo for over thirty-five years, we are blessed with two daughters, Kayla Cristen, an aerospace engineer working in Huntsville, AL, and Alyssa Nicole, serving as a DEI administrator at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN.

When I was thirteen, my mother delivered a sermon that changed my life on a precious Sunday. She said in part, "According to Deuteronomy 31:6, God will never leave you, nor God will forsake you. Trust God. Let your faith take the risk." Although I had heard hundreds of sermons about Jesus, this message felt different. It was as if God's Word was echoing within me. So, I dedicated my life to the journey with the One whose image I am created. I vowed to let God's will always have preeminence in my life from that day. In this commitment, my call to ministry embraces important principles of adaptive leadership, innovation in strategic planning, trust-building, equitable distribution of resources, and access to education. My intentions to equip the saints for ministry and my desire to continue exploring and modeling how God intersects my leadership and spiritual formation gifts lead me to serve as the next President of Columbia Theological Seminary and an integral member of the Greater Atlanta Presbytery.

As an ordained Minister of Word and Sacraments for the past thirty-two years and a Ruling Elder six years prior, I am grateful to serve in transformative ministries within newly organized and revitalized congregations as a lead and organizing pastor in urban environments in New York and New Jersey. Serving multicultural, multigenerational, and multilingual communities of faith has broadened my understanding of effective congregational ministry, strategic planning, vision-casting, leadership collaboration, spiritual formation, and volunteer development. My involvement in the PCUSA's governing bodies or councils has been a critical part of my formation as a partner and colleague in the expansion of God's kin-dom. [\[1\]](#)

I am grateful to God for these and many transformative moments and thresholds that have called me to serve in multiple arenas and vineyards of faith. I joyfully continue to learn by walking with God in meaningful ways that incorporate the stories of loved ones, colleagues, neighbors, and strangers in my life.

[\[1\]](#) Kin-dom became the language Ada María Isasi-Díaz used to describe God's *Libertad*, the liberation of God at work among people, and the good news for those who suffer at the hands of kings.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

Rev. Dr. Victor Aloyo, Jr.

“My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from him.” – Psalm 62:1

I believe in the one triune God, Creator of the heavens and earth. I believe that all order of things, visible and invisible, are sustained by God's Word. I believe in God, who formed humankind in God's likeness and image, and although, in its fallen state, God gave humanity and the order of creation the hope of restoration. I believe in God, who is near and in our midst.

I believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord and Redeemer, the only begotten Son of God who is the Word become flesh, Emmanuel, God with us. I believe in his conception by the Holy Spirit through the Virgin Mary, the instrument used for the incarnation of the Word of God. In Jesus, we see God's love for us and with us. Jesus taught the people, cared for them, fed and broke bread with them, and forgave and healed them. I am called to be an imitator of Jesus Christ and to serve and not to be served. I believe in his prophetic and priestly ministry, passion, death, bodily resurrection, and the promise of his second coming for his Church. In Christ, I am redeemed and reborn! I have reconciled to the Father in Christ and no longer face eternal separation. Nothing here on earth or above can ever separate me from the love of God, for the resurrection of Christ is the eternal testimony of the victory of life over death.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, God's Word in us and amongst us. The Holy Spirit enables me to state, "Jesus is Lord!" Through the gift of faith in Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit marks and seals me as a child of God. The Holy Spirit helps me to live a life worthy of the gospel of Jesus Christ as it makes me aware of my shortcomings, enables me to grow in the name of Christ, and with each passing moment, allows me to acknowledge that I was once lost, and now I am found. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, I am called as a Minister of the Word and Sacraments to serve in a ministry of reconciliation begun in Christ.

I believe the Church to be comprised of the believers of Jesus Christ as his mystical and visible body. The Church manifests God's comforting presence in Christ, the only true foundation. We are called to build one another up in the love of God. As we build each other up, we are also called to reach out to those with God's reconciling message that in Christ, there is forgiveness. We are called to be for one another, and, therefore, we are called to be in community with the world that needs to hear the life-giving message of the Gospel.

I believe The Scriptures are composed of the Old and New Testaments and are the Word of God, revealing the plan of salvation as proclaimed through individuals who lived, in particular, circumstances and contexts. I believe that the Scriptures' reading, study, and proclamation are vital for growth in grace and knowledge through the community of faith, the Church. Its message is always relevant, and the call of holiness to communion with God and our neighbors is the same as in the past.

I believe Jesus Christ instituted two sacraments, Baptism and the Lord's Supper. I believe in Baptism as a means of grace that signifies entrance into the faith community. Baptism is a sign and seal of cleansing into Christ and entry into the covenant of grace. In the Lord's Supper, we remember and proclaim the death of Jesus Christ. We celebrate the redeeming work of Christ, and at the same time, we boldly announce his inevitable return in glory. I believe that the elements (the bread and cup) of the Lord's Supper are symbolic (body and blood of Jesus Christ), and the call to participate, remember and proclaim his death, resurrection, and presence through the Holy Spirit is open to all as they have professed Jesus as Lord and Savior.

Reverend Jasmine K. Evans, M.Div. – Faith Journey

Even though I have been in church my entire life, my faith journey really began in college. The year I started at Winston-Salem State University was a pivotal year. I was fresh off the heels of a familial fallout that revealed how much pastors struggle to maintain the boundaries of family and church. I was also finally choosing a career path that focused on my passions and gifts instead of how much money I could make. And to top it all off, I fell in love with someone that I thought I would spend the rest of my life with, and we became pregnant. Through each decision, choice, and new life circumstance, I decided I needed God more and more.

So, when I was hired as a campus intern at Saint James, I took it as a sign from God. I felt like my life was falling apart. I was overwhelmed by my course load, parenting, and working a fast-food job. Each week as I showed up at Saint James for my internship, I began to feel God pull me closer. I wanted to know God deeply, and I wanted to know God in community with other college students and young adults. The church was warm and welcoming. They loved me and my daughter. It was a love that could only come from having a deep relationship with the Divine. That love in that community sustained me.

After graduation I became even more involved with Saint James at-large and as a direct result I began to feel better and closer to God. One day, someone from the church called me and asked if I might be interested in working in the front office. They advised me that I would have to apply for the position, interview, and work hard, but they thought that I would be a good candidate. After a few volunteer days and a couple of interviews, I was hired. It was just the break I needed, and it was right where God wanted me to be.

The front office at Saint James was a ministry in and of itself. People came by for church business, but they often came by for prayer and venting and deep conversations. That was the part of the job that no one told me about, but it was the part that filled me up the most. I would sit in my office for hours with members who ultimately just needed someone to pray with them and to listen to their stories. That office was a holy place. It was sacred. I still get misty thinking about the moments I shared with so many congregants over those two years. And unknowingly, it was that experience and working with so many Spirit-filled Black women who were walking in their calling that led me to mine. They paved the way first by ministering to me at my lowest moments. In the moments when I felt like I had no value, they reminded me that me and my daughter were both made in the image of God. They reminded me that we had a purpose. They taught me to seek God for guidance and to trust God's plan for our lives. When I began sharing those same teachings and reassuring words with others in the office, I began to see my self-image transform. This is what God was leading me to all this time.

I answered God's call to ministry by going to obtain a Master of Divinity degree from Wake Forest University's School of Divinity. At Wake I was able to learn the language of the theology that had been brewing in my heart ever since I left the Sovereign Grace Baptist and Missionary Baptist churches my mother and I attended when I was growing up. I met people who pushed me to explore my theological interests and found myself engulfed in Women's, Gender and Sexuality courses paired with the Presbyterian required courses. I encountered God outside of the church in a very real way - in classrooms, in the gym, on the campus lawn and in the living room of our shared grad school house. At each turn, my faith in God rooted and reaffirmed me that I was headed in the right direction.

Now that I have been ordained it feels like a full circle moment - not just for me and my daughter, but for every person who poured into my life these past twelve years. God met me and so many other people at 820 Ross Avenue in Greensboro and because of it, I am changed and called to walk with others through their spiritual transformations.

In my current positions (Supply Pastor at Grace Presbyterian Church and Pastor of Faith Point Fellowship), I am honored to serve two very different congregations. Grace has an older population of Sunday church goers who love their church and love God. Faith Point is a 1001 New Worshipping Community serving college students at HBCU's and other local universities. Both ministries have something in common: loving people where they are and praying for God to lead us all in our faith journey's. My experiences at both congregations will inform my ministry at North Avenue Presbyterian Church as an Associate Pastor of Young Adults. I am looking forward to helping build a ministry focused on God's love and authentic community. I plan to use my professional skills to engage students in faith conversations, serving the church and the community as well as leading them in worship. I seek to help reignite current young adults desire for spiritual connection and growth while being a supportive pastor to the church at-large. I hope that the experiences of all involved, deep study of the Word and joyful fellowship will be aspects that will shape and define the future of this ministry.

