

Draft Docket
INFORMATION PACKET
Holston Presbytery Stated Meeting
Saturday, August 5, 2023 – 10:00 AM
First Presbyterian Church
600 W. Main Street
Morristown, TN 37814

This packet contains information for the Saturday, August 5, 2023, stated meeting of Holston Presbytery.

Go to www.holstonpresbytery.org for downloadable copies of the packet for commissioners, elders and church members. Limited printed copies will be available at the meeting.

Please see that each commissioner gets a copy of the information packet prior to the meeting.

Any new business for the meeting must be sent to info@holstonpresbytery.org before July 26, 2023.

Registration will be conducted the day of the meeting.

PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE FOR THIS MEETING

ITEMS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST:

The Rev. Dr. Brian J. Alderman, Preaching

Presentation by Keenan Rodgers, Board of Pensions

Lunch is \$10.00 and will be served at the break between the morning session and the afternoon session of the meeting.

No nursery or child care will be provided.

There may be room for displays at this meeting. Contact the Presbytery Office if you desire display space.

Parking is available in the lot by the church and also across the street.

Who Can Speak and Vote at Presbytery Meetings:

- Active minister members
- Minister-at-large members
- Primary elder commissioners
- The presbytery moderator, if an elder
- Commissioned Lay Pastors who have completed Level II Training and who are under contract

Who Can Speak at Presbytery Meetings:

- Corresponding members
- Certified Christian educators
- Others permitted by the presbytery (e.g. committee moderators, staff, guests)

Rules for Debate for Matters before the Presbytery

(Adopted by Holston Presbytery, June 9, 1990)

- Up to (30) minutes will be allowed for debate for a given issue. The time can be extended if Presbytery votes to give additional time for debate.
- In debates on any pending matters, no member of the Presbytery shall be allowed to speak for more than three (3) minutes until all other members who desire to speak on the matter have been heard. The Moderator will balance debate between pro and con. The member presenting a motion or submitting a report has a right to open and close debate.
- At the end of the thirty minutes, Presbytery will proceed to vote on the matter at hand or extend the debate for a definite time.
- Distributing materials at a Presbytery meeting is a privilege, not a right.
- Materials should come from Presbytery committees, General Assembly or Synod, or one of our Institutions.
- Permission from Council is required to distribute materials at the Presbytery meeting that come from one of the various advocacy groups in the PC(USA).

Guidelines for Presbyterians during Times of Disagreement

- Treat each other respectfully so as to build trust, believing that we all desire to be faithful to Jesus Christ;
- We will keep our conversations and communications open for candid and forthright exchange,
- We will not ask questions or make statements in a way which will intimidate or judge others.
- Learn about various positions on the topic of disagreement.
- State what we think we heard and ask for clarification before responding.
- Share our concerns directly with individuals or groups with whom we have disagreements in a spirit of love and respect in keeping with Jesus' teachings.
- Focus on ideas and suggestions. We will not engage in name calling or labeling of others.
- Share our personal experiences about the subject of disagreement so that others may more fully understand our concerns.
- Indicate where we agree with those of other viewpoints as well as where we disagree.
- Seek to stay in community with each other though the discussion may be vigorous and full of tension; we will be ready to forgive and be forgiven.
- Follow these additional Guidelines when we meet in decision-making bodies:
 - Urge persons of various points of view to speak and promise to listen to these positions seriously;
 - Seek conclusions informed by our points of agreement;
 - Be sensitive to the feelings and concerns of those who do not agree with the majority and respect their of conscience;
 - Abide by the decision of the majority, working for change in ways that are consistent with these Guidelines.

Revised: September 11, 2007

DRAFT DOCKET
HOLSTON PRESBYTERY
August 5, 2023 – Stated Meeting

9:15 AM	Registration	
10:00 AM	Call to Order	
	Worship and Land Acknowledgement.....The Rev. Dr. Brian Alderman, preaching Healing and Wholeness	Offering will be taken for Five Cents a Meal
	Celebration of the Lord’s Supper and Anointing	
11:00 AM	Welcome and Introduction of Guests	
11:10 AM	Consent Agenda	
	All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be in the normal course of business by the Presbytery and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed. If discussion is required from the floor of Presbytery, the item in question will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve enrollment • Declaration of quorum (<i>at least 3 ruling elders and 3 teaching elders from 3 different congregations</i>) • Approve giving visiting ministers voice • Appointment of Committee on Thanks • Appointment of Bills & Overtures Committee • Adoption of Docket 	
	Introduction of New Business for Today’s Docket	
11:15 AM	General Mission Board Report	6
	Recommendation on Change in Committee Structure	7-9
	Discussion of Small Group Topic – Mission Priorities and Committee Structure	
11:30 AM	Break	
11:45 AM	Small Group Discussion	
12:30 PM	Lunch	
1:15 PM	Report Back from Small Groups	
1:30 PM	General Mission Board Report Part 2.....	6
	Recommendation on Covenant Agreement with Tusculum University.....	7, 14-17
1:45 PM	Reports from Presbytery Staff	
	Campus Director, UKirk, John Golden	18
	Transitional Stated Clerk’s Report, Diana Moore.....	19
	Transitional Executive Presbyter’s Report, Karen Russell	Supplemental Report

2:00 PM **Financial Report Update**
Administration and Budget Committee, Dave Welch and Karen Russell..... 20-31

2:15 PM **Reports Not Requiring Action**
Mission and Evangelism, Marshall Steinle..... 32
Discipleship Committee, Greg Cartwright 35
Trustees, Dave LightNo report

2:20 PM **Reports Requiring Action**
Committee on Preparation for Ministry, Sam Schaus..... 35
Nominations Committee, Bill Anderson 39
Committee on Ministry, Chris Bohn 41
 Commissioning of Ruling Elders Nancy Johnson and Rebecca Wilcox 42
 Presentation by Keenan Rodgers, Board of Pensions

 Bills and Overtures Committee Report on New Business

2:45 PM Presbytery Feedback Form and Report 45
Promotions
Standing Committee on Thanks
Joys and Concerns

3:00 PM Adjournment

General Mission Board

October 24, 2023

2024

General Mission Board

January 16, 2022 (Tues)

April 16, 2024 (Tues)

July 16, 2024 (Tues)

October 22, 2024 (Tues)

2025

General Mission Board

January 14, 2025 (Tues)

April 15, 2025 (Tues)

July 15, 2025 (Tues)

October 21, 2025 (Tues)

Presbytery

November 7, 2023 (Tue) – First Presbyterian, Jefferson City

Presbytery

February 3, 2024 (Sat) – Rogersville Presbyterian

May 7, 2024 (Tues) - Jonesborough

August 3, 2024 (Sat) – First Presbyterian, Kingsport

November 12, 2024 (Tues) – Holston Presbytery Camp and Conference Center

Presbytery

February 1, 2025 (Sat) - Vacant

May 6, 2025 (Tues) - Vacant

August 2, 2025 (Sat) – First Presbyterian, Elizabethton

November 4, 2025 (Tues) - Vacant

General Mission Board July 18, 2023 Draft Minutes

In person at Campus Ministry House, 1412 College Heights Rd, Johnson City, at 3:00 PM.

The meeting was called to order with an opening devotional and prayer by Moderator Paul Gabinet at 3:00 PM.

Present: Paul Gabinet; Rodney Norris; Kathi Cary, Bill Anderson: Chris Bohn; Greg Cartwright; Todd Jenkins; ~~Dave Light~~; Maggie Rust; ~~Donna Sade, Sam Schaus, Marshall Steidle~~; Dave Welch; Gwen Hunter; John Golden; Kaye Florence, Karen Russell, and Diana Moore.

