

**STATED MEETING  
PRESBYTERY OF GREATER ATLANTA**

**May 3, 2022**

**Hybrid meeting with in person location First Presbyterian Church  
in Peachtree City, GA**

**Theme: Mark Two: Intentional Authentic Evangelism**

**Preliminary Information for this meeting:**

**FOR THOSE USING ZOOM FOR THIS MEETING: INSTRUCTIONS**

Instructions for those using Zoom for the Presbytery Meeting to be held on May 3, 2022 at 10:00 AM:  
The material for the meeting is in the Handbook posted on the Presbytery's website.

1. Download and install Zoom onto your device.
  - a. Computer - go to [https://zoom.us/download#client\\_4meeting](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, May 2, 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. Doublecheck 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 9:50 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.

## FOR THOSE COMING IN-PERSON

**PLEASE DOWNLOAD YOUR HANDBOOK BEFORE THE MEETING IF YOU ARE COMING IN PERSON!**

### **A WORD FROM THE EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER**

Vital Congregations Initiative – Mark #2 – Intentional Authentic Evangelism



*(My 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Sunday School Teacher, Sister Hester Parker)*

I often tell the story of the day I heard the gospel message in my second grade Sunday School class. My teacher was Mrs. Hester Parker. I grew up Baptist, and in our context, the adults referred to her affectionally as “Sister Hester Parker.” I’m sure she was just Mrs. Parker to the rest of my Sunday School class. I can still remember the day that Mrs. Parker went out of her way to explain how much Jesus loved us, how he died on the cross for our sins, and that we could open up our hearts to a deep and personal relationship with the Lord. She didn’t have any fancy curriculum to tell us about God’s love for us. She didn’t have cool materials or goody bags for us at the end of the lesson. She simply took a moment to speak openly and honestly from the heart.

I went home that evening and decided to have a little talk with Jesus as I said my evening prayers. I got down on my knees and recited some variation of a sinner’s prayer as I had heard in the church’s services. I stood up and suddenly thought to myself, “What if God didn’t understand my prayers?” I got back down on my knees and said a follow up prayer that sounded something like this: “Ok Lord, listen up. I belong to you, and you belong to me, got it?”

I am not sure what compelled Sister Hester Parker to share the message of the gospel on that particular day and in that particular way. I know that she spoke about the good news of Jesus in a way that was intentional and authentic. She spoke about this message in a way that inspired a seven-year-old kid to talk to God openly and honestly. She shared her faith and it had a significant impact on my life. I am forever grateful for that small but mighty act of telling one more person, a child no less, about the goodness of Jesus.

I hope that our presbytery gathering will inspire you to remember the call to go and share the good news. I hope that you, too, will recall the first time you came to understand God’s love and mercy after someone took the time to explain it to you, the best way they could. It is my prayer that each of us finds new and creative ways to share our faith, to tell the old, old, story, and celebrate the ways God continues to make and shape more disciples. May

we be ever willing and ready to preach that gospel with our words, our perspectives, our actions, and our whole lives.

ABJ; #YouAreVital

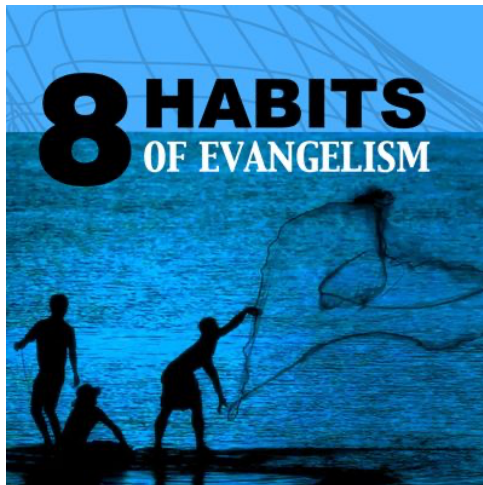
**Save The Date:**

Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10am-11:30 - ZOOM

Vital Congregations Initiative Town Hall

A Conversation on Intentional Authentic Evangelism with Ray Jones,  
Director of the Office of Theology, Formation, and Evangelism, PCUSA

Please join us for a conversation on evangelism and ways we can engage in practical tools to share our faith with the world. To learn more about the 8 Habits of Evangelism resource, please visit [www.8habits.org](http://www.8habits.org).



**PRESBYTERY OF GREATER ATLANTA....**

# WE ARE A MATTHEW 25 PRESBYTERY AND PARTICIPATING IN VITAL CONGREGATIONS!



**Building  
Congregational Vitality**

**Dismantling Structural  
Racism**

**Eradicating Systemic  
Poverty**



## INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS

Moderator **Juan Herrera** opened the meeting with prayer at 10:01 AM.  
A quorum was declared by Stated Clerk, **Donna Wells**  
The host pastor, **Morgan Hay** brought greetings to the body

## WORSHIP

Our call to worship was led by our new Commissioned Ruling Elder, **Tom Whitworth**. His Commissioning service is contained in these minutes.

The organist and soloist from First Peachtree City led the body in song and musical offerings.

An offering was received to benefit the work of PDA earmarked for Ukraine Relief, and Jim McGill's ministry of WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene). Jim is a PCUSA co-worker serving in partnership with the Evangelical Church in the Republic of Niger and the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan.

Our preacher for the morning was Rev. Dr. Kathryn Threadgill. Her bio is contained in these minutes. Her message spoke to our theme of the day: Intentional Authentic Evangelism.

## COMMUNICATIONS

## **For Information**

1. The Worship and Presbytery Planning Committee has decided to move the report which Celebrates the Saints Who Have Gone Before Us (necrology report) to the November meeting of Presbytery in order to coincide with All Saints Day. For this November meeting, we will lift up the names of those from 2021 and 2022 to date. Please be aware of this change moving forward.
2. On a personal note, I would like to say what an honor it has been to serve this Presbytery these many years as your Stated Clerk. I particularly wish to thank all those clerks serving in our churches for their faithful service to the church. I have so enjoyed working with you. I will continue to be praying for our pastors and churches. Blessings to you all. Donna

## **Admit to Record**

1. The following people served on the commission to install **Seokhoon Seo** as Associate Pastor of Korean Community Presbyterian Church on February 27, 2022 at Korean Community Presbyterian Church in Duluth, GA.
  - a. Rev. Mun Gye Lee, Hanbit Presbyterian Church
  - b. Rev. Byeong Cheol Han, Korean Central Presbyterian Church
  - c. Rev. Jonghyeon Kim, Grace Korean Presbyterian Church
  - d. Elder Jeongyoung Ha, Korean Central Presbyterian Church
  - e. Elder Beomjin Nam, Korean Community Presbyterian Church
  - f. Elder Soonmook Kim, Korean Community Presbyterian Church
2. That the minutes of the installation of **Seokhoon Seo** as an Associate Pastor of Korean Community Presbyterian Church in Duluth, GA on February 27, 2022 be admitted to the record.
3. The following people served on the commission to ordain **Ji Sun Choi** (candidate of Greater Atlanta) as a Contract Call Associate Pastor on February 27, 2022 at Korean Community Presbyterian Church in Duluth, GA.
  - a. Rev. Mun Gye Lee, Hanbit Presbyterian Church
  - b. Rev. Byeong Cheol Han, Korean Central Presbyterian Church
  - c. Rev. Jonghyeon Kim, Grace Korean Presbyterian Church
  - d. Elder Jeongyoung Ha, Korean Central Presbyterian Church
  - e. Elder Beomjin Nam, Korean Community Presbyterian Church
  - f. Elder Soonmook Kim, Korean Community Presbyterian Church
4. That the minutes of the ordination of **Ji Sun Choi** as a Contract Call Associate Pastor at Korean Community Presbyterian Church in Duluth, GA on February 27, 2022 be admitted to the record.
5. That the following people served on the commission to ordain **Joshua Woodsmith** (candidate of Trinity Presbytery) as the Contract Call Pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Jonesboro, GA on February 27, 2022.
  - a. Rev. David Rogers, Honorably Retired
  - b. Rev. Morgan Hay, First Presbyterian Church in Peachtree City
  - c. Elder Pat Hockett, First Presbyterian Church in Jonesboro
  - d. Elder Heidi Gleason, North Decatur Presbyterian Church
  - e. Dr. William Brown, Columbia Seminary, special permission to be part of the commission
  - f. Rev. Bradley Smith, Trinity Presbytery, Guest of the Commission

6. That the minutes of the commission to ordain **Joshua Woodsmith** as the Contract Call Pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Jonesboro, GA on February 27, 2022 be admitted to the record.
7. That the following people served on the commission to ordain **Diana Rosa Ramos Garcia** to the validated ministry of hospital chaplaincy. The ordination took place at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, GA on March 20, 2022.
  - a. Rev. Elizabeth DeSouza, Validated Ministry in the Presbytery
  - b. Rev. Lucy Strong, Trinity Presbyterian Church in Atlanta
  - c. Rev. Raphael Lemos Viana, Minister Member at Large
  - d. Elder Brent Adams, Covenant Presbyterian Church
  - e. Elder Sue Anthony, First Presbyterian Church in Atlanta
  - f. Elder Rena Marroquin, Covenant Presbyterian Church
8. That the minutes of the ordination of **Diana Rosa Ramos Garcia** to the validated ministry of hospital chaplaincy at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, Georgia on March 20, 2022 be admitted to the record.
9. That the following people served on the commission to ordain **Sally Foster** to the validated ministry of hospital chaplaincy. The ordination took place at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, GA on March 20, 2022.
  - a. Rev. Elizabeth DeSouza, Validated Ministry in the Presbytery
  - b. Rev. Lucy Strong, Trinity Presbyterian Church in Atlanta
  - c. Rev. Raphael Lemos Viana, Minister Member at Large
  - d. Elder Brent Adams, Covenant Presbyterian Church
  - e. Elder Sue Anthony, First Presbyterian Church in Atlanta
10. That the minutes of the ordination of **Sally Foster** to the validated ministry of hospital chaplaincy at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, Georgia on March 20, 2022 be admitted to the record.
11. That the following people served on the commission to ordain **Sarah Bogue** to the validated ministry as a professor at Candler School of Theology. The ordination took place at Morningside Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, GA on March 26, 2022
  - a. Rev. Katie Aumann, Morningside Presbyterian Church
  - b. Rev. Letitia Campbell, Validated Ministry at Emory University
  - c. Rev. Jennifer Ayres, Validated Ministry at Emory University
  - d. Elder Susan Hylan, Oakhurst Presbyterian Church
  - e. Elder Joe Floyd, Morningside Presbyterian Church
  - f. Guests of the Commission:
  - g. Rev. Emma Neishloss, Morningside Presbyterian Church
  - h. Dr. Kyle Lambelet, Episcopalian
  - i. Rev. Allison Henderson Brooks, AME
  - j. Amy Walker, United Methodist Conference
  - k. Rev. Dr. Khalia Williams, Baptist Convention
12. That the minutes of the ordination of **Sarah Bogue** to the validated ministry as a professor at Candler School of Theology at Morningside Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, Georgia on March 26, 2022 be admitted to the record.