My faith in God stands on one simple point - God is good.
God is the good shepherd and the good defender. The evil that is present in the world exists outside of God's goodness and has no bearing on the belief that God has a plan for my life.
I believe that God's love for me, the community, and the world stems from God's goodness.
I believe in the Triune God: God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.
God is the one true God, author, and finisher of our faith, creator of all good things.
All of humankind is created in the perfect image of God and we were made to live in harmony with the whole of creation, exercising dominion over it. Unfortunately, humankind fell to temptation. Temptation and sin continue to drive a wedge between us and God's plan for our lives as we continuously succumb to sin. But nothing can truly separate us from the love of God.
I know that God is just, jealous, and loving.
Through God's just character we know that the wages of sin are death.
Through God's jealous nature we know that there should be no other gods before the God of our ancestors. Through God's love we are saved from sin because of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus our brother and friend.
Jesus, God's son, was sent to save the world. Jesus was born of the virgin Mary.
He is fully human and fully divine.
He lived, learned, taught, ministered, was crucified, died and rose again.
Through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross, humankind was freed from the debt of sin.
Jesus' life on earth is a blueprint for holy living.
He was not afraid to speak up, do the right thing, bond with the "wrong" people, or choose love over the law. The biblical miracles of Christ were a foreshadowing of the miraculous power of the Holy Spirit living and breathing among us today.
The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God with us forever.
Also known as the Holy Spirit, She is present with me and the whole of humanity at all times.
Through the Spirit of God, the Church is connected in covenant to one another.
The Holy Spirit is present in Scripture. Through Scripture, God is revealed to us.
It is a Divinely inspired guide to living. Scripture should be taken seriously and preached with care in an effort not to weaponize it against others or to use it for selfish gain.
The Spirit inspires us, guides us, chastises us, heals us, walks with us, and sanctifies us.
Through the work of the Spirit, young and old are claimed in the waters of Baptism. It is an open and communal act of worship meant for the entire body of Christ to share in and support.
When we participate in the Eucharist, the Spirit gives us a taste of life eternal through the bread and undeniable salvation through the cup. We share in this feast together, repenting of our sins, remembering, and celebrating the work of Christ on the cross and in his resurrection.
These two sacraments, baptism and communion, mark and cover us with God's grace.
The Spirit working in us, calls us to the work of the church and beyond, to minister to the souls of humankind, to care for the sick, to watch over the widow(er), and to welcome all into the body of Christ.
The Holy Spirit emboldens us, goes before us, and gives us power and authority.
I, along with my siblings in Christ, wait for the day when all things will be made new, when we will meet the Lord in Heaven. Until then, I will walk out the great commission through faith in Jesus Christ, preaching and teaching the good news to all who will hear it and believe.

Faith Journey — Dana Gray

Biologically, I am described as a 49 year old caucasian female. Further, I could biographically be described as a recovering addict, lesbian, and/or a survivor of childhood trauma. I can be described as one who is guarded and then at other times described as emotionally honest and open. Essentially all these things make up part of who I am. However, I believe the most accurate statement about who I am is someone who fought for a long time to establish myself as someone of worth. The church I attended as a child, was a frightening place that spoke about Christ in terms of fiery judgement. I was afraid of Him and knew He would not find me worthy. I sought to be given this worth from my parents, but they were violent and incapable of affirming my worth. I endeavored to establish worth by seeking recovery and staying clean since I was 18, but I found worth is never based on social acceptability. I believed a college degree would raise me into the ranks of the worthy, but was told that degrees are too easy come by and ultimately worthless. I railed against the UMC who claimed that while I was worthy of being accepted into their number and baptized, I was not worthy of ordination because I was a self-avowed lesbian. Yet with every one of those denials, at least on some cellular level, I found myself incapable of believing I had no worth. Years later,, I found myself at a doctor's office being told that a tests revealed an elevated pancreatic tumor marker. While going through tests and four surgeries, I began to have brutal and real conversations with God. My faith became stronger. I relied on God to get me through each day. In the end, all the organs and tissue removed from me were not cancerous. I went back to work, but struggled with attention to detail and was scrutinized by my employers. Oddly with everything I experienced in my life, this was the proverbial straw that broke the camel's back. On the way to another follow-up, I lashed out at God. I could not understand why I had been delivered through all that I had only to then fail. I asked if I was not worth better. When my doctor saw me, she sat down and listened to me. I realize now that she was my chaplain in that moment. She validated my concerns about God, but never affirmed them. She also encouraged me to seek a spiritual community to explore my fears and beliefs about God. I began attending Emory Presbyterian, where I examined my relationship with God, resolved my fears about God, and soon experienced the same call to ministry I had in college. I enrolled in Candler School of Theology and completed my first year, but earned my degree at Princeton Theological Seminary in 2017. From there, I completed a CPE residency at Wellspan Hospital in York, PA. I enrolled in a second year residency, but was released from the program. I found myself challenged to lean into the worth I was given through Christ's sacrifice, but no matter what I felt about myself God's love kept moving me forward. I worked for almost two years in hospice after returning home to Georgia. While I enjoyed the work, I could not discern it was where I was being called. After a period of discernment, I accepted a call at Children's Hospital of Atlanta, Egelston and I knew as soon as I stepped into a crisis that I was where I was supposed to be. In the most simplistic of terms, I am someone who believes that worth cannot be earned nor given by another person or institution. My undeserved worth has been established by God, offered to me by God's grace, and sealed by Christ's sacrifice, and resurrection. Thus, I am someone who truly wants to live in service to God. That I am defined as worthy and because of that gift I want to work to spread this Good News to the world.

Statement of Faith — Dana Gray

I believe in God, who is supreme, merciful, and who has always been and always will be. I believe the will of God cannot be subverted, impacted, nor manipulated by human behavior nor prayer. God's grace has been, and forever will be, offered for the redemption of the world from sin.

I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. I believe that God's grace is offered through covenant in Christ, which was, and forever will be, offered to the world by the birth, life, ministry, sacrifice, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

I believe God's grace through covenant in Christ is communicated to the world by the Holy Spirit. I believe that having encountered the words of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit convicts one of their own brokenness and the need for redeeming grace of God through the salvific covenant in Christ. I believe the Holy Spirit encourages confession of belief in the covenant offered by God through the death and resurrection of Jesus, upon which the ugly stain of sin is wiped from the confessor, in God's eye, and is assured to the confessor by the Holy Spirit. I believe the offer of covenantal relationship is a surety from God to the world that is infinitely offered and never to be rescinded.

I believe the world is interminably broken and that human beings are incapable of securing own salvation, except through the love, mercy, and grace of the One Triune God. I believe that no human is nor will ever be able to accomplish meritorious award of such a gift nor complete any work that would guarantee the perpetuity of the promise offered.

I believe that although, the Trinity is expressed as three persons to convey who these three interact with the world, in fact, God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit are the One Triune God, who are equitable, indivisible, and irreducible.

I believe the sacrament of Baptism is a sign that points us to engage and remember the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and seals us, as children of the covenant offered by God. I believe the Baptism of others, causes us to remember and be grateful for the covenant we have been given by God and invites us to live in covenantal relationship with one another.

I believe the sacrament of the Lord's Supper signifies and encourages praise for God's grace through covenant facilitated by Christ's sacrifice. I believe the Lord's Supper occasions the recipient to remember and be thankful for the death and resurrection of Christ for which we have received the blessings of remission of sin and eternal life.

I believe the church, or community of believers, is compelled by reception of God's grace to live in covenantal relationship with one another. I believe covenantal relationship is marked by its members seeking understanding, working in partnership, teaching, questioning, and challenging growth from the community of believers and the world at large. I believe being in covenantal relationship requires trust, love, fealty, and communication, and reconciliation of disputes so that we are continually striving toward the fulfillment of God's will as a community of believers.

Faith Journey — Nell Herring

I grew up in Mooresville, North Carolina where I was part of the fifth generation of McNeely/Herrings to attend First Presbyterian Church and the fourth generation to grow up in my childhood home. In a household filled with steadfast love and endless humor, my younger brother and I were raised by my parents. It was in Mooresville that my leadership skills were honed, compassion was encouraged, and the faith foundation was laid for the journey ahead.

As a teenager, I attended New Wilmington Mission Conference where I learned about mission work and took ownership of my faith formation. I was honored to serve on their 2015 Summer Service team. In this role, I had the opportunity to worship with churches throughout Cuba where I interacted with clergywomen for the first time and encountered God in new ways. Though I couldn't articulate it at the time, I now understand this season as the beginning of my call to ministry.

After this experience, I eagerly posed questions about Christianity, Presbyterianism, and global mission in my academic studies at Furman University. As I began serving as the co-Moderator of UKirk and in several church internships, I was challenged to think more seriously about ministry, which further prompted my enrollment at Columbia Theological Seminary.

The same week I applied to seminary, the church of my childhood voted ninety-four percent in favor of leaving the PC(USA) and thus became affiliated with ECO. As one of the few who challenged this decision, I was heartbroken when my church chose not to support me as I enrolled at Columbia due to my advocacy. Saddened by this, I began searching for a new church home in Atlanta. I prayerfully chose to join Shallowford Presbyterian Church. In turn, Shallowford chose to love, nurture, and encourage me in my discernment process when those who had raised me would not. The congregation became my family, held me close during the traumas and triumphs of my seminary experience, and provided incredible mentors to guide me on this ministry journey.

As part of my academic interest in the universal church and global mission, I chose to do an international supervised ministry placement through CTS in Nairobi, Kenya with the Presbyterian Church of East Africa. During my internship, I encountered countless examples of the ways in which twentieth century missionaries perpetuated harm to those they colonized in the name of God. I left with even more questions and continued to ponder what it means to be united as the body of Christ throughout the world despite differences in theology, practice, and culture.

