

**Foothills Presbytery
125th Stated Meeting**

**Supplement
February 20, 2024**

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**Stated Clerk and Presbytery Leader
Supplement Report
February 20, 2024**

The Presbytery Leader and Stated Clerk **reports:**

1. Stewardship of Property:
 - a. Our Coordinating Council approved forming a Presbytery Property Advisory Committee who will report to Council. The newly formed committee of Council will partner with the [Presbyterian Foundation](#) and the [Foundry Commercial Real Estate](#) (Religious, Education and non-profit division) Group.
 - b. Working with the North Anderson Community Presbyterian Church (NACCP) to negotiate the lease of property for a cell phone tower.
 - c. We are in conversation with three congregations exploring the best stewardship of their manse.
2. Receiving the payoff on the mortgage held on Routh Memorial Presbyterian Church, Union Street, Spartanburg, SC. The property was initially sold to Jarvis Allen, dba God's Ministry, on March 14, 1994. On March 13, 2003, God's Ministry sold it to Solid Rock Church LLC, which assumed the balance (originally \$220,000, and at the time, Solid Rock assumed it was \$196,868.58). Payoff of \$3,000 was made on 12/8/2023. (Appendix A)
3. Receiving and accepting an invitation from the Stated Clerk of the Synod of the South Atlantic for our Presbytery's Commissioners to the 226th [General Assembly of the PCUSA](#) to attend a series of online training May 6, 13, and 20, 7:00 pm via Zoom.
4. A request from [Camping Ministries of the Carolina's](#) Executive Director Kevin Cartee and Assistant Director Katie Henderson for time on the docket to bring greetings and share news from Camp. (Appendix B)
5. Receiving a request from Presbyterian College's Chaplain and Dean of Spiritual Life, Buz Wilcoxon to share information about Presbyterian College's Executive Certificate in Relations Fundraising, this summer's Young Adult Leadership gathering, and the Presbyterian Promise Scholarship. (Appendix C)
6. That Stefanie Marsden, Relationship Manager, [Texas Presbyterian Foundation](#) will join us for our 125th Stated Meeting and be introduced on the floor.
7. Receiving the [Synod of the South Atlantic's](#) Annual report to share with Presbytery. (Appendix D)
8. A request from Ashley Anderson, Director of Admissions [Union Presbyterian Seminary](#), Charlotte to join us for our February meeting and have a table at registration.
9. As per the Dismissal Policy of our Presbytery, the Committee on Ministry appointed a Task Force to work with Varennes Church as it explores options for dismissal from the PCUSA.
10. As per the Dismissal Policy of our Presbytery, the Committee on Ministry appointed a Task Force to work with Pendleton Church as it navigates dismissal from the PCUSA.

The Presbytery Leader and Stated Clerk **recommends:**

1. Giving the Executive Director Kevin Cartee and the Assistant Director Katie Henderson five minutes to bring greetings and news from Camp Fellowship.
2. Introducing to the Presbytery, Director of Admission from Union Presbyterian Seminary, Charlotte, Ashley Anderson, and the Relationship Manager from the Texas Presbyterian Foundation, Stefanie Marsden, during my report.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie G. Foster
Presbytery Leader and Stated Clerk

Mortgage Satisfaction

Pursuant to Section 29-3-330 (b) (3) of the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976

The undersigned, being the mortgagee of record, acting by and through its duly appointed agent/officer/representative, certifies:

The debt secured by the mortgage given the undersigned initially by Jarvis Allen, and recorded in **Mortgage Book 1642 at Page 853**, and subsequently assumed by virtue of a certain Mortgage Assumption Agreement recorded in **Mortgage Book 2906 at Page 818**, Register of Deeds for Spartanburg County, South Carolina, has been:

☒ Paid in full, and the mortgage and assumption agreement are thus hereby being cancelled.

Original Mortgagor(s) is: **Jarvis Allen, now deceased**

Original Mortgagee(s) is: **Foothills Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)**

Original Mortgage was assumed by: **Solid Rock Church, LLC, by virtue of the Mortgage Assumption Agreement referenced above.**

The Register of Deeds for Spartanburg County is authorized to cancel the mortgage and assumption agreement referred to above and to indicate that the said mortgage has been fully paid.

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this affidavit this 25th day of January, 2024, and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

WITNESS my/our hand this 25th day of January, 2024.

**FOOTHILLS PRESBYTERY OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**

By: [Signature]
Warren Templeton
Its: Agent

[Signature]
(1st Witness)
[Signature]
(2nd Witness)

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF SPARTANBURG) **ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

I, LeAnne J. White, a Notary Public for the State of South Carolina, do hereby certify that the Mortgagee herein, **Foothills Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)**, by **Warren Templeton, its Agent**, personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing instrument.

Signature of Notary [Signature]
Notary Public, State of South Carolina
Printed Name of Notary: LeAnne J. White
My Commission Expires: July 28, 2028

(SEAL)



UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Summer Camp 2024

Registration is open now for Summer Camp 2024!

Resident and Day Camps for K-12th Grade

www.campfellowship.org/summer2024

Open House June 1st, 2-6 PM

Yearly Programs

- Year of Prayer - Evening Prayer
 - March 4 at 6:00 PM on Zoom
- Lake Greenwood Clean-Up
 - March 9 at 9:00 AM at Camp
- Red Letter Day for Cancer Survivors
 - March 26th at 10:00 AM at Camp
- Maundy Thursday - Dinner and Evening Prayer
 - March 28 at 6:00 PM at Camp
- Easter Sunrise Service and Community Breakfast
 - March 31 at 7:30 AM at Camp
- Spring Adult Retreat
 - April 5-6 at Camp Fellowship

More Info and registration can be found online:

www.campfellowship.org/events-programs

Connect with
Fellowship!



@campfellowship



info@campfellowship.org



www.campfellowship.org

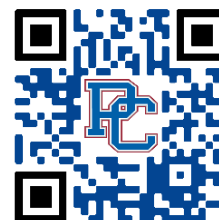


457 Camp Fellowship Road, Waterloo, SC 29384



EXECUTIVE CERTIFICATE IN RELIGIOUS FUNDRAISING (ECRF)

Presbyterian College is proud to partner with **the Lake Institute on Faith & Giving** at the **Lilly Family School of Philanthropy (Indiana University)** to offer the **Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising (ECRF)**. The executive certificate program provides the research, tools, and customized training to meet the growing needs of leaders in religious communities and fundraisers of faith-based organizations. The focus of the ECRF is on the cultural, organizational, and philanthropic practices unique to religious institutions. These practices in turn enable donors motivated by spiritual and religious values to experience the joy of generous giving. **The next course will be hosted at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, NC from May 20-22.** PC(USA) leaders can receive a Church Financial Leadership Grant through the Presbyterian Foundation to assist in attending the ECRF.



Scan QR Code to register for the next ECRF course

YOUNG ADULT LEADERSHIP LINK (YALL)

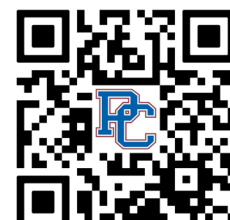
July 22-24, young leaders in PC(USA) congregations are invited to join us for an enriching four-and-a-half-day gathering on the Presbyterian College campus. **Rising high school juniors and seniors** will come together to explore their callings and gifts for leadership in the church. Co-hosted by the **Miller Summer Youth Institute at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary** and the **Office of Spiritual Life at Presbyterian College**, this unique event offers students the chance to learn from experienced professors from both institutions, where they will experience an abridged version of life and learning between a liberal arts college and denominational seminary. Through a diverse range of activities, participants will delve into vocational discernment and engage in guided theological reflection by staff and faculty from PC and PTS. This gathering promises to be a transformative experience for those seeking to explore their callings and who want to learn more about what the path to leadership in the church might look like!



Scan QR Code to register for YALL




THE PRESBYTERIAN PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP AN \$80,000 SCHOLARSHIP OVER 4 YEARS FOR PRESBYTERIANS

The Presbyterian Promise Scholarship is a commitment by Presbyterian College to recognize students for their merit and affiliation with the Presbyterian Church. PC seeks to develop students academically and spiritually in this signature scholarship. Students who are of members of Presbyterian churches, or who attend Presbyterian/Reformed secondary schools, will receive a scholarship for a minimum of \$20,000 per year for up to four years—that's an \$80,000 commitment to you.



Scan QR Code to apply or to refer a student

Meet the Office of Spiritual Life Staff

| | |
|---|--|
|  | <p>The Reverend Dr. Buz Wilcoxon '05 <i>The Marianne and E.G. Lassiter Chaplain and Dean of Spiritual Life</i> bwilcoxon@presby.edu 864-833-8217</p> <p>Dr. Wilcoxon, ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament by the Presbyterian Church (USA), is a Presbyterian College alumnus. He earned both his Master of Divinity and Doctorate of Ministry from Columbia Theological Seminary. He previously served as associate pastor at Fourth Presbyterian Church in Greenville, SC and senior pastor at Spring Hill Presbyterian Church in Mobile, AL. Wilcoxon briefly served as the acting president of Presbyterian College and is a member of the Columbia Theological Seminary Board of Trustees. He has written a number of hymns that have been published in Presbyterian resources.</p> |
|  | <p>The Reverend L. British Hyrams <i>The Jack and Jane Presseau Associate Chaplain</i> bhyram@presby.edu 864-833-8484</p> <p>Rev. Hyrams, an ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA), is a graduate of Purdue University. After earning a Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Christian Education from Union Presbyterian Seminary in Charlotte, NC, she served multiple congregations in Charlotte and taught as an adjunct professor at Johnson C. Smith University. Before joining PC in 2023, she served as the UKirk the campus minister at North Carolina Central University in Durham, NC. Hyrams has served the larger church extensively and is a board member of the Presbyterian Foundation.</p> |
|  | <p>Perrin Tribble Andersen '11 <i>The Cornelson Family Director of Church Relations</i> ptribble@presby.edu 864-833-8007</p> <p>Perrin Tribble Andersen is a Presbyterian College alumna who formerly served as the director of children, youth, and Christian Education at Second Presbyterian Church in Charleston, SC and director of Christian Education and youth ministries at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, NC. She is currently pursuing a Master of Divinity from Union Presbyterian Seminary in Charlotte. She has served on the leadership and planning team for Montreat Youth Conference, co-director of Montreat College Conference, board member for Re:Create, APCE and ARW conference presenter, and keynoter for presbytery retreats.</p> |

We are happy to work with you to schedule guest preaching opportunities, retreat leadership, campus visits, or any other ways that we can be a resource for your church family.