13. That the following people served on the commission to install **Olive Mahabir** on March 27, 2022 as an associate pastor at Northminster Presbyterian Church located in Roswell, GA.
  - a. Rev. Joy Fisher, Validated Ministry, Presbytery Staff
  - b. Rev. Dr. Marsha Snulligan Haney, Honorably Retired
  - c. Rev. Juan Herrera, Hamilton Mill Presbyterian Church
  - d. Elder Cyndi Smith, North Decatur Presbyterian Church
  - e. Elder Debbie Woodward, First Presbyterian Church in Jonesboro
  
14. That the following people served on the commission to ordain **Mary Beth Walker** on April 24, 2022 as an Associate Chaplain for Pastoral Care at Canterbury Court. The ordination took place at Kairos Church located in Atlanta, GA.
  - a. Rev. Drew Ditzel, Kairos Presbyterian Church
  - b. Rev. Steve Allen, Validated Ministry
  - c. Rev. Catherine Lukens, Validated Ministry
  - d. Elder Mary Caroline Lindsay, Central Presbyterian Church
  - e. Elder Connie Dewberry, First Presbyterian Church in Atlanta
  - f. Elder Kathy Bremer, Peachtree Presbyterian Church

### **For Recommendation**

Approve the following items in the omnibus motion:

- Approval of the docket
- Approval of the minutes of the Stated Meeting of February 12, 2022
- Approval of the minutes of the Called Meeting of April 5, 2022
- Admit to record items in the Communications report
- Admit to record items in the Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report
- Admit to record items in the Committee on Ministry report
- Admit to record items in the Operations report
- Recommendation items in the Nominating Committee Report

Before calling for the vote, the Moderator asked if there were nominations from the floor, due to this report being in the omnibus motion. There were no nominations.

The omnibus motion was *approved by a vote of 209 yes, 0 no, 5 abstentions*

# NEW CHURCH DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

## For Information

### *NCDC's Recent Highlights*

- **On May 1<sup>st</sup>, we celebrated [El Nazareno Presbyterian Church](#) chartering!** It was a celebration full of joy, music, good food, worship, ordinations and installations. [Send El Nazareno a congratulations email](#) and officially welcome them to our Presbytery!
- Sharing how God is changing lives through new worshipping communities, **the NCDC has shared presentations and lead conversations** in 17 of PGA's 84 churches during this past quarter. This includes leading a Sunday School series at [Johns Creek Presbyterian Church](#).

*Are you 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!*

In addition, your NCDC has

- Distributed over **\$110,000 in grant money** to new worshipping communities and their leaders.
- Offered six new worshipping community training workshops.
- Provided officer training for two new worshipping communities.
- Sent **weekly Eastertide devotionals written by your new worshipping community leaders!**
  - *(Interested in receiving them? It's not too late - [sign-up here!](#))*
- **AND** is working with six new worshipping communities on **chartering**.
- **NCDC in the news!** Did you catch it?

PGA's New Worshipping Communities are being talked about nationally. Our E.D. Lindsay Armstrong is featured talking about the role of immigrant churches in the future of the Presbyterian Church.

***Did you know that of the 28+ new worshipping communities in the PGA, 14 are considered immigrant churches?***

Lindsay says,

*"There are incredible gifts of the immigrant church. While they are often dismissed or overlooked or seen as just an outreach ministry by some of the more established churches ... their overwhelming religious impact has been to inject expanding diversity and vitality into the country's Christian community. They are the face of church growth in the United States."*

### *NCDC's Upcoming Highlights*

- **New Worshipping Community Day is June 6<sup>th</sup>!** This is a day for our Presbytery to celebrate and lift up all of our New Worshipping Communities and the incredible work they do to spread the love of God and light of Christ. [Check out our website](#) for resources to share with your congregation and community.



- Our August Retreat is scheduled for 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>. [Find out ways you can get involved](#) by sending Christina an email!

### *New Worshiping Community Feature – Oikos*

*“Discipleship on the campus,  
Dispatch into communities.”*

*This stated meeting, NCDC is excited to feature the new worshiping community [Oikos, led by the Rev. Sam Kim](#). Here is a brief writeup from the Oikos community. We hope you enjoy their featured video during this stated meeting!*

*Oikos* has been a home away from home for international students at Emory University since 2016. *Oikos* engages Atlanta area international students in ministry, and exists to be a Christian community that provides relational connection and spiritual development through worship, fellowship, and mission. In turn, we anticipate that our students will carry the mission and ministry of OIKOS with them when they return home to their own countries -- or wherever they travel next -- as they continue to live out their callings as members of the household of God.

In Greek, the word οἶκος means household. It was with the intention of embodying the indwelling of the family unit that this campus ministry to international students was named. For students who have come to Atlanta from all over the world, the word *Oikos* is also a reminder that no matter how far from home they find themselves, they are still enfolded in the household of God.

## COMMISSIONING SERVICE

**Moderator:** Today we are privileged to commission **Tom Whitworth** to service as a Commissioned Ruling Elder for Bremen Presbyterian Church.. Commissioned Ruling Elders are authorized by their presbyteries to serve in validated ministries of the presbytery. In accepting this commission, Tom will undertake to perform the many duties thought to be those of a pastor: moderate session and congregational meetings, plan, organize, and lead Sunday worship including preaching, and the administration of the Sacraments, provide pastoral care and nurture the congregation in their spiritual growth and energy. Essentially, he will be their pastor. Tom has participated in a yearlong program of study in preparation for this ministry. He has had sessions in preaching, worship, Reformed theology, ministry basics, pastoral care, bible, boundaries training and polity. We are excited to welcome him to this call. Please see his statements of Faith Journey and Faith below.

**Moderator:** Tom, I ask the following Constitutional questions:

- Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?
- Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal and God’s Word to you?
- Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

- d. Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?
- e. Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?
- f. Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation in the world?
- g. Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?
- h. Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?
- i. Will you be a faithful ruling elder in this commission, serving the people by proclaiming the good news, teaching faith and caring for the people, and in your ministry, will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

**Joy Fisher** offered prayer for Tom's ministry.

### **Tom Whitworth Faith Journey**

I grew up in the Christian Church, where I was baptized by choice at the same age we Presbyterians go through a communicant's class. I never knew life that did not include church, Sunday worship, youth group, summer camp, Vacation Bible School and the like.

A good student, I was able to leave high school early and attend college the last two thirds of my senior year. There I was, that quiet, shy, introverted kid from Mableton, GA attending the University of Georgia and by the second term wondering why. Though I enjoyed some of the college scene there, in times of solitude, I often found myself in prayer and in the Word. In my mind, I could change majors twice a day but felt God was calling me to ministry of preaching and pastoral care. Who, me? Though I didn't go home to Mableton every weekend, I set up an appointment to meet with my pastor there on my way home one Friday afternoon. Wanting affirmation and support, I received the opposite. He told me that I would never make any money and that he had told my parents I would be the one of their three children who would become rich. Depending on what one considers to be riches, he was right about that. I left the church that day, disillusioned and hurt, but I never stopped pondering that sense of call.

Later I entered the Navy and married the love of my life who I had met as a student in Athens. We were married in her home church, The First Presbyterian Church in Charleston, WV, with the Rev. Leon Carroll officiating and having led our premarital counseling. As my wife and I considered what church we would end up in together, I realized that Presbyterianism aligned with my beliefs. I just had not known there was a matching denomination until then. I was home and I still am.

Elected as a ruling elder at Austell Presbyterian Church in 1989, I served on and chaired most committees at one time or another, particularly enjoying my work with worship more than anything else. I was involved in music and choirs most of my life. I served on two search committees over the next few years. I would eventually serve on the PGA Operations Committee, and as a commissioner to the 224<sup>th</sup> General Assembly. All the while, that sense of call would come back to the forefront of my soul from time to time. It had never gone away. A number of times, I questioned why God would allow me to sense something so powerfully only to have it not happen. I came to appreciate that the sense of call at least had kept me close to God and maybe that is how God cared for me in

my various struggles. Each opportunity to serve God has strengthened my faith and my confidence in who and what I am.

In 2013, I was diagnosed with an aggressive occurrence of throat cancer. Treatment failed and surgery was required that included removal of my vocal cords, among other things. The day I was diagnosed, I leaned on the back of my vehicle in the warm sunshine, thinking about how I would tell my family. I was truly never afraid, because I was afraid of the effect that fear might have on me. As I stood there, I prayed acknowledging that God would be with me in my living and in my dying. I would be okay, either way. I'm not sure I had ever truly realized that.

A few years later, continuing recovery and rehabilitation from laryngectomy, serving on the Operations Committee and as Clerk of Session at Austell Presbyterian Church, I discovered the opportunity for Commissioned Ruling Elder Training. I was seeking a way to help small churches without a pastor, mostly moderating session meetings. I ended up with more than I had bargained for but with exactly what I had always yearned for. I have been privileged to serve the First Presbyterian Church of Bremen in the role of pulpit supply and moderator for the past fifteen months and am grateful to God now for the privilege of serving this church in a contract call as pastor.

### **Tom Whitworth Statement of Faith**

I believe in God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, each equal persons of God, each in a unique role.

God the Father is creator of us all and of everything in the heavens and everything in Earth that is good. We disappoint God when we fail to be good stewards of God's creation. We displease God when we fail to love as God loves, when we exclude others, by intent or in our complacency, rather than embrace all people with our whole heart as I believe God does. I believe racism or exclusion of any of God's children to be a blatant rejection of God and of God's creation, of the sovereignty of God and of God's love.

In Christ Jesus, God came to us in human form, yet fully divine, seeking to save us from our personal sin within a sinful world. In Christ, God experienced the human emotions of rejection, mockery, and physical abuse and pain. For us, Jesus suffered assault and murder by crucifixion to purchase our pardon and to save us from our own weakness and our failure to be who God created us to be. In true relationship with Jesus Christ, we are reconciled with God.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, God is with us always, keeping us close, giving us the strength we need to endure the challenges of earthly life and giving us the opportunity to be in constant relationship with Him.

## **COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY**

### **Admit to Record**

1. Approve the Honorable Retirement of **Donna E. Wells**. Effective date: May 31, 2022.
2. Approve the Honorable Retirement of **Jane Fahey**. Effective date: June 1, 2022.
3. Approve the Honorable Retirement of **Richard Hill**. Effective date: March 1, 2022.

4. Approve the Contract Call contract between **Alexandra Rodgers** and Timberridge Presbyterian Church. This contract is for 20-25 hours. Effective date: February 13, 2022.
  - a. Salary 28,181
  - b. Minister's Choice 2,891
  - c. Mileage at .0585
  - d. Cell phone 14.99 per month
  - e. Four weeks vacation
  - f. Two weeks continuing education
  
5. Approve the Contract Call contract between **Sylvia Wilson** and Hillside Presbyterian Church. This contract is for 27 hours. Effective date: January 13, 2022.
  - a. Salary 15,733
  - b. Housing 13,000
  - c. SECA 2,198.07
  - d. 403B from Board of Pensions 7,200
  - e. Continuing Education 600
  - f. Cell Phone 360
  - g. Mileage 200
  - h. Professional expenses 500
  - i. Book Allowance 200
  - j. Vacation at 6 weeks
  - k. Continuing education at 2 weeks
  
6. Release **Anthony Damelio** from ordained office per his request, under G-2.0507. His membership has been received by Central Presbyterian Church on February 7, 2022.
  
7. Grant permission to **Catherine Taylor** to labor outside our bounds in de Cristo Presbytery. She will be a temporary supply pastor at Saint Mark's Presbyterian Church in Tucson, Arizona while the pastor is on sabbatical. Effective dates: March 1 through May 1, 2022.
  