Throughout seminary and my ordination process, I continued pondering how God might still be moving in the work of the church despite the harmful theologies, problematic practices, and misconstrued missiology that the church has perpetuated for generations. Amidst the deep questioning and my own personal difficulties, I discerned a call to serve at the intersection of faith and hardship, the place where spirituality and trauma often collide.

After graduating with a dual degree from Columbia, I moved to Louisville to dive more deeply into my call to pastoral caregiving by enrolling in the Marriage and Family Therapy program at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Since January, I have been bi-vocational, working in children's ministry and as a therapist as I continued my studies full-time. I loved my work in both fields and yet still felt called to the intersection of pain and spirituality - one that I didn't often find in these separate spaces.

With gratitude for God's guidance in this process, I am humbled to be joining the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance staff who engage in disaster ministry on behalf of our denomination. I eagerly await the opportunity to begin building relationships with PDA staff, partners, and volunteers. I hope that together we can hear God's voice, engage in Christ's mission, and follow the movement of the Holy Spirit in our midst.

An Expression of Faith — Nell Herring

God far exceeds any being that humankind can comprehend. The world and all that is within it reflects God's creativity. God appears to and speaks through different people, mediums, cultures, times, places, and languages. As a result, God has been understood differently throughout time and culture. God is ever-present, working within all circumstances.

Jesus is incarnational, he was fully divine and also fully human choosing to live, walk, teach, and bear witness to the experiences of humanity. Jesus' ministry in the world built upon ancient Israelite understanding and modeled for people how to love God and God's creation more fully. The crucifixion of Jesus was a result of systematic injustice and the human expectation of Jesus' Messiahship. God worked through the human-inflicted suffering of the crucifixion to transform the world through Jesus' ministry and resurrection which enabled life after death.

The Holy Spirit is the divine presence in the world and has always been present in the story of God and of humanity. The Spirit's presence moving among us is as present in the human experience as breathing and prompts understanding of who God is. The Spirit is the source of artistry, prophetic speech, and inspiration, who moves humanity and compels response to the world.

Together, God the Creator, God the Christ, and God the Spirit comprise the Trinity, the three in one and one in three. The complexities of their interrelationship and singular natures can never be fully realized or articulated. The ways in which the persons of the Trinity relate to one another is complex and mysterious. Together, the Trinity enables the divine to connect with humanity more deeply.

The Bible is God-breathed and resonant of the shortcomings of its human authorship. Scripture is inspired and witnesses to who God is understood to be. It provides language for self-expression, offers wisdom regarding morality, paints a portrait of life in community, and presents many depictions of who people have understood God to be throughout time. Scripture guides the church toward God so the faithful must interpret and embody Christian teachings with thoughtfulness, respect, care, and resilience.

The church is reformed and being reformed according to the Word of God. An intentional community composed of imperfect people, the church attempts to love God and embody love in the world. The church embodies its vocation in worship through the celebration of sacraments, communal prayer, proclamation, reading of scripture, mission, and service. Though often divided, the church is one - unified as the body of Christ - and attentive to the work of the Holy Spirit.

Sacraments are symbols and signs of the gospel by which the Holy Spirit reminds us of the forgiving, renewing, and promising love of God in Jesus Christ. Through baptism, we are reminded of the ways God's love cleanses us from sin. When celebrating the Lord's Supper, we remember that through the brokenness of the body and the shedding of Christ's blood, we are nourished physically and spiritually by the meal we share at the table with the communion of saints. Both sacraments capture elements of the holy mystery of God's love and grace.

Realizing that God can never be fully understood, the church continues to ponder who God is and who God has called it to be as the world awaits the eschatological hope of life eternal.

I was born and raised in India. I grew up in a Christian household as my father was an ordained Presbyterian minister, which meant regular church attendance and weekly bible studies. However, he pastored a non-denominational church because his flocks were college students who had come from out of state for higher education to Shillong, Meghalaya, India.

In 2011 after being married and having had three beautiful children, I came to faith in Christ during a church service as I came under the conviction of the Holy Spirit. After that experience, it was my heart's desire to know God and study the Word of God to live a life pleasing unto the Lord. Volunteering in church and attending weekly and Sunday morning bible studies became part of my routine.

However, in 2017 everyday life would change for me as my father, who began a new worshipping community in Atlanta, GA, passed away in a tragic accident. This was a newly formed church, and with the passing away of the founding pastor, the church elected me to lay leadership. After serving for a year and attending seminary simultaneously, I resigned from my leadership position to pursue my Master of Divinity at Columbia Theological Seminary full time.

During seminary, I began working towards ordination under the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta. During my ordination process, I got introduced to Clinical Pastoral Education and completed a unit of internship to fulfill my ordination requirement. This led to another interning opportunity which mapped the way for me to do a year of Chaplain Residency at Northeast Georgia Medical Center in Gainesville. Throughout this residency program, I have learned how to accompany those in pain and suffering. This has also helped me deal with my own emotions when in a crisis situation.

Being called to lead the new worshipping community that my father had started is genuinely joyous for me. I believe my seminary education and providing pastoral care through chaplaincy have helped me grow in the faith.

I look forward to being the third generation of Presbyterian Ministers in my family.

Sarah Lane

Statement of Faith

I believe in the triune God. God the Father, maker of heaven and earth, and Lord of things visible and invisible. I believe God is sovereign over his creation and his created beings.

I believe in God's love manifested through his beloved Son, Jesus Christ. The second person of the Trinity. The only begotten Son of God by virgin birth. The one that knew no sin became sin so he could take away the sins of the world. Fully human, the Son of Man knew hunger and felt emotions of sadness, despair, and joy. Having embodied the flesh, the divine Christ understands human pain and suffering. He suffered on the cross as he faced death, was buried, and rose again on the third day. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right of God according to the teaching of the Scriptures. Jesus will come again to judge the living and the death, and his kingdom will never end. I believe and confess that Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior, and I will teach that salvation is in Christ alone, by faith, because he is the savior of all.

I believe in the Holy Spirit of God, the third person of the Trinity. The one whom Christ promised as our helper, comforter, and counselor. It is by the power of the Holy Spirit that believers can live in obedience to God's Word. It is not by human might and strength that we are able to live holy and righteous lives.

The Spirit of God justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves, love God and our neighbors, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

I believe the Scripture is the Holy Spirit inspired Word of God and hence useful for teaching, correcting, and instructing in our Christian faith.

I believe there are two sacraments: Baptism and the Lord's supper. I believe we profess our faith in God through sacraments, as we receive the Lord's grace, and we respond to our piety toward God. I believe in infant baptism as well as adult baptism. It is through baptism that we are reminded of God's covenant relationship with all. As we are baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, we confess our faith in God and the forgiveness of sins. Through the Lord's Supper, Jesus Christ nourishes us in righteousness, faithfulness, and discipleship. The Lord's Supper gathers together the past, present, and future of God's creative and redemptive work. Thus, in the celebration of the Lord's Supper, the whole range of Christian life in time is expressed- memory of the crucified Lord, provisional experience of his presence here and now through the Holy Spirit, and hope for the swift coming of God's reign of justice, freedom, and peace in fullness.

I believe that people were elected by God to be saved from the very beginning, called predestination. However, this should not stop us from faithfully preaching the Word to all, as we have limited knowledge and will never unveil or figure out who and why. Nevertheless, I believe that our faith guides us to believe that God is sovereign, and in his sovereignty, everything occurs according to God's will and God's ultimate providence.

I believe in the resurrection of the death, and I anticipate the life everlasting in the world to come.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

For Information:

In June, the Committee on Ministry received a report from its Task Force on Minimum Compensation Standards. This group was established in January 2022 to evaluate the presbytery's current minimum compensation standards set under G-3.0303c. Task force members looked at standards from other presbyteries of similar size (and cost of living in those areas); researched other models used by presbyteries for setting minimum compensation standards; sought and considered feedback from first call seekers and pastors, the Company of New Pastors, and Columbia Seminary; discussed complex issues including justice, living wage, cost of living, size and types of churches; considered church vitality throughout the lifespan of a congregation, chartering of new churches (especially immigrant and refugee churches) and churches in decline; and reviewed the previous calculation of minimum compensation standards. In June 2022, the Committee on Ministry received the report of this task force and took the following actions:

- *Set 2023 minimum compensation at \$49,623.62.* This number is the average of starting salaries in 2021-2022 for a first-year teacher with a master's degree in county school systems in the counties where PGA has a church with an installed pastor.
- *Continue the practice of increasing the minimum compensation for an individual by 1% per year of experience* (compounded across years of ordination).
- *Adjust the minimum compensation standard annually* based on the average of the past 3 years Cost of Living Adjustment, in keeping with previous practice.
- *Revisit minimum compensation at least every 3 years* by performing the same calculation (average of comparable teacher salary in counties with PGA installed pastors) to ensure that minimum compensation does not fall below this level.
- *Include an item on the annual clerk of session/session checklist that requests verification that a church is in compliance with the compounded cost-of-living adjustment yearly increase.*

Admit to Record

1. Received the year 2021 annual report from **Shannon Ball**.
2. Conclude the Contract Call Contract between **Sung Baek** and Atlanta Korean Presbyterian Church due to the dissolution of the congregation and place him on the minister member at large roll. Effective date: April 5, 2022.
3. Approve the Contract Call Associate contract renewal for **Leigh Bonner** at First Presbyterian Church in Atlanta. Effective date: April 19, 2022.