Assembly via Zoom

November 14, 2023, 10 am Eastern Time

MINUTES

Call to Order – Moderator, Rev. Dr. David Shelor called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. noting that this meeting serves both as a meeting of the ecclesiastical governing body of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and a meeting of the Synod of South Atlantic, Inc., a non-profit corporation of the State of Florida. Then, called on the Stated Clerk, Valerie Young to do a quick zoom training.

Acknowledgement of Land & People – Rev. Brian Henderson, Vice Moderator reminded participants that they were asked to visit the link <https://native-land.ca/> and learn about the indigenous peoples who were once living on the land. Participants were then asked to enter those tribes/communities of people into the chat, and they were all recognized by the Assembly

Moderator Shelor opened the meeting with prayer.

Declaration of Quorum – Moderator, Shelor called on Stated Clerk, Valerie Young who declared a quorum with 28 Commissioner present, 15 Ruling Elders and 13 Ministers of the Word and Sacrament of the 32 elected Commissioners, representing at least one-third of the constituent presbyteries of the synod.

Commissioners Present

| First Name | Last Name | Presbytery | Ordination | Attending as |
|------------|------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Christina | Greenawalt | Central Florida | Teaching Elder | Commissioner |
| Mary Bell | Streetman | Central Florida | Ruling Elder | Commissioner |
| Bobby | Byrd | Charleston-Atlantic | Ruling Elder | Commissioner |
| Brian | Henderson | Charleston-Atlantic | Teaching Elder | Commissioner |
| Bill | Byars | Cherokee | Ruling Elder | Commissioner |
| Andy | Moye | Flint River | Ruling Elder | Commissioner |
| Donald | West | Flint River | Ruling Elder | Commissioner |
| Lisa | Martin | Florida | Teaching Elder | Commissioner |
| Donald | Mowat | Florida | Ruling Elder | Commissioner |
| Sonya | Dawson | Foothills | Ruling Elder | Commissioner |
| Beth | Hoskins | Foothills | Teaching Elder | Commissioner |
| jeanne | simpson | Greater Atlanta | Teaching Elder | Commissioner |
| Kenneth | Whitehurst | Greater Atlanta | Ruling Elder | Commissioner |
| Ashley | Cheek | New Harmony | Teaching Elder | Commissioner |
| JACKIE | REMBERT | New Harmony | Ruling Elder | Commissioner |



| | | | | |
|----------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Jan | Lewis | Northeast GA | Ruling Elder | Commissioner |
| Charmaine | Ponkratz | Peace River | Ruling Elder | Commissioner |
| Karen | Wismer | Peace River | Teaching Elder | Commissioner |
| Steve | Austin | Providence | Teaching Elder | Commissioner |
| Margaret | Brooks | Savannah | Ruling Elder | Commissioner |
| Jamil | el-Shair | Savannah | Teaching Elder | Commissioner |
| Hansler | Bealyer | St. Augustine | Ruling Elder | Commissioner |
| Jessi | Higginbotham | St. Augustine | Teaching Elder | Commissioner |
| David | Shelor | Tampa Bay | Teaching Elder | Commissioner |
| Ray | Bell | Trinity | Ruling Elder | Commissioner |
| W Croskeys | Royall | Trinity | Teaching Elder | Commissioner |
| Waltraut Karla | Dias | Tropical Florida | Ruling Elder | Commissioner |
| Gregory | Rapier | Tropical Florida | Teaching Elder | Commissioner |

Commissioners Excused

| | | | | |
|----------|---------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| Jennifer | Lee | Cherokee | Teaching Elder | Commissioner |
| Travis | Adams | Northeast GA | Teaching Elder | Commissioner |
| Timothy | Cureton | Providence | Teaching Elder | Commissioner |
| Janice | Clarke | Tampa Bay | Ruling Elder | Commissioner |

Welcome to New Commissioners – Moderator Shelor asked that any new commissioners identify and introduce themselves to the Assembly. We are grateful for their service.

Seating of Corresponding Members – Moderator Shelor recognized all Corresponding Members present and, with a motion by Kenneth Whitehurst, seconded by Karla Dias, they were granted the privilege of voice in this Assembly.

Corresponding Members & Guests

| | | | | |
|----------|---------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Rebecca | Albright | Charleston-Atlantic | Teaching Elder | Executive/ Presbyter |
| Daris | Bultena | Tropical Florida | Teaching Elder | Executive/ Presbyter |
| Holly | Dillon | Tampa Bay | Teaching Elder | Executive/ Presbyter |
| Olivia | Haney | Central Florida | Teaching Elder | Executive/ Presbyter |
| David | Rollins | St. Augustine | Teaching Elder | Lead Presbyter |
| Therese | Howell | Cherokee | Ruling Elder | Stated Clerk |
| Deanie | Strength | Savannah | Teaching Elder | Stated Clerk |
| William | Wildhack | Tampa Bay | Teaching Elder | Stated Clerk |
| Rebecca | Willis | Flint River | Ruling Elder | Stated Clerk |
| Erika | Rembert Smith | Thornwell | | Guest |
| Joo Hoon | Kim | Northeast GA | Teaching Elder | Consultant for Korean Ministries |



Synod Staff

| | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------------|
| Annel | Belmont | Tampa Bay | | Synod Admin. Assistant |
| Valerie | Young | St. Augustine | Ruling Elder | Synod Executive & Stated Clerk |
| Jodi | Dodge | St. Augustine | Ruling Elder | Synod Treasurer |

Adoption of the Docket – Moderator Shelor presented the docket and, with no changes necessary. *Motion to approve by Ray Bell, was seconded and approved by unanimous consent.*

Call to Worship led by *Karla Diaz, Tropical Florida*

L: Lord, you have called us to the mountaintop.

P: Help us to look forward to where you would have us go.

L: Help us to listen carefully to the words of your healing love.

P: Open our hearts and spirits to receive your glorious directions.

L: Place your trust in the Lord in all your ways.

P: Lord, we have come here to give our lives to you. AMEN.

Song - “*Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross*”, played by Sidney Michell

Scripture – Luke 12:49-56 **Message** – “Fire!”, Rev. Dr. David Shelor, Moderator

Prayer

Report of the Executive Administrative Commission (*Attachment A*)

Rev. Brian Henderson, Vice Moderator, provided an overview of the actions by the EAC since the synod last met in February 2023 (*Attachment A*). He called on Moderator Shelor to give an update on the Plan for Agile Administration (*Attachment A- 1*).

The Assembly was reminded of the work of the *Transformational Leadership Task Force* (appointed in 2020), several webinars and coaching programs. Thank you to the Task Force members: Rev. Dr. David Shelor; Rev. Brian Henderson; Andy Casto-Waters; Nancy Reimer.

Henderson, on behalf of the EAC, moved that the synod dismiss the Transformational Leadership Task Force with the Assembly’s thanks. *The motion was approved with no dissention.*

Vice Moderator, Henderson shared the formation of a Synod Visioning Task Force 2024 (*Attachment A- 2*), a purpose and hopeful timeline. The nominees for the Task Force will come up for election in the Committee on Representation’s report.



Vice Moderator Henderson asked Moderator Shelor to explain the Assembly's next step. As a way of giving further opportunity for listening to commissioners and corresponding members in a season of assessment, Shelor explained that the results of the 2023 Evaluation of Missional Priorities & Impact (*Attachment A- 3*) are in the packet. The Assembly is going into breakout rooms for 20 minutes to discuss the following questions:

- A. Are you surprised by any of the evaluation responses?
- B. Is there anything you would add to the responses?
- C. What are your hopes for the future Church? For future Synod?

Members of the EAC facilitated the breakout rooms and gathered responses for use by the Visioning Task Force.

Treasurer's Report

Jodi Dodge, Synod Treasurer walked the Assembly through the 2022 Audit results (*Attachment B*). Moderator Shelor called for a motion to receive the 2022 Financial Audit. **Moved by Commissioner Steve Austin, there was a second and the report was unanimously received.**

Treasurer, Dodge, then provided an updated report of the synod's finances and receipts noting the reduction in deficit with the implementation of the Agile Administration Plan. Moderator Shelor called for a motion to receive the 2023 finances to date. **Moved by Commissioner Steve Austin, there was a second and the report was unanimously received.**

Treasurer Dodge concluded her report with an update on the transition to the accounting firm, Sommerville & Associates, P.C. Jodi and Synod Executive, Valerie Young, have met with representatives from Sommerville and begun the work necessary to transition to a new accounting system. Jodi and Valerie have also worked on the development of new procedures and policies for the manual of operations that will come from the Budget & Finance Committee.

Consultants for Racial Ethnic Ministries – Moderator Shelor noted that there are written reports in the packet for African American Ministries (*Attachment C*) and Hispanic/Latinx Ministries (*Attachment D*) and offered thanks for both ministries. We will hear from the consultants at the next synod meeting.

Committee Updates & Actions – Moderator Shelor called on the Chairs of committees to bring their reports.

Administration & Relationships (ARC) (*Attachment E*) report was brought by Bill Byars, Chair. Chair Byars brought a motion from the ARC to approve the Covenant Renewal with Thornwell (*Attachment E-1*). Moderator Shelor asked for questions or discussion, seeing none a vote was called. **The motion was approved unanimously.**



Chair Byars introduced Rev. Erika Rembert Smith, member of the Thornwell board, to bring greetings to the Assembly. Commissioner Jeanne Simpson led a prayer for Thornwell, its leadership and ministry.