Reports/Recommendations to the General Mission Board:

Moderator's ReportRodney Norris

Vice-Moderator's Report..... Kathi Cary

Rev. Dr. Brian Alderman will preach at the August 5th meeting. The service will include communion and anointing.

SESSION RECORDS REVIEW EXTENSION

The presbytery is mandated by our *Book of Order* (G-3.0108) to annually review the proceedings and actions of sessions within its jurisdiction—commonly referred to as a review of the session minutes. For Holston Presbytery, the administrative review of the session records is under the auspices of the General Mission Board.

To ensure that the session records review is accomplished and reported in the minutes of this calendar year, the General Mission Board determined that the review be held during the summer months in geographic clusters so that the results can be reported by November. The first records review session has been completed (July 8 at First Presbyterian Church Johnson City). A second will be held on July 22 at First Presbyterian Kingsport. The initial session that was scheduled for June 24 (Hopewell Presbyterian Church) had to be cancelled. Re-scheduling the session at Hopewell to Saturday, September 23, will still ensure that the session records review will be completed within the calendar year.

RECOMMENDATION: That the General Mission Board extend the time for Session Records Review and re-schedule the review session at Hopewell Presbyterian Church to Saturday, September 23, 2023. APPROVED.

Transitional Stated Clerk's Report.....Diana Moore

1. Retirement of Transitional Stated Clerk as of December 31, 2023.
2. Empowered the Administration and Budget Committee to hire an Assistant Stated Clerk as of October 15, 2023, for remainder of 2023. This individual would be nominated in November to be elected by the Presbytery as Transitional Stated Clerk for one year beginning January 1, 2024. Salary of \$1,000 per month; SECA allowance equal to 7.65% of effective salary. APPROVED.
3. Updated job description APPROVED (attached at pages 6-8).

Transitional Executive Presbyter's Report

Karen Russell

1. Moving the office – plans
 - a. Internet/phone
 - b. Arrange to move stuff in office and in storage room
 - c. Need conference table and chairs (Bill Anderson will donate a two-drawer locked filing cabinet.)
2. Working in conjunction with Administration and Budget on Manual revision and proposed Standing Rules
 - a. Change in committee structure proposed to be approved at August presbytery meeting with effective date January 1, 2024, so Nominating Committee can work with new structure (see Recommendation from Administration and Budget below)
 - b. First reading of Manual revisions at November presbytery meeting/second reading and approval at February 2024 presbytery meeting
 - c. Proposed Standing Rules adopted by GMB in October and approved by presbytery in November. There will probably be Zoom Town Hall meetings to discuss the proposed revisions.
 - d. Additional policies/manuals still needed (COM, Personnel policies, Dissolution policy, Financial policies and procedures)
3. Task Force for new required policies and training mandated by *Book of Order* changes
 - a. Synod Executive Greg Goodwiller possibly providing training on new Church Discipline when he is here in November
4. Board of Pension changes for 2024-2025
5. Updated Covenant Agreement with Tusculum University APPROVED with RECOMMENDATION to refer updated agreement to the Presbytery for approval (attached at pages 9-12).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration and Budget

1. Financial Reports for the first two quarters of 2023 are included in the Presbytery packet.
2. Recommendation on Proposed Change to the Committee structure

RECOMMENDATION TO THE GENERAL MISSION BOARD:

Whereas, the General Mission Board of Holston Presbytery hired a Transitional Executive Presbyter (TEP) to provide transitional ministry leadership to Holston Presbytery, the General Mission Board, committees, leadership and staff, leading Holston Presbytery toward a vibrant future, moving it toward its vision, undertaking its mission and accomplishing its ministry goals. The goals for the TEP included the following:

1. Assist Mission Priorities Commission in discerning the mission and vision for Holston Presbytery
2. Update committee structure based on new mission priorities
3. Manual of Operations revision based on new mission priorities
4. Help develop new staffing plan (design for what is needed for Holston Presbytery which might include a shared executive with another presbytery)

5. Assist in relationship building which fosters ministry.

Because this work is multi-phased, the Administration and Budget Committee and the General Mission Board believe these goals could best be accomplished by first updating the committee structure. By updating the committee structure, individuals throughout the presbytery can find opportunities to serve and spread the good news of Jesus Christ in fresh and energizing ways in the presbytery. The Administration and Budget Committee and the General Mission Board recommend the following:

1. That the following actions be approved August 5, 2023;
 - a. The proposed committee structure outlined below be adopted as of January 1, 2024; and

❖ The Presbytery (aka “The Assembly”)

- General Mission Board (aka “The Board”) *
 - ◆ Subcommittee on Administration & Personnel
 - ◆ Presbytery Goals and Vision; Strategic Planning
 - ◆ Overall Coordination of Holston Presbytery
 - ◆ Commission on Ministry (COM) *
 - Pastoral and Leadership Transitions
 - ◆ Terms of Call
 - ◆ CRE/Commissioned Pastor commissioning
 - ◆ Committee on Preparation (CPM)
 - Nurture and training of candidates for Ministry
 - ◆ CRE/ Commissioned Pastor training
 - ◆ Committee on Representation and Nominations (Representation)
 - ◆ Committee on Finance, Budget & Stewardship
 - Financial policies & procedures
 - Budget preparation
 - Expense Approval
 - ◆ Committee on Discipleship & Evangelism
 - Subcommittee on Campus Ministry
 - Youth, Young Adult Ministry
 - Older Adult Ministry
 - Christian Education
 - Congregational Vitality
 - ◆ Committee on Mission & Outreach
 - Shared Mission programs (Five Cents a Meal, Special Offerings)
 - Shared Mission grants
 - Church development grants (Rosemont Fund)
 - ◆ Trustees *

*denotes some responsibilities with direct supervision of/reporting to the Presbytery (The Assembly)

- b. The proposed committee structure changes to the Holston Presbytery *2021 Manual of Administrative Operations* be approved at the August 5, 2023, stated presbytery meeting. APPROVED.

RECOMMENDATION TO THE PRESBYTERY:

1. That the presbytery, upon its adoption of committee structure, and the proposed changes in the *2021 Holston Presbytery Manual of Administrative Operations*, in order to facilitate the new committee structure and in accordance with §10 Parliamentary Authority and Amendments, suspend the method of amending the *Manual of Administrative Operations*, requiring two presbytery meetings, for the August 5, 2023, stated presbytery meeting by two-thirds vote. APPROVED.

Actions Referred to the General Mission Board by Presbytery: None

Proposed Docket with changes and Reports for the August 5, 2023, Stated Meeting of Holston Presbytery, to be held at First Presbyterian Church, Morristown. APPROVED.

