

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION PACKET & DOCKET

Holston Presbytery Stated Meeting
Tuesday, November 11 2025 – 10:00
a.m.

[First Presbyterian Church](#)
[Greeneville, TN](#)
[110 N Main St, Greeneville, TN 37743](#)

(Link to Google Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/J9qJzEf8AqPt7Pu68>)

Go to www.holstonpresbytery.org to register for the meeting and to download copies of the packet for commissioners, elders and church members.

Limited printed copies will be available at the meeting.

Clerks of Session: Please see that each commissioner registers and gets a copy of the information packet prior to the meeting.

Any new business for the meeting must be sent to statedclerk@holstonpresbytery.org before November 6, 2025.

Registration will also be available the day of the meeting, beginning at 9:15 a.m.

ITEM OF PARTICULAR INTEREST:

Rev. Karen Russell will preach on “On a Mission from God” and
preside at the table.

The offering will support Five-Cents-a-Meal



(Scan to donate online.)

Lunch will be provided, around noon. A donation is encouraged but not required. Nursery or child care will not be provided.

There is limited room for displays at this meeting. Contact statedclerk@holstonpresbytery.org if you desire display space.

HOLSTON PRESBYTERY

Moderator: Elder Kathi Cary

Vice Moderator: Elder Gary Helton

Stated Clerk: Rev. Collin Adams
statedclerk@holstonpresbytery.org

Transitional Executive Presbyter: Rev. Karen Russell
karen@holstonpresbytery.org

Transitional Treasurer: Bev Johnson
bev@holstonpresbytery.org

Administrative Manager: Andi White
andi@holstonpresbytery.org

Appendix 1 to the Information Packet contains information about who can speak and vote at Presbytery meetings, who can speak at Presbytery meetings, rules for debate for matters before the Presbytery, and guidelines for Presbyterians during times of disagreement.

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Appendix 2 to the Information Packet notes future events, including dates of upcoming General Mission Board and Holston Presbytery Meetings, Committee Meetings, etc

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Feed back form for Presbytery meeting

- Page 20

HOLSTON PRESBYTERY

STATED MEETING

November 11, 2025

First Presbyterian Church, Greeneville, TN

DOCKET - Revised

9:15 AM **Registration**

10:00 AM **Call to Order**

Welcome & Introduction of Guests & First Time Commissioners Introduction of
New Business for Today's Docket

Consent Agenda

- Approve Enrollment
- Declaration of Quorum
- Approve granting voice to visiting teaching elders
- Approve minutes from the August 2025 Stated Meeting
- Appointment of Committee on Thanks
- Appointment of Bills and Overtures Committee
- Adoption of Docket

10:15 AM **Sunset Gap – Opportunities for Mission**

Disaster Response Team – Report and Update p. 6

Nominations & Representation Report and Recommendations

Supplemental Packet page 10

10:30 AM **Report from the Bethel Presbyterian Administrative Commission**

11:00 AM **Worship (part I)**

11:45 AM **Lunch** (*donation appreciated but not required*)

1:00 PM **BUSINESS MEETING**

Reports Not Requiring Action

- Committee on Preparation for Ministry Disaster Relief Team p. 5
- Mission and Discipleship Committee Campus Ministry p. 7
- Trustees
- Transitional Executive Presbyter's Report p. 8
- Stated Clerk's Report p. 11
- Treasurer's Report
- Reports of the Greene Co. Administrative Commission p. 3(a)

Reports Requiring Action

General Mission Board

Supplemental p. 6

Recommendation: The GMB, based on a recommendation from the Finance Committee, recommends that the Trustees be instructed to sell the campus house, with the proceeds from the sale to be invested in a fund separate from other investment funds, and campus ministry funding to be given first consideration and priority in any use of income or principle of that fund.

Committee on Ministry

p. 12

Second Reading: Family and Medical Leave Policy p. 13

Recommendation 1: That the policy be approved and added to the Manual of Operations.