8. Renew the Contract Call Associate contract between **Tully Fletcher** and Decatur Presbyterian Church. Effective date: February 1, 2022.
  - a. Salary and Housing 58,000
  - b. SECA allowance 4,437
  - c. Optional SECA to begin November 1, 2022
  - d. Continuing ed, mileage, professional expenses 4,200
  - e. Full Board of Pensions plus dental
  - f. Four weeks vacation
  - g. Two weeks continuing education
  
9. Renew the Contract Call Associate contract between **Emily Wilmesherr** and Decatur Presbyterian Church. Effective date: February 1, 2022.
  - a. Salary and Housing 56,000
  - b. SECA allowance 4,284
  - c. Optional SECA allowance 4,284
  - d. Continuing ed, mileage, professional expenses 4,200
  - e. Full Board of Pensions plus dental
  - f. Four weeks of vacation
  - g. Two weeks of continuing education

10. Renew the Contract Call Associate contract between **Amanda Kemery** and Morningside Presbyterian Church. Effective date: January 1, 2022.
- |                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| a. Salary                         | 41,520 |
| b. Housing                        | 18,000 |
| c. Minister's Choice              | 5,952  |
| d. SECA allowance                 | 4,553  |
| e. Professional expenses          | 4,100  |
| f. Four weeks vacation            |        |
| g. Two weeks continuing education |        |
11. Grant permission to **Joanna Adams** to labor in the bounds of Savannah Presbytery in order for her to take a bridge interim position at St. Simons Presbyterian Church. Effective dates: March 1-April 17, 2022.
12. Renew the Contract Call Pastor contract between **Dave Pearce** and Smyrna Presbyterian Church. Effective date: March 1, 2022. This contract is for 28 hours per week.
- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| a. Salary                                 | 45,629   |
| b. Post Retirement Board of Pensions Dues | 5,425.48 |
| c. Four weeks vacation                    |          |
| d. Two weeks continuing education         |          |
13. The following people have submitted their annual reports:
- Douglas Hicks**, validated with no housing declaration
  - Martha Moore-Keish**, validated with housing declaration through the seminary
  - John Morgan**, at large member
14. Approve the revised Contract Call contract for **Sung Sik Baek** and Atlanta Korean Presbyterian Church. Effective date: January 1, 2022.
- |                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| a. Salary                         | 19,800 |
| b. Housing                        | 13,200 |
| c. SECA                           | 2,524  |
| d. Cell Phone                     | 1,000  |
| e. Mileage/Auto                   | 3,000  |
| f. Other vouchered expenses       | 3,000  |
| g. Four weeks vacation            |        |
| h. Two weeks continuing education |        |
15. Approve the Contract Call contract renewal between **Brandon Douglas** (Commissioned Ruling Elder) and Bethany Presbyterian Church. Effective date: September 15, 2021.
- |                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| a. Salary                         | 31,500 |
| b. Continuing Education           | 1,000  |
| c. Mileage reimbursed at IRS rate |        |
| d. Four weeks vacation            |        |
| e. Two weeks continuing education |        |
16. Renew the Contract Call Associate contract between **Jody Andrade** and Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church. Effective date: February 1, 2022. This contract is for 12 hours per week.
- |                                       |        |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| a. Housing                            | 20,402 |
| b. SECA at 50%                        |        |
| c. Contribution to retirement account | 350    |

- d. Continuing Education 1,250
  - e. Professional expenses 600
  - f. Four weeks vacation
  - g. Two weeks continuing education
17. Approve the Interim Ministry Contract between **Betsy Turner** and Druid Hills Presbyterian Church.  
Effective date: February 28, 2022.
- a. Salary 41,907
  - b. Housing 29,000
  - c. Continuing Education 1,000
  - d. Death and Disability in lieu of Minister's choice 6,027
  - e. SECA allowance 5,424
  - f. Other vouchered expenses 5,100
18. Approve the Interim Ministry Contract between **Steven Barnes** and Johns Creek Presbyterian Church.  
Effective date: April 4, 2022.
- a. Salary 40,000
  - b. Housing 50,000
  - c. SECA allowance 6,885
  - d. Full Board of Pensions 33,300
  - e. Cell phone paid
  - f. Expenses (professional, mileage, book) 5,000
  - g. Four weeks vacation
  - h. Two weeks continuing education
19. Approve the Contract Call contract between **Young Jeon** and the New Presbyterian Church of Georgia.  
Effective date: March 12, 2022. This contract is for 36 hours per week.
- a. Salary 24,000
  - b. Medical care 1,400
  - c. SECA allowance 1,549.76
  - d. Board of Pensions 3,390.24
  - e. Continuing education 600
  - f. Four weeks vacation
  - g. Two weeks continuing education
20. Approve the terms between **Jihyun Oh** and the Office of the General Assembly. Effective date: January 1, 2022.
- a. Salary 72,535.98
  - b. Housing 22,500
  - c. Full Board of Pensions
  - d. Vacation at 22 days
  - e. Continuing education at 10 days
21. Renew the Contract Call contract between **Jeanne Simpson** and Philadelphia Presbyterian Church.  
Effective date: March 1, 2022
- a. Salary 7,667.57
  - b. Housing 26,220
  - c. Ministers Choice 3,388
  - d. SECA allowance 2,592.43
  - e. Cell phone 720

- f. Mileage 200
  - g. Four weeks vacation
  - h. Two weeks continuing education
22. Due to the completion of courses in Worship/Sacraments, Polity and Reformed Theology, **Kiesok Park** has completed the necessary requirements to move from temporary membership in the PCUSA to full membership in accordance with G-2.0202(1). Effective date: March 17, 2022.
23. Grant permission to **Chung-Ho Ting** (Taiwanese Presbyterian Church) to serve as a guest preacher for the Atlanta Taiwanese Presbyterian Church for the months of May and June 2022.
24. Dissolve the associate pastoral relationship between **Rebekah LeMon** and First Presbyterian Church in Atlanta. Effective date: April 24, 2022.
25. Approve the terms of call as Head of Staff between **Rebekah LeMon** and Trinity Presbyterian Church in Atlanta. Effective date: May 11, 2022.
- a. Salary and Housing 160,000
  - b. Full Board of Pensions 49,974
  - c. SECA 11,174
  - d. Continuing Education 1,000
  - e. Professional expenses 4,100
  - f. Entertainment 9,900
  - g. Welcome bonus 10,000
  - h. Availability of Sec 125 Plan:
    - i. Dependent Care at max of 5,000 annually
    - ii. Medical Care at max of \$2,550 annually
  - i. Vacation at 4 weeks
  - j. Continuing Education at 2 weeks
  - k. Sick Days at 8 days
26. Conclude the interim relationship between **Kim Clayton** and Trinity Presbyterian Church in Atlanta due to the calling of their new pastor. Effective date: May 10, 2022.
27. Approve the Contract Call Associate contract renewal between **Lucy Strong** and Trinity Presbyterian Church in Atlanta. Effective date: September 16, 2021.
- a. Salary and Housing 63,500
  - b. Full Board of Pensions 23,495
  - c. SECA 4,858
  - d. Continuing education 1,000
  - e. First Call Program 400
  - f. Business and Professional Expenses 3,600
  - g. Vacation at 4 weeks
  - h. Continuing Education at 2 weeks
28. Dismiss **Michael Moore** to South Alabama Presbytery in order that he may take the position of interim pastor at Swift Presbyterian Church in Foley, Alabama. Effective date: May 31, 2022.
29. Approve the Contract Call Associate contract renewal between **Landon Dillard** and Shallowford Presbyterian Church. Effective date: January 1, 2022.
- a. Salary 32,096

- |                                       |        |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| b. Housing                            | 22,000 |
| c. Professional expenses              | 1,600  |
| d. SECA                               | 4,138  |
| e. Full Board of Pensions plus dental | 20,290 |
| f. Continuing education               | 1,600  |
| g. Cell Phone                         | 900    |
30. Dissolve the pastoral relationship between **Erin Morgan** and First Presbyterian Church in Monroe. Effective date: May 1, 2022.
31. Approve the terms of call between **Erin Morgan** and Covington First Presbyterian Church as Associate Pastor. Effective date: May 15, 2022
- |   |        |
|---|--------|
| a. Salary and Housing                         | 54,000 |
| b. Full Board of Pensions                     | 19,980 |
| c. SECA allowance                             | 4,131  |
| d. Continuing Education                       | 1,000  |
| e. Moving costs per quote from moving company |        |
| f. Cell Phone                                 | 600    |
| g. Book allowance                             | 500    |
| h. Professional expenses                      | 3,000  |
| i. Four weeks vacation                        |        |
| j. Two weeks continuing education             |        |
| k. Sabbatical after 7 years of service        |        |
| l. Paid Family Leave for 8 weeks              |        |
32. Conclude the interim associate relationship between **Davis Baily** and Northminster Presbyterian Church due to the calling of their new associate pastor. Effective date: December 31, 2021.
33. Approve the Contract Call contract between Commissioned Ruling Elder **Tom Whitworth** and First Presbyterian Church in Bremen. Effective date: April 1, 2022. This contract is for 20 hours per week.
- |                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| a. Housing                        | 19,500 |
| b. Four weeks vacation            |        |
| c. Two weeks continuing education |        |
34. Approve the Contract Call contract between **Jun Young Lee** (The Presbyterian Church of Korea) and Grace Korean Presbyterian Church. Effective date: May 3, 2022. This contract is for full time.
- |   |        |
|---|--------|
| a. Salary   | 24,000 |
| b. Housing  | 12,000 |
| c. SECA allowance   | 2,754  |
| d. Minister's Choice  | 3,600  |
| e. Continuing education, cell phone, mileage, professional expenses, other vouchered expenses to total 12,000 |        |
| f. Four weeks vacation  |        |
| g. Two weeks continuing education   |        |
35. Approve the Contract call Associate contract between **Jun Su Park** (The Central Annual Conference of the Korea Methodist Church) and Korean Central Presbyterian Church. Effective date: May 3, 2022. This contract is for full time.
- |            |        |
|------------|--------|
| a. Salary  | 36,000 |
| b. Housing | 18,000 |



c. Minister's Choice	5,400
d. Moving expenses	3,000
e. SECA allowance	4,131
f. Continuing Education	1,000
g. Cell phone	50 per month
h. Professional expenses	6,000
i. Four weeks vacation	
j. Two weeks continuing education	

36. Grant permission to **Joan Gray** (Cherokee Presbytery) to labor in our bounds for 6 months in order to accept the part time position of interim associate pastor at North Avenue Presbyterian church. Effective date: April 20, 2022. This contract is for 19 hours per week.

a. Salary	15,728
b. Housing	11,772
c. SECA allowance	2,103.75
d. Professional expenses	2,050
e. Four weeks vacation	
f. Two weeks continuing education	

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

- Alpharetta, without exception
- Atlanta Taiwanese, without exception
- Carrollton, with exception
- Central, with exception
- Church of the Master, with exception
- Columbia, with exception
- Conyers, without exception
- Covenant, without exception
- Covington First, with exception
- Crossroads, without exception
- Decatur, with exception
- Druid Hills, without exception
- Emory, with exception
- Fairview, with exception
- First Afrikan, with exception
- First Atlanta, without exception
- First Jonesboro, without exception (due to circumstances)
- First LaGrange, without exception
- First Manchester-Warm Springs, with exception
- First Monroe, with exception
- First Peachtree City, without exception
- Good Shepherd, with exception
- Hamilton Mill, without exception
- Hillside, with exception
- Jackson, without exception
- Kelley, with exception
- Lawrenceville, without exception
- McDonough, without exception

- Morrow, without exception
- Mount Vernon, without exception
- New Life, with exception
- Newnan, without exception
- North Avenue, without exception
- North Decatur, without exception
- Northminster, without exception
- Northwest, with exception
- Oakhurst, with exception
- Oglethorpe, without exception
- Peachtree, without exception
- Pleasant Hill, with exception
- Philadelphia, without exception
- Radcliffe, without exception
- St. Andrews, with exception
- Shallowford, without exception
- Saint Luke's, without exception
- Smyrna, without exception
- Stockbridge, without exception
- Tallapoosa, with exception
- Timberridge, without exception
- Trinity in Atlanta, without exception
- Trinity in Decatur, with exception
- Westhills, with exception
- Westminster, without exception

### **For Recommendation**

1. Commission elder Tom Whitworth to serve as a Commissioned Ruling Elder for First Presbyterian Church in Bremen. Tom has gone through the training required from the Presbytery and has already been given permission by COM to moderate the session. Tom is commissioned to serve as the pastor for the church. Effective date: upon commissioning, May 3, 2022. (See the docket regarding the Commissioning)
2. Approve the amended by-laws for the Committee on Ministry

~~Approved by COM October 19, 2017 with once phrase deleted on interim pastors~~

Approved by COM: **February 17, 2022**

Approved by Presbytery ~~May 19, 2015~~ **May 3, 2022**

## **THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY**

### **Purpose and Scope**

The Presbytery of Greater Atlanta shall continue to have a standing committee entitled: Committee on Ministry. Council recommends The Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, grant the following authority to the Committee on Ministry:

- Approve terms of calls

- Approve changes in terms of call
- Approve **routine** pastoral call dissolutions (except in cases where either the pastor or congregation object to such dissolution, in which case the presbytery, not just the COM, must specifically approve such dissolution over the objection of the pastor or congregation after due opportunity for the objecting parties to be heard by presbytery. G-2.0904) *This protection is offered in the Book of Order in G-2.0903, G-2.0904 and is not necessary to repeat the language*
- Approve dismissals of pastors
- Approve pastoral position titles and descriptions
- Approve Honorable Retirements
- Provide for the suitability of calls between pastors and churches
- Counsel with churches regarding the advisability of securing the pastoral needs in a designated situation, a contract call situation, and an interim situation
- **Approve requests for ministers laboring in or out of our bounds**
- Approve the annual Minimum Compensation for Pastors policy
- Appoint Administrative Review teams to assist congregations. Such teams may be requested by the congregation or directly appointed by COM when levels of dysfunction or conflict warrant such an appointment.
- Establish and appoint **an a COM Administrative Commission** when a church has requested dissolution as a congregation
- Work with congregations in conflict and when necessary, **request the Presbytery to establish an Administrative Commission under the guidelines of G-3.0109 (b).** ~~Such Administrative Commissions established by the Committee on Ministry shall have the limited powers set forth in G-3.0303(d), to counsel with a session concerning reported difficulties within a congregation, including:~~
  1. ~~Advising the session as to appropriate actions to be taken to resolve the reported difficulties;~~
  2. ~~Offering to help as a mediator, and~~
  3. ~~Acting to correct the difficulties if requested to do so by the session or if the session is unable or unwilling to do so, following the procedural safeguards of the Rules of Discipline;~~

~~Such Administrative Commissions established by the Committee on Ministry shall not be empowered to divide, dismiss or dissolve congregations, to dissolve a pastoral relationship or to assume original jurisdiction of a session without specific authorization by the presbytery (G-2.0901, G-3.0109b, G-3.0303(d)(e)).~~ *(this clarifies that the Presbytery establishes Administrative Commissions. It is not necessary to repeat the language in the Book of Order)*
- Receive and act upon annual reports for those in validated ministries **and ministers at large**
- Approve validated ministries
- Approve Pastor Emeritus requests from congregations
- Provide for mediating differences between churches and pastors when needed
- Work with sessions when called upon
- Shall oversee the supervisory work of pastors under discipline as directed by a PJC decision

## Relationship to Examinations Commission

In addition to the 18 members elected through the nominating process, the Examinations Commission shall select one or two members to serve on COM ~~bringing the total membership of COM to 20 people.~~ **For the purpose of communication. Examinations person/s shall have voice but no vote and do not count towards the quorum.**

## Terms of Service

Terms shall begin at the first January succeeding their election. Members shall be eligible for re-election but may not serve more than six (6) consecutive years.

The committee shall secure additional members per its needs for periods of one year which is renewable up to three years. The names of these additional members shall be reported to the Presbytery for information.

### **Chair**

Co-chairs of the Committee will be appointed by the Executive Presbyter. One of the co-chairs will serve as a voting member of Council. Additionally, another member of COM will serve as an *ex-officio* member of Council. This member will ordinarily be one of the co-chairs of the committee. COM shall have one elected member ruling Elder serve as a Commissioner to Presbytery per the policy on parity.

### **Membership**

The membership of the Committee on Ministry shall be as close to parity as possible. There shall be three classes of six people. Nominations shall be made by the Nominating Committee and presented to the Presbytery. Nominations from the floor are always in order.

A quorum for a meeting of the Committee on Ministry shall be 50% of its membership.

### **Meetings**

The Committee shall meet on a regular basis or at the call of its co-chairs or at the request of any 6 members.

The above revision of the By-Laws was *approved by a vote of 202 yes, 0 no, 8 abstentions.*

## INTRODUCING OUR PREACHER: REV. DR. KATHRYN THREADGILL



### Rev. Dr. Kathryn Threadgill

Kathryn is the Associate Director of Theology, Formation and Evangelism for the Presbyterian Mission Agency of the Presbyterian Church (USA). She attended Montreat College, PC(USA) on a soccer scholarship. There she obtained her B.A. majoring in Bible and Religion with a concentration in Youth Ministry. Kathryn went on to study at Columbia Theological Seminary for both her Masters of Divinity and her Doctorate of Educational Ministries degrees. Her thesis explored why youth today are not experiencing the wonder of God in worship. As a minister of the Word and Sacraments, Kathryn has served churches in Greensboro, NC. and Mobile, AL. She is the beloved daughter of Ollie Rix and Dorothy Threadgill, and has twelve siblings from all over the world. Kathryn enjoys oil painting, wood working, kayaking, hiking, and spending time with the people she loves.

Rev. Threadgill preached a powerful sermon on Intentional Authentic Evangelism. Her text for the morning was John 4:1-42. Here are a few of her words:

- What does it mean to practice intentional authentic evangelism? It is to enter into the story, to be in relationship. Jesus does this with his encounter with the Samaritan woman at the well.
- When we have good news in our lives, it is impossible not to share it. So what prevents us from sharing this good news...why is faith in Jesus Christ, the living water that he offers, any different?
- The call to discipleship is not for the faint hearted; it requires everything of us
- Rev. Threadgill shared a story of a man who was killed for his faith. They found in his belongings after his death, his powerful statement of faith. These are some of his words: I am a part of the fellowship of Saints. I have Holy Spirit power. I am a disciple of Jesus Christ so I will not look back, slow down, be still or shut up...
- Jesus Christ links our story with God's story.

## EXAMINATIONS COMMISSION

*That the following person was examined for ordination in the areas of Theology, Bible, Worship and Sacraments and Polity and is recommended for ordination and reception:*

**Prince Davies-Venn** (candidate of Greater Atlanta) has been called as a Contract Call Associate at North Avenue Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Davies-Venn was *approved for ordination and reception by a vote of 216 yes, 0 no and 2 abstentions*

The following two people were examined by ECKAM and are recommended for transfer and reception. All the necessary paperwork has been received. Both require a 2/3 vote from the Presbytery for reception.

**Jun Young Lee** (The Presbyterian Church of Korea) has been called as the Contract Call Pastor of Grace Korean Presbyterian Church. The PCUSA is in communion with this denomination. Start date: March 1, 2022. Effective date: May 3, 2022.

**Jun Su Park** (Central Annual Conference of the Korean Methodist Church) has been called as a Contract Call Associate pastor at Korean Central Presbyterian Church. The Committee on Ministry recommends Rev. Park's reception under the provision of G-2.0505(a)(1) with the understanding that he has up to 2 years to take classes from a seminary (such as Columbia, Georgia Christian) in Reformed Theology, Polity and Worship/Sacraments. Effective date: May 3, 2022.

Rev. Lee was *approved by a vote of 212 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions*.

Rev. Park was *approved by a vote of 217 yes, 0 no and 1 abstention*.

The Moderator asked both candidates the Constitutional Questions.

## HONORABLE RETIREMENT OF RICHARD HILL

The Rev. Richard Griffin Hill's roots began in his childhood "every Sunday" routine at First Presbyterian in Quincy, FL. Through his disillusionment with his first career choice of engineering, and meeting his soon-to-be wife Penny Cook in the 1980s, Richard began to discern a call to ministry. He transferred to Emory University, then attended Columbia Theological Seminary, graduating in 1987.

Devotion to his family – his beloved Penny, and their sons Nicholas and Philip – has been a parallel, anchoring call. This commitment was borne out of a desire to redeem his broken family of origin, and has remained central through his life and ministry.

He began his ordained ministry at Conyers Presbyterian Church as Associate Pastor. In 1990, he and Penny both joined the staff of First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta, where he was able to focus on his gift for youth ministry. It was there that he discovered his passion for ministering with those whom society marginalizes, our oft-overlooked sisters and brothers in Christ. He found this desire amidst the congregation's ministry to the homeless, as well as mission trips to Indian reservations and the border with Mexico.

In 1995, Richard was called to be Associate Pastor at Roswell Presbyterian Church, where he had the opportunity to grow the mission and outreach ministry from one annual mission trip to seven, and from a legacy of supporting local non-profits to an increasing number of mission partnerships both locally and across the world. This included an interracial partnership with Zion Missionary Baptist Church, affordable housing initiatives, and long-term partnerships in Kenya, India, Belize, Guatemala, and Brazil.

Never one to be complacent, Richard left Roswell after thirteen years, moving into Interim Ministry at Buford, Timberridge, and Covenant within the Presbytery, as well as at Moorings Presbyterian (in Naples, Florida) and Macland (in Powder Springs). During these years, he also managed to find time to receive his Doctorate of Ministry from Bakke Graduate University.

This was also a time of painful trial, as his parents died and Penny was diagnosed with Stage IV lung cancer. His call and commitment to his family came sharply back into focus as he cared for her, and for Nicholas and Philip, through what can only be described as a nightmare. Even so, Richard says, that battle concluded with “a sense of God’s grace and peace.”

Whether serving churches large or small, rural or urban, conservative or liberal, Richard has both loved and been loved in each and every context.

Retirement will not be complacency for Richard. He plays “Pops” to two (and soon three!) grandsons, travels with his wonderful wife of the last five years, Jeanie, and remains active in ministry with Concrete Jungle, Mercy Community Church, the Absalom Jones Center for Racial Healing, R.O.C.K. Bridge Ministries in Kenya, and continues in “solidariedade” with work in Fortaleza, Brazil.

THEREFORE: let it be known that Richard Griffin Hill is now officially retired from officially serving as pastor in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta. However, let it also be known that he is not retiring from Christ’s work.

## **BILLS AND OVERTURES**

### **For Recommendation**

The following overture was submitted to the Bills and Overture Committee from the session of Covenant Presbyterian Church. This overture originates from The Presbytery of Western Reserve. Because this overture is a vote for concurrence, amendments to the overture are not in order.

The Bills and Overtures Committee recommends concurrence of this overture. It is very straightforward and the recommendations speak for themselves.

The Presbytery of the Greater Atlanta overtures the 225<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2022) to:

1. commend the Stated Clerk’s “Call to Prayer for the people of Ethiopia” (November 10, 2021) to the attention of our congregations, presbyteries, and synods; and
2. encourage their engagement in self-directed study, prayer, and action related to the origins of the conflict, ongoing acute suffering, and prospects for peace in the Horn of Africa.

### **Rationale**

Ethiopia is the second largest country in sub-Saharan Africa, with a population of 117 million comprised of more than 80 distinct ethnic groups, and one with which we have multiple connections:

- The Presbyterian Church (USA) has been in relationship with Ethiopian Christians for over a century through Gospel ministry, theological training, and founding of hospitals and schools. The 8 million-member Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus traces its origins to this work.
- The Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church, a World Council member, dates to the 4<sup>th</sup> C. A.D.
- An estimated quarter-million Ethiopian immigrants and their children reside in the U.S.
- Our government has been the largest source of bilateral foreign assistance to Ethiopia.

Since November, 2019, Ethiopia's central government, the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), and other forces have been engaged in armed conflict over a wide area of Ethiopia. This civil war has:

- Caused tens of thousands of deaths
- Displaced hundreds of thousands due to ethnic cleansing and other violence
- Brought millions more to the brink of starvation and famine, per the United Nations WFP
- Left widespread destruction of crops and civilian infrastructure such as hospitals and schools
- Victimized women and girls through sexual violence
- Led to massacres of Christian pilgrims and worshipers and looting of cultural treasures

Although one of the worst conflicts in the world today, its existence and severity are little known to most Americans. Without access by Western media, ongoing suffering is happening largely out of public view. The United Nations World Food Programme and other relief agencies need unhindered ability to deliver food and medical aid to people in all areas in Tigray, Amhara, and Afar regions affected by the fighting. But despite international calls for a cease-fire and prompt rendering of assistance to civilian war victims, hostilities continue, and the humanitarian disaster shows every sign of growing more severe.