9:15 AM Registration
 10:00 AM Call to Order/Opening Worship
 12:30 PM Lunch
 3:00 PM Adjournment

Presentation by Keenan Rodgers, Board of Pensions

Healing and Wholeness Worship led by the Rev. Dr. Brian Alderman, King University

Communion and Anointing

Small Group Leaders

1. Chris Bohn
2. Karen Russell
3. Greg Cartwright
4. Todd Jenkins

Other Business

Sharing of Concerns and Prayers

Future Dates for the General Mission Board and Presbytery meetings in 2023, 2024 and 2025:

2023

General Mission Board

Presbytery

October 24, 2023 (Tues)

November 7, 2023 (Tue) First Presbyterian, Jefferson City

2024

General Mission Board

Presbytery

January 16, 2024 (Tues)

February 3, 2024 (Sat) Rogersville Presbyterian

April 16, 2024 (Tues)

May 7, 2024 (Tues) Jonesborough, TN

July 16, 2024 (Tues)

August 3, 2024 (Sat) First Presbyterian, Kingsport

October 22, 2024 (Tues)

November 12, 2024 (Tues) Holston Presbytery Camp and
Retreat Center

2025

General Mission Board

Presbytery

January 14, 2025 (Tues)

February 1, 2025 (Sat) - Vacant

April 15, 2025 (Tues)

May 6, 2025 (Tues) - Vacant

July 15, 2025 (Tues)

August 2, 2025 (Sat) – First Presbyterian, Elizabethton

October 21, 2025 (Tues)

November 4, 2025 (Tues) - Vacant

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 PM with prayer by Dave Welch.

The **General Mission Board Minutes Committee** approved the minutes. (Paul Gabinet, Todd Jenkins, Maggie Rust, ~~Donna Sade~~, and Diana Moore)

**ASSISTANT STATED CLERK/TRANSITIONAL STATED CLERK
PERSON/POSITION DESCRIPTION
Holston Presbytery**

I. **PURPOSE:** To fulfill the functions of Stated Clerk as set forth in the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and other specific responsibilities as assigned by Holston Presbytery.

II. **ACCOUNTABILITY AND EVALUATION:** The Stated Clerk is elected and employed by the Presbytery during the term of employment. This person is accountable to the Presbytery through the Personnel Committee in conjunction with the General Mission Board of the Presbytery. The Stated Clerk shall operate in accordance with all personnel policies of the Presbytery. The Stated Clerk shall have a connectional relationship with the Synod of Living Waters and the General Assembly. The Personnel Committee will conduct an initial performance review at the end of the first six months and annually thereafter.

III. PERSONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS:

- A. Is an elder or minister able to serve within the bounds of Holston Presbytery.
- B. Holds an abiding commitment to the Presbyterian Church (USA).
- C. Is knowledgeable of polity and constitution (Book of Order and Book of Confessions) and able to be a resource to those who seek input regarding interpretation of the Book of Order and other ecclesiastical matters.
- D. Upholds the highest ethical standards to which all officers of the church are held, including, but not limited to: Trustworthiness, confidentiality, integrity, fairness and inclusivity.
- E. Has strong administrative skills:
 - 1. Works collaboratively and cooperatively within and across staff, the General Mission Board, commissions, committees, synods and other presbyteries and/or other entities as deemed necessary to do the work of being a Stated Clerk with a holistic view of the role each plays in the church of Jesus Christ.
 - 2. Is organized.
 - 3. Helps guide in times of ambiguity, transition and change.
 - 4. Excellent in communication skills.
- F. Exhibits strong interpersonal skills:
 - 1. Flexible, compassionate, patient, self-aware, and practices active listening.
 - 2. Is approachable, personable, and collegial.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES:

A. ECCLESIASTICAL OFFICER

- 1. Serves as an officer and corporate secretary of the Presbytery in accordance with all duties stated in the Book of Order and in accordance with those of the

Presbytery Manual of Operation, as well as the By Laws of Holston Presbytery, Inc.

B. PRESERVATION OF CORPORATE HISTORY

1. Records, produces and preserves minutes of the Presbytery.
2. Reports annually to the Synod and General Assembly all required statistics, pertinent information, and records and participates in processes to review records as required by the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly.
3. Works with other staff of the Presbytery as the Clerk deems necessary for fulfillment of these responsibilities.

C. RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES

1. Serves as a resource to those involved in the administrative and judicial disciplinary process of the Presbytery, in accordance with the Rules of Discipline.

D. COMMUNICATIONS

1. Reports as needed to the appropriate governing bodies of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

E. ADVICE AND COUNSEL

1. Offers constitutional opinions and/or rulings related to Presbytery such as decisions of Permanent Judicial Commissions and Administrative Commissions as deemed appropriate.
2. In cooperation with the Executive Presbyter (or equivalent) provides information to the Presbytery related to GA matters such as overtures, polity changes, Book of Order and Book of Confession changes.
3. Serves as parliamentarian and polity advisor at meetings of COM, General Mission Board, and the Presbytery.
4. Provides support to all other appropriate commissions and committees as needed.

F. CORPORATE OFFICER

1. Fulfills the responsibilities of the corporate office as stated in the bylaws of the Presbytery.

G. MEMBER OF PRESBYTERY STAFF

1. Works in collaboration with a staff team headed by the Executive Presbyter.

H. CONSULTANT FOR COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

1. Advises and assists in the PNC process.
2. Develops contracts and Terms of Call.
3. Provides year to year administrative consistency.

V. **TERM OF OFFICE AND COMPENSATION:**

The Assistant Stated Clerk is hired for a two-and one-half month time period. The Transitional Stated Clerk is elected by Holston Presbytery for a one- year term. This position is 10 hours a week. Salary is \$1000 per month and SECA allowance equal to 7.65% of effective salary.

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A COVENANT BETWEEN HOLSTON PRESBYTERY, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.) AND TUSCULUM UNIVERSITY

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this covenant is to define the nature and scope of the relationship mutually agreed to by Tusculum University and Holston Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

2. HISTORY OF THE RELATIONSHIP

Tusculum University was founded by the Presbyterian Church. A Presbyterian minister, the Rev. Hezekiah Balch, established Greeneville University, which was chartered on September 3, 1794. In 1818, Tusculum Academy was established by another Princeton graduate and Presbyterian minister, the Rev. Samuel Doak. In 1844, Tusculum Academy became Tusculum University. In 1868, the two Universities consolidated on the Tusculum campus under the name of Greeneville and Tusculum University, and, in 1912, the name was officially changed to Tusculum University. Throughout the over two hundred years of its existence, Tusculum University has had a continuing relationship with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and, in particular, with Presbyterian churches in the region which is now known as Holston Presbytery.

3. MISSION OF THE UNIVERSITY

Building on a rich Presbyterian heritage and a pioneering spirit, Tusculum University provides an active and experiential education within a caring Christian environment to inspire civic engagement, to enrich personal lives, and to prepare career ready professionals.

4. NATURE OF THE UNIVERSITY

Tusculum University takes seriously its heritage as a daughter of the Presbyterian Church. The liberal arts tradition with which the name, Tusculum University, is uniquely associated was formulated by Cicero at his academy in Tusculum, Italy, and brought to East Tennessee by Samuel Doak by the way of the University in New Jersey (Princeton University). The tradition emphasizes closeness of faculty-student involvement, both within and without the classroom, in order to cultivate citizenship, Christian character and practical wisdom among members of the University community. That tradition is very much in keeping with the heritage of the emphasis on the formation of strong Christian character as an essential ingredient of citizenship and practical wisdom. Tusculum University is committed to strengthening its relationship with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) so that the University can bring its services to the Church, and the Churches can learn of and benefit from the distinctive mission and education offered by Tusculum University. In the curriculum of Tusculum University and through opportunities for worship and service, the University's Presbyterian heritage will be highlighted. Specific examples are included in the section on "Responsibilities Under the Covenant." Religious studies occupy a central place in the general studies curriculum, in order for students to study the religious and biblical heritage of the country in the context of larger issues of humankind. Tusculum desires its heritage as a Presbyterian University to be woven throughout all that the University does, not just through a prescribed set of courses that every student is required to take. Tusculum University seeks to instill in its graduates a sense of the world in which they live and to develop skills to make sound decisions that are based on the common good. In short, Tusculum wants to graduate students who not only do well, but do good. An important part

of Tusculum University's educational mission is to recruit a fertile mix of students from different ethnic, national, racial, cultural, religious, and geographical backgrounds. Learning from fellow students resulting from such a campus-cultural mix is an essential part of fostering an emphasis on practical wisdom. Active discussion of different perspectives on life resulting from varied cultural experiences enhances each student's maturation and understanding of the world culture in which they live. Such diversity of student background should be actively used to enrich the educational environment of the University.