Chair Byars explained that ARC has received a request from Villa International to convey the property deed held in trust by the Synod. The request is currently under consideration by the committee for a recommendation that will serve the best interest of the Synod, the six founding ecumenical partners, and Villa International. Chair Byars explained the ongoing conversation with the leadership of Villa International. On behalf of the ARC, Chair Byars brings the following motions:

1. The ARC recommends that the synod retain legal counsel to advise about the legal rights to Villa International property, for which synod holds the deed. **Motion was moved on behalf of the committee and Approved by the Assembly.**
2. Upon receipt of legal advice, the synod authorize the ARC, based on said legal advice, to direct the stated clerk to execute any legal documents up to and including the transfer of the deed to Villa International.

Several questions were asked, and discussion occurred regarding history of the property, legal standing, and a future relationship with Villa International.

Commissioner Jamil el-Shair made a motion to postpone. **The motion was seconded and approved by a majority vote.**

Representation (COR) (*Attachment F*) report was brought by Hansler Bealyer, Chair. The Committee on Representation nominated the following commissioner to serve as **Moderator and President, Synod of South Atlantic, PC(USA), Inc.:** Rev. Dr. Brian Henderson, (TEBM), Charleston-Atlantic

Moderator Shelor asked for nominations from the floor. Seeing none, **the election was approved.**

The Committee on Representation nominated the following to serve as Committee Chairpersons and, thereby the Executive Administrative Commission for 2024:

Administration and Relationships Committee (ARC): *Jeanne Simpson* (TEWF), Greater Atlanta
Budget and Finance Committee (BFC): *Christina Greenwalt* (TEWF), Central Florida
Committee on Representation (COR): *Hansler Bealyer* (REBM), St. Augustine
Ministry Support Committee (MSC): *Ray Bell* (REWM), Trinity

Moderator Shelor asked for nominations from the floor. Seeing none, **the election was approved.**



The Committee on Representation nominates the following to service on the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission:

- *Calvin Dixon* (TE), Savannah – Class of 2026
- *Stuart Mauney* (RE), Foothills – Class of 2028

Moderator Shelor asked for nominations from the floor. Seeing none, **the election was approved.**

The Committee on Representation placed into nomination, 7 members for the Synod Visioning Task Force (4 commissioners and 3 presbytery staff).

- (co-chair) Jackie Rembert, Commissioner, New Harmony Presbytery
- Karla Dias, Commissioner, Tropical Florida Presbytery
- Rev. Jamil El-Shair, Commissioner, Savannah Presbytery
- Rev. Christina Greenawalt, Commissioner, Stated Clerk, Central Florida Presbytery
- (co-chair) Rev. Andy James, Stated Clerk, Greater Atlanta Presbytery
- Rev. Danny Murphy, General Presbytery, Trinity Presbytery
- Rev. Holly Dillon, General Presbytery, Tampa Bay Presbytery

Moderator Shelor asked for nominations from the floor. Seeing none, **the election was approved.**

Chair Bealyer, brought the following motions (*Attachment F-1*) on behalf of the COR:

1. That the Synod modify its plan for election and method for fulfilling the principles of participation and representation under the Manual of Operations by adding six (6) At-Large Commissioners to be elected by the Synod. **Approved.**
2. That the Synod modify the size of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission to sixteen (16) members, one member from each constituent presbytery. **Approved.**

Lastly, Chair Bealyer informed the Assembly that the requirements of the General Assembly for 2022 records has been completed as seen in the GA COR survey (*Attachment F-2*).

Budget & Finance (*Attachment G*) brought by Charmaine Ponkratz, Chair.

It was shared that the BFC considered several options for the 2024 budget and its funding that included no funds from reserves, 3%, 4%, and 4.5% from reserves. Ultimately the BFC brings a budget with a 4% draw that is aligned with current policy.

Motion on behalf of the BFC to approve the 2024 Budget (*Attachment G-1*) – **Approved**

Chair Ponkratz explained that the move to virtual offices and the agile administration plan precipitated amendments to the Financial Policies in the synod Manual of Operations. They were completely re-written in light of the changes.

Motion on behalf of the BFC to approve new Financial Policies (*Attachment G-2*) - **Approved**

As a matter of information, the Synod Funds Overview (*Attachment G-3*) is provided as an explanation of available funds.



Ministry Support Committee (*Attachment H*) brought by Kenneth Whitehurst, Chair

The possibilities were shared for a task force of the committee to take a fresh look at our grants and grant processes. One hope is to provide applications in a seamless online way.

Report of the Executive & Stated Clerk (*Attachment I*), Valerie Young

Young shared that the work of developing relationships with and among presbyteries' leaders and volunteers continues. Over 30 sets of minutes have been read and attested to, and that process is almost completely caught up to 2022. She shared that, when invited into a search or visioning process, she is blessed to be part of those conversations and discernments; that staff is working toward the virtual office and transition of accounting. She recognized Josephine Mangun's service and dedication to the synod over the last eight (8) or so years and asked that people would thank you via email, phone, or card. We welcomed Annel Belmont to part-time/contract service to the synod as administrative assistant and requested that the Assembly pray for those called to serve on the Synod Visioning Task Force. There is much to look forward to.

Thank you & Goodbye to Commissioners terming out

Vice Moderator, Henderson thanked the following for their six years of service to the Synod of South Atlantic:

- **Bill Byars**, Cherokee Presbytery
- **Charmaine Ponkratz**, Peace River Presbytery
- **Rev. Dr. David Shelor**, Tampa Bay Presbytery
- **Mary Bell Streetman**, Central Florida Presbytery

Moderator, Shelor conducted the **Installation of the 2024/25 Moderator**, Rev. Brian Henderson

Closing Prayer & Adjournment by Moderator, Shelor at 12:09 p.m.

2024 Synod Meeting Dates via Zoom

Saturday, April 6

Saturday, October 12



Antiracism Ministry Team Supplement Report February 2024

The Foothills Presbytery Antiracism Ministry Team (AMT) became a permanent committee of council in 2021 with the responsibilities to:

- Develop and recommend to Council:
 - Policy changes in the presbytery that will better reflect our commitment to antiracism.
 - Opportunities for congregations and members of Foothills Presbytery to engage in conversation, education, and action that lead to the development of antiracist policies and practices in our congregations and the local communities to whom we bear witness.
- Collaborate with presbytery committees to pursue the goals of antiracism in the scope of their work.
- Explore our theology, anthropology, and sociology in light of the work of antiracism. Accountability: Permanent Committee of Council.

The Antiracism Ministry Team **reports**:

- Sharing one or two resources (books [children, youth and adult], articles, blogs, podcasts, and movies), twice a month in our presbytery-wide eNewsletter during 2022 and 2023 All resources shared were reviewed or read by a member of the AMT.
- We have listed the collection to distribute at the February 20 Presbytery meeting (Appendix A). The list is also available on the Presbytery's website ([here](#)).

Respectfully submitted,
Lerone J. Wilder, Co-Chair

Committee Members: Rev. Bessie Black; Rev. Joseph Gaston; Rev. Dr. Mike Hoyt; Elizabeth Jones, CRE, (Secretary); Rev. Leslie Lang; Susan McLarty; Ed Yokley; and Rev. Lerone Wilder, Ph.D. (Co-Chair) Presbytery Staff: Rev. Pressley Cox, Rev. Debbie Foster, and Robin Morris

Antiracism Ministry Team Resource List



Created by Created Date 2024-02-10 16:35:48
 Subject
 Area • *Antiracism

Introduction Foothills Presbytery Antiracism Ministry Team (AMT) resources that have been shared and recommended since 2021.

[Library Resources Group \(3\)](#) | [Internet Resources Group \(4\)](#) | Internet Resources Group

Library Resources Group

[Books for adults \(19\)](#) | [Children/Youth Materials \(5\)](#) | [DVDs in the Resource Center \(2\)](#)

Books for adults

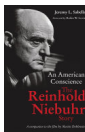


248.845 Helsel



Helsel, Carolyn B. [The ABCs of Diversity: Helping Kids \(and Ourselves!\) Embrace Our Differences](#). Chalice Press, 2020.

Available in library: 1



230.092 Niebuhr



Sabella, Jeremy L. [An American conscience: the Reinhold Niebuhr story](#). Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2017.

Available in library: 1



305.8 Beckford



Beckford, Sheila M. [Anti-racism 4reals: real talk with real strategies in real time for real change](#). Chalice Press, [2021].

Available in library: 1



305.800973 Helsel
2021



Helsel, Carolyn B. [Anxious to Talk About It: Helping White People Talk Faithfully About Racism](#). Chalice Press, 2021.

Available in library: 1



231.3 Powery



Powery, Luke A. [Becoming human: the Holy Spirit and the rhetoric of race](#). Westminster John Knox Press, [2022].

Available in library: 1



305.800973 Coates



Coates, Ta-Nehisi. [Between the world and me](#). Spiegel & Grau, [2015].

Available in library: 1

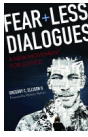


248.8089 Arthur Riley



Arthur Riley, Cole. [Black liturgies](#). Convergent, [2024].

Available in library: 1



305.235089 Ellison



Ellison, Gregory C. [Fearless Dialogues: A New Movement for Justice](#). Westminster John Knox Press, [2017].

Available in library: 1



238.5137 Kirkpatrick 2015



Kirkpatrick, Clifton. [Race and Reconciliation Workbook: the Confessions of 1967 and Belhar](#). CPM, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), [2015].

Available in library: 1

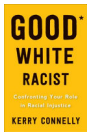


305.800973 Anderson



Andersen, Margaret L. [Getting smart about race: an American conversation](#). Rowman & Littlefield, [2020].