These factors give us a particular responsibility and opportunity now to engage in study, prayer, and action – as suggested by the Stated Clerk – regarding the present conflict and prospects for peace.

### **Sources of information for study and prayer**

“Call to Prayer for the people of Ethiopia” (November 10, 2021)

<https://pcusa.org/news/2021/11/10/stated-clerk-issues-call-prayer-people-ethiopia/>

“Presbyterian Mission - Ethiopia” (as of February 16, 2022)

[www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/global/ethiopia](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/global/ethiopia)

“Severe Hunger Tightens Grip on Northern Ethiopia”, Saving Lives Changing Lives, United Nations World Food Programme (January 28, 2022)

<https://www.wfp.org/news/severe-hunger-tightens-grip-northern-ethiopia>

The Presbytery voted to *concur with the above overture originally submitted by the Presbytery of Western Reserve. The vote was 192 yes, 1 no, 5 abstentions.*

## **REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The Stated Clerk Nominating Committee is delighted to bring to the Presbytery their candidate for the next Stated Clerk. The committee moves that C. Anderson James be elected as Stated Clerk for a five year term beginning service as the Stated Clerk on June 1, 2022. He will begin work on May 16, 2022 to provide 2 weeks overlap with the current clerk. The following terms of call are presented:

### **Terms of Call for C. Anderson James**



**Effective Salary & Benefits**

Effective Salary (salary + housing)	\$88,000.00
SECA	6,732.00
BOP Core Benefits (Pension, medical, death & disability, temp. disability)	32,560.00
BOP Dental (based on 2022 member only rate - PPO plan)	495.12
BOP Vision Eyewear (based on 2022 member only rate)	46.68
<b>Total Effective Salary and Board of Pensions Benefits</b>	<b>\$127,833.80</b>

**Other Benefits**

Business & Prof. Expenses	\$1,500.00
Continuing Ed.	1,500.00
Coaching/Counseling (one year)	1,500.00
Presbytery provides phone and pays carrier for service	
Four weeks of vacation	
Two weeks of continuing education	
Sabbatical of three months after five full years of service (Subsequent sabbaticals revert to existing presbytery policy, granted after seven full years of service)	
Reasonable moving expenses to cost	

**REPORT AND INTRODUCTION OF THE CANDIDATE:**

Siblings in Christ,

It is with one voice, in joy and thanksgiving, that we nominate Rev. Clayton Anderson (Andy) James to be the next Stated Clerk for the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta!

The role of Stated Clerk in our presbytery is unique in its scope. It requires a keen mind for polity and governance, a servant's heart, and a creative eye to see the Book of Order not as an anchor for the boat but as a rudder to steer us toward open waters while avoiding the rocky shoals. The task of the Nominating Committee was to find a candidate who could build on present successes while bringing new skills and experience to help prepare the presbytery to meet the challenges and opportunities of the future.

We believe God has led us to that candidate: Andy James.

From our first interactions, Andy impressed the committee as a talented and experienced leader who centers relationships. His roots in the PC(USA) run deep and reach from the Mississippi Delta to the skyscrapers of Manhattan to the Piedmont of North Carolina.

Andy brings valuable experience—having previously served as a stated clerk, a pastor, and an associate presbyter. He has served in settings that span both rural and urban as well as conservative and progressive. He has nurtured a passion for small, vital congregations while supporting some of the largest and most well-known churches in the denomination. His service to the larger church as a member of the Committee on the Office of the General Assembly brings denominational relationships that will help PGA continue to be a leader in our connectional church.

We are confident that Andy's unique gifts and experience will complement those of the presbytery staff and help to guide the presbytery forward toward exciting new horizons.

In Christ,

Keenan Rodgers, *Chair*  
Mark Roberson, *Secretary*  
Bridgette Hector-Mabote  
Brad Bryant

Mary Jane Cornell, *Vice Chair*  
Cyndi Smith, *Corresponding Secretary*  
Byeong Cheol Han

## Education & Experience

### Education

Andy graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of Mississippi in 2001 and a Master of Divinity from Columbia Theological Seminary in 2005.

### Experience

He was ordained to Ministry of Word and Sacrament in 2005 at First Presbyterian Church of Oxford, Mississippi before moving to New York City where he had accepted his first call as Pastor at First Presbyterian Church of Whitestone, in Queens. In 2013, he assumed additional responsibilities serving as Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of New York City. He continued in both roles until 2016, when he accepted a call to serve as Associate for Small Church Ministries & Technology for the Presbytery of New Hope in eastern North Carolina, where he has served since.



### Service to the Larger Church

Andy served the Stony Point Conference Center from 2008-2013 as a member of both the Development Committee and the Friends Committee. In the Presbytery of New York City, he served on Committee of Nominations and was Chair of Committee of Preparation for Ministry prior to his election as Stated Clerk.

At the denominational level, Andy has served on the Committee on the Office of the General Assembly (COGA) since 2016, where he has served as a member of the Coordinating Committee and is a COGA Representative to the Board of the Presbyterian Historical Society.

## Brief Statement of Personal Faith

Claiming my voice alongside the saints and the whole multitude of earth and heaven, I believe in the one triune God—known in three persons, named for generations as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, shown to us in scripture, and constantly being revealed to us in new ways.

I believe in God, the Father, the Almighty: who like a loving Father creates the earth and all that lives in it and who like a caring Mother continually nurtures all creation. Naming the goodness of the whole world, God makes covenants with all creation, expressed through relationships with Noah and his family, Abraham and Sarah, and all Israel. Even as God is continually faithful, humanity turns away from God and toward the powers of the world. In loving justice and just love, God continues to be in relationship with this sinful world, always seeking its redemption and longing and working for its return to its created purposes.

I believe in Jesus Christ, the one Word of God, both fully human and fully God. Jesus, a Jew, was born in Palestine under Roman rule to an unwed mother who was yet a virgin. In his life, Jesus preached about the coming kingdom of God, invited the people to hear the Scriptures with new ears, and healed the sick and broken. Jesus was executed unjustly at the hand of the authorities of the day, and the triune God was fully present and alive in his suffering and death. On the third day, this same Jesus was raised from the dead, appearing to his friends and his followers as the resurrected Lord Jesus Christ and reminding us that the triune God has triumphed once and for all over the darkness of sin and evil. In his life, death, and resurrection, Jesus fulfilled God's covenant with all humanity and reconciled all creation to God, showing us that God is present with us even in the depths of our pain and witnessing to the love and justice of God in a world filled with the powers of evil.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, who opens us and all creation to hear and believe the good news of the Gospel. The Holy Spirit is active and alive in the world, working through all creation and particularly through the Church to empower all people to live lives faithful to the calling of the triune God and to unveil the kingdom of God. The Holy Spirit offers us the Bible, the great witness to the one Word of God in Jesus Christ. Though the written work of fallible humans, the Bible has been and continues to be inspired by the Holy Spirit in its writing, in its transmission and translation to our own time and understanding, and in its reading and hearing today. The Bible calls us to live as faithful people of God even as it sets us free for our own faithful response to God's work in our own time and place.

The Holy Spirit is at work in the Church, an earthly institution that bears witness to the work of the triune God in Jesus Christ. Though it may have many divisions in its struggles to be the body of Christ on earth, the Church is and always shall be one. Sustained by the power of the Holy Spirit, the Church bears witness to the just love and loving justice of God in its life together and in its work in the world. The Holy Spirit is at work in the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper as the Church celebrates God's welcome into the eternal covenant of the triune God and the empowerment of all humanity to be God's servant witnesses in the world.

I believe that faith in the triune God must be a faith for living, bringing together head and heart to understand and live as faithful followers of Jesus Christ. It is our greatest privilege and highest calling to join in God's work of making all things new in this world and the next. Nothing in our living or dying can separate us from the triune God as we look with joyful expectation to the glorious new creation that is coming into our midst even now. Thanks be to God! Amen.

## Faith Journey

I was born and raised in Mississippi, baptized at the First Presbyterian Church of Greenville and confirmed at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Jackson. Even as a Presbyterian, I was surrounded by the cultural expectations in the Bible Belt around conversion, but I was grateful when someone at a Montreat Youth Conference introduced me to the idea of a nurturing conversion. This resonated deeply for me, as I cannot remember a time when I was not active in the church's life of worship, education, and service.

In college, I found my way to the Westminster Fellowship at the University of Mississippi and the First Presbyterian Church of Oxford. I soon became an active member there and a student leader in the campus ministry. Those years also led me to be active in the work of the national church, first with PresbyNet and then with the Presbyterian Student Strategy Team.

In all these years, I knew I was called to ministry in some way, but I did not yet know how best to express it. I took the year immediately after college to serve as a mission volunteer at the Stony Point Conference Center outside New York City, where I continued my discernment by applying to graduate programs in history and to seminary. When I was accepted to two seminaries and no graduate programs, the Holy Spirit's nudge was clear, so I made my way to Columbia Theological Seminary in hopes of discovering an alternative path into teaching. Instead, in classwork and field education I came to love pastoral ministry and found my way into the parish.

For my first call, I cast my net wide and landed back in New York City as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Whitestone in Queens. This small congregation of some 45 members managed to offer a faith home to these incredible saints and a wonderful laboratory for my exploration of parish ministry. Amidst the challenges of changing culture, a lawsuit and insurance upheaval, and the sale of the manse where I lived, the congregation managed to continue to welcome my ministry and grow in faith together.

Alongside my pastoral service, I became active in the life of the Presbytery of New York City, serving on several committees and as moderator of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry. In 2013, as the congregation was discerning how to proceed with a full-time pastor on a part-time budget, I was called to serve as Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of New York City alongside my pastoral call. This challenging combination helped me discover a greater sense of balance in my ministry and gave me a glimpse of the challenges faced by bi-vocational ministers each and every day.

After three years as Stated Clerk and eleven years as pastor, I was ready for a new challenge. In September 2016 I began service as Associate for Small Church Ministries and Technology in New Hope Presbytery in northeastern North Carolina. This new position proved to be a wonderful fit for my gifts for small church ministry that had been honed over those eleven years in Queens and my technological interests that had come naturally throughout my life. None of us could have imagined that the covid-19 pandemic would make such a position an important point of support for congregations in the face of such a strange season for the church and the world.

In the midst of the great upheavals of our late-pandemic world, I am again ready to explore a new challenge. The work of the Stated Clerk holds great meaning and even a strange joy for me, so when the opportunity arose for conversation with the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, I again followed the pull of the Holy Spirit. Along the way, I discovered a presbytery that shares my passion for mid council work that supports our congregations and leaders so that we can be the best versions of ourselves. I am so very excited to join you all in this important ministry so that we can be more faithful each and every day.

## A Message from Andy to the Presbytery

Dear friends in Christ,

It is an honor and joy to be presented to you as the candidate for Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta. For many years I have heard of your deep faithfulness in your witness to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the life of your congregations, new worshiping communities, leaders, and the presbytery as a whole, and I am excited about joining you in this work!

I am a lifelong Presbyterian, shaped and formed in and by different expressions of the PC(USA): three medium-sized congregations in Mississippi, a small campus ministry serving a flagship state university, two beloved conference and retreat centers serving two very different regions of the country and the church, a wonderful seminary within your bounds, three small churches in and around New York City, and two presbyteries serving very unique and yet strangely similar regions in New York City and North Carolina. In all these varied contexts, I experienced the Holy Spirit's presence guiding and supporting me as I explored my sense of call and journeyed with the whole church as we all sought to deepen our faithfulness and broaden our witness.