5. **PARTIES TO THE COVENANT**

The Parties of this covenant, Tusculum University of Greeneville, Tennessee, operating under its governing board, the Board of Trustees, and Holston Presbytery, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) operating as a governing body, are separate entities. They are independent, neither being controlled by the other. They are, however, interdependent in that they must work together to accomplish their common purposes.

6. **RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE COVENANT**

1. Tusculum University affirms its commitment to:
 - offer a program of quality education in the liberal arts and sciences with the concept of the wholeness of life as interpreted by the Christian faith;
 - conduct an educational program in which a large majority of the faculty are Christians, while insisting on freedom of inquiry for the faculty and students;
 - create a campus climate in which the Christian faith is reasonably and persuasively presented without undue pressure for acceptance;
 - maintain a campus minister and a set of course offerings in religion;
 - through the Commons courses in the Civic Arts curriculum and the competency requirements for graduation, require religious studies of all students;
 - offer weekly opportunities for corporate worship for the entire campus community;
 - provide opportunities for the exploration of the relationship between religion and other facets of life, while preparing students for Christian service in all walks of life;
 - establish standards of excellence and maintain accreditation by appropriate academic associations and agencies;
 - share in the development of professional and lay leadership for the Church;
 - serve as a host for church governing bodies, congregations, and their agencies, providing leadership and facilities for conferences, retreats, workshops, and training sessions for Church groups and offer services to the Church such as supply ministers and special programs of music and drama;
 - provide opportunities for continuing education for Presbyterian ministers;
 - to refer to its Presbyterian heritage in its literature;
 - use University educational resources to enrich the churches (such as Stokes Theologian-In-Residence program);
 - effectively recruit persons of racial and ethnic diversity to serve on the Board of Trustees, administration, faculty and support staff as well as in the student body;
 - demonstrate active concern for social justice and human mercy among the entire campus community, fostering a keen spirit of volunteerism;
 - maintain Christian governance and leadership by maintaining the practice that a large majority of trustees and administrators be Christians;
 - make an effort to insure that the President of Tusculum University be a Presbyterian;

2. Holston Presbytery affirms its commitment to:
 - undergird the University spiritually by praying for its trustees, administrators, faculty, students, and friends;
 - promote understanding of the educational opportunities offered at the University through Presbytery publications and communications;
 - promote attendance at the University by encouraging youth in the Presbytery to consider enrolling as students;
 - offer a source of ministers and laity as speakers for regularly scheduled chapel services, retreats, and conferences at the University;
 - encourage churches in the Presbytery to consider holding some of their conferences, retreats, meetings, and training events in the University facilities periodically;
 - encourage individuals and congregations within the bounds of the Presbytery to provide financial support to the University;
 - provide annually for the receiving of a report from the University, with such details as may prove useful for purposes of promotion and funding support;
 - publish an Annual Report of the University in the Minutes of Presbytery.

7. MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

1. Board of Trustees of Tusculum University
 Realizing the importance of its relationship with the Presbyterian Church, the Board of Trustees of Tusculum University commits itself to:
 - maintain a standing committee of the Board of Trustees which addresses church relations and has the responsibility of reviewing and developing the University’s relationship with the Church;
 - ensure that at least one member of the trustees be a Presbyterian.
 - ensure the University maintains a standing committee which addresses church relations, campus ministries, and strengthening the relationship between the University and the Church.
2. Accountability and Communication
 Both parties agree to provide regular and formal channels of communication to ensure accountability and to address issues of mutual interest and concern.
 1. Tusculum will provide Presbytery with a report of the campus ministry program and activities of the University in its Annual Report to Presbytery and other significant documents.
 2. The Presbytery will provide Tusculum with copies of its Minutes of Presbytery meetings and other significant documents.
 3. The Presbytery through its General Mission Board and the University through the Sub-Committee on Church Relations of its Board of Trustees will review the covenant annually, beginning in 2024.
 4. The text of this covenant shall be printed in the Minutes of Holston Presbytery, and references made to it in appropriate publications of the Presbytery which highlight its institutions and agencies.
 5. This Covenant between Holston Presbytery, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and Tusculum University shall be posted on the Tusculum University website and made available to members of the administration, faculty, staff, and to other constituencies as deemed appropriate.

6. The President of the University shall be responsible for seeing that all provisions of this covenant regarding the institution's responsibilities are presented to the Board of Trustees.
 7. The Stated Clerk of Holston Presbytery, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) shall be responsible for seeing that all provisions of this covenant regarding the Church's responsibilities are fulfilled.
 8. The University shall inform the Presbytery of its other formal covenant relationships with other Presbyterian church bodies. Currently, the University has a covenant with the Synod of Living Waters, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the Presbytery of East Tennessee, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
3. Review and Amendment of the Covenant
 1. A comprehensive review of this Covenant shall be reviewed every five years by members of the Holston Presbytery and Tusculum University. It is expected that the President of the University and the Executive Presbyter of Holston Presbytery or equivalent will be involved in such reviews.
 2. This Covenant may be amended or renewed by action of the Board of Trustees of Tusculum University and Holston Presbytery, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
8. **FORMAL APPROVAL**
 This Covenant shall be effective upon formal approval by the Board of Trustees of Tusculum University and by Holston Presbytery, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and signed by the Moderator and Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, by the Chairman and Secretary of the University's Board of Trustees, and the President of the University. This Covenant recognizes that Tusculum University may develop other covenant relationships with other governing bodies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) or with other church bodies with which our denomination is in correspondence.
9. **APPROVED October 13, 2023.**

UKirk Director's Report August 5, 2023

Director's Report (last updated 7/7/2023)

Activities Since Last Mission Board Meeting (4/18/2023)

- Pulpit Supply at:
 - Piney Flats Presbyterian Church on April 23, June 4, and July 2
 - Preston Hills Presbyterian Church on May 21
 - Colonial Heights Presbyterian Church on May 7
 - Jonesborough Presbyterian Church on June 18
 - First Elizabethton on June 25
- Minute for Mission at:
 - First Kingsport on April 30
 - Cold Springs Presbyterian Church on June 11

The Presbyterian Campus Ministry House has been used for the following purposes:

- Hosting First Johnson City Young Adult Group on May 7
- Hosting a UKirk ETSU Cookout on June 2 and June 23

Summer Campus Ministry Related Activities:

- Drafted/Designed a Website for UKirk ETSU
- Attended Student Orientations for Freshman Recruiting on June 8, June 9, June 22, and June 23
- Attended UKirk National Gathering at Massaneta Springs from June 12-16
 - Received "Soul Shop: Ministering to Suicidal Desperation" training on June 13
- Mowed and Maintained Yard on a biweekly basis
- Deep cleaned the kitchen ovens and refrigerator
- Reached out to several churches asking if they had service/mission events scheduled during the fall.
- Drafted a Plan for Fall Semester
- Maintained connections and provided pastoral support for students in the area and who have returned home for the summer.