Salary	35,800
Housing	25,200
SECA allowance	4,666.50
Full Board of Pensions	22,570
Continuing education	3,000
Cell Phone	780
Four weeks vacation	
Two weeks continuing education	

4. Approve the Contract Call Associate contract renewal for **Jamie Butcher** and First Presbyterian Church in Atlanta. Effective date: April 19, 2022.

Salary	20,600
Housing	54,400
SECA allowance	5,737.50
Full Board of Pensions	27,750
Continuing education	3,000
Cell Phone	780
Four weeks vacation	
Four weeks continuing education	

5. Approve the Contract Call Associate contract renewal for **(Lara) Kate Culver** and First Presbyterian Church in Atlanta. Effective date: April 19, 2022.

Salary	25,000
Housing	45,000
SECA allowance	5,355
Full Board of Pensions	27,400
Continuing education	3,000
Cell Phone	780
Four weeks vacation	
Two weeks continuing education	

6. Approve the Contract Call Associate contract renewal for **Chris Holmes** and First Presbyterian Church in Atlanta. Effective date: April 19, 2022.

Salary	52,000
Housing	30,000
SECA allowance	6,273
Full Board of Pensions	31,840
Continuing education	3,500
Cell Phone	780
Four weeks vacation	
Two weeks continuing education	

7. Approve the Contract Call Associate contract for **Katie Sundermeier** and First Presbyterian Church in Atlanta. Effective date: April 19, 2022. This contract is for 20 hours per week.

Salary	45,000
Housing	5,000
SECA allowance	3,825
Full Board of Pensions	9,250
Continuing education	1,500
Cell Phone	420
Four weeks vacation	
Two weeks continuing education	

8. Dismiss **Sara Hayden** to Whitewater Presbytery per their request. Effective date: April 28, 2022.

9. Conclude the Contract Call Associate relationship between **Peter Thornton** and McDonough Presbyterian Church and place him on the minister member at large roll. Effective date: May 2, 2022.

10. Grant the status of Pastor Emeritus for Newnan Presbyterian Church to **Harry Barrow**. The congregation unanimously voted on May 15, 2022 to grant this status. Effective date: May 19, 2022.

11. Validate the ministry of **Sarah Lane** (candidate of Greater Atlanta) as the pastor for the Zo Presbyterian Church, one of our new worshipping communities. Date of validation: May 19, 2022.
12. Validate the ministry of **Brigette Kemink** as a hospice chaplain for CURE Health Systems. She is declaring a housing allowance of 26,000 annually. Date of validation: May 19, 2022.
13. Dissolve the associate pastoral relationship between **Barry Gaeddert** and Peachtree Presbyterian Church and place him on the minister member at large roll. Effective date: May 22, 2022.
14. Conclude the Contract Call contract between **Chris Price** and Friendship Presbyterian Church and place him back on the Honorably Retired roll. Effective date: May 22, 2022.
15. Conclude the Contract Call Associate contract between **Julie Ferguson** and Roswell Presbyterian Church and place her on the minister member at large roll. Effective date: May 28, 2022.
16. Appoint **Bobbie Wrenn Banks** as moderator for First Presbyterian Church in Monroe, effective May 29, 2022.
17. Renew the Contract Call contract between **Harrison Cain** and Ebenezer Presbyterian Church. Effective date: June 1, 2022.

Salary	13,500
Housing	17,700
Four weeks vacation	
Two weeks continuing education	
18. Renew the Contract Call Associate contract between **Kyungwon Noh** and Alpharetta Presbyterian Church. Effective date: June 1, 2022.

Housing	34,650
Minister's Choice from BOP	3,465
SECA Tax allowance	2,651
Professional Expenses	3,000
Four weeks vacation	
Two weeks continuing education	
One week denominational service	
19. Grant permission for **Rafael Viana** to labor within the bounds of Cherokee Presbytery to serve as Bridge Interim Pastor of Brazilian Christian Church for a period of four months, effective June 1, 2022.
20. Conclude the Contract Call Associate contract for **Leigh Bonner** at First Presbyterian Church in Atlanta. Effective date: June 10, 2022.
21. Dissolve the pastoral relationship between **Andrew Ditzel** and Kairos Church and dismiss him to Shenandoah Presbytery, in order that he may accept a call as Pastor of Lexington Presbyterian Church, Lexington, Virginia. Effective date: June 27, 2022
22. Conclude the Contract Call Associate contract between **Jan Stewart Tolbert** and First Presbyterian Church in LaGrange and grant her the status of Honorably Retired. Effective date: June 30, 2022.
23. Grant permission to Atlanta Taiwanese Presbyterian Church to invite Rev. **Shih-Huei Weng** as a guest preacher for the months of July-September 2022.
24. Change **Ashley Pieper** to minister member at large. Effective date: July 1, 2022.

25. Approve the terms of call for **Jasmine Evans** as Associate Pastor at North Avenue Presbyterian Church, effective July 11, 2022.

Salary	34,000
Housing	36,000
SECA Allowance	5,355
Board of Pensions Dues	27,881
Continuing Education	1,000
Actual Moving Expenses	
First Call Program	800
Professional Expenses	4,100
Four weeks vacation	
Two weeks continuing education	
Sabbatical after seven years	
Six weeks paid family leave	

26. Approve the Contract Call Associate contract renewal for **Heather Chase** and Oakhurst Presbyterian Church. Effective date: July 15, 2022.

Salary	23,700
Housing	30,000
SECA allowance	4,100
Full Board of Pensions +dental	21,386
Professional Expenses	2,200
Continuing education	1,000
Cell Phone	600
Mileage/auto expenses	600
Four weeks vacation	
Two weeks continuing education	

27. Dissolve the Associate Pastor relationship between **Anne Fyffe** and Alpharetta Presbyterian Church and place her on the roll of ministers at large. Effective date: July 31, 2022.

28. Dissolve the Associate Pastor relationship between **Richard Floyd** and Trinity Presbyterian Church in Atlanta and dismiss him to Western North Carolina Presbytery, that he may take a call as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Hickory, North Carolina. Effective date: August 1, 2022.

29. Remove **Kimbrell Teegarden** from the rolls of the Presbytery. Certified mail returned in 2020 and there has been no contact. Effective date: August 16, 2022.

30. Remove **Jay Thomas** from the rolls of the Presbytery. There has been no communication since 2017. Effective date: August 16, 2022.

31. Dismiss **Whitney Lockhard Booth** to Northeast Georgia Presbytery in order that she may accept the call as Associate Pastor of Commerce First United Methodist Church in Commerce, GA. Effective date: August 20, 2022.

32. Alpharetta Presbyterian Church has submitted proof of a financial review for 2020 and 2021. Therefore their minutes are now found to be without exception for both years.

33. The following churches had their year 2021 minutes reviewed:

Austell, with exception
Ebenezer, without exception
Grace Korean, with exception
Hanbit, without exception
Johns Creek, without exception

Korean Central, without exception
Korean Community, without exception
New Presbyterian Church of Georgia, without exception

COUNCIL

For Information:

The Council approved plans for the November 12 Presbytery Meeting to be held fully in-person. The meeting will feature the installation of the Stated Clerk and would likely be live-streamed for observers.

After conversation with the new Stated Clerk, the Council reviewed and made changes to the dates for 2023 presbytery meetings:

Saturday, February 11, 2023
Tuesday, May 2, 2023
Tuesday, August 15, 2023
Saturday, November 4, 2023

The format for these meetings will be determined and set by Council in the coming weeks.

OPERATIONS

Admit to Record:

1. On May 19, 2022, the Operations Committee, acting as the Board of Directors, elected the Rev. C. Anderson James as Secretary of the Corporation, effective June 1, 2022.

**THE PRESBYTERY OF GREATER ATLANTA
2022 BENEVOLENCE GIVING RECORDS
6/30/2022**

*See explanation on final report page regarding each column.