Recommendation 2: Presenting the “Policy on Transferring Ordinations for Ministers of other Denominations” for first reading. As this is a change to the Manual of Administrative Operations, it will be voted on at the next meeting of Presbytery.

p. 15

Action Taken: To dissolve the pastoral call between Mike Shelton and First Kingsport, effective with his retirement on Sept. 14, 2025.

Action Taken: To dismiss Sam Weddington from membership in Holston Presbytery to be received in membership to the Presbytery of Tres Rios.

Action Taken: To commission Mark Brown as a Commissioned Pastor to St. Paul and Hebron where he will preach, administer the sacraments and moderate session.

Action Taken: To commission TJ Freshour to preach and administer sacraments monthly at Salem and Cedar Creek.

Action Taken: To commission Becky Wilcox to preach and administer sacraments monthly at Cross Anchor and Strawberry Plains.

Finance Stewardship and Budget

Supplemental p. 12

Recommendation: To Adopt the 2026 budget as presented.

2:00 PM

**Presbytery Feedback Form and Report Promotions
Committee on Thanks Joys and Concerns**

2:30 PM **Worship (Part II)**

3:00 PM **Adjournment**

NEXT MEETING: February 10, 2026, Location to be determined

Holston Presbytery
General Mission Board – October 21, 2025
MINUTES - Revised

3:00 PM, Holston Presbytery Campus Ministry House

Members Present: Sam Schauss, Brandon Davis, Bishop Greene, Dave Welch, Todd Jenkins, Rick Raum, Rodney Norris, Gwen Hunter, William Anderson, Kaye Florence, Gary Helton, Kathi Cary

Members not present: Maggie Rust, David Light

Presbytery Staff: Beverly Johnson, Karen Russell, Collin Adams

Guest: Rebecca Nunley

Rodney Norris called the meeting to order and declared a quorum present. Rebecca Nunley opened the meeting with prayer.

Disaster Relief Team: Rebecca gave the report from the Disaster Relief Team (DRT). The DRT asked for permission to do a fundraiser Thanksgiving of 2025. They also have a request to do fundraisers in March and September of 2026. Motion was made and seconded to approve both requests. **Motion passed.** The GMB was in favor of the DRT signing an MOU with the Christian Appalachian Project. The DRT asked for time on the Presbytery agenda at the November 11 Stated Meeting. That request was granted by consensus. The balance of the DRT report is included in the minutes.

Campus Ministry: Brandon Davis presented the report for Campus Ministry. In response to the GMB request, the report outlined a plan for the future of the ministry and ways to support and build it for the future. The committee recommends approval of the hiring of a director for campus ministry in order to continue the ministry. The Campus Ministry Committee will work with Personnel and the GMB to develop a position description and job posting, as well as compensation. Rev. Davis stated that the Committee feels they will be able to live into this vision even without the Campus House. Discussion of the report included a thank you for the work of the committee, and a unanimous affirmation that GMB wants to see the campus ministry program survive and be viable. Discussion over the proposed budget included in the report resulted in no changes to the proposed Presbytery budget for 2026, which represents a significantly higher amount than the Committee requests. The general consensus is that the program requires the higher funding amount. No further action was taken by the General Mission Board on the report.

Trustees: Karen Russell gave the report from the Trustees from their annual meeting. The lease to purchase agreement on the former Bethany property is in effect and going well. There have been some major repairs necessary to the building (new roof and new heat pump), as well as some vandalism (broken glass in window and entrance door), and a fairly large insurance claim (water damage from leaking heat pump). The outstanding claim for unpaid rent and attorneys' fees was settled on October 15, 2025, with a settlement agreement filed with the court for \$73,000 from the Bethany congregation. This effectively ends all litigation regarding that property.

The Trustees reviewed the financial report, and heard from Treasurer Beverly Johnson on the location of various investment accounts, and an update on plans with the investment firm Cornerstone Investments. It was suggested that the presbytery look into what it would take to add money currently invested with New Covenant Holdings to the amount managed by Cornerstone. It was also suggested that various funds be examined for how they are used and assess whether to change any of those funds. Any change in fund allocation would require a vote of presbytery.