Service / Mission Activities:

- Meal Train for Stacy Larson on May 10
- Helped student move on May 10
- Volunteer Hospital Chaplaincy at JCMC on May 11 and June 27
- Gardening with Jonesborough Presbyterian Church on Wednesdays

Stated Clerk's Report August 5, 2023

INFORMATION:

1. Because of an injury to the Stated Clerk, Minutes of the May 2, 2023, Stated Presbytery meeting are not yet complete. They will be provided at the November 7, 2023, meeting.
2. The review of session records continues on Saturday, September 23, 2023, at Hopewell Presbyterian Church, Dandridge. Session moderators or clerks of session (or designees) are invited to bring their session's minutes for review at Hopewell.

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Holston Presbytery

Statement of Activity

January - March, 2023

	TOTAL
Revenue	
42100 Unified Mission Giving	4,456.63
42200 Unified Giving	35,671.77
42300 Holston Meadows Cabin Income	15,658.89
42350 Campus Ministry Income	2,215.72
Total Revenue	\$58,003.01
GROSS PROFIT	\$58,003.01
Expenditures	
50100 Bank Charges	45.00
60000 Holston Presbytery Committees	
60002 Committee on Ministry	553.25
Total 60000 Holston Presbytery Committees	553.25
60200 Administrative	
60201 Payroll Taxes	1,436.74
60204 Postage	37.80
60206 Copy & Printing	6.88
60207 Office Supplies	98.51
60213 Software	186.16
60216 Equipment	60.00
60217 Miscellaneous Administrative	1,646.94
60218 Dues/Memberships	1,038.41
Total 60217 Miscellaneous Administrative	2,685.35
60221 Bethany Legal Fees	18,653.74
60223 Zion Presbyterian Expenses	26.34
Total 60200 Administrative	23,191.52
60210 Staff Travel	1,675.17
60300 Ministries with Councils	
60301 Per Capita - Synod of Living Waters	19,263.00
Total 60300 Ministries with Councils	19,263.00
60400 Personnel	
60401 Executive Presbyter	
60402 Cash Salary	11,375.00
60403 Housing Allowance	6,125.00
60404 SECA	1,338.75
60405 Board of Pensions	7,895.61
60406 Professional Expenses	1,663.77
Total 60401 Executive Presbyter	28,398.13
60407 Stated Clerk	
60409 SECA	267.75
60410 Housing Allowance	3,500.00
Total 60407 Stated Clerk	3,767.75

Holston Presbytery

Statement of Activity

January - March, 2023

	TOTAL
60411 Treasurer	
60412 Salary	9,333.31
Total 60411 Treasurer	9,333.31
60415 Campus Ministry Director	
60416 Salary	7,875.00
Total 60415 Campus Ministry Director	7,875.00
Total 60400 Personnel	49,374.19
60500 Holston Meadows Cabin Expenses	
60501 Electricity	1,596.03
60502 Internet	224.83
60503 Housekeeping - Cleaning	3,750.00
60505 Pest Control	95.00
60509 Miscellaneous Cabin	3,118.40
60510 Repairs & Maintenance	
60511 Repairs	350.44
Total 60510 Repairs & Maintenance	350.44
60515 Supplies	1,898.49
60518 Propane	188.35
Total 60515 Supplies	2,086.84
60519 Rental Fee	
60521 Holston Camp & Conference Center	7,193.16
Total 60519 Rental Fee	7,193.16
Total 60500 Holston Meadows Cabin Expenses	18,414.70
60600 Campus House	
60601 Electricity	414.10
60602 Internet	1,081.81
60603 Water	144.71
60606 Cleaning Service	200.00
60607 Repairs & Maintenance	2,289.47
60608 Programs	392.06
60611 Miscellaneous	166.66
Total 60600 Campus House	4,688.81
Payroll Expenses	
Taxes	1,515.72
Wages	0.00
Total Payroll Expenses	1,515.72
Total Expenditures	\$118,721.36
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$ -60,718.35

Holston Presbytery

Statement of Activity

January - March, 2023

	TOTAL
Other Revenue	
70000 Interest Income	2,598.30
Total Other Revenue	\$2,598.30
NET OTHER REVENUE	\$2,598.30
NET REVENUE	\$ -58,120.05

Holston Presbytery

Statement of Financial Position

As of March 31, 2023

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
11000 Citizens Bank 2071 (BUS INT 0011)	113,970.75
11100 Citizens Bank 1696 (HP Checking)	43,850.25
11150 Citizens Bank 8005 (Reserve Sweep)	810,490.10
11200 Bank of TN 7552 (Meadows Cabin)	61,925.33
11250 Rosemont Banking	6,508.81
Total Bank Accounts	\$1,036,745.24
Other Current Assets	
17000 Undeposited Funds	0.00
Payroll Corrections	-141.87
Total Other Current Assets	\$ -141.87
Total Current Assets	\$1,036,603.37
Fixed Assets	
16000 Holston Meadows Cabin	650,553.11
16050 Campus Ministry House	625,000.00
Total Fixed Assets	\$1,275,553.11
Other Assets	
18000 Church Loans	
18010 Hebron Presbyterian Church Loan	34,362.81
18020 Strawberry Plains Church Loan	251,880.81
18030 Tri-Cities Presbyterian Church Loan	355,332.49
Total 18000 Church Loans	641,576.11
Total Other Assets	\$641,576.11
TOTAL ASSETS	\$2,953,732.59
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
21000 Pass Thru Benevolence	593.00
21004 Tusculum College	500.00
21005 Sunset Gap	500.00
21007 PCUSA Missionary Support	13,427.32
21009 Holston Camp & Retreat Center	1,500.00

Holston Presbytery
Statement of Financial Position
As of March 31, 2023

	TOTAL
Total 21000 Pass Thru Benevolence	16,520.32
Direct Deposit Payable	0.00
Payroll Liabilities	
Death and Disability	50.00
Dental	193.11
Federal Taxes (941/943/944)	2,395.93
Longterm Disability	27.58
Medical	1,892.03
Temporary Disability	25.00
Vision	21.45
Total Payroll Liabilities	4,605.10
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$21,125.42
Total Current Liabilities	\$21,125.42
Total Liabilities	\$21,125.42
Equity	
30001 5 Cents A Meal	28,459.59
30002 Rosemont	181,508.81
30003 Liberty Presbyterian	80,429.18
30004 Windsor Avenue Church	334,486.68
30005 Hattie Farthing Fund	1,314.78
30006 Hawkins County	3,706.00
30007 Synod Technology	2,272.80
30008 PFSA Initial Investments	227,000.00
30009 Pastoral Care	391.70
30010 Youth Triennium	1,154.25
30011 Church Development	312.12
30012 New Church Development	229.18
30013 Evangelism	988.81
30014 Equipment Reserve	697.02
30015 Grigsby Scholarship	9,497.56
30016 Braziel Scholarship	6,887.70
30017 Dixon Scholarship	6,797.71
30018 Robinson Fund	70.79
30019 Ninth Street Loan Fund	7,292.71
30020 Williams Fund	9,908.71
30021 Honoraria	11,501.92
30030 Mount Zion Checking (3381)	11,113.86
30035 Mount Zion Checking (4858)	101.41
30045 Hebron Regions Checking (5960)	55,097.74
Opening Balance Equity	2,104,912.53
Retained Earnings	-95,406.34

Holston Presbytery
Statement of Financial Position
As of March 31, 2023

	TOTAL
Net Revenue	-58,120.05
Total Equity	\$2,932,607.17
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$2,953,732.59