CHURCH	COLUMN 1 OPERATIONAL SUPPORT PLEDGE	COLUMN 2 OPERATIONAL SUPPORT RECEIVED	COLUMN 3 PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT \$26.98	COLUMN 4 PER CAPITA RECEIVED	COLUMN 5 TOTAL RECEIPTS TO PRESBYTERY BUDGET <small>(Column 2 + Column 4)</small>	COLUMN 6 SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS	COLUMN 7 NON-BUDGETED DESIGNATIONS	COLUMN 8 TOTAL OF ALL RECEIPTS <small>(Column 5 + Columns 6 & 7)</small>	MEMBERSHIP 12/31/2021	MEMBERSHIP 12/31/2020
PEACHTREE			\$187,753.82		\$0.00			\$0.00	7136	6959
ROSWELL		\$30,000.00	\$64,239.38		\$30,000.00			\$30,000.00	2386	2381
First PRES-ATLANTA		\$22,500.00	\$51,450.86	\$51,451.00	\$73,951.00	\$1,250.00	\$1,000.00	\$76,201.00	1732	1907
KOREAN COMMUNITY		\$35,000.00	\$48,779.84		\$35,000.00			\$35,000.00	1430	1808
TRINITY ATLANTA			\$45,056.60		\$0.00			\$0.00	1575	1670
SHALLOWFORD	\$3,781.14	\$1,890.50	\$27,168.86	\$13,584.50	\$15,475.00	\$75.00		\$15,550.00	989	1007
ALPHARETTA	\$22,400.00	\$11,200.02	\$22,393.40	\$11,200.02	\$22,400.04	\$2,076.00	\$300.00	\$24,776.04	815	830
DECATUR		\$14,479.97	\$21,341.18	\$21,584.00	\$36,063.97	\$4,562.50	\$937.50	\$41,563.97	738	791
ST LUKES	\$3,500.00		\$19,830.30	\$19,749.36	\$19,749.36	\$1,378.65		\$21,128.01	715	735
NORTH AVENUE		\$10,006.02	\$19,398.62	\$12,963.57	\$22,969.59	\$2,675.02	\$665.00	\$26,309.61	715	719
JOHNS CREEK			\$18,022.64		\$0.00			\$0.00	457	668
MCDONOUGH	\$11,097.18	\$5,548.50	\$14,380.34	\$14,380.34	\$19,928.84	\$1,525.00	\$1,500.00	\$22,953.84	514	533
First PRES-LAGRANGE	\$5,000.00	\$1,250.00	\$13,948.66	\$3,564.25	\$4,814.25	\$1,901.00		\$6,715.25	509	517
CENTRAL	\$19,000.00	\$4,750.00	\$13,732.82	\$13,732.82	\$18,482.82			\$18,482.82	498	509
First AFRICAN			\$12,950.40		\$12,950.00			\$0.00	362	480
BUFORD	\$0.00		\$10,738.04	\$6,797.00	\$6,797.00	\$117.16	\$508.67	\$7,422.83	392	398
NEWNAN			\$10,738.04	\$5,349.99	\$5,349.99			\$5,349.99	398	398
MOUNT VERNON		\$4,500.00	\$10,603.14	\$3,210.00	\$7,710.00	\$2,496.00		\$10,206.00	385	393
MORNINGSIDE			\$10,441.26		\$0.00	\$1,684.85	\$1,105.00	\$2,789.85	387	387
NORTHMINSTER	\$26,000.00	\$13,000.00	\$10,360.32	\$10,360.32	\$23,360.32			\$23,360.32	381	384
PLEASANT HILL	\$11,000.00	\$2,750.00	\$10,252.40	\$10,252.40	\$13,002.40			\$13,002.40	362	380
NORTH DECATUR			\$8,984.34		\$0.00			\$0.00	335	333
CLAIRMONT			\$8,687.56	\$4,343.76	\$4,343.76		\$910.00	\$5,253.76	248	322
OAKHURST	\$2,000.00		\$8,660.58		\$0.00			\$0.00	331	321
WESTMINSTER	\$0.00		\$8,417.76	\$4,208.88	\$4,208.88	\$470.00		\$4,678.88	304	312
NEW LIFE			\$8,363.80		\$0.00			\$0.00	306	310
FAYETTE			\$7,311.58		\$0.00			\$0.00	271	271
EASTMINSTER			\$6,825.94	\$2,047.80	\$2,047.80			\$2,047.80	285	253
GOOD SHEPHERD	\$0.00		\$6,583.12	\$3,278.06	\$3,278.06			\$3,278.06	242	244
COVINGTON FIRST PRESBYTERIAN	\$10,000.00	\$3,333.32	\$6,286.34	\$2,095.52	\$5,428.84			\$5,428.84	231	233
CARROLTON	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$6,178.42	\$3,086.00	\$3,086.00	\$609.43		\$4,195.43	220	229
NORTHWEST		\$2,500.00	\$6,151.44	\$6,152.00	\$8,652.00			\$8,652.00	193	228
RADCLIFFE	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$5,800.70	\$5,800.70	\$7,300.70	\$2,608.33	\$161.67	\$10,070.70	202	215
LOYD			\$5,746.74	\$5,962.58	\$5,962.58			\$5,962.58	170	213
ST ANDREWS	\$2,500.00	\$1,250.00	\$5,719.76	\$5,719.76	\$6,969.76	\$283.00		\$7,252.76	200	212
First PRES-PEACHTREE CITY		\$2,000.00	\$5,449.96		\$2,000.00		\$10,815.00	\$12,815.00	181	202
CONYERS			\$5,207.14	\$1,301.75	\$1,301.75	\$545.00		\$1,846.75	187	193
MORROW			\$5,207.14	\$5,207.14	\$5,207.14	\$800.00	\$1,000.00	\$7,007.14	190	193
COVENANT	\$12,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$5,072.24	\$2,536.00	\$8,536.00			\$8,536.00	172	188

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LAWRENCEVILLE	\$3,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$5,018.28	\$2,509.00	\$4,009.00	\$969.43	\$1,525.00	\$6,503.43	159	186
KOREAN CENTRAL			\$4,856.40		\$0.00			\$0.00	180	180
CROSSROADS	\$1,250.00	\$312.50	\$4,235.86	\$4,235.86	\$4,548.36	\$362.49		\$4,910.85	160	157
KAIROS			\$4,100.96		\$0.00			\$0.00	128	152
STOCKBRIDGE	\$4,000.00		\$3,642.30	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$310.00		\$4,310.00	123	135
DRUID HILLS	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$3,372.50	\$3,372.00	\$7,872.00	\$845.00	\$400.00	\$9,117.00	123	125
HAMILTON MILL	\$5,000.00	\$1,818.22	\$3,264.58	\$1,187.12	\$3,005.34			\$3,005.34	110	121
HILLSIDE	\$2,500.00	\$625.00	\$3,264.58	\$3,210.62	\$3,835.62	\$2,224.34	\$317.79	\$6,377.75	119	121
EMORY		\$750.00	\$3,210.62	\$3,211.00	\$3,961.00	\$1,046.67	\$108.33	\$5,116.00	61	119
AUSTELL	\$0.00	\$1,048.65	\$3,021.76	\$263.98	\$1,312.63	\$2,162.30		\$3,474.93	98	112
RICE MEMORIAL	\$2,500.00		\$2,832.90	\$2,832.90	\$2,832.90			\$2,832.90	98	105
SMYRNA			\$2,751.96	\$3,183.64	\$3,183.64			\$3,183.64	95	102
OGLETHORPE	\$4,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,751.96	\$1,376.00	\$3,376.00	\$207.33	\$30.67	\$3,614.00	99	102
CHURCH OF THE MASTER			\$2,724.98		\$0.00			\$0.00	100	101
COLUMBIA			\$2,563.10	\$640.79	\$640.79			\$640.79	93	95
FAIRVIEW		\$500.00	\$2,482.16	\$1,241.08	\$1,741.08	\$668.00		\$2,409.08	89	92
PHILADELPHIA	\$500.00	\$100.00	\$2,401.22		\$100.00	\$335.00		\$435.00	79	89
GOOD NEWS GARDEN			\$2,401.22		\$0.00			\$0.00	79	89
First PRES-MONROE			\$2,212.36		\$0.00			\$0.00	81	82
First PRES-JONESBORO	\$7,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,104.44	\$825.90	\$2,825.90		\$600.00	\$3,425.90	76	78
BETHANY	\$0.00		\$2,077.46	\$550.00	\$550.00	\$120.00		\$670.00	77	77
TRINITY DECATUR		\$500.00	\$1,996.52	\$2,182.95	\$2,682.95	\$686.80	\$31.25	\$3,401.00	72	74
TIMBERRIDGE	\$0.00		\$1,969.54	\$1,969.54	\$1,969.54			\$1,969.54	76	73
PRESBY CHURCH OF THE RESURRECT'N	\$0.00		\$1,969.54	\$1,969.54	\$1,969.54			\$1,969.54	63	73
GUM CREEK			\$1,861.62	\$1,996.52	\$1,996.52			\$1,996.52	67	69
NORCROSS	\$1,258.28		\$1,726.72	\$431.68	\$431.68	\$665.00	\$132.00	\$1,228.68	66	64
ATLANTA TAIWANESE			\$1,672.76		\$0.00			\$0.00	59	62
HANBIT			\$1,349.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00			\$1,500.00	54	50
CRISTO PARA TODAS LAS NACIONES			\$1,349.00		\$0.00			\$0.00	50	50
JACKSON	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,295.04	\$1,295.04	\$3,295.04			\$3,295.04	51	48
GRACE KOREAN			\$1,106.18	\$600.00	\$600.00			\$600.00	38	41
KELLEY	\$1,000.00		\$1,106.18		\$0.00			\$0.00	38	41
HEMPHILL MEMORIAL	\$450.00		\$890.34		\$0.00	\$450.00		\$450.00	33	33
ATLANTA KOREAN			\$647.52		\$0.00			\$0.00	28	24
FRIENDSHIP	\$3,000.00		\$647.52		\$0.00			\$0.00	25	24
First PRES-MANCHESTER WM SPRGS.			\$620.54		\$0.00			\$0.00	14	23
BARNESVILLE			\$593.56		\$0.00			\$0.00	22	22
DALLAS-DODD			\$566.58	\$566.58	\$566.58			\$566.58	22	21
WESTHILLS			\$512.62		\$0.00			\$0.00	17	19

**THE PRESBYTERY OF GREATER ATLANTA
2022 BENEVOLENCE GIVING RECORDS
6/30/2022**

*See explanation on final report page regarding each column.