The Trustees discussed the plan of the Finance Committee to have a full audit of the 2025 financials be conducted in 2026 and approved of the plan. No one could pinpoint if or when a previous audit had been completed.

Administration and Personnel Subcommittee: Dave Welch gave the report from the Administration and Personnel Subcommittee. The subcommittee presented a recommendation that we extend the employment of Rev. Karen Russell an additional six months at her current full-time salary and benefit package while a search for a new EP is conducted. Should we find an EP before the end of the six-month period, we would pay out the remainder of the six months' salary. This Motion was passed.

After discussion a motion was made and seconded to schedule a GMB for January 13 at 3:00 PM meeting to discuss the Presbyter position and create a search committee. It was suggested that Aaron Catron be invited to that meeting as chair of the Vision Task Force. Motion passed.

Committee on Ministry: A proposed policy for the process of ministers of other denominations into Holston Presbytery was recommended be presented to the Presbytery for a first reading at the November 11 Stated Meeting. A proposed policy for Family and Medical Leave had a first reading at the August Stated meeting, and will be recommended for approval at the November meeting. Other recommendations for the Presbytery include:

- Approve the dissolution of call between Rev. Mike Shelton and First Presbyterian, Kingsport;
- Approve the transfer of Rev. Samuel Weddington to Tre Rios Presbytery, at their request.

Other actions of the COM include:

- Approved the commission of Elder Mark Brown as a Commissioned Pastor for St. Paul and Hebron Presbyterian Churches, where he will preach, administer sacraments, and moderate both sessions;
- Approved the commission of Elder TJ Freshour to preach and administer sacraments monthly at Salem and Cedar Creek Presbyterian churches;
- Approved the commission of Becky Wilcox to preach and administer sacraments monthly at Cross Anchor and Strawberry Plains Presbyterian churches.

Mission & Discipleship: Bishop Greene reported. The committee is requesting ten minutes on the docket of the November 11 Stated Meeting, for a presentation by youth that attended Triennium. The Five Cents a Meal subcommittee is finalizing work for Five Cents grants for this year, and application materials for next year.

Finance, Budget & Stewardship: Rick Raum presented. The proposed 2026 budget was presented. Motion was made and seconded to present the budget to the Presbytery for approval at the November 11 meeting. Motion passed. The recommend “the General Mission Board that the Trustees be told that the Campus House be sold, with Campus Ministry relocated to an alternative location,; originally brought to the GMB last year was brought again, with a request that action be taken. There was some discussion, a motion made and seconded that the recommendation be approved. The motion passed. After some discussion, a motion was made and seconded that the proceeds of the sale of the Campus House be invested in a separate fund from other investment funds of the Presbytery, with the financial needs of Campus Ministry given first priority in decisions of the use of any income or principle from that fund. Motion passed. Based on these actions, GMB will recommend to the Presbytery that the Trustees be instructed to sell the property known as Campus House and the proceeds from the sale be invested in a separate fund with Campus Ministry being given first priority and consideration in the use of income or principle from that fund.

Other Business:

The dates for 2026 presbytery meetings were proposed and approved. Locations have not yet be determined, but will be at the earliest possible date. Those dates are: February 10; May 9; August 11; November 14. The dates for 2026 meetings of the General Mission Board were presented and approved. Those dates are: January 27; April 28; July 28; October 27.

The Strategic Planning Team reported that their work continues and they should have a full report by the next GMB meeting.

The Bethel Administrative Commission reports they are nearly ready to complete their work.

The Greene County Administrative Commission reports that their work continues. Issues related to deeds of the Zion and Amity buildings are ongoing, and will necessitate extensive title searches, and likely court hearings before decisions on the property can be made.

The Transitional EP report was presented.

The Stated Clerk gave a verbal report. The Stated Clerk report to the Presbytery will include an update on church record reviews, the 2024 Statistical Report for the Presbytery, and the 2025 Ministers' Roll.