Holston Presbytery

Statement of Activity

April - June, 2023

	TOTAL
Revenue	
42100 Unified Mission Giving	1,583.00
42200 Unified Giving	30,872.81
42300 Holston Meadows Cabin Income	6,840.35
42350 Campus Ministry Income	3,462.56
Total Revenue	\$42,758.72
GROSS PROFIT	\$42,758.72
Expenditures	
50100 Bank Charges	49.83
60000 Holston Presbytery Committees	
60002 Committee on Ministry	355.65
Total 60000 Holston Presbytery Committees	355.65
60200 Administrative	
60201 Payroll Taxes	810.38
60202 Use of Space	410.00
60204 Postage	27.57
60206 Copy & Printing	27.36
60211 Service Contracts	
60212 Grasshopper	186.57
Total 60211 Service Contracts	186.57
60213 Software	-93.08
60214 Communications	-104.13
60215 Insurance	17,672.54
60217 Miscellaneous Administrative	420.75
60218 Dues/Memberships	54.00
Total 60217 Miscellaneous Administrative	474.75
60221 Bethany Legal Fees	6,488.16
60224 Accounting	2,275.00
Total 60200 Administrative	28,175.12
60210 Staff Travel	1,013.12
60400 Personnel	
60401 Executive Presbyter	
60402 Cash Salary	6,500.00
60403 Housing Allowance	3,500.00
60404 SECA	765.00
60405 Board of Pensions	5,263.74
60406 Professional Expenses	514.76
Total 60401 Executive Presbyter	16,543.50

Holston Presbytery

Statement of Activity

April - June, 2023

	TOTAL
60407 Stated Clerk	
60409 SECA	153.00
60410 Housing Allowance	2,000.00
Total 60407 Stated Clerk	2,153.00
60415 Campus Ministry Director	
60416 Salary	4,500.00
Total 60415 Campus Ministry Director	4,500.00
Total 60400 Personnel	23,196.50
60500 Holston Meadows Cabin Expenses	
60501 Electricity	198.18
60502 Internet	234.37
60503 Housekeeping - Cleaning	4,646.50
60505 Pest Control	95.00
60510 Repairs & Maintenance	710.73
60515 Supplies	1,289.17
60516 Cabin Supplies	1,508.35
60517 Cleaning	100.00
60518 Propane	187.68
Total 60515 Supplies	3,085.20
60519 Rental Fee	
60521 Holston Camp & Conference Center	2,253.21
Total 60519 Rental Fee	2,253.21
60522 Capital Expenditures	15,000.00
Total 60500 Holston Meadows Cabin Expenses	26,223.19
60600 Campus House	
60601 Electricity	627.19
60602 Internet	310.00
60603 Water	105.64
60606 Cleaning Service	440.00
60607 Repairs & Maintenance	5,428.19
60608 Programs	861.34
60609 Worship	250.00
60610 Promotion	75.00
Total 60600 Campus House	8,097.36
Payroll Expenses	
Taxes	405.19
Wages	8,709.00
Total Payroll Expenses	9,114.19
Total Expenditures	\$96,224.96
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$ -53,466.24

Holston Presbytery

Statement of Activity

April - June, 2023

	TOTAL
Other Revenue	
70000 Interest Income	5,192.74
Total Other Revenue	\$5,192.74
NET OTHER REVENUE	\$5,192.74
NET REVENUE	\$ -48,273.50

Holston Presbytery

Statement of Financial Position

As of March 31, 2023

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
11000 Citizens Bank 2071 (BUS INT 0011)	113,970.75
11100 Citizens Bank 1696 (HP Checking)	43,850.25
11150 Citizens Bank 8005 (Reserve Sweep)	810,490.10
11200 Bank of TN 7552 (Meadows Cabin)	61,925.33
11250 Rosemont Banking	6,508.81
Total Bank Accounts	\$1,036,745.24
Other Current Assets	
17000 Undeposited Funds	0.00
Payroll Corrections	-141.87
Total Other Current Assets	\$ -141.87
Total Current Assets	\$1,036,603.37
Fixed Assets	
16000 Holston Meadows Cabin	650,553.11
16050 Campus Ministry House	625,000.00
Total Fixed Assets	\$1,275,553.11
Other Assets	
18000 Church Loans	
18010 Hebron Presbyterian Church Loan	34,362.81
18020 Strawberry Plains Church Loan	251,880.81
18030 Tri-Cities Presbyterian Church Loan	355,332.49
Total 18000 Church Loans	641,576.11
Total Other Assets	\$641,576.11
TOTAL ASSETS	\$2,953,732.59
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
21000 Pass Thru Benevolence	593.00
21004 Tusculum College	500.00
21005 Sunset Gap	500.00
21007 PCUSA Missionary Support	13,427.32
21009 Holston Camp & Retreat Center	1,500.00

Holston Presbytery
Statement of Financial Position
As of March 31, 2023

	TOTAL
Total 21000 Pass Thru Benevolence	16,520.32
Direct Deposit Payable	0.00
Payroll Liabilities	
Death and Disability	50.00
Dental	193.11
Federal Taxes (941/943/944)	2,395.93
Longterm Disability	27.58
Medical	1,892.03
Temporary Disability	25.00
Vision	21.45
Total Payroll Liabilities	4,605.10
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$21,125.42
Total Current Liabilities	\$21,125.42
Total Liabilities	\$21,125.42
Equity	
30001 5 Cents A Meal	28,459.59
30002 Rosemont	181,508.81
30003 Liberty Presbyterian	80,429.18
30004 Windsor Avenue Church	334,486.68
30005 Hattie Farthing Fund	1,314.78
30006 Hawkins County	3,706.00
30007 Synod Technology	2,272.80
30008 PFSA Initial Investments	227,000.00
30009 Pastoral Care	391.70
30010 Youth Triennium	1,154.25
30011 Church Development	312.12
30012 New Church Development	229.18
30013 Evangelism	988.81
30014 Equipment Reserve	697.02
30015 Grigsby Scholarship	9,497.56
30016 Braziel Scholarship	6,887.70
30017 Dixon Scholarship	6,797.71
30018 Robinson Fund	70.79
30019 Ninth Street Loan Fund	7,292.71
30020 Williams Fund	9,908.71
30021 Honoraria	11,501.92
30030 Mount Zion Checking (3381)	11,113.86
30035 Mount Zion Checking (4858)	101.41
30045 Hebron Regions Checking (5960)	55,097.74
Opening Balance Equity	2,104,912.53
Retained Earnings	-95,406.34

Holston Presbytery
Statement of Financial Position
As of March 31, 2023

	TOTAL
Net Revenue	-58,120.05
Total Equity	\$2,932,607.17
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$2,953,732.59

Mission and Evangelism Report August 5, 2023

INFORMATION:

1. The 2023 5¢-a-Meal Hunger Updated Grant Applications are attached. There are different procedures this year and this is a new application. Churches may only sponsor **three (3)** organizations during a grant year. The deadline for grant applications is **October 15, 2023, and grants will be disbursed in January 2024.**

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5¢-A-MEAL HUNGER RELIEF GRANTS

Application Instructions

Holston Presbytery

Purpose: The proposed activities shall provide food relief to poor people in either acute or chronic conditions of hunger with an eye to long-range solutions.

What Projects are included: Direct food ministries (food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, etc.) and projects which provide safe drinking water.

Process: Grants are awarded through a three-step process.