Available in library: 1

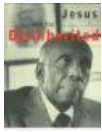


277.3083 Connelly



Connelly, Kerry. [Good white racist: confronting your role in racial injustice](#). Westminster John Knox Press, [2020].

Available in library: 1

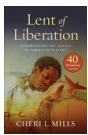


261.8 Thurman



Thurman, Howard. [Jesus and the disinherited](#). Beacon Press, [1996].

Available in library: 1



242.34 Mills



Mills, Cheri L. [Lent of liberation: confronting the legacy of American slavery](#). Westminster John Knox Press, 2021.

Available in library: 1



242.2 Jha



Jha, Sandhya R. [Liberating love, a daily devotional: 365 love notes from God ; a daily devotional](#). Chalice Press, 2020.

Available in library: 1



200.89 Riley



Arthur Riley, Cole. [This here flesh: spirituality, liberation, and the stories that make us](#). Convergent, [2022].

Available in library: 1



285.137 Yoo



Yoo, William. [What kind of Christianity: a history of slavery and anti-Black racism in the Presbyterian church](#). Westminster John Knox Press, [2022].

Available in library: 1



280.4 Brown



Brown, Lerita Coleman. [What makes you come alive: a spiritual walk with Howard Thurman](#). Broadleaf Books, [2023].

Available in library: 1



248.845 When



. [When kids ask hard questions: faith-filled responses for tough topics](#). Chalice Press, [2019].

Available in library: 1



248.845 When
Vol_2



. [When Kids Ask Hard Questions, Volume 2: More Faith-Filled Responses for Tough Topics](#). Chalice Press, [2021].

Available in library: 1

Children/Youth Materials



E_FIC Pitman



Pitman, Gayle E. [A church for all](#). Albert Whitman & Company, [2018].
Location:CHILDREN (1)

Available in library: 1



E_FIC Waters



Waters, Michael W. [For beautiful Black boys who believe in a better world](#). Flyaway Books, [2020].

Location:CHILDREN (1)

Available in library: 1



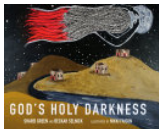
BOARD BOOK 222.11
Caldwell



Caldwell, Elizabeth F. [God's big plan](#). Flyaway Books, 2020.

Location:CHILDREN (1)

Available in library: 1



E_220.95 Green



Green, Sharei. [God's holy darkness](#). Beaming Books, 2022.

Location:CHILDREN (1)

Available in library: 1



E_FIC Waters

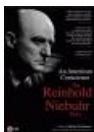


Waters, Michael W. [Liberty's civil rights road trip](#). Flyaway Books, [2021].

Location:CHILDREN (1)

Available in library: 1

DVDs in the Resource Center



DVD 230.092
Niebuhr



. [An American conscience: the Reinhold Niebuhr story](#). First Run Features, [2017].

Available in library: 1



DVD 277.3082 Backs



. [Bucks against the wall: the Howard Thurman Story](#). Journey Films, 2019.

Available in library: 1

Internet Resources Group

[Podcasts & Blogs](#) | [Online Articles & Podcast Episodes](#) | [Local & National Organizations & Resources](#) | [Videos & Movies](#)

Podcasts & Blogs

InDebted

<https://www.southcarolinapublicradio.org/indebted>

PODCAST. Host Scott Morgan explores the issue of debt in the Palmetto State, including medical debt, student loan debt, short-term loan services, financial literacy, and more. 8 episodes, 24-32 minutes each.

Code Switch

<https://www.npr.org/podcasts/510312/codeswitch>

PODCAST. Hosted by journalists of color, our podcast tackles the subject of race with empathy and humor. We explore how race affects every part of society — from politics and pop culture to history, food and everything in between. . . Code Switch was named Apple Podcasts' first-ever Show of the Year in 2020.

Scene on Radio

<https://sceneonradio.org/>

PODCAST. "Scene on Radio is a two-time Peabody-nominated podcast from the Kenan Institute for Ethics at Duke University that dares to ask big, hard questions about who we are—really—and how we got this way. The show is produced and hosted by John Biewen, along with collaborators, and distributed by PRX." --Website

Wild, Holy & Free

<https://austinchanning.substack.com/>

BLOG. Posts from 2020 to the present. "Sometimes you will find my musings on the world, on politics, on Christianity, on social justice. Sometimes you might just get a list of book recommendations or a poem. This is my playground. The place where I can be goofy and serious, bold and unsure, thoughtful but still change my mind as soon as I push publish. I'll share any fun updates happening in my world- like new books or exciting projects (more joy!!) I publish weekly, but sometimes I get talkative and post more."

Online Articles & Podcast Episodes

Just Act

https://mcusercontent.com/8c434d97dd429932df02b02d4/files/4b7108a1-ca12-41f4-a0bb-08d8d235d870/21_UPS_04_JUSTACT_Spring_web1.pdf

Newsletter and resource for the Center for Social Justice and Reconciliation at Union Presbyterian Seminary, Richmond, VA

Black Praise in White Pews: When Your Church Doesn't Love You Back

<https://www.npr.org/2023/06/08/1181012580/black-worshippers-in-white-evangelical-church>

NPR's CODE SWITCH Podcast, June 14, 2023 (Audio, 38 minutes)

The Case for Reparations

<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2014/06/the-case-for-reparations/361631/>

Article by Ta-nehisi Coates from THE ATLANTIC, June 2014

A Decade

<https://austinchanning.substack.com/p/a-decade>

Post from Austin Channing Brown's blog WILD, HOLY, AND FREE, April 16, 2021

Family Matters to the People of God

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/pt-0121-black-history/>

[Lincoln Saved American Democracy. We Can Too](https://time.com/6221209/lincoln-saved-american-democracy-we-can-too/)

<https://time.com/6221209/lincoln-saved-american-democracy-we-can-too/>

Article by Jon Meacham, TIME, October 12, 2022

[The Opportunity to Be Courageous](https://glpby.org/the-opportunity-to-be-courageous/)

<https://glpby.org/the-opportunity-to-be-courageous/>

September 26, 2023 article from Presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy's website describes the decisionmaking process leading to financial reparations to Third Presbyterian Church, righting wrongs by the Presbytery during property transfer to that church.

[PC\(USA\) Delegation Rights a Historic Wrong in Juneau, Alaska](https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/pcusa-delegation-rights-a-historic-wrong-in-juneau-alaska/)

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/pcusa-delegation-rights-a-historic-wrong-in-juneau-alaska/>

Presbyterian News Service, October 10, 2023. An apology and reparations occur more than half a century after the fact.

[The Struggle Continues: Faith Leaders on Chauvin's Conviction](https://sojo.net/articles/struggle-continues-faith-leaders-chauvins-conviction-george-floyd-christians-justice)

<https://sojo.net/articles/struggle-continues-faith-leaders-chauvins-conviction-george-floyd-christians-justice>

Article by Mitchell Atencio, SOJOURNERS, April 20, 2021

[Transformation in the Sea Islands](https://southparkmagazine.com/transformation-in-the-sea-islands/)

<https://southparkmagazine.com/transformation-in-the-sea-islands/>

SouthPark: The Art & Soul of Charlotte, February 1, 2021

[White Congregations Can't Do Justice without Following Black Leaders](https://sojo.net/articles/white-congregations-can-t-do-justice-without-following-black-leaders)

<https://sojo.net/articles/white-congregations-can-t-do-justice-without-following-black-leaders>

Article by Michael Woolf, SOJOURNERS, June 14, 2023

Local & National Organizations & Resources

[CEO Action for Racial Equity](https://www.ceoaction.com/racial-equity/)

<https://www.ceoaction.com/racial-equity/>

Mission: To identify, develop and promote scalable and sustainable public policies and corporate engagement strategies that will address systemic racism, social injustice and improve societal well-being.

[Crossroads Antiracism Organizing and Training](https://crossroadsantiracism.org/)

<https://crossroadsantiracism.org/>

Crossroads' mission is to equip institutions with shared language, frameworks, practices and tools that will assist them in diagnosing how their institutions are structured to uphold white supremacy culture and systemic racism, and deploying strategies aimed at animating antiracist ways of being that result in racially equitable institutional culture and practices.

[GOAL: Greenville Organization for Accountable Leadership](https://goaljustice.com/)

<https://goaljustice.com/>

A network of congregations who are culturally, economically, geographically and religiously diverse coming together to make the Greenville, SC, area a more just place to live, work, and do business.

[My Neighbors' Voice](https://www.myneighborsvoice.org/)

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

Mission: To create purposeful and productive community connections. Using MNV Listening Cards and a moderated format, we provide a safe and hospitable space in which everyone is invited to share their personal stories, thoughts, and opinions about how to best live together. It's through deeply listening that we deeply connect, and when we are connected, we are resilient.

[Praying for Change: Daily Prayers for Anti-Racism](https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/articles/praying-for-change-daily-prayers-for-anti-racism/)

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/articles/praying-for-change-daily-prayers-for-anti-racism/>

The Worship Team of Discipleship Ministries of the United Methodist Church believes that dismantling racism will not happen unless the whole process is bathed in prayer every step along the way. To that end they provide new daily prayers on Monday through Friday to help keep us all centered on the ongoing journey of transformation. Prayers are intended for personal devotion, to share in a small group, or for use in corporate worship.