Treasurer's Report was presented.

Presbytery Moderator had no report.

Presbytery Vice-Moderator reported that he will be attending the Moderator's Conference via Zoom.

The Presbytery Docket was set. Joy and concerns were shared.

Gary Helton closed the meeting in prayer at 5:37 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Collin Blair
Adams Stated
Clerk

All terms are three year terms, unless otherwise indicated

Committee on Rep./Nominations:

TE Bill Anderson
RE Matthew Clark

_____ (2 yr term)
_____ (1 yr term)

Ordination Exam Readers (all 1 yr terms): TE Bill Anderson
RE Pam Smith
Alternates: TE Karen Russell
RE _____

General Assembly Commissioners: TE Paul Helphinstine
RE Gary Helton
Alternates: TE _____
RE _____

GA Young Adult Advisory Delegate: Wally Wyatt
Alternate: Tom Meredith

Synod Commissioner (3 year terms): TE Brian Wyatt
RE Matthew Clark

Trustees (6 yr term): TE Dan Donaldson
TE Glenda Hollingshead

Permanent Judicial Comm (6 yr term): TE Rodney Norris
RE Sue Schultz

Proposed Budget - 2026

All Committees

Income

UNRESTRICTED GIVING

Unified Giving	\$	185,000.00	
Investment Income	\$	100,000.00	
Misc Income	\$	1,000.00	
Rental Income	\$	8,400.00	
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED GIVING			\$ 294,400.00

CAMPUS MINISTRY INCOME

Synod Contribution	\$	8,400.00	
Church Contributions	\$	2,500.00	
Interest Income	\$	500.00	
Misc Income	\$	1,000.00	
TOTAL CAMPUS MINISTRY INCOME			\$ 12,400.00

OTHER INCOME (Restricted)

Youth Ministry Income	\$	2,000.00	
Church Loan Interest Income	\$	1,750.00	
Interest Income	\$	2,000.00	
Other Misc Income	\$	2,500.00	

RESTRICTED INCOME **\$ 8,250.00**

TOTAL INCOME **\$ 315,050.00**

ANTICIPATED DEFICIT **\$ (69,125.50)**

EXPENSES

General Mission Board

Administrative Expenses	\$	33,910.00	
Personnel Expenses	\$	177,315.50	
Required Training	\$	2,500.00	
Stated Meeting Expenses	\$	400.00	
Ministries w/ Other Councils	\$	79,000.00	
Misc Expenses			
GMB Expense Total			\$ 293,125.50

Committee on Ministry

Background Checks	\$	200.00	
Commissioned Pastor Training	\$	250.00	
COM Expense Total			\$ 450.00

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

Candidate Support	\$	500.00		
Candidate Evaluation	\$	300.00		
Commissioned Pastor Training	\$	250.00		
CPM Expense Total			\$	1,050.00
Finance, Stewardship & Budget				
Investment Expenses	\$	7,500.00		
Audit Expenses	\$	15,000.00		
FS & B Expense Total			\$	22,500.00
Mission & Discipleship				
Five Cents a Meal marketing	\$	1,000.00		
Small Church Ministry	\$	1,000.00		
International ministry	\$	1,000.00		
Go Bags	\$	500.00		
Youth Ministry	\$	5,000.00		
M & D Expense Total			\$	8,500.00
Campus Ministry				
Campus House expenses	\$	21,000.00		
Programming expenses	\$	4,100.00		
Campus Ministry Expense Total			\$	25,100.00
Trustees				
Misc Property Expenses	\$	17,500.00		
Misc Trustee Expense	\$	1,000.00		
Trustee Expense Total			\$	18,500.00
Administrative Commissions				
Misc Administrative Commissions	\$	14,750.00		
AC Total Expenses			\$	14,750.00
Permanent Judicial Commission				
Misc Expenses	\$	200.00		
PJC Expense Total			\$	200.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$	384,175.50	\$	384,175.50