CHURCH	COLUMN 1 OPERATIONAL SUPPORT PLEDGE	COLUMN 2 OPERATIONAL SUPPORT RECEIVED	COLUMN 3 PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT \$26.98	COLUMN 4 PER CAPITA RECEIVED	COLUMN 5 TOTAL RECEIPTS TO PRESBYTERY BUDGET <small>(Column 2 + Column 4)</small>	COLUMN 6 SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS	COLUMN 7 NON-BUDGETED DESIGNATIONS	COLUMN 8 TOTAL OF ALL RECEIPTS <small>(Column 5 + Columns 6 & 7)</small>	MEMBERSHIP 12/31/2021	MEMBERSHIP 12/31/2020
GREENVILLE			\$485.64		\$0.00			\$0.00	18	18
EBENEZER	\$514.36	\$514.36	\$485.64	\$485.64	\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00	14	18
NEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GA.	\$1,000.00		\$458.66		\$0.00			\$0.00	18	17
First PRES-BREMEN	\$0.00		\$377.72	\$377.72	\$377.72			\$377.72	14	14
TALLAPOOSA	\$0.00		\$377.72		\$0.00			\$0.00	6	14
FELLOWSHIP			\$215.84		\$0.00			\$0.00	8	8
EL NAZERENO		\$325.50		\$674.50	\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00		
BENEVOLENCE TOTAL	\$173,250.96	\$192,452.56	\$850,328.66	\$296,609.12	\$489,061.68	\$36,109.30	\$22,047.88	\$547,218.86	30244	31646
INDIVIDUAL GIVING TOTAL				\$196.00				\$10,976.17		
* OVERALL TOTAL		\$192,452.56		\$296,805.12				\$558,195.03		

\$192,452.56

\$296,805.12

COLUMN (1) Benevolence Pledges from church sessions.

COLUMN (2) All funds for basic benevolence support of GA, Synod & Presbytery Missions. Not included here are special designations, which are reported in Column 5.

COLUMN (3) Per Capita due by April 1, 2022 is \$26.98 per member based on the active membership of the congregation as of January 1, 2021 as reported in the Assembly statistics for Dec. 31, 2020.

COLUMN (4) Per Capita received at Presbytery.

COLUMN (5) Total Receipts to Presbytery Budget.

COLUMN (6) Designated amounts that support the budgeted work of the governing bodies and institutions of the church.

COLUMN (7) Designated amounts that support non-budgeted work of institutions of the church, such as E.C.O.'s, Disaster Relief & Capital Funds Campaign, etc.

COLUMN (8) Total of all receipts.

MEMBERSHIP - Shown for 12/31/21; per capita based on 12/31/20 membership.

If there is an error, please send a written request for correction to Gwen Hairston, Financial Support Specialist, at the Presbytery Office via email at ghairston@atlpcusa.org
Your written request will expedite our ability to respond. If you have any questions, contact Gwen Hairston at 404-898-0711, ext 125.

Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, Inc.
Monthly Benevolence Report
June 2022

Note: The Report Option to include Open Transactions is selected.

Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Actual (Last Year)
Revenues			
Support and Revenue			
Budgeted Designated			
Budgeted General Assembly			
100-403000 - One Great Hour of Sharing	\$1,025.00	\$12,582.51	\$15,042.79
100-403020 - Christmas Joy Offering	\$395.00	\$5,195.08	\$7,408.47
100-403030 - Pentecost Offering	\$0.00	\$417.00	\$1,118.24
100-403040 - Theological Education Fund	\$625.00	\$1,250.00	\$0.00
100-403050 - Peacemaking Special Offering	\$216.67	\$2,956.91	\$2,154.14
100-403200 - Designated for Missionaries	\$416.67	\$7,525.02	\$8,025.02
Total Budgeted General Assembly	<u>\$2,678.34</u>	<u>\$29,926.52</u>	<u>\$33,748.66</u>
Budgeted Presbytery			
100-403510 - Designated Thornwell Home & School	\$712.50	\$3,103.50	\$3,374.47
100-403520 - Columbia Seminary	\$0.00	\$337.50	\$337.50
100-403550 - Johnson C. Smith Seminary	\$0.00	\$362.49	\$600.00
100-403580 - Presbyterian Homes	\$0.00	\$1,099.65	\$1,129.97
Total Budgeted Presbytery	<u>\$712.50</u>	<u>\$4,903.14</u>	<u>\$5,441.94</u>
Total Budgeted Designated	<u>\$3,390.84</u>	<u>\$34,829.66</u>	<u>\$39,190.60</u>
Total Support and Revenue	<u>\$3,390.84</u>	<u>\$34,829.66</u>	<u>\$39,190.60</u>
Total Revenues	<u>\$3,390.84</u>	<u>\$34,829.66</u>	<u>\$39,190.60</u>
Disbursements and Expenses			
Benevolent Disbursements			
100-500100 - G. A. Budgeted Benevolence	\$2,678.34	\$29,374.02	\$33,748.66
100-500500 - Designated for Presbyterian Homes	\$0.00	\$1,099.65	\$1,129.97
100-504030 - Designated for Thornwell	\$712.50	\$3,103.50	\$3,374.47
100-506010 - Designated for Columbia Seminary	\$0.00	\$337.50	\$337.50
100-506020 - Designated for JC Smith Seminary	\$0.00	\$362.49	\$600.00
Total Benevolent Disbursements	<u>\$3,390.84</u>	<u>\$34,277.16</u>	<u>\$39,190.60</u>
Total Disbursements and Expenses	<u>\$3,390.84</u>	<u>\$34,277.16</u>	<u>\$39,190.60</u>
Net Total	\$0.00	\$552.50	\$0.00

Presbytery of Greater Atlanta
Operations Fund Revenues and Disbursements-Preliminary
Period Ending June 30, 2022

	Actual Period Ending <u>6/30/2022</u>	Actual Period Ending <u>6/30/2021</u>	Annual Budget <u>FYE 01/31/2022</u>
Operation Support	\$ 182,446.54	\$ 126,839.47	\$ 535,000.00
Per Capita	\$ 279,546.79	\$ 275,733.15	\$ 600,000.00
Budgeted Designated	\$ 29,926.52	\$ 33,748.66	
Budgeted Presbytery	\$ 5,903.14	\$ 7,671.91	\$ 3,000.00
Total Designated	<u>\$ 497,822.99</u>	<u>\$ 443,993.19</u>	<u>\$ 1,138,000.00</u>
Interest Income	\$ 1,753.83	\$ 3,344.05	\$ 10,000.00
Unrealized (Gain)Loss - Ops	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,000.00
Designated for Presbytery Only	\$ 27,313.35	\$ 31,063.59	\$ 46,500.00
Interest-Presbyterian Foundation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other Income	\$ 168,154.78	\$ 92,358.49	\$ 332,500.00
Total Revenues before Transfers	<u>\$ 695,044.95</u>	<u>\$ 570,759.32</u>	<u>\$ 1,539,000.00</u>
Transfers			
Transfer to Pilgrimage	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Transfers	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Benevolent Disbursements	\$ 264,509.54	\$ 268,995.98	\$ 508,803.06
Program Expenses			
Committees & Partnerships	\$ 1,374.05	\$ 2,460.15	\$ 11,150.00
Salary and Benefits	\$ 367,259.23	\$ 354,425.36	\$ 865,540.99
Administrative Costs	\$ 57,869.51	\$ 49,050.73	\$ 153,505.95
Total Program Expenses	<u>\$ 426,502.79</u>	<u>\$ 405,936.24</u>	<u>\$ 1,030,196.94</u>
Total Transfers and Disbursements	<u>\$ 691,012.33</u>	<u>\$ 674,932.22</u>	<u>\$ 1,539,000.00</u>
Change in Net Assets	<u>\$ 4,032.62</u>	<u>\$ (104,172.90)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Other Revenues	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Other Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Net Operating Total	\$ 4,032.62	\$ (104,172.90)	\$ -

Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, Inc.
Preliminary Statement of Financial Position
Operations Fund
As of June 30, 2022

Assets

Cash		\$207,971.63
Investments		\$1,034,077.48
Accounts Receivable		
Allowance for Accounts Receivable	(\$46,400.00)	
A/R--Operations	\$1,778.70	
A/R--Due from Clifton Sanctuary Min.	(\$3,181.78)	
A/R Memorial Drive PC	\$19,202.00	
A/R-Hanbit PC	\$36,394.87	
A/R - Atlanta Korean	\$43,193.13	
A/R- Ormewood Park	\$44,836.49	
A/R - College Park PC	\$23,492.81	
A/R - Church of the New Covenant	(\$15,594.94)	
A/R - Luther Hays PET	\$20.10	
A/R-Georgia Avenue Building/Site	\$43,494.48	
A/R -Church os St. Andrew	\$44,161.07	
Total Accounts Receivable		\$191,396.93
Pledges Receivable (Ground Lease)	\$725,000.00	
Discount on Pledges Receivable (Ground Lease)	(\$490,759.85)	
Total Pledges Receivable		\$234,240.15
Prepaid Expenses		\$18,110.25
Property & Equipment		\$1,206,393.49
Land, Buildings and Property (Net)		\$9,834,743.89
Total Accumulated Depreciation		(\$1,676,108.43)
Total Assets		<u>\$11,050,825.39</u>

Liabilities, Fund Principal, & Restricted Funds

Liabilities		
Non-Budgeted Benevolence		\$1,782.62
A/P Operations		\$1,499.66
A/P Tree of Life Ministries		\$17,000.00
HFSA		\$1,222.79
Accrued Vacation		\$20,051.81
GA Ave. Bldg Agency Funds		\$16,894.91
Long-term Debt		
Due to Wachovia (CSM)	\$28,386.42	
Total Long-term Debt		\$28,386.42
Other Liabilities	\$7,742.44	
		<u>\$7,742.44</u>
Total Liabilities		\$94,580.65
Total Restricted Funds		\$1,136,842.88
Fund Principal		
Fund Balance-Operations	\$9,815,369.24	
Net Income Year-to-Date	\$4,032.62	
Total Fund Principal and Net Income Year-to-Date		<u>\$9,819,401.86</u>
Total Liabilities, Fund Principal, & Restricted Funds		<u>\$11,050,825.39</u>