[REEM: Greenville Racial Equity and Economic Mobility Commission](https://www.reemgv1.org/)

<https://www.reemgv1.org/>

Mission: To develop strategies and partnerships that eradicate race-based disparities and inequities impacting the Black community in Greenville County

[Speaking Down Barriers](http://www.speakdownbarriers.org/home.html)

<http://www.speakdownbarriers.org/home.html>

Speaking Down Barriers started as a community collaboration between a group of Black spoken word artists and poets and a predominately white church in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Today it is "a national nonprofit that transforms our life together across our differences, including race, sexual orientation, gender, national identity, religion, and class through performance, dialogue, training, and consultation. Our mission is Equity for All. We have two strategic imperatives; End Oppression and Value Everyone."--Quote from profile on Guidestar.org website

Videos & Movies

[An American Conscience: The Reinhold Niebuhr Story](https://www.pbs.org/video/mpt-presents-american-conscience-reinhold-niebuhr-story/)

<https://www.pbs.org/video/mpt-presents-american-conscience-reinhold-niebuhr-story/>

Streaming through SCETV Passport; expires 04/01/2025. DVD copy of the film is also available. (See DVD's in the Resource Center above)

[At the River: Struggle and Grace in the Segregated South](http://carolyncrowder.com/)

<http://carolyncrowder.com/>

"When did you realize that what you were being taught about race as a white Southerner was wrong?" Filmmaker Carolyn Crowder, raised in Montgomery, Alabama, during the Civil Rights era, set out to ask this question of Presbyterian ministers she knew who had taken stands during that era. Contact the film maker to arrange a screening.

[Backs Against the Wall: the Howard Thurman Story](https://vimeo.com/ondemand/howardthurman)

<https://vimeo.com/ondemand/howardthurman>

Rent or purchase the streaming version (57 minutes) DVD version is also available. See "DVDs in the Resource Center" above.

[Covenantal Restoration: a 12 Session Series of Faith and Race](https://www.theworkofthepeople.com/film-series/covenantal-restoration)

<https://www.theworkofthepeople.com/film-series/covenantal-restoration>

Subscription required.

[Downing a Flag](https://www.scetv.org/watch/downing-flag)

<https://www.scetv.org/watch/downing-flag>

2-hour documentary film tells the story of the Confederate Battle Flag and its inglorious relationship with the state of South Carolina and how this relationship has reflected and impacted its image in American society for nearly six decades. More

information about the film, as well as trailers, at <https://doaflag.com/> Streaming through PBS Passport.

[Finding Fellowship: How One Community Came Together in the Wake of Martin Luther King's Assassination](https://www.pbs.org/video/finding-fellowship-3bz18O/)

<https://www.pbs.org/video/finding-fellowship-3bz18O/>

Documentary film, 58 minutes. Streaming through PBS Passport (Expires 01/21/2026)

[Green Book](https://www.justwatch.com/us/movie/green-book)

<https://www.justwatch.com/us/movie/green-book>

Feature film, 1921.

[Selma](https://www.justwatch.com/us/movie/selma)

<https://www.justwatch.com/us/movie/selma>

Feature film, 2014

[Sterling Center and Fourth Presbyterian](https://www.foxcarolina.com/2023/10/17/neighborhood-church-partner-create-sterling-stories-documentary-project/?outputType=amp)

<https://www.foxcarolina.com/2023/10/17/neighborhood-church-partner-create-sterling-stories-documentary-project/?outputType=amp>

Fox Carolina, 10/17/2023 (2:24 minutes)

[Sterling Center Stories](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pKKTbDe7SMU)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pKKTbDe7SMU>

Abbreviated edition (28:21 minutes)

[Till](https://www.justwatch.com/us/movie/till)

<https://www.justwatch.com/us/movie/till>

Feature film, 2022 (130 minutes)

[We Stand - from mid council leaders of the Presbyterian Church \(U.S.A.\)](https://vimeo.com/425950126)

<https://vimeo.com/425950126>

A group of mid council leaders came together in a video to share prayers, heartaches, and hopes in the midst of nationwide demonstrations. The video is in response to the recent deaths of African Americans at the hands of law enforcement, which has increased racial tensions. Uploaded June 4, 2020. (2:34 minutes)

[Union Forum: What Should White Christians Do about Racism?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MdbJZqXmSGc&t=1s)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MdbJZqXmSGc&t=1s>

Recording of a ZOOM discussion sponsored by Union Presbyterian Seminary's Center for Social Justice and Reconciliation and Katie Geneva Cannon Center for Womanist Leadership. Posted June 10, 2020 (63 minutes)

[Why Do Racist Symbols Have to Go?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BauKfHF01ps)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BauKfHF01ps>

Recording of a ZOOM discussion sponsored by Union Presbyterian Seminary's Center for Social Justice and Reconciliation and Katie Geneva Cannon Center for Womanist Leadership. Streamed live on June 23, 2020. (68 minutes)

Foothills Presbytery Antiracism Ministry Team
Additional Resources
(not currently available in the Foothills Resource Center)

Books

- **After Whiteness: An Education in Belonging (Theological Education between the Times)** by Willie James
- **Be the Bridge** by Latasha Morrison
- **Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents** by Isabel Wilkerson
- **The Color of Compassion: The Truth About the American Church's Complicity in Racism** by Jemar Tisby
- **The Color of Law** by Richard Rothstein
- **A Fever in the Heartland: the Ku Klux Klan's Plot to Take over America and the Woman who Stopped Them** by Timothy Egan
- **Fierce Love: A Bold Path to Ferocious Courage and Rule-Breaking Kindness That Can Heal the World** by Jacqui Lewis
- **How the Word is Passed** by Clint Smith
- **How to be an Antiracist** by Ibram X Kendi
- **How to Fight Racism: Courageous Christianity and the Journey Toward Racial Justice** by Jemar Tisby
- **I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness** by Austin Channing Brown
- **In Peace and Freedom: My Journey in Selma** by Bernard LaFayette
- **Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption** by Bryan Stevenson
- **The Last Slave Ship: The True Story of How Clotilda Was Found, Her Descendants, and an Extraordinary Reckoning** by Ben Raines
- **A Lens of Love** by Jonathan Walton
- **Light for the World to See** by Kwame Alexander
- **Love is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times** by Bishop Michael Curry
- **Maid: Hard Work, Low Pay, and a Mother's Will to Survive** by Stephanie Land
- **Me and White Supremacy** by Layla F. Saad
- **A More Perfect Union: A New Vision for Building the Beloved Community** by Adam Russell Taylor
- **Native: Identity, Belonging and Rediscovering God** by Kaitlin B. Curtice
- **Nice Racism: How Progressive White People Perpetuate Racial Harm** by Robin DiAngelo
- **The Official U.S. Civil Rights Trail: What Happened Here Changed the World** by Lee Sentell**
- **Peace is a Practice: An Invitation to Breathe Deep and Find a New Rhythm for Life** by Morgan Harper Nichols
- **A Race Is a Nice Thing to Have: A Guide to Being a White Person or Understanding the White Persons in Your Life** by Janet E. Helms
- **Raise Your Voice** by Kathy Khang
- **Raising White Kids: Bringing up Children in a Racially Unjust America** by Jennifer Harvey
- **Reproducing Racism: How Everyday Choices Lock in White Advantage** by Daria Roithmayr

- **Resist and Persist** by Erin Wathen
- **So You Want to Talk About Race** by Ijeoma Oluo
- **Stuff That Needs to be Said** by John Pavlovitz
- **Subtract: The Untapped Science of Less** by Leidy Klotz
- **The Sun Does Shine** by Anthony Ray Hinton
- **Teaching Preaching: Isaac Rufus Clark and Black Sacred Rhetoric** By Katie Geneva Cannon
- **Think Again: The Power of Knowing What You Don't Know** by Adam Grant
- **Walking in the Wind: A Memoir of the Movement** by John Lewis
- **Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration** by Isabel Wilkerson
- **White Fragility** by Robin DiAngelo
- **White Too Long** by Robert Jones
- **"Who Lynched Willie Earle?: Preaching to Confront Racism"** by William H. Willimon
- **Working Class Rage** by Tex Sample

Children/Youth Materials

- **Brown Girl Dreaming** by Jacqueline Woodson (Middle grades)
- **Change Sings: A Children's Anthem** by Amanda Gorman (Children)
- **The Day You Begin** by Jacqueline Woodson (Children)
- **Dictionary for a Better World: Poem, Quotes, and Anecdotes from A to Z** by Irene Lathan (Middle grades)
- **Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story** by Kevin Noble Maillard (Children)
- **Seeds of Change: Wangari's Gift to the World** by Jen Cullerton Johnson and Sonia Lynn Sadler (Children)
- **Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You** by Jason Reynolds (Youth)
- **The Undefeated** (Caldecott Medal Book) by Kwame Alexander (Children)
- **When God Made You** by Matthew Paul Turner (Children)
- **When God Made Light** by Matthew Paul Turner (Children)

Committee on Shared Ministry February 2024

CSM Mission and Core Values from Foothills Presbytery Handbook:

Mission: To equip, connect, and nurture the churches of Foothills Presbytery.

Core Values: We will celebrate an adaptive environment where grace abounds while striving to strengthen our connectional church and share mission in a spirit of experimentation.

How: We will explore our mission by offering opportunities for faith formation, gatherings, fellowship, service, encouragement, resources, and support.

Class of 2024

Beth Burris (2)
Joseph Gaston (2)
Joanna Griesse (1)
Jacob Kennedy (1)
Jennifer Poag (2)
Shannon Weinel (1)
Buz Wilcoxon (1)

Class of 2025

Natalie Arnold Hoxit (2)
John Daniel DeBevoise (1)
John Dubose (1)
Susan Felton (1)
Jackie Putnam (2)
Noelle Read (2)
Audrey Reese (2)
Renee Wiseman (1)

Class of 2026

Nath Briley (1)
Amy Couch (1)
Pat Fuller (2)
Ann-Margaret McClary (1)
Julie Schaaf (1)
Andrea Storie (2)
April Swanson (2)

Leadership Team: Audrey Reese (Chair), John Daniel DeBevoise (Vice-Chair), Jackie Putnam (Past Chair), Noelle Read (Secretary)

Ex-officio: Kathleen Egger-Price and Pat Shufeldt

Foothills Staff: Pressley Cox

Mental Health First Aid for Adults teaches people how to recognize signs of mental health or substance use challenges in adults ages 18 and older, how to offer and provide initial help, and how to guide a person toward appropriate care if necessary. Topics covered include anxiety, depression, psychosis, and addictions. There will be a training offered at First Greer on Thursday, February 29, 2024. (See Appendix A.)