While I explored my sense of call to serve as your Stated Clerk in prayer and conversation with the search committee, I became excited by the chance to work in and with your varied contexts to continue and extend my experience of the church and be a part of the presbytery's vibrant mission of connecting, equipping, and empowering congregations and leaders to be the best versions of ourselves in our witness to the love and justice of Jesus Christ. It was evident to me that serving as Stated Clerk in a presbytery such as yours offers an incredible opportunity to embrace the many gifts of our polity even as the Holy Spirit guides us toward "a new openness to see both the possibilities and perils of [our] institutional forms in order to ensure the faithfulness and usefulness of these forms to God's activity in the world" (F-1.0404).

I am excited to see where the Holy Spirit will lead as we walk the road ahead. If God calls us to wander together for a time, I pray that together we might have an experience not unlike the disciples making their way to Emmaus on that first Easter Day: talking together with our companions on the road, deepening our understanding of what God is up to in our world, and settling down at table together to find that Jesus has been with us all along in ways beyond our imaginations.

It would be a joy and a privilege to share such a journey with all of you and to find my own faithfulness deepened all along the way. I look forward to being with you on May 3!

Grace, peace, and love,  
Andy

The Presbytery *elected C. Anderson James by a vote of 214 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions with the above printed terms of call.*

Prayer was offered by Chairperson **Keenan Rodgers**.

## COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

### **Admit to Record:**

- That the following persons were enrolled as inquirers as of the date shown:
  - a. Jeanine Fulton, Eastminster Presbyterian Church, January 27, 2022
- The following annual consultations took place:
  - a. Melva Lowry, Rice Memorial Presbyterian Church, February 7, 2022
- The following church had a Session orientation:
  - a. First Presbyterian Church in LaGrange on March 24
- That the following candidates were certified ready to receive a call:
  - a. Kyonghun Isaac Keum, Korean Community Presbyterian Church, February 24, 2022
  - b. JiYoung Irene Choi, Korean Community Presbyterian Church, March 24, 2022
- The following candidate withdrew from the process:
  - a. Ashley Chung, Korean Community Presbyterian, March 31, 2022

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

### **For Information:**

The Nominating Committee strives to select persons best able and available to perform the Presbytery or Greater Atlanta's work as it also endeavors to use the available talents of as many as possible. Because we are a connectional denomination, presbytery committees, commissions, and staff work together to facilitate the work of our presbytery.

Presbytery committees and commissions are composed of ruling elders, teaching elders and lay leaders who work together to support, strategize, research, plan, and make decisions that guide our presbytery in accomplishing its mission. Each January, vacancies occur in presbytery committees and commissions as members complete a term and rotate off, necessitating a variety of people with a variety of talents to staff them.

Please think about joining God's work at the presbytery level and complete a Volunteer Interest Form (VIF) found on the last page of this Handbook or online at <https://www.atlpcusa.org/committees>. By completing the VIF, you will help the Nominating Committee learn of your interests and special gifts. You will also find a list of committees and job descriptions at the link above. If you have questions or need more information, please contact Debbie Durden, [dfdurden@gmail.com](mailto:dfdurden@gmail.com) or Joy Fisher, [jfisher@atlpcusa.org](mailto:jfisher@atlpcusa.org).

**For Recommendation:** (all names in **bold** are those that are being nominated) *(Part of the Omnibus motion)*

## Committee on Ministry

### Class of 2022

1. Kevin Hicks (2017)	TE	Conyers
2. Ollie Wagner (2017)	TE	Alpharetta
3. Peter Ward (2017)	TE	At Large
4. Ken Whitehurst (2018)	RE	Trinity Decatur
5. David Hill (2020)	RE	Mount Vernon
6. Kathy McCloud (2020)	RE	Central

### Class of 2023

1. Sherri Bozardt (2021)	RE	Northminster
2. Craig Costen (2021)	RE	Church of the Master
3. Mary Smarr (2021)	RE	Oakhurst
4. Hodari Williams (2021)	TE	New Life
5. Mary Jane Cornell (2018)	TE	Honorably Retired
<b>6. Nayoung Kim (2022)</b>	<b>TE</b>	<b>At Large</b>

### Class of 2024

1. Julie Ferguson (2019)	TE	Roswell
2. Guerry Mashburn (2019)	RE	First Atlanta
3. Gretchen Turner (2019)	RE	St. Andrews
4. Brenda Gales (2021)	RE	Presbyterian Church of the Resurrection
5. Gad Mpoyo (2022)	TE	Validated
6. David Rogers (2022)	TE	Honorably Retired

## Dismantling Racism Committee

### Class of 2022

1. Tom Hagood (2022)	TE	Columbia
2. SungHee Han (2022)	TE	Validated
3. Carrell Kalland (2022)	RE	Presbyterian Church of the Resurrection

### Class of 2023

1. Chris Holmes (2022)	TE	First Atlanta
<b>2. Lindsay Slocum (2022)</b>	<b>TE</b>	<b>Roswell</b>
3. Betti Jo (BJ) Steele (2022)	RE	Norcross

### Class of 2024

1. Elizabeth Acton (2022)	TE	Druid Hills
<b>2. Andrew Esqueda (2022)</b>	<b>TE</b>	<b>Trinity Atlanta</b>
3. Jasiel Hernandez-Garcia (2022)	TE	Central

## New Church Development Commission

### Class of 2022

1. Sarah Hooker (2018)	TE	Validated
2. Betsy Turner (2019)	TE	Druid Hills
3. Harry Barrow (2020)	TE	Honorably Retired
4. Adam Borneman (2020)	TE	Validated

5. Drew Ditzel	(2020)	TE	Kairos
6. Sam Kim	(2020)	TE	Atlanta Taiwanese
<b>7. George Tatro</b>	<b>(2022)</b>	<b>TE</b>	<b>McDonough</b>

Class of 2023

1. Bill Drummond	(2018)	TE	Validated
2. Rebecca Parker	(2018)	TE	Validated
3. Hiram Perez-Cordero	(2021)	RE	Shallowford
4. Steven Sankey	(2021)	TE	At Large
5. Dan Walden	(2021)	RE	Covington First

Class of 2024

1. Jenelle Holmes	(2019)	TE	Ormewood (NCD)
2. Julian Wade	(2019)	RE	Eastminster
3. Hasco Craver	(2022)	RE	Newnan
4. Lauren Fields	(2022)	RE	Church of the Master
5. Sun Ki Jeong	(2022)	TE	Korean Community

**2022 General Assembly Commissioners/Bills and Overtures Committee (2024)**

**Ruling Elders:**

1. Iris Wallace (2023 Moderator)	RE	Radcliffe
2. Brad Bryant	RE	Shallowford
3. Cheryl Hartman	RE	Good Shephard
4. David Hill	RE	Mount Vernon
5. Kathleen (Kathy) McCloud	RE	Central

**Teaching Elders:**

1. Juan Herrera (2022 Moderator)	TE	Hamilton Mill
2. Rachel Breyer	TE	Validated
3. Sam Kim	TE	Atlanta Taiwanese
<b>4. Nicole Lock</b>	<b>TE</b>	<b>At Large</b> <b>see below</b>
5. William (Alex) Moses	TE	Fayette

**2022 General Assembly YAAD (Young Adult Advisory Delegate)**

1. Caroline Hurst	LP	Saint Luke's	YAAD
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**General Assembly commissioner alternate: Nicole Lock**

We received the resignation of an elected commissioner to this year's General Assembly. Therefore the Nominating Committee shares the information regarding this alternate who will now fulfill her role as a registered commissioner and be placed on the Bills and Overtures Committee:

Nicole Lock was born and raised in Atlanta, Georgia. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in French from Davidson College (go Wildcats!) Upon graduation, Nicole served in youth ministry for eight years in North Carolina and Virginia before discerning Christ's call to ordained ministry. After earning her Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary, she returned to Atlanta in 2009 when she was called as Associate Pastor for



Discipleship at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Snellville, where she ministered for five years. Since then, Nicole has served as interim pastor for various congregations in our Presbytery (Presbyterian Church of the Resurrection, McDonough, and, most recently, Clairmont.) In 2017 Nicole received her Doctor of Ministry degree from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. As part of her doctoral track “Transforming Congregations,” Nicole worked with several congregations in their worship ministry, titling her thesis project: “Why Is This Hour Different from All Other Hours? The Mission of Worship.” An active member of our Presbytery, Nicole has served on the Committee for Preparation for Ministry, the Examinations Commission, the Executive Presbyter Nominating Committee, and presently serves on Council. Outside of ministry – or rather, an extension of her community ministry – Nicole serves as a volunteer Run Lead with Atlanta Track Club and is currently training for the New York City Marathon. She, her husband James, and their two fun-loving cats live in Midtown

## COUNCIL

### For Information

1. With the transition of the Stated Clerk, Council has voted to hold the August 16, 2022 Stated Meeting virtually.
2. The following dates were approved for 2023 Presbytery dates:
  - a. February 7, 2023
  - b. May 6, 2023
  - c. August 22, 2023
  - d. November 4, 2023

## LITANY FOR OUTGOING STATED CLERK

### **Celebrating the Faithful Service of The Reverend Donna E. Wells, Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta**

*Leader 1: There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.*

**All: There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.**

*Leader 2: God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God’s purpose that is accomplished.*

**All: To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.**

*Leader 1: Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.*

*Leader 2: Today we celebrate the gifts the Spirit has given to the Reverend Donna E. Wells. We rejoice in her service as Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta and mark her retirement effective May 31, 2022.*

*Leader 1: Following education at the University of Tulsa and McCormick Theological Seminary, Donna was ordained as Minister of Word and Sacrament by the Presbytery of Chicago on December 1, 1985.*

**All: We give thanks to God for the family, friends, teachers, and mentors who have nurtured Donna in the faith.**

*Leader 2: Donna was called to serve in the Presbytery of Chicago at Parkview Presbyterian Church and at Brighten Park Presbyterian Church; and in the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley at Northminster Presbyterian Church, before following God’s call to join the staff of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta on February 1, 2000.*

**All: We give thanks to God for the congregations, denominational leaders, and colleagues who have encouraged Donna as preacher, teacher, and pastor.**

*Leader 1: Donna's service on the Presbytery staff has included ever-increasing levels of responsibility as Assistant Stated Clerk, Acting Stated Clerk, and Stated Clerk, roles in which she kept accurate records of minister and other transitions, trained and assisted committees, advised churches, resourced administrative and judicial commissions, and performed myriad other tasks, making her the glue which has kept the Presbytery running decently and in order.*

**All: We give thanks to God for all the ways Donna has served the ministers and congregations of this presbytery for over twenty-two years.**

*Leader 2: As much as what Donna has done, we celebrate how Donna has carried out her call as a follower of Jesus Christ, generously providing her expertise and knowledge, maintaining confidences, demonstrating a helpful spirit, and seeking to follow the spirit of the law as well as the letter of the law.*

**All: We give thanks to God for Donna's keen intellect, pastor's heart, and humble spirit which have allowed her to serve so effectively.**

*Leader 1: Donna has been accompanied on this journey of faith and service by her devoted partner, The Reverend Jerry Dean Weber, and their children, Adam, Hannah Ruth, and Martha.*

**All: We give thanks to God for Donna's family and the many ways they have supported her in her ministry.**

*Leader 2: The Presbytery of Greater Atlanta is delighted to express its profound gratitude to God for the life and ministry of the Reverend Donna E. Wells, for God's providence in bringing Donna to serve among us, and our love and affection for her as pastor, friend, and partner in ministry.*

**All: We are confident that God will continue to open to her fresh and exciting opportunities for Christian service in her retirement. We pray that God will uphold her in faith, support her in hope, and establish her in peace and joy forever. Amen.**

## **OPERATIONS**

### **Admit to Record:**

1. On February 14, 2022, the Operations Committee, acting as the Board of Directors, approved a modification of the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program mortgage loan for Hamilton Mill Presbyterian Church, extending the term from twenty (20) to Twenty-five (25) years.
2. On February 14, 2022, the Operations Committee, acting as the Board of Directors, elected the following officers for 2022:
  - a. As required by the Bylaws of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, Inc.:
    - Chairman of the Board of Directors – Brent Adams
    - Corporate Secretary – Rev. Donna Wells, Stated Clerk
    - Recording Secretary – Rev. Chris Hooker
    - Treasurer – Rev. Chip Blankinship, Director of Operations
  - b. As required by the Georgia Secretary of State:
    - Chief Executive Officer - Rev. Aisha Brooks-Johnson, Executive Presbyter

Secretary - Rev. Donna Wells, Stated Clerk  
Chief Financial Officer - Rev. Chip Blankinship, Director of Operations  
Registered Agent - Rev. Chip Blankinship, Director of Operations

3. On February 14, 2022, the Operations Committee, acting as the Board of Directors, approved the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, that the Operations Committee, acting as the Board of Directors of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, Inc., authorizes Rev. Frank I. Blankinship, III, Director of Operations and CFO, to negotiate terms on matters related to Presbytery property transactions, and to sign any documents related to such transactions.

Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, Inc.  
Preliminary Statement of Financial Position  
Operations Fund  
As of March 31, 2022

**Assets**

Cash					<b>\$298,777.52</b>
Investments					<b>\$1,045,386.56</b>
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		\$13,344.00			
A/R-Hanbit PC		\$36,394.87			
A/R- Ormewood Park		\$42,139.24			
A/R - College Park PC		\$24,240.31			
A/R - Church of the New Covenant		(\$13,242.20)			
A/R - Luther Hays PET		\$20.10			
A/R-Georgia Avenue Building/Site		\$41,885.23			
A/R -Church os St. Andrew		\$41,100.82			
Total Accounts Receivable					<b>\$138,079.29</b>
Pledges Receivable (Ground Lease)		\$725,000.00			
Discount on Pledges Receivable (Ground Lease)		(\$490,759.85)			
Total Pledges Receivable					<b>\$234,240.15</b>
Prepaid Expenses					\$18,662.13
Property & Equipment					\$1,200,728.78
Land, Buildings and Property (Net)					\$9,863,960.50
Total Accumulated Depreciation					<u>(\$1,511,148.11)</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>					<b><u><u>\$11,288,686.82</u></u></b>

**Liabilities, Fund Principal, & Restricted Funds**

<b>Liabilities</b>					
Non-Budgeted Benevolence					\$150.00
A/P Operations					\$61.96
A/P Tree of Life Ministries					\$16,250.00
HFSA					\$2,225.15
Accrued Vacation					\$19,491.34
Due to Wachovia (CSM)		\$31,252.80			
Total Long-term Debt					\$31,252.80
Other Liabilities		\$7,742.44			
					<u>\$7,742.44</u>
Total Liabilities					\$77,173.69
Total Restricted Funds					\$1,177,142.19
<b>Fund Principal</b>					
Fund Balance-Operations		\$10,022,640.06			
Net Income Year-to-Date		\$11,730.88			
Total Fund Principal and Net Income Year-to-Date					<u>\$10,034,370.94</u>
<b>Total Liabilities, Fund Principal, &amp; Restricted Funds</b>					<b><u><u>\$11,288,686.82</u></u></b>

Presbytery of Greater Atlanta  
Operations Fund Revenues and Disbursements-Preliminary  
Period Ending March 31, 2022

	Actual Period Ending <u>3/31/22</u>	Actual Period Ending <u>3/31/21</u>	Annual Budget <u>FYE 01/31/2022</u>
Operation Support	\$ 99,416.36	\$ 44,105.81	\$ 535,000.00
Per Capita	\$ 109,986.05	\$ 137,284.76	\$ 600,000.00
Budgeted Designated	\$ 10,000.33	\$ 10,826.51	
Budgeted Presbytery	\$ 3,223.26	\$ 4,502.74	\$ 3,000.00
Total Designated	\$ 222,626.00	\$ 196,719.82	\$ 1,138,000.00
Interest Income	\$ -	\$ 146.62	\$ 10,000.00
Unrealized (Gain)Loss - Ops	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,000.00
Designated for Presbytery Only	\$ 7,174.89	\$ 7,174.89	\$ 46,500.00
Interest-Presbyterian Foundation	\$ 1,505.00	\$ -	\$ -
Other Income	\$ 45,347.83	\$ 18,392.78	\$ 332,500.00
Total Revenues before Transfers	\$ 276,653.72	\$ 222,434.11	\$ 1,539,000.00
Transfers			
Transfer to Pilgrimage	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Transfers	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Benevolent Disbursements	\$ 104,299.23	\$ 116,198.27	\$ 508,803.06
Program Expenses			
Committees & Partnerships	\$ 150.50	\$ 177.80	\$ 11,150.00
Salary and Benefits	\$ 140,298.99	\$ 143,996.57	\$ 865,540.99
Administrative Costs	\$ 20,174.12	\$ 19,226.40	\$ 153,505.95
Total Program Expenses	\$ 160,623.61	\$ 163,400.77	\$ 1,030,196.94
Total Transfers and Disbursements	\$ 264,922.84	\$ 279,599.04	\$ 1,539,000.00
Change in Net Assets	\$ 11,730.88	\$ (57,164.93)	\$ -
Other Revenues	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Net Operating Total	\$ 11,730.88	\$ (57,164.93)	\$ -

**Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, Inc.**  
**Monthly Benevolence Report**  
**March 2022**

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

Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Actual (Last Year)
<b>Revenues</b>			
<b>Support and Revenue</b>			
<b>Budgeted Designated</b>			
<b>Budgeted General Assembly</b>			
100-403000 - One Great Hour of Sharing	\$0.00	\$510.00	\$1,664.70
100-403020 - Christmas Joy Offering	\$789.30	\$4,675.08	\$5,695.37
100-403030 - Pentecost Offering	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$162.41
100-403050 - Peacemaking Special Offering	\$62.50	\$2,740.24	\$1,554.02
100-403200 - Designated for Missionaries	\$1,216.67	\$2,050.01	\$1,750.01
<b>Total Budgeted General Assembly</b>	<u>\$2,068.47</u>	<u>\$10,000.33</u>	<u>\$10,826.51</u>
<b>Budgeted Presbytery</b>			
100-403510 - Designated Thornwell Home & School	\$589.96	\$1,219.81	\$2,055.58
100-403550 - Johnson C. Smith Seminary	\$362.49	\$362.49	\$300.00
100-403580 - Presbyterian Homes	\$589.96	\$640.96	\$523.58
<b>Total Budgeted Presbytery</b>	<u>\$1,542.41</u>	<u>\$2,223.26</u>	<u>\$2,879.16</u>
<b>Total Budgeted Designated</b>	<u>\$3,610.88</u>	<u>\$12,223.59</u>	<u>\$13,705.67</u>
<b>Total Support and Revenue</b>	<u>\$3,610.88</u>	<u>\$12,223.59</u>	<u>\$13,705.67</u>
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<u>\$3,610.88</u>	<u>\$12,223.59</u>	<u>\$13,705.67</u>
<b>Disbursements and Expenses</b>			
<b>Benevolent Disbursements</b>			
100-500100 - G. A. Budgeted Benevolence	\$2,068.47	\$10,000.33	\$10,826.51
100-500500 - Designated for Presbyterian Homes	\$589.96	\$640.96	\$523.58
100-504030 - Designated for Thornwell	\$589.96	\$1,219.81	\$2,055.58
100-506020 - Designated for JC Smith Seminary	\$362.49	\$362.49	\$300.00
<b>Total Benevolent Disbursements</b>	<u>\$3,610.88</u>	<u>\$12,223.59</u>	<u>\$13,705.67</u>
<b>Total Disbursements and Expenses</b>	<u>\$3,610.88</u>	<u>\$12,223.59</u>	<u>\$13,705.67</u>
<b>Net Total</b>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>

**THE PRESBYTERY OF GREATER ATLANTA  
2022 BENEVOLENCE GIVING RECORDS  
3/31/22**

\*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 3 + Column 4)</small>	COLUMN 6 SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS	COLUMN 7 NON-BUDGETED DESIGNATIONS	COLUMN 8 TOTAL OF ALL RECEIPTS <small>(Column 5 + Column 6 &amp; 7)</small>	MEMBERSHIP 12/31/21	MEMBERSHIP 12/31/20
PEACHTREE			\$187,753.82		\$0.00			\$0.00	7136	6959
ROSWELL		\$15,000.00	\$64,239.38		\$15,000.00			\$15,000.00	2386	2381
First PRES-ATLANTA			\$51,450.86		\$0.00			\$0.00	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	\$945.26	\$27,168.86	\$6,792.26	\$7,737.52	\$75.00		\$7,812.52	989	1007
ALPHARETTA	\$22,400.00	\$5,600.01	\$22,393.40	\$5,600.01	\$11,200.02			\$11,200.02	815	830
DECATUR		\$9,653.47	\$21,341.18		\$9,653.47			\$9,653.47	738	791
ST LUKES	\$3,500.00		\$19,830.30		\$0.00			\$0.00	715	735
NORTH AVENUE		\$5,003.01	\$19,398.62		\$5,003.01	\$1,300.01	\$665.00	\$6,968.02	715	719
JOHNS CREEK			\$18,022.64		\$0.00			\$0.00	457	668
MCDONOUGH	\$11,097.18		\$14,380.34	\$14,380.34	\$14,380.34			\$14,380.34	514	533
First PRES-LAGRANGE	\$5,000.00	\$1,250.00	\$13,948.66	\$3,564.25	\$4,814.25	\$500.00		\$5,314.25	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		\$0.00			\$0.00	362	480
BUFORD	\$0.00		\$10,738.04	\$2,062.50	\$2,062.50		\$200.57	\$2,263.07	392	398
NEWMAN			\$10,738.04	\$2,675.01	\$2,675.01			\$2,675.01	398	398
MOUNT VERNON			\$10,603.14		\$0.00			\$0.00	385	393
MORNINGSIDE			\$10,441.26		\$0.00	\$1,684.85	\$1,105.00	\$2,789.85	387	387
NORTHMINSTER	\$26,000.00	\$6,500.00	\$10,360.32	\$10,360.32	\$16,860.32			\$16,860.32	381	384
PLEASANT HILL	\$11,000.00	\$2,750.00	\$10,252.40		\$2,750.00			\$2,750.00	362	380
NORTH DECATUR			\$8,984.34		\$0.00			\$0.00	335	333
CLAIRMONT			\$8,687.56	\$2,171.88	\$2,171.88			\$2,171.88	248	322
OAKHURST			\$8,660.58		\$0.00			\$0.00	331	321
WESTMINSTER	\$0.00		\$8,417.76	\$2,104.44	\$2,104.44	\$30.00		\$2,134.44	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	\$682.60	\$682.60			\$682.60	285	253
GOOD SHEPHERD	\$0.00		\$6,583.12	\$1,639.02	\$1,639.02			\$1,639.02	242	244
COVINGTON FIRST PRESBYTERIAN	\$0.00	\$1,666.66	\$6,286.34	\$1,047.76	\$2,714.42			\$2,714.42	231	233
CARROLTON	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$6,178.42	\$1,543.00	\$1,793.00			\$1,793.00	220	229
NORTHWEST			\$6,151.44		\$0.00			\$0.00	193	228
RADCLIFFE	\$1,500.00		\$5,800.70		\$0.00	\$1,475.33	\$161.67	\$1,637.00	202	215
LOYD			\$5,746.74	\$1,490.65	\$1,490.65			\$1,490.65	170	213
ST ANDREWS	\$2,500.00		\$5,719.76	\$5,719.76	\$5,719.76			\$5,719.76	200	212
First PRES-PEACHTREE CITY			\$5,449.96		\$0.00			\$0.00	181	202
CONVERS			\$5,207.14	\$1,301.75	\$1,301.75			\$1,301.75	187	193
MORROW			\$5,207.14	\$5,207.14	\$5,207.14	\$800.00		\$6,007.14	190	193
COVENANT	\$12,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$5,072.24	\$1,267.99	\$4,267.99			\$4,267.99	172	188