Synod of the South Atlantic
STATED MEETING HIGHLIGHTS
APRIL 28-29, 2022
EPWORTH-BY-THE-SEA
ST. SIMONS ISLAND, GEORGIA



- The Rev. Dr. David Shelor, Synod Moderator, Tampa Bay Presbytery, welcomed first-time and returning Commissioners, first-time and returning Presbytery Leaders, Stated Clerks, Consultants for Racial Ethnic Ministries, the Synod's Presbyterian Women moderator, guests, and staff gathered to conduct the business of the Synod at Epworth-by-the-Sea, St. Simons Island, Georgia, on April 28-29, 2022.
- The Rev. Joyce Lieberman, Synod Executive and Stated Clerk, reported on the status of the Synod, including the membership, the Presbytery and Synod minutes approvals, Synod Permanent Judicial Commission decisions, and her work schedule. The Synod offices moved in 2021 from the First Presbyterian Church, an ECO church, to the St. Augustine Presbytery. She was able to attend more Presbytery meetings by ZOOM in 2021, but has begun to increase her travel as Presbyteries and churches are opening up.
- Joyce also announced her retirement, effective September 30, 2022, and expressed her enjoyment in serving the Synod for the past five years. The Synod body approved her contract extension to that date.
- The Executive Administrative Commission (EAC) reported on the decisions made since the last Synod Stated Meeting:
 - The fall Stated Meeting for 2022 will be held by ZOOM on Thursday, November 3, 2022 at 10:00 am, eastern.
 - The spring Stated Meeting for 2023 will be held on February 22-25, 2023, at Epworth-By-The-Sea, St. Simons Island, Georgia, with tentative plans for an education event with workshops.
 - The fall Stated Meeting for 2023 will be held by ZOOM on Tuesday, November 14 at 10:00 am, eastern.
- The Synod audit for 2021 was completed. The Synod investment policy remained a 70/30 investment ratio. The 2022 budget was approved with per capita remaining at \$1.50 and suggested mission giving remaining at \$1.00.

- The Rev. Debbie Foster, Executive Presbyter and Stated Clerk, Foothills Presbytery, facilitated rotating table discussions as to the future of the Synod.



Facilitation groups



Prayer for Joyce

It is clear that COVID will influence the way we live and do ministry for years to come. Yet in an adapting world, natural disasters continue to affect communities, who still rely on the generosity of volunteers to support the long-term recovery from floods, fires, hurricanes, and tornadoes. Individuals and families who have been marginalized in the past continue to be marginalized during disaster recovery.

Along with many other faith-based and non-profit groups, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) provides opportunities to step into the gap, walk with those impacted, and work towards healing.



PDA currently has 7 host sites receiving volunteer teams witnessing to the healing love of Christ by supporting rebuilding efforts in areas that have been affected by natural disasters, including tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, and fires.

These sites are:

- Pines Presbyterian Church in Houston, TX Presbytery of New Covenant, Synod of the Sun responding to Hurricane Harvey.
- First Presbyterian Church in Orange, TX, Presbytery of New Covenant, Synod of the Sun responding to the multiple hurricanes that impacted Lake Charles, LA.
- Trinity Presbyterian Church in Oroville, CA, Presbytery of North Central California, Synod of the Pacific responding to the Camp fire that impacted Paradise, CA and surrounding communities.
- La Casona de Monteflores in San Juan, PR, Presbytery of San Juan, Synod in Boriquén responding to Hurricanes Irma and Maria.
- New Hope Village at Neuse Forest Presbyterian Church, New Bern, NC, New Hope Presbytery, Synod of the Mid Atlantic responding to Hurricanes Matthew and Florence.
- Presbyterian Church of the Cross, Omaha NE, Presbytery of Missouri River Valley, Synod of Lakes and Prairies responding to severe flooding.
- We also support an independent site at First Presbyterian Church in Madisonville, KY, Presbytery of Western Kentucky, Synod of Living Waters responding to tornado damage.





- ***Finally, we plan to open an eighth site*** at First Presbyterian Church in Calvert City, KY, Presbytery of Western KY, Synod of Living Waters responding to tornado damage. ***This site is tentatively scheduled to receive volunteers in the late summer of 2022.***

We are writing to ask if you would be willing to share the information about our host sites with your congregations and other interested group, encouraging them to consider sending adult or youth

work groups to one of these sites this year or in 2023. More information is available at www.pcusa.org/pdavolunteersites, or those who are interested can contact Nell Herring (Mission Specialist for Volunteer Ministries) at PDA.CallCenter@pcusa.org or (866) 732-6121.





Stewardship Kaleidoscope

Real Tools for Real Ministry

StewardshipKaleidoscope.org

September 26-28, 2022

Savannah, GA or online

Over 30 workshops spanning theology, practical stewardship planning, creative ventures, and legacy programming.



A.J. Jacobs

Author
The Year of Living Biblically



Rev. Dawn Hyde

Head Pastor
Downtown Church, Columbia, SC



Dr. Michael Bos

Pastor and Author
Marble Collegiate Church

Early-bird, group, and first-call discounts; scholarships available





PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

**FOR YOU SHALL GO OUT IN JOY,
AND BE LED FORTH IN PEACE.**

ISAIAH 55:12



✠ God's presence empowers us to live joyfully within our communities and to bring peace to all around us.

Hundreds of people in the island nation of Fiji have been forced to relocate due to climate change and cyclones. Our gifts help to support displaced families and sustain a livable world.



“Lesvos Solidarity is a living example of how a migrant justice organization can show love to the stranger and promote dignity among those who flee war and poverty,” said Luciano Kovacs, Presbyterian World Mission.

The Indy TenPoint Coalition is making a difference in the lives of young people with a “boots-on-the-ground” approach to reducing gun violence, increasing employment and enhancing educational achievement.



Visit pcusa.org/peace-global/resources for more information.



God of Peace,
we embrace your joy and go forth
to connect with others in building a world
where all can find compassion,
peace and justice.

AMEN.

Through the Peace & Global Witness Offering, we connect with each other to confront systems of injustice and promote reconciliation in places around the world — and right here at home.

25%

of this Offering stays with our congregation to support peacemaking and reconciliation in our own community.

25%

of this Offering goes to our mid council and joins with other congregation gifts to support peacemaking work in our region.

50%

of this Offering supports the work for peace and reconciliation being done by Presbyterians across the globe.

Please give what you can.

IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT.

Thank you!



Our Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice in our own communities and across the world.

Thank you for
your participation in the
Peace & Global Witness Offering.

IF WE ALL
DO A LITTLE,
IT ADDS UP
TO A LOT!



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Presbyterian Mission

The Peace & Global Witness Offering is one of four annual special offerings. The church-wide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) play an important role in defining what it means to be a connectional church in the twenty-first century, bringing together the diversity of the PC (USA) to focus and take faith-based action on shared concerns. The Offerings offer opportunities for partnership, learning, and witness and profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.



WAYS TO GIVE



Through your
congregation



Donate by
credit card online at
pcusa.org/peace-global



Text PCUSAPEACE
to 41444
or visit pcusa.org/peace-global for more
information.



This is Who We Are

Music by Tracy Keenan and Aisha Brooks-Lytle

Words by Tracy Keenan

C/E D/F# G Cadd2 Cadd2/A D7sus D7 G/B Csus2

We are peop-le of prayer, peop-le of cour-age, and peop-le who dare,

5 C/E D/F# G C9 Am7 Am7/D

We are peop-le un-it-ed to serve, — be-cause we're peop-le who care, and we're a-

9 Em11 F9add6 FM7 C/A D7 G/B Csus2

live and ris-ing, stir-ring and stirred — by the life-breath-ing Word,

13 EbM7 F6add2 Gsus G EbM7 F6add2 Gsus G

This is Who We Are _____ This is Who We Are _____

VERSE 2

God gives grace upon grace
To recognize Jesus in each neighbor's face
And God lives, coaxing us into the new
With Spirit ageless and brave

CHORUS

VERSE 3

Jesus, life's very Bread
Burst through the grave to give life to the dead
And Jesus calls us to live into love,
Because the time is at hand

CHORUS AFTER VERSE 3

To be alive and rising
Stirring and stirred
By the life-breathing Word
This is who we are.

REPEAT VERSE 1 and CHORUS

Thanks to Aisha Brooks-Johnson (PGA Executive Presbyter) along with Tracy Keenan, Marthame Sanders (organizing pastor aijcast), Josh Schicker, and Lindsay Allward-Theimer for their witness through music performed before the 225th (2022) General Assembly PCUSA.

In 2020, Tracy Keenan was commissioned by the PCUSA's guiding statement team to write a song reflecting the words "Prayerful. Courageous. United. Serving. Alive." *This Is Who We Are* embodies just that!

Listen to the song performed.

CCLI#
7141016





Seven Marks of Vital Congregations

1

LIFELONG Discipleship Formation vs. Complacent “Christian” piety, simply teaching good morals, or offering the latest programs.