Theology of Mission Conversation

On March 10, 2024, Fourth Church will host a conversation about the “Theology of Mission” focused on questions such as “What does effective international mission partnership look like” and “how do we help without hurting. We will hear from Shelley Chapman, Global worker with *Living Learning Community for Leadership Development with African Women (LLC)*. The mission of LLC is to promote long-term systemic change in Sub-Saharan Africa by investing in the emotional healing, spiritual development, cognitive/critical thinking skills, grassroots leadership capabilities, and entrepreneurial efforts of African women. (See Appendix B to learn more or register.)

A Sermon in My Pocket

On June 3, 2023 at Inman Church, and February 2, 2024 at Providence Church, the Rev. Dr. Tom Malone led two sessions of the “Elder Refresh” Workshop, a training for church officers. Both days were a wonderful opportunity for learning about our confessions and polity. From these workshops, a request was received to host a workshop for Ruling Elders on how to write a sermon. Since all Ruling Elders should be prepared to step into the pulpit with very little

notice, we are calling this workshop “A Sermon in My Pocket.” This workshop is designed for Ruling Elders who have never preached. In cooperation with the Committee on Ministry, CSM will offer this workshop in the fall and will focus on helping Ruling Elders to craft a sermon.

Youth Leader Book Study

CSM approved purchasing the book “Faith Beyond Youth Group: 5 Ways to Form Character and Cultivate Lifelong Discipleship” for Foothills youth leaders. “Building on two decades of the Fuller Youth Institute’s work and incorporating extensive new research and interviews, *Faith Beyond Youth Group*, identifies the reasons youth ministry often flops both short-term and long-term, and offers five ways adult leaders can cultivate character for a lifetime of growing closer to Jesus rather than drifting away.” The youth leaders will engage in conversation during their monthly meetings on the first Thursday of every month.

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING

Identify. Understand. Respond.

**Mental Health First Aid is a skills-based training course
that teaches participants about mental health and
substance-use issues.**

*Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) USA has trained more than 3 million people
across the country to identify, understand and respond to signs and
symptoms of mental health and substance use challenges. Foothills
Presbytery is excited to partner with MHFA and provide training for pastors,
educators, youth leaders, elders, deacons, and volunteers.*

Register today: <http://tinyurl.com/FoothillsMentalHealth>

Mental Health First Aid

Thursday,
February 29, 2024

9:00am-4:00 pm

at
First Presbyterian
100 School Street,
Greer, SC 29651



You are invited to a conversation exploring the Theology of Mission

SPONSORED BY THE FOOTHILLS PRESBYTERY
COMMITTEE ON SHARED MINISTRY MISSION TEAM

Join Shelley Chapman, Global worker with Living Learning Community for Leadership Development with African Women, and Erin Washington, Fourth Church, as they explore ways to engage in mission work in today's culture.

The event will be guided by these questions:

What does effective international missional partnership look like?

How do we help without hurting?

What is the Living Learning Community and how can we support their efforts?

Sunday,
March 10, 2024

3:00–5:00 pm

Fourth Presbyterian Church
703 E Washington Street
Greenville, SC 29601

For questions and to RSVP,
contact
jackie@fourthpres.com

The mission of the Living Learning Community for Leadership Development with African Women (LLC) is to promote long-term systemic change in Sub-Saharan Africa by investing in the emotional healing, spiritual development, cognitive/critical thinking skills, grassroots leadership capabilities, and entrepreneurial efforts of African women. The Living Learning Community for Leadership Development with African Women began in 2017 with a group of African women who come together in a safe place to heal, grow, and develop capacity for engaging in grassroots leadership work for their home contexts. The LLC has since multiplied to groups of women in Nigeria, Kenya, Rwanda, and hopefully soon in Burundi. Mutuality, dialogue, and positive regard are the pillars that structure the collaborative work of the LLC.



To learn more visit the Living Learning Community for Leadership Development with African Women website:

<https://wgm.org/project/llc-african-women-leaders>

Committee on Ministry Supplement Report February 2024

The Committee on Ministry **reports:**

1. **Highlighting the work of Validated Ministry:** As part of our emphasis on learning about and supporting Validated Ministries, we invited two ministers to our February meeting:
 - a. We invited Jennifer Fouse Sheorn, Executive Director and Pastor, at Triune Mercy Center to share about her ministry. Triune has a staff of 17, which includes five Social Workers, including Trey Meredith, who is one of their Social Workers. Triune collaborates with over 30 service providers and 54 congregations. (See Appendix A for Jennifer's bio and Appendix B for a Triune Mercy Center brochure.)
 - b. We invited Nath Briley, Executive Director of Pickens County Family Promise, to share information about his ministry. Family Promise serves families experiencing temporary homelessness. It began in 2012 and has over 200 affiliations. (See Appendix C for Nath's bio and Appendix D for a Family Promise brochure.)
 - c. Please see the list of ministers currently serving in Validated Ministries. (Appendix E.)
2. **Celebrating Partnerships:**
 - a. **Presbyterian Foundation:** We invited our colleagues Paul Grier and Olanda Carr to join us at our February meeting. They highlighted the last three years working with Foothills on the Legacy Partnership Project. They also announced the Foundation's new strategic partnership with the Foundry Commercial of Orlando, Florida.
 - b. **Foundry Commercial:** Matt Messier and Carlin Beekman brought greetings from the Foundry and shared about their division's work in with Churches, Schools, and Non-profit organizations. Foothills Presbytery began collaboration with Matt and Carlin in August 2023.
3. **Ministerial Relationships:**
 - a. We acknowledged with gratitude and appreciation, the retirement of Joseph Gaston (Foothills Retirement Community, Presbyterian Communities of SC, Chaplain). We will recognize Joseph at our May 2024 Presbytery meeting.
 - b. Expressing sincere gratitude and appreciation to Michael Sullivan, who is retiring from Nicholtown Church, where he served as Pastor for the last eight years. Michael is also retiring as Chair of the Racial Ethnic Cabinet.
 - c. Celebrating the good news of Robin Morris's (Ruling Elder, Limestone Church) successful Exam on January 18. COM requests that upon completion of her Exam on February 20, Robin be Commissioned to serve on the Foothills Presbytery Pulpit Supply list, be allowed to administer the sacraments, and to moderate Session and Congregational meetings.
 - d. Receiving Exit Interviews for Joseph Gaston (Chaplain at the Presbyterian Community in Easley) who retired as of January 31 and John McCallum (Midway Church), who retired as of December 31.

4. **Congregational Relationships:**

- a. We discussed the needs for temporary pastoral leadership at:
 - i. Covenant (Spartanburg)
 - ii. Florence Moore (Wellford)
 - iii. Honea Path
 - iv. Midway (Anderson)
 - v. Piedmont
 - vi. Unity (Boiling Springs)
 - vii. Walker's Chapel (Reidville)
- b. Approved the following temporary pastoral agreements:
 - i. First Spartanburg and Lewis Galloway (Transitional Associate Pastor Supply).
 - ii. Honea Path and Amanda Taylor (Student Supply).
 - iii. Inman and Beth Hoskins (Stated Supply)
 - iv. Midway and Peggy Swann (Bridge Interim Supply)
 - v. St. Andrews and Preston Shealy (Bridge Interim Supply)
- c. Covenant Church updates: The Covenant Church requested Council approve a lease agreement with a Ukrainian Congregation (Cornerstone Church, Assemblies of God). Council approved pending legal review. We also heard an update on discussions with the City of Spartanburg related to water erosion and a sink hole in the Covenant Church parking lot.
- d. Fort Hill: We reviewed the fall 2023 Staff Realignment presented by a Strategic Task Force and approved by Session. The new job roles and responsibilities were approved by the Session in 2023, and the updated Terms of Call were approved at the annual Congregational Meeting on January 28, 2024.
- e. Honea Path: We offered gratitude and appreciation for the many years of service of Deborah Broadwell at the Honea Path Church. She retired December 31, 2023. We approved Jim Caprell to serve as the Moderator and as a Bridge Interim at the Honea Path Church through March.
- f. Landrum: The Session is discussing the sale of some of their property and sent a letter to Council inviting them to meet and discuss their hopes with the Session. Julie Schaaf, Coordinating Council Chair, and Debbie Foster, Presbytery Leader/Stated Clerk will meet with them on February 13.
- g. McCarter: The McCarter Administrative Commission (AC) met with the Session on Monday January 29. McCarter completed its annual financial review. The Commission and Session received the report and recommendations. During the meeting the AC and the Session reviewed the four proposals presented in the fall of 2023 and discussed two viable proposals to explore. The Session informed the AC that the Church has entered a new lease agreement with Agape English Institute.
- h. Midway: We offered thanks and appreciation for John McCallum and celebrated his retirement (effective Dec. 31, 2023). We approved Peggy Swann to serve as a Bridge Interim and Moderator.
- i. Pendleton: In November 2023, COM established a Task Force to meet with Pendleton, who indicated a desire to be dismissed to the Evangelical Covenant Order (ECO) Presbyterian denomination. The Task Force received

documents (per the Presbytery's Dismissal Policy) on January 16. Upon review of those documents (January 29), the Task Force has requested another meeting with the Session. The Task Force also plans to hold a Town Hall Forum with the congregation sometime in March.

- j. Piedmont: The temporary pastor search committee has identified a potential student supply pastor, who will meet with COM in March. Piedmont's Moderator, Charlie Blakley will also join us.
- k. Second: Ginger Shuler's (Stated Supply) annual contract will end February 29, 2024. She does not feel called to renew. COM approved Lud Weaver to serve as a Bridge Interim and Moderator until the Pastor Nominating Committee calls their next installed pastor.
- l. Varennes: COM heard an update on the work of the Task Force. Varennes continues to explore which reformed body is a "fit" for dismissal. Stated Clerk and Presbytery Leader, Debbie Foster reported a new option the Task Force hopes to explore when they next meet with the Session.