THE PRESBYTERY OF GREATER ATLANTA  
2022 BENEVOLENCE GIVING RECORDS  
3/31/22

\*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 (Column 2 + Column 4)	COLUMN 6 SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS	COLUMN 7 NON-BUDGETED DESIGNATIONS	COLUMN 8 TOTAL OF ALL RECEIPTS (Column 5+Column 6 & 7)	MEMBERSHIP 12/31/21	MEMBERSHIP 12/31/20
LA WRENCEVILLE	\$3,000.00	\$750.00	\$5,018.28	\$1,254.50	\$2,004.50	\$50.00	\$800.00	\$2,854.50	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	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$50.00		\$850.00	123	135
DRUID HILLS		\$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	\$909.14	\$3,264.58	\$593.56	\$1,502.70			\$1,502.70	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			\$3,210.62		\$0.00			\$0.00	61	119
AUSTELL	\$0.00	\$589.96	\$3,021.76	\$154.00	\$743.96	\$1,244.92		\$1,988.88	98	112
RICE MEMORIAL	\$2,500.00		\$2,832.90		\$0.00			\$0.00	98	105
SMYRNA			\$2,751.96	\$3,183.64	\$3,183.64			\$3,183.64	95	102
OGLETHORPE			\$2,751.96		\$0.00	\$207.33	\$30.67	\$238.00	99	102
CHURCH OF THE MASTER			\$2,724.98		\$0.00			\$0.00	100	101
COLUMBIA			\$2,563.10		\$0.00			\$0.00	93	95
FAIRVIEW	\$500.00	\$250.00	\$2,482.16	\$620.54	\$870.54	\$200.00		\$1,070.54	89	92
PHILADELPHIA		\$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		\$0.00			\$0.00	77	77
TRINITY DECATUR		\$500.00	\$1,996.52	\$2,182.95	\$2,682.95	\$536.80	\$31.25	\$3,251.00	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			\$1,726.72		\$0.00			\$0.00	66	64
ATLANTA TAIWANESE			\$1,672.76		\$0.00			\$0.00	59	62
HANBIT			\$1,349.00		\$0.00			\$0.00	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		\$0.00			\$0.00	38	41
KELLEY			\$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  
3/31/22**

\*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 (Column 2 + Column 4)	COLUMN 6 SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS	COLUMN 7 NON-BUDGETED DESIGNATIONS	COLUMN 8 TOTAL OF ALL RECEIPTS (Column 5 + Columns 6 & 7)	MEMBERSHIP 12/31/21	MEMBERSHIP 12/31/20
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		\$0.00			\$0.00	14	14
TALLAPOOSA	\$0.00		\$377.72		\$0.00			\$0.00	6	14
FELLOWSHIP			\$215.84		\$0.00			\$0.00	8	8
BENEVOLENCE TOTAL	\$154,492.68	\$104,419.37	\$850,328.66	\$112,059.93	\$216,479.30	\$12,371.07	\$4,311.95	\$233,162.32	30244	31646
INDIVIDUAL GIVING TOTAL				\$49.00				\$3,154.80		
* OVERALL TOTAL		\$104,419.37		\$112,108.93				\$236,317.12		

**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@atpcusa.org  
Your written request will expedite our ability to respond. If you have any questions, contact Gwen Hairston at 404-898-0711, ext 125.

## **CLOSING AND ADJOURNMENT**

A closing hymn was sung: *Lord you Give the Great Commission.*

Moderator Herrera closed the meeting with prayer and a benediction at 12:04.

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna E. Wells  
Stated Clerk

**ADDENDUMS**  
**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

1. Vital Congregations Initiative: Seven Marks of Vital Congregations
2. Partnerships



**ADDENDUM 1:**





# Seven Marks of Vital Congregations

<p><b>1</b> <b>LIFELONG Discipleship Formation</b> vs. Complacent “Christian” piety, simply teaching good morals, or offering the latest programs.</p>	<p><i>“The righteousness that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness of God based on faith.” (PHIL. 3:9B)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• From the cradle to the grave seeking to be formed for right living with God and with all people.</li><li>• Faith — seeking understanding, cultivating wisdom, and actively following Christ. It is not an extra-curricular activity nor merely head-knowledge.</li><li>• Discipleship awakened and engaged in issues facing today’s culture: injustice, inequality, divisive segregation, oppression, suffering, abuse of creation.</li><li>• Discipleship formed and strengthened in the community of Christ and permeates daily practices and daily living.</li></ul>
<p><b>2</b> <b>Intentional Authentic Evangelism</b> vs. “Jesus freaks”; “Christian” Hypocrisy; A committee.</p>	<p><i>“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)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Intentionally sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ, not just acts of kindness.</li><li>• Authentically sharing Christ because it is intrinsic to self-identity; overflow of Christ in our life.</li><li>• Relational, not programmatic or systematic</li></ul>
<p><b>3</b> <b>Outward Incarnational Focus</b> vs. Inward Institutional Survival; Closed communities of assimilation/exclusion.</p>	<p><i>“The gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it.” (MATT. 7:14)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Outward exploration, awareness, and focus on neighbors and neighborhood.</li><li>• Beyond relationship with those who are like us, the incarnate Christ dwells among the lowly &amp; least, the stranger &amp; the suffering, the marginalized &amp; majority.</li><li>• Missional focus on where Christ is already living and present and calling us to dwell.</li></ul>
<p><b>4</b> <b>Empower Servant Leadership</b> vs. the Pastor’s job; monopolized leadership; hiring the young energetic pastor; burning out good volunteers.</p>	<p><i>“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers.” (MATT. 9:37–38)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify, nurture, support the use of spiritual gifts of all people to serve; not monopolized cliques of power.</li><li>• All voices and people are necessary, and it is noticeable when people are absent/missing.</li><li>• Nurture and encourage those specifically called and gifted for pastoral ministry.</li></ul>

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 2: Partnerships of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta

### AMIS

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](https://amis-inc.org/amigovolunteer) or email us at [office@amis-inc.org](mailto:office@amis-inc.org).

**Buckhead Christian Ministries’** 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.

Join us for the Green Team Summit: an opportunity for congregations to learn how to engage in the work of environmental justice and sustainability. Register here for all events: [https://secure.everyaction.com/bq2TvRqV7kO\\_BovVaCc0Tw2](https://secure.everyaction.com/bq2TvRqV7kO_BovVaCc0Tw2)

- Wednesday, May 4th 7pm-9pm: Film Screening & Panel Discussion at [Morningside Presbyterian Church](#) – 1411 N Morningside Dr NE, Atlanta, GA 30306
- Saturday, May 7th 9am-3pm: Green Team Summit In-Person Training Day at [First Presbyterian Church Marietta](#) – 189 Church St, Marietta, GA 30060
  - workshops and discussions that cover topics like coastal sustainability, environmental justice in Georgia and beyond, and the intersection of voting rights and climate justice
- Tuesday, May 10th 7pm-9pm: Film Screening & Panel Discussion at the [Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta](#) – 1440 Spring St NW, Atlanta, GA 30309
- Saturday, May 14th 9am-12pm: Day of Service (Open to people of all ages) [Chattahoochee Riverkeeper Cleanup Project](#)

### 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.

### Joining Hands for Justice in Palestine and Israel



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.

In May 2017 Joining Hands incorporated as a 501(c) 3 organization after initially coming together to participate in a pilot program aimed at alleviating systems of injustice and oppression that cause hunger. JHJPI continues to work towards a just peace in the Middle East.

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

Support Our Work: donate online – [jhjpi.com/support](http://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](http://jhjpi.com) for more information and resource materials.

Or contact: Sarah Humphrey: [sarah.h.humphrey@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.h.humphrey@gmail.com)

### LaGonave Haiti Partners

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.



Please join us at our Annual Conference, July 29th-30th, Alpharetta Presbyterian Church, Alpharetta, GA. For more information go to [www.lagonavepartners.org](http://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

As a shared space for congregations, nonprofits, and community groups; Memorial Drive Ministries fosters diverse Christian worship, innovative community services, and transformative relationships in collaboration with over 14 Onsite Partners serving our diverse community. These onsite partners play essential roles in this ecology of community-based associations that cultivate a supportive context for refugees. Multiple congregations from

across Atlanta are intimately involved in the work of MDM and are discovering ways to live out their faith seeking and serving Christ among and alongside their newest neighbors, across all kinds of lines of difference. The work of MDM continues to be guided by a shared vision of the end of disconnectedness for refugees and the diverse community of Clarkston.

Get involved by participating in MDM's Diaper Drive to benefit refugee families. Bring a box/package of new diapers to MDM on Saturday, May 7th 3:30pm – 5:30pm or order diapers through MDM's Amazon Wishlist (order before May 4th please). See the attached flyer for all the information! Learn more by following MDM on Facebook [facebook.com/MemorialDriveMinistries] or visit our website [mdmatl.org]!



### **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. Over 100 folks came together on Zoom for our 2022 Advocacy Training night in January to learn about this year's bills and learn how to effectively

advocate with our elected officials. Throughout the session, PBG's advocate, Elizabeth Appley, has kept us informed of the progress of multiple pieces of legislation and PBG has sent out regular Action Alert emails to let you know when it's time to contact your legislators and help you know what to say. Please visit our website ([www.p4bg.org](http://www.p4bg.org)) or our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter feeds to learn more about how you can partner with PBG.

### Presbyterian Youth Ministry Collaboration of Atlanta



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



# STREET GRACE

Street Grace is a faith-based nonprofit organization dedicated to eradicating the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) by utilizing evidence-based demand reduction strategies. Our purpose is to intervene before a child can be victimized by preventing cases of exploitation, disrupting the supply and demand of this illegal industry with artificial intelligence, and developing legislation that both aids survivor's acclimation to society and harshens punishments for buyer and seller traffickers.

**Summer virtual training opportunities:**

- **Keeping Kids Safe in the Digital Age**
  - June 23rd 11:00 AM ET
  - This is a training to equip you with the knowledge and skills to keep the youth in your life safe from online predators.
- **Three R Training**
  - July 13th 2:00 PM ET
  - Learn to recognize, report, and respond to sexual exploitation within your community.
- **Back to School Safety**
  - July 28th 11:00 AM ET
  - Going back to school can present new exposures for the youth in your life. Youth and parents are invited to learn how to protect themselves from new risks and how to address difficult topics within a new environment.

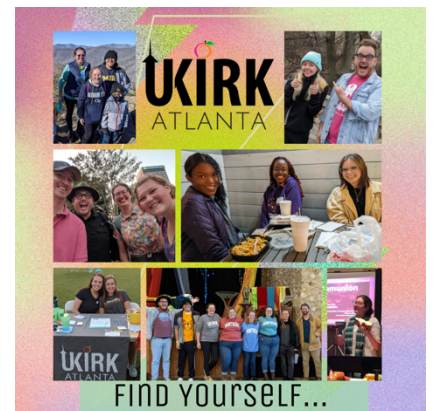
**Visit [streetgrace.org/events](https://streetgrace.org/events) for other upcoming events and training opportunities. To request an in-person training or to register please do not hesitate to reach out to Brooke Ruffin at [brooke@streetgrace.org](mailto:brooke@streetgrace.org).**

## 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](http://www.ukirkatlanta.com) Rev. Sarah Hooker, Campus Pastor [sarah@ukirkatlanta.com](mailto:sarah@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 for Chinese adult scholars and their families to learn about Christianity. The scholars group provide many adults with their first exposure to



Christianity.

If you would like more information about our organization, you can visit our website ([gt-wcf.org](http://gt-wcf.org)) or find us on Facebook or 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](mailto:jon@gt-wcf.org)).



### **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.

For information, contact Fahed Abu-Akel, [fabuakel@gmail.com](mailto:fabuakel@gmail.com)