“The righteousness that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness of God based on faith.” (PHIL. 3:9B)

- From the cradle to the grave seeking to be formed for right living with God and with all people.
- Faith — seeking understanding, cultivating wisdom, and actively following Christ. It is not an extra-curricular activity nor merely head-knowledge.
- Discipleship awakened and engaged in issues facing today’s culture: injustice, inequality, divisive segregation, oppression, suffering, abuse of creation.
- Discipleship formed and strengthened in the community of Christ and permeates daily practices and daily living.

2

Intentional Authentic Evangelism vs. “Jesus freaks”; “Christian” Hypocrisy; A committee.

“We have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God.” (2 COR. 4:7)

- Intentionally sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ, not just acts of kindness.
- Authentically sharing Christ because it is intrinsic to self-identity; overflow of Christ in our life.
- Relational, not programmatic or systematic

3

Outward Incarnational Focus vs. Inward Institutional Survival; Closed communities of assimilation/exclusion.

“The gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it.” (MATT. 7:14)

- Outward exploration, awareness, and focus on neighbors and neighborhood.
- Beyond relationship with those who are like us, the incarnate Christ dwells among the lowly & least, the stranger & the suffering, the marginalized & majority.
- Missional focus on where Christ is already living and present and calling us to dwell.

4

Empower Servant Leadership vs. the Pastor’s job; monopolized leadership; hiring the young energetic pastor; burning out good volunteers.

“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers.” (MATT. 9:37–38)

- Identify, nurture, support the use of spiritual gifts of all people to serve; not monopolized cliques of power.
- All voices and people are necessary, and it is noticeable when people are absent/missing.
- Nurture and encourage those specifically called and gifted for pastoral ministry.

5

Spirit-Inspired Worship vs. *Self-gratifying worship, stale ritual divorced of meaning, or consumer entertainment worship*

“These people draw near with their mouths and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their worship of me is a human commandment learned by rote.” (ISAIAH 29:13)

- Worship is about God. We get to come on holy ground, encounter God, and experience wonder.
- Worship is active participation in the living relationship of the triune God, thus all should feel welcome just as they are to come.
- Worship challenges, teaches, transforms, encounters, convicts, and sends people out different.

6

Caring Relationships vs. *Any other Social Club; façades, hypocrisy, and judgment of “church” and “religion.”*

“By this everyone will know that you are disciples, if you have love for one another.” (JOHN 13:35)

- Sharing in God’s true agape moves us beyond half-hearted programmatic participation, lukewarm faith, and pretending.
- Instead of a closed, judgmental community, people find freedom to share stories, encounter the Savior, and ask for help.
- Welcome and hospitality are not left to a committee, but, imperfectly, we strive for all people find identity, purpose, and belonging in the household of God.
- Confront conflict, seek reconciliation in all divisions, find ways to embrace all diversity, seek to be peace-makers and bridge builders together.

7

Ecclesial Health vs. *Unhealthy dysfunction; toxic environments; obsolete and irrelevant buildings*

“The body does not consist of one member but of many. God has so arranged the body that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another.” (1 COR. 12:14, 24B–25)

- Understanding of: Why we are a church community? How are we a church community in practice? Prayer permeates all life together.
- Clarity in mission, core values to ministry, passion and joy in being the church. Our budget reflects these values, vision, and ministries.
- Fiscally responsible — stewardship and tithing are taught, transparency in spending, continual assessment/discernment of a sustainable budget.
- All are aware of how decisions are made, stake-holders in the process and procedures, valued voices in the envisioning, open to changes, continual assessment of the “why” and “how” we are church together.
- Nurturing and supporting the health of pastor(s), staff, and all called to lead; fighting against burnout.

ADDENDUM

Opportunities for Presbytery Service

During the Pandemic, all meetings are virtual until further notice.

*Committees and Commissions of the Presbytery need you! If interested and able, please complete and return requested forms (Volunteer Interest Form and General Assembly Interest Form) found with full descriptions of the committees/commissions at <http://atlpcusa.org/committees>. Terms for committees & commissions are ordinarily 3 years with eligibility for re-election to a maximum of 6 years. The * indicates that committee members must be Ruling Elders or Teaching Elders in the PC (USA).*

***Bills and Overtures Committee/General Assembly (GA) Commissioner** – prepares for, attends and participates in the General Assembly and reports to the Presbytery. Serves as the Presbytery Bills and Overtures Committee for two years following the General Assembly.

***Committee on Ministry (COM)** - provides care of congregations, pastors and educators. Ordinarily meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month from 5 – 6:30 PM at the Presbytery office. Subcommittees also meet monthly.

***Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM)** - works with inquirers and candidates as they discern calls to ministry and move through the requirements for ordination. Ordinarily meets on the 4th Thursday of the month from 4:30 – 7:30 PM, alternating between in-person at Shallowford Presbyterian Church and on Zoom.

Dismantling Racism- a new committee of the Presbytery getting off the ground in 2022. The committee looks at ways congregations may be more engaged in education and action around racism.

***Presbytery Council** - guides, plans and envisions staffing needs and directions to be taken by the Presbytery. Meets 6 Monday evenings from 5:00-7:00 pm at the Presbytery office.

Committee on Representation (COR) - offers ways to live out the church's commitment to inclusiveness and representation. Meets 4 times each year during the day at the Presbytery office.

***Examinations Commission** - examines all ministers who wish to be received into the Presbytery for membership during monthly meetings on the third Thursday afternoon from 1 - 4 PM at the Presbytery office.

Grants Committee - awards three primary grants each year to churches or other organizations. Also considers awards for seminarians. Ordinarily meets at the Presbytery office in May and October.

***New Church Development Commission (NCDC)** - catalyzes and supports the development of new worshipping communities throughout our presbytery. Meets for an annual half day strategic planning meeting and quarterly on Wednesdays, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm at the offices of the Presbytery. The Operations, Development and Advisory teams meet as needed, some face to face and some online.

***Nominating Committee** –Identifies and recruits volunteers for all Presbytery committees. Meets 3-4 mornings a year at the Presbytery office.

Operations Committee - manages financial and business processes of the Presbytery. Meets quarterly on Mondays at 2 PM at the Presbytery office. Subcommittees meet additionally.

***Permanent Judicial Commission (PJC)** - exercises church discipline through judicial process. Meets as necessary during one term of 6 years.

Personnel Committee – provides guidance, expertise and assistance to the Presbytery staff re: matters of personnel. Quarterly meetings on weekdays, usually on Mondays, noon – 1:30 pm, at the Presbytery office.

***Synod Commissioners** - represent the Presbytery at 1-2 Synod meetings each year of a 4 year term.

Presbytery Worship and Planning Committee - assists in planning worship and order of business for stated Presbytery meetings. Meets approximately 6 weeks prior to each Stated Presbytery Meeting, usually at upcoming host churches and once annually with Council to discuss themes.

VOLUNTEER INTEREST FORM
Presbytery of Greater Atlanta

Use this form to express interest in volunteering to serve on a Presbytery of Greater Atlanta committee/commission. The information you submit will be put on file for the Nominating Committee. The primary nominating meeting is in the fall. However, there may be a few vacancies to fill throughout the year.

The PGA is committed to giving full expression to the rich diversity of our membership in the structures of our committees/commissions and council. Providing information helps the Nominating Committee fulfill this commitment to inclusiveness and representation.

Please complete the questions below as you feel comfortable. Submitting a form does not guarantee nomination. If you are nominated, you will be contacted by a member of the Nominating Committee. If not nominated, your information will be kept for the next cycle.

Committee/Commission Info: <https://www.atlpcusa.org/committees>

Mail To: Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, 1024 Ponce de Leon Ave NE, Atlanta, GA 30306

To fill out this form online, visit <http://bit.ly/2xMq8bm> or Scan →



Today's Date

First Name

Last Name

Email Address

Phone Number

Preferred Method of Communication

Street Address

City

State

Zip Code

I am a:

____ Ruling Elder (Once a Ruling Elder, always a Ruling Elder!)

____ Teaching Elder

____ Lay Person

Church of Affiliation and City (Ex. First Presbyterian in Covington)

If Teaching Elder, are you:

____ Validated Minister Member

____ Honorably Retired

____ Member At Large

____ Parish Pastor

--Turn Over--

Thank you for your interest in serving.

I am interested in serving on the following committees/commissions:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Assembly Commission/Bills
& Overtures Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> New Church Development
Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Committee on Ministry | <input type="checkbox"/> Nominating Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Committee on Preparation for
Ministry | <input type="checkbox"/> Operations Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Committee on Representation | <input type="checkbox"/> Permanent Judicial Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Council | <input type="checkbox"/> Personnel Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dismantling Racism Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Synod Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Examinations Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> Worship and Planning Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grants Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Where Needed |

I offer the following gifts/qualities/skills to a committee/commission: (*Examples: Financial Planning, Multilingual, Funds Development, Bookkeeping, Musician, Liturgist, Listener, etc.*)

In the Presbytery, I have served in the following ways (any presbytery):

Age:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 25 and Under | <input type="checkbox"/> 46-55 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 26-35 | <input type="checkbox"/> 56-65 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 36-45 | <input type="checkbox"/> Over 65 |

Gender Identity: _____

Cultural/ Ethnic Heritage: _____

Physical Limitations: _____

What else would you like us to know about you that would be helpful?

--Turn Over--

Thank you for your interest in serving.