The Committee on Ministry **recommends**:

- 1. That we invite Jennifer Fouse Sheorn (Triune Mercy Center) and Nath Briley (Family Promise) to share information about their ministries at the February 20, 2024, Stated Presbytery meeting.
- 2. That we recognize Joanne Hull's retirement and celebrate her ministry at the February 20, 2024, Stated Presbytery Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Whitney Moss, 2024 Chair

Committee Members

Class of 2024: Scott Berry, Barbara Moran-Faile, Ted Morlok, Whitney Moss (Chair), Eliza Smith DeBevoise, Sandy Thrasher, and Art Williams

Class of 2025: Phil Beckwith, Deborah Broadwell, Ben Dorr, Elizabeth Jones, Preston Shealy (Vice-Chair), Dennis Tedder, Beth Templeton, and Mary Anne Welch

Class of 2026: Anna Johnson, Dottie Metropol, Beth Meyer, Susan Oldham, Rudy Painter, and Mark Taylor

Staff: Debbie Foster (Presbytery Leader/Stated Clerk) and Robin Morris (Associate Stated Clerk)

**Jennifer Fouse Sheorn
Brief Bio**

Jennifer was born in Greenville, SC but then moved to Great Falls, SC (a one stoplight town) when she was nine years old. She graduated from Presbyterian College in Clinton, SC, after having studied abroad in Beijing, China. She then went to Clemson University to work as an intern in campus ministry for two years. It was at Clemson that Jennifer felt called by God to go to seminary.

At seminary, Jennifer began to feel called to those who are often overlooked. She served at the Open Door Community two days a week, where she received lessons in hospitality, justice, and love. The Open Door provided a place where the homeless could get a meal and a shower. During her senior year in seminary, Jennifer served at a women's prison, Metro State. She worked with a Muslim Chaplain and learned a new way of providing pastoral care. After working in the women's prison, Jennifer decided that she needed to learn more about mental illness and addiction. She was hired at Summit Ridge hospital, which provides inpatient and outpatient treatment options for children, adolescents and adults suffering from behavioral health and/or addiction issues.

Since graduating from Columbia Seminary, Jennifer has served in campus ministry and in churches in Seattle, WA, Nashville, TN and Greenville, SC. Jennifer is currently serving as the Pastor/Director of Triune Mercy Center in Greenville, SC. She was drawn to the radical hospitality, diversity, relationships, and mission to share Christ's love with all especially the disadvantaged. You can read more about Triune Mercy Center on their website: www.triunemercy.org. Jennifer has a sign in her office that reads, "See God in everyone" because everyone we see is a beloved child of God.

In her spare time, Jennifer loves to be outside, hiking and gardening, and spend time with family and friends. Life continues to be an adventure with her husband, Dean, and children, Ben and Bailey.

Get Involved

- Pray for our mission
- Attend worship services
- Volunteer
- Give financial donations
- Donate needed items
- Give to the Triune Endowment Fund

Anyone seeking our services is welcome to come see one of our social workers during walk-in hours, Monday through Thursday from 9am-11:30am. Social workers see people on a first-come, first-served basis.

NA & AA Meetings

| Narcotics Anonymous | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Poets | Thurs 7PM; Sat 5PM |
| Simplicity | Mon-Fri 12; Sat 11AM |
| Bottomline | Wed 6PM; Sun 6PM |
| Alcoholics Anonymous | |
| Ebony | Thurs 8PM; Sat 8PM |
| Courage to Change | Sat 9AM |



TRIUNE MERCY CENTER

You are a child of God and you are welcome in this place.

Get In Touch



222 Rutherford St.
Greenville, SC 29609



Phone 864-233-8020
Fax 864-370-4720



Facebook
Triune Mercy Center

HOURS

| | |
|-----------|-------------|
| Sunday | 9-1 |
| Monday | 9-1; 2-5 |
| Tuesday | 9-1; 2:30-5 |
| Wednesday | 9-1; 2-5 |
| Thursday | 9-1; 2-5 |
| Friday | Closed |
| Saturday | 9-1 |



Our Mission

To Share Christ's love while meeting physical needs and providing life-changing opportunities to the disadvantaged.

What we do

Triune is a non-denominational mission church that ministers alongside the homeless in Greenville, SC. We help our unhoused neighbors meet their basic needs while also providing encouragement and support to set and achieve their goals. We also provide opportunities to serve for those with the means to help.

Scan the QR code or visit www.triunemercy.com

Our Services



Community

- Bible Studies
- Round Table Discussion Groups
- Narcotics Anonymous
- Alcoholics Anonymous



Support

- Professional Coaching
- Drug Rehabilitation
- Legal Advice
- Case Management
- Art & Music Therapy



Basic Needs

- Hot Meals
- Food Bags
- Hygiene Kits
- Winter Coats
- Blankets
- Mail Services
- Medical & Vision Care

Weekly Schedule

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30-10:45
Family Bible Study 10:00-10:45
Meditation and Prayer 10:00-10:45
Worship Service 11:00
Hot Lunch 12:00

Monday

Hot Breakfast 7:00-8:00
Mail Pick-Up, Social work 9:00-12:00
Art/Music Therapy 9:30-10:30

Tuesday

Mail Pick-Up, Social work 9:00-12:00
Round Table Discussion 10:00

Wednesday

Mail Pick-Up, Social work 9:00-12:00
Food bags, Hygiene Kits 9:00-11:30
Social Security 10:00-11:00
LifeLine Phones 9:30-11:00
Mental Health, Legal Aid 9:30-10:30
Medical Services 9:00-11:00

Closed Friday

Thursday

Mail Pick-Up, Social work 9:00-12:00

Saturday

Mail Pick-Up, Social work 9:00-12:00
Hot Lunch 12:00

All services are offered on a first come, first served basis.

On Sundays, hot meals are offered to parishioners who attended our church service that morning.

**Nath Briley
Call to Validated Ministry**

Reverend Doctor Nath Briley is a graduate from Wofford College. He received his Master of Divinity from Columbia Theological Seminary and a Doctorate of Ministry from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Nath is originally from Charlotte, NC. He was a banker in Mt. Airy, NC when he felt called to go into ordained ministry. After graduating from seminary, Nath was the Director of Social and Spiritual Services at Crossroads Community Ministries, a large homeless ministry in downtown Atlanta. After five years at Crossroads Community, he left to become the Associate Pastor for Outreach at Decatur Presbyterian Church in Decatur, GA. Then, in January 2010, Nath was called to be the Pastor of Pickens Presbyterian Church in Pickens, SC. In the summer of 2021, the former Executive Director of Family Promise of Pickens County (where Nath was on the Board) stated that she wished to retire at the end of the year. After many months feeling and discerning God's call, Nath decided to mention to the Board Chair and the Director that he was feeling called to the position. They affirmed his discernment. In November 2021, he resigned from the church to become the Executive Director of Family Promise of Pickens County. Nath feels called to welcome those who are hurting and need love, guidance and care to get "back on their feet." He enjoys encouraging others to live out the commandment to "love our neighbors."

While in Pickens, he has been involved in the community. He has been on the board at United Christian Ministries in Easley, Chair of Pickens Ministerial Association, member and Past President of the Pickens Rotary Club and as stated previously on the board of Family Promise of Pickens County. Since being at Family Promise, Nath has been very active in the Upstate of Continuum of Care including being on many committees. He completed Leadership of Pickens County in 2023 and serves on the United Way of Pickens County's Financial Stability Council.

Nath is actively involved in the Foothills Presbytery where he has been on Committee on Ministry serving as Chair and Chair of the Coordinating Council. He is currently serving on Committee on Shared Ministry.

Nath is married to Amy, a reading interventionist at Hagood Elementary School. He and Amy live in Pickens with their two youngest sons. Caleb is a sophomore at Winthrop University. Ethan is a tenth grader at Pickens High School. They love to do many activities together as a family, especially camping whenever possible. His oldest son, Charles, is married and lives in Easley, SC.

Our Hope

Is for homeless children and their families who find themselves existing crowded in homes with multiple generations, living in parked cars or sleeping in places not fit for habitation to have shelter and food, develop plans to end their homelessness and regain stability

Our World

- Family Promise is the FIRST homeless shelter in Pickens County
- One out of every seven people in the United States lives in poverty
- Families make up approximately 40% of the homeless population
- 60% of the homeless are children and half of those are under school age.

Our Programs

Family Promise offers shelter for children under 18 and their families, helping families stay together. In addition, we work to prevent eviction to help families stay in their homes

Our Expectations

- To host up to 4 families with 14 or fewer individuals at one time
- To offer services to families; single parents, grandparents, couples, or other legal guardians with a child under 18
- Assist families that are motivated to make positive changes in their lives
- To serve guests who are alcohol and drug free and can pass a criminal background check
- To assist families who agree to a covenant that includes rules of conduct
- To provide individualized care coordination to guests in accordance with their effort and progress on goals



Building Community, Strengthening Lives
One Family at a time

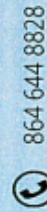


Our Mission

To meet the immediate needs of homeless families in crisis. Working together with the community and local congregations, we provide shelter, meals and support for families to achieve self-sufficiency.

FAMILY PROMISE OF PICKENS COUNTY

104 Stewart Drive
PO Box 1165
Easley, SC 29641



864 644 8828



Familypromisepickens.org

Our Volunteers

Are the heart of Family Promise. Our volunteers can assist at the Leslie Flynn Day Center and help with childcare, mentoring, and building confidence and self-respect in our guests. Our volunteers are a part of a network of hosts who work along with support congregations to provide hospitality, nightly shelter and daily meals in a safe environment.