- 1) Application is to be completed by the organization, and signed by the sponsoring church. Applications are to be sent to the Presbytery office to be reviewed by the Mission and Evangelism Committee.
- 2) If a grant is awarded, the sponsoring church will receive the funds from the office of Holston Presbytery for distribution to the recipient (if other than the church).
- 3) After funds have been disbursed, acknowledgment is required to be filled out **online** from the recipient within sixty days.

Qualifying Criteria:

- 1) Funds shall be used to support the work of providing food and/or safe drinking water. Five Cents a Meal grants should not be used for administrative costs, or other non-related program costs.
- 2) All applications must be submitted and endorsed by a congregation of Holston Presbytery.
- 3) Each organization receiving grants must submit a report of how the funds were used, with the impact of the funds on the work of the organization.
- 4) Churches may sponsor up to three (3) organizations each grant year. Organizations can receive a maximum of one grant per calendar year.

Additional Information: Congregations are expected to contribute to the ministry of the organizations for which they request grants and to be involved in the work of the organization.

Reporting: Each organization and/or sponsoring church should provide to Holston Presbytery a report on the use of Five Cents a Meal funds that provides information on how the funds were used, and the direct impact of those funds on the work of the organization. Photographs may be included, and are encouraged. Churches are encouraged to provide information on the congregational support of the organization as well.

Grant Amounts: Local and International grants will be considered for requests up to \$2,000.

Grants will be disbursed annually in January. Applications must be received by October 15 to be considered. Acknowledgements will be sent by e mail to the sponsoring church. Checks will be sent to the sponsoring church for distribution and will be made payable to the receiving organization.

Presbyterian Mission Agency – Presbyterian Hunger Program

The PHP is a ministry of the PC (USA) working with congregations and partners around the globe to alleviate hunger and eliminate its causes in five program areas. For information go to <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/hunger/>.





LOCAL HUNGER RELIEF GRANTS Application Form

Office Use Only
Date Received

Please return to: Holston Presbytery, P. O. Box 3647, Kingsport TN 37664-3647

Application Deadline: October 15

Date: ___/___/___

Organization:

Sponsoring Congregation:

How will these funds be used? What will be the impact of these funds? (*attach additional pages if necessary*):

Please attach a summary annual budget for the organization

How does the sponsoring congregation support this work?

Amount Requested: _____ (\$3,500 maximum)

Signatures: Pastor: _____

Clerk of Session: _____

Please attach to this application the following:

- *Summary of current annual budget for receiving organization*
- *Complete contact information for the receiving organization, including telephone and e mail address*
- *Complete contact information for the sponsoring church, including telephone and e mail address*

Incomplete applications will be returned to the sponsoring church.

Discipleship Committee Report August 5, 2023

INFORMATION:

1. The Back-to-School Youth Event will be held at First Presbyterian Church, Johnson City, on Sunday, August 27th, from 3-6 PM. Join us for fun, food (cooking out), fellowship, games, music, and devotion. For more information, email Greg Cartwright at revgreg@me.com.
2. The Fall Presbytery Youth Retreat will be held at Holston Presbytery Camp and Retreat Center in November. For more information, contact email Greg Cartwright at revgreg@me.com.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report August 5, 2023

INFORMATION:

1. The committee conducted the annual consultation with Candidate Emily Morrell (Timber Ridge Presbyterian Church). She has completed her Masters in History at West Virginia University and will begin her PhD in the Department of Religious Studies at Princeton University in the fall. As part of her program, Emily will have the opportunity to teach both undergraduate history and religious studies courses and MDiv courses at Princeton Seminary. Emily will serve as the Theologian-in-Residence at Tusculum University in 2024.
2. Under Holston Presbytery's CPM Policy and Procedures, "It is ordinarily expected that the preparation for ministry process will be completed in no less than two and no more than six years time, with no less than one year and no more than four years spent in either the inquiry or candidacy phase. Exceptions to this require the approval of the CPM.' Because Emily's continuing education studies and the discernment of her call to ministry have caused her to exceed six years, the committee granted an exception to this CPM policy. Emily will continue to be scheduled for an annual consultation.
3. The committee reviewed the status of Inquirer Russ Pearson and enrolled Russ as a Candidate. (See attached "Narrative of Faith, Call and Service" and "Statement of Faith".)
4. The committee reviewed the status of Candidate Justin Miller and certified Justin as Ready to Receive a Call, pending the action of the presbytery in the proposed recommendation at the end of this report, which is explained in more detail in #5 below
5. Justin was enrolled as an Inquirer in December 2021. Although Justin requested to be enrolled as a Candidate at his annual consultation in November 2022, the

committee requested more information from him before moving him to candidacy. That information was provided and Justin was moved to candidacy in January 2023. As part of the request to certify Justin as Ready to Receive a Call, Justin requested and the committee recommended that the presbytery grant a waiver of the time requirements found in *Book of Order (BOO)* G-2.0602 (“The inquiry and candidacy phases shall continue for a period of no less than two years, including at least one year as a candidate.”) The committee considered the criteria in *BOO* G-2.0607a (“a candidate’s wisdom and maturity of faith, leadership skills, compassionate spirit, honest repute, and sound judgment”) in its decision to certify Justin as Ready to Receive a Call and to ask for a waiver of the time requirements under the provisions of *BOO* G-2.0610 Accommodation to Particular Circumstances. (“When a presbytery concludes there are good and sufficient reasons for accommodations to the particular circumstances of an individual seeking ordination, it may, by a three-fourths vote, waive any of the requirements for ordination in G-2.06, except for those of G-2.0607d.”) G-2.0607d relates to the ordination exams, and Justin has passed all of these, as well as fulfilling all the other requirements from Holston Presbytery and the requirements set forth in *BOO* G-2.06 PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY.- “

RECOMMENDATION:

6. Under the provisions of *Book of Order* G-2.0610 Accommodation to Particular Circumstances, the Committee on Preparation for Ministry recommends that the presbytery grant a waiver of the time requirements found in G-2.0602 and certify Justin Miller as Ready to Receive a Call.

Narrative of Faith, Call, and Service
 Charles Russell Pearson
 First Presbyterian Church, Kingsport, TN

My faith journey began at my baptism at First United Methodist Church in Winnsboro, SC long before I knew God's presence in my life. I grew up in a small, dedicated congregation that nurtured me through Sunday school, worship, and vacation Bible school. I remember a feeling of warmth walking into the Sunday school wing of my church. As I grew up in church, I had different opportunities to serve as liturgist and as a weekly acolyte during my middle school years. In high school, I had the opportunity to help out with vacation Bible school. I believe these moments began to wake me up to God's calling to ministry.

One of my mentors in my youth was my pastor, Bundy Bynum. He showed me what kind of pastor I want to be someday. He was always present and had a calming personality that made you feel at home around him. He was my confirmation teacher

and was the first to talk to me about ministry. Bundy made the Bible real through storytelling that kept my youth mind focused on his sermons.

My junior year at Presbyterian College I joined the chaplain's ministry team. This decision changed my life. The chaplain, David Lindsey, became a great mentor and friend. He was a great listener and had an open-door policy that allowed students to come in and talk about anything they felt they needed to. He also gave me plenty of room to explore my faith and leadership skills through the ministry team. I felt God's calling into full time ministry during a Christmas worship service led by the chaplain's office. After that worship service, I walked around campus in tears, praying to God for guidance. I had struggled with my future plans for some time and after that evening I had a clear direction. The next day I changed my major to religion and the for next 3 semesters I dove headfirst into my call. My senior year I accepted a call to be a full-time youth director, feeling seminary and ordination would come later.

The past 17 years I have worked at First Presbyterian Church in Kingsport, TN. I have had the blessing of watching kids be baptized, leading them through confirmation, and blessing them when they go to college. Walking alongside children and youth as they grow in their faith is inspiring. Through the years at FPC I have had multiple opportunities to stretch my experience through leading sermons, planning worship services, and leading Bible studies. Each season of the church offers a new path of ministry and I enjoy encouraging others to use their gifts to God's glory.

At First Presbyterian Church I have the great opportunity to work alongside our Christian Education Committee. We plan events and oversee the education ministry of First Pres. My main focus here is our youth group. I oversee the middle school and high school ministries which includes weekly events, Presbytery youth gatherings, and summer retreats. I love the dynamic nature of youth ministry and feel at home leading the youth in their faith journey. One of my highlights outside of day to day church ministry is our relationship with Holston Camp. I love leading retreats with our congregation as well as the Presbytery youth. I believe retreat ministry is vital in this hurried existence. It invites the participant to slow down and focus on God's involvement in their life. I feel God's presence often when I lead Bible studies or camps or games. I see God as an active God, wanting a relationship with us. Working at FPC Kingsport has been a blessing and helped solidify my call to ordained ministry. The people are full of grace and support and without them I feel I would not be where I am today.

I look forward to the next steps of becoming ordained in the PCUSA. I feel God is calling me to this next adventure and am thankful for this opportunity.

Statement of Faith

Charles Russell Pearson

First Presbyterian Church, Kingsport, TN

I believe that God creates, redeems, sustains, and finds joy in us.

As creator, I believe God is uniquely involved in our lives and the world. I believe humankind is created in the image of God, called to be stewards of the rest of God's creation. I believe that God has never stopped creating and calls us away from our tendency to destroy towards a life that is in harmony with all of creation.

As redeemer, I believe God came down in the person of Jesus, who is fully human and fully God. Jesus came as Savior of the world, pointing to the coming Kingdom, and inviting us all to join him in sharing God's love by loving our neighbors more fully. When we fail to follow Christ and sin, Christ is there to redeem us, wiping away our sin through his death and resurrection. I believe we must confess our sins often to remind us of our tendency to stray away from God, and we must hear that we are forgiven and free from sin. Our freedom from sin invites us to a new life founded and sealed in the life, death, and resurrection of our risen Lord, Jesus.

As sustainer, I believe God the Holy Spirit swept over the chaos and brought a beautiful order to creation. I believe God spoke through the prophets of the Old Testament, calling people to a new way of living, centered on worship of God and love of neighbor. I believe God the Spirit began the Church at Pentecost, ushering in a new way for us to be in relationship with God.

I believe God finds joy in our lives. I see a motif throughout the story of Scripture of God reaching out in new ways to be with humankind, as God was in the garden. God's work of redemption continues, and we are called to join others to share the unconditional love of God to everyone through word and deed. I see this calling best fulfilled in the Church.

I believe the Church is the body of Christ for the world. In some mysterious way, Jesus trusted his disciples to continue what he started and calls us to continue his ministry today. We are called to love our neighbors and love God through worship, observing the sacraments, study, and service. We do these things not out of guilt or obligation. We do these things out of thanksgiving for all God has done for us and for the world.

The further in life I get, the more excited I am to be a part of God's work in the world. I believe God equips us with holy gifts to be used, so all will come to know of the God who loves them.

Nominations Committee Report August 5, 2023

INFORMATION:

The Nominations Committee is receiving nominations for various committees. Please see the attached Nominations Form.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That Ruling Elder Kathi Cary be elected as the 2024 Holston Presbytery Moderator. Kathi is an elder at Covenant Presbyterian Church, Johnson City.
2. That the Rev. Collin Blair Adams be elected as the 2024 Holston Presbytery Vice-Moderator. Collin is the pastor at Waverly Road Presbyterian Church, Kingsport.



Holston Presbytery Committee Self-Nomination Form

Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____ E-mail: _____
 Church: _____ Occupation: _____
 Gender _____ Ethnic Status _____

Minister Elder Deacon DCE Member of Congregation

Service in local church: _____

Special skills or interests: _____

Please mark your first, second, and third choices of interest areas you would be willing to serve.

- General Mission Board (Member-at-Large)
- Financial Issues (Finance, Budget, Stewardship)
- Discipleship and Evangelism Issues (Campus Ministry, Congregations, Youth, Young Adults, Older Adults, Christian Education)
- Mission/Outreach Issues (Shared Mission programs, Church Development grants, Social Justice)
- Pastoral Ministry (Pastors, Pastor Nominating Committees, CRE Commissioning)
- Preparation for Ministry (Inquirers, Candidates for Ministry, CRE Training)
- Trustees (Corporate Business)
- Nominations and Representations

Signature: _____ Date: _____

E-mail to: info@holstonpresbytery.org;

Mail to: Holston Presbytery, P. O. Box 3647, Kingsport, TN 37664-3647;

We need your help in having at least one person from each church serving on a Presbytery committee.

Committee on Ministry Report

August 5, 2023

INFORMATION:

1. Extended the appointment of Rev. Richard Raum as moderator for Erwin Presbyterian Church until Rev. Ramy Marcos arrives.
2. Appointed Rev. Sharon Amstutz as moderator for Magill Memorial Presbyterian Church, effective 5/23/2023.
3. Appointed Rev. Andy Blackwelder moderator for Jennie Moore Presbyterian Church, effective 5/23/2023.
4. Granted permission to Rev. Karen Russell to labor outside the bounds to perform a wedding on 5/27/2023 and preach on 5/28/2023 in the Presbytery of SE Illinois.

RECOMMENDATION:

5. Conduct Service of Commissioning of Ruling Elders Nancy Johnson and Rebecca Wilcox (action approving commissioning taken at February 4, 2023, Stated Presbytery Meeting).

Service of Commissioning for Ruling Elders Nancy Johnson and Rebecca Wilcox

Opening Sentences of Scripture

We, who are many, are one body in Christ,
and individually we are members one of another.

We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us:

prophecy, in proportion to faith;

ministry, in ministering;

the teacher, in teaching;

the exhorter, in exhortation;

the giver, in generosity;

the leader, in diligence;

the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Rom. 12:5-8

Holston Presbytery is satisfied that you have met all of the requirements and completed all of the preparations prescribed in the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA) to serve in the ministry of Jesus Christ as a commissioned ruling elder in and for Holston Presbytery.

Constitutional Questions

I ask you now to respond to these questions required by our Constitution:

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?

I do.

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?

I do.

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?

I do and I will.

Will you fulfill your commission in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?

I will.

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?

I will.

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

I will.

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

I do.

Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

I will.

Will you be a faithful commissioned ruling elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship? In your ministry, will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

I will, with God's help.

Prayer

Almighty God, in every age you have chosen servants to speak your Word and lead your loyal people. We thank you for Nancy Johnson and Rebecca Wilcox whom you have called to serve you as commissioned ruling elders in and for Holston Presbytery. Give them gifts to do their particular work. Fill them with your Holy Spirit, so that they may have the same mind that was in Christ Jesus, and be faithful disciples throughout life.

God of grace, in baptism you have called us to a common ministry as ambassadors of Christ, trusting us with the message of reconciliation. Give us courage and discipline to follow where your servants rightly lead us, that together we may declare your wonderful deeds and show your love to the world; through Jesus Christ the Lord of all. Amen.

On behalf of Holston Presbytery, I welcome you to this ministry. May God's Holy Spirit empower you in the ministry of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