Our Needs

Family Promise depends on donors. Your support allows homeless children to hope and dream. Your contributions help families get back on their feet. Your dollars provide:

- A safe place to sleep
- Health meals
- Counseling and case management
- Job training
- Transportation
- Classes in basic life skills
- And much more

Our Congregations

Are part of a network of hosting sites who work along with support congregations to provide hospitality, nightly shelter and daily meals in a safe environment.

Our Host Congregations

Clemson Presbyterian
Clemson United Methodist
First Baptist of Clemson
Fort Hill Presbyterian - Clemson
Holy Trinity Episcopal - Clemson
Pickens Presbyterian
Life Church - Dacusville

Our Support Congregations

St. Andrew Catholic - Clemson
Soapstone Baptist Church - Pickens
Griffin Ebenezer Baptist - Pickens
Church of Jesus Christ The Lamb of God
Unitarian Universalist - Clemson
University Lutheran - Clemson
Divine Purpose Outreach Ministries - Easley
Easley Presbyterian
St. Mark United Methodist - Seneca
5 Point Church

Our Staff

Nath Briley, Executive Director
nbriley@familypromisepickens.org

Leigh Anna Kennemore
Shelter Case Manager

lkennemore@familypromisepickens.org

Catherine Johnson,
Office Manager/Prevention Specialist
cjohnson@familypromisepickens.org

Family Promise of Pickens County is a 501c3
nonprofit organization

**Foothills Presbytery
List of Validated Ministers/ Ministries**

1. Nath Briley/ Family Promise of Pickens County, Exec Director
2. Christi Owen Brown/Authentic Leadership Coaching, Coach/Facilitator
3. Charles Campbell/ Duke Divinity School, Professor
4. Kathy Chamlee/ Canterbury Counseling Center, Pastoral Counselor
5. Eliza Smith DeBevoise/ Converse University, Chaplain
6. Erin Foster Farry/ Furman UKirk, Campus Minister
7. Tim Holland/ Blue Water Counseling, Counselor
8. Patrick Jinks/ PRISMA Health, Chaplain
9. Merwyn Johnson, In Christ Supporting Ministries, Theological Advisor
10. Trey Kuhne/ Pathways Pastoral Counseling, Counselor
11. Ralph May/ PRISMA Health, Chaplain
12. Julie Meredith/ Furman University, Center for Critical Issues Director
13. Trey Meredith/ Triune Mercy Center, Social Worker
14. Jason Moore/US Navy, Chaplain
15. Laura Palmer/ US Navy, Chaplain
16. Denny Read/ AnMed Health, Chaplain
17. Jan Roberts/ Hospice of the Upstate, Chaplain
18. Jennifer Fouse Sheorn/ Triune Mercy Center, Pastor & Exec Director
19. Beth Templeton/ Our Eyes Were Opened, Founder & CEO
20. Buz Wilcoxon, Presbyterian College, Chaplain & Dean of Spiritual Life

Examinations Commission Report February 2024

The Examinations Commission **reports:**

- That on January 18, 2024, we examined Robin Morris, a Ruling Elder from Limestone Church in Gaffney. She has completed the coursework and other requirements to become a Commissioned Ruling Elder. Robin proffered a homily on Ephesians 4:1-16. She was examined in the areas of Call, Theology, Bible, Sacraments, and Polity. Her homily and examination were unanimously approved. (See Appendix A for Robin's bio and faith statement.) At the request of the Committee on Ministry, Robin was approved to be commissioned to Foothills Presbytery to serve on the Pulpit Supply list, administer the sacraments, and moderate Session and Congregational Meetings.

The Examinations Commission **recommends:**

- That Robin Morris from Limestone Church, Gaffney, be examined to serve as a Commissioned Ruling Elder for Foothills Presbytery.

Respectfully submitted,
Amos Workman, Chair

Examinations Commission members: Nan Jones, Jacob Kennedy, Will Nickles, Terri Price, Amos Workman (Chair), Phil Beckwith, Scott Berry, Eliza Smith DeBevoise, Ben Dorr, , Preston Shealy, and Audrey Reese
Ex officio member: Debbie Foster (Stated Clerk & Presbytery Leader)

**Robin Morris
Bio Statement**

I was born into a family of faith. My father was active in our Baptist Church, singing in the choir, serving as a Deacon, and serving as the Superintendent of Sunday School. I remember sitting on the pew with my mother and three brothers as Dad and my sister were in the choir. At Christmas when our extended family gathered, I remember my grandfather reading the Christmas story from the Bible before any gifts would be shared and opened. The adults sat around the room while the children sat on the floor at my grandfather's feet, we all listened as he read the story each year. It was important to my grandfather that we understood that Christmas was about the Christ child.

In my twenties and thirties, I tried other churches searching for something that I could not name exactly. I went to larger Baptist churches. Later, when I married a Methodist, we attended several Methodist churches, but I still didn't find exactly what I needed. After my divorce in 1998, a friend invited me to Unity Presbyterian Church. I remember sitting in the pew with my two young children and telling them that we had found our "home" church. I found a theology of grace that filled the void I had searched for.

With the leadership of the Rev. Dan Holloway and the Rev. Jeannie Bickett, I began to learn and grow as a disciple of Christ. At Unity, I served as a Deacon and later as a Ruling Elder. With three friends, we wrote a proposal for our church to participate in Interfaith Hospitality Network (Family Promise), which was approved by Session. I am happy to see that Unity continues to host temporarily homeless families through this program. Over my eighteen years at Unity, I continued to grow in faith and to serve through mission trips, committee work, youth group leadership, and as a co-chair of the new sanctuary capital campaign fund.

In 2013, I moved to Gaffney to be near my parents and extended family. I immediately became a member at Limestone Presbyterian Church. I have served in many ways at Limestone: with youth group, as an Adult Sunday School teacher, as a Circle leader, as a Ruling Elder, including five years as the Clerk of Session.

Throughout my time in Fort Mill and in Gaffney, I worked for a software company. In early 2020, I began to sense a call to change vocations. In summer of 2020, God called me to serve at Foothills Presbytery as the Associate Stated Clerk. Shortly thereafter, I began classes to become a Commissioned Ruling Elder. I have a love for our smaller congregations and hope to serve them as a Moderator, a Pulpit Supply worship leader, and to administer the sacraments when called upon.

I can't remember a time when I didn't know about the love of Jesus Christ. I hope to share his love through service at Foothills Presbytery.

Robin E. Morris
Statement of Faith

I believe that God is, will be, and always has been. I believe that God is sovereign and created us to glorify him. I believe God, the Creator of all, created humanity to be good stewards of creation and to be in relationship with Him. I believe that when humanity failed over and over due to our sinful nature, that God sent his son, Jesus, to be our teacher and our savior. I believe that through Jesus' death and resurrection that our sins are forgiven over and over. I believe that Jesus gave us the Holy Spirit to dwell in us and among us. The Holy Spirit gives us gifts to be used to fulfill God's purposes in our world. I believe the Holy Spirit speaks to us daily and that we need to be in a right relationship with God to discern the Holy Spirit's voice and to follow our call.

I believe that we are sinners and yet we are called to be disciples of Christ. I believe that we have salvation, not because of any action we can take, but because God loves us and wants to be in covenant with us and because Jesus came to earth as a human. Jesus lived to teach us how to be obedient to God and how to love and serve one another. He died for our sins. God raised Jesus from the dead. He was resurrected. Through Jesus' resurrection, God reconciled us to God and to one another.

I believe in two sacraments as demonstrated by Jesus. In baptism, we become part of the people of God, part of the church. It is a sign and seal of our engrafting/ incorporation into Jesus. The Lord's Supper is a thanksgiving to God, a remembrance of Jesus the Christ, and an invitation to the Holy Spirit to renew us as a body of Christ in communion with one another and with God. The bread is a reminder of manna in the wilderness and of the bread of Passover. Jesus called himself the "bread of life." The wine/ juice is a reminder of Christ's sacrifice. The Lord's Supper is an abundant feast that reminds us and recommitments the promise of a heavenly banquet.

We are called to read scripture as the holy word of God. We are called to pray in thankfulness to God, in supplication for others, and in daily relationship with God. We are called to serve one another, especially to those in need. We are called to love God as our one and only Lord and to love one another as God has loved us.

I believe that a community of believers is the church, where brothers and sisters come together to use our gifts in unity. With our community of faith, we come together to hear the proclamation of the Word and the administration of sacraments. We learn to serve each other and to serve God until Jesus Christ comes again.

Coordinating Council Report February 2024

The Coordinating Council reports:

- Continuing the practice of centering our meetings with a Dwelling in the Word exercise. In January, after hearing Luke 10: 1 -12 read twice, we reflected and discussed these questions: What caught your attention, what questions do you have, and what might God be saying to us?
- As we look across the national and local landscape of the PCUSA and consider the current realities and imagine our future, our Stated Clerk and Presbytery Leader invited us to look at Four Central Shifts she believes will inform our ministry moving forward. (Appendix A). We are in the process of inviting two working groups and one committee of Council to begin work as a group before breaking into intentional work in a specific focus area (center of the vin diagram)
 - Think Tank: Leaders from COM, CPM, CSM, Personnel, Stewardship, and Council to begin a vision process.
 - Property Advisory Committee: Grounded in the values of innovation, trust, abundance and outreach, this group will assess and evaluate (in partnership with our congregations) the best stewardship/use of property, provide policy and resources for churches are who hosting other congregations in their building or leasing their space to groups in their community, and general use of church property.
 - Stewardship (sharing the story): Building on the work of the Stewardship Task Force, this group will visit with churches, share the news about the mission and ministry of the Presbytery, and engage in conversations about stewardship.
- Receiving and approving requests for several special guests and visitors to join us at our 125th Stated meeting of Presbytery on February 20 (Fountain Inn Church). We celebrate our partnership with these agencies and ministries and give thanks for the connectional church.
 - Shavon Starling-Louis, General Assembly, PCUSA Co-Moderator
 - Wilson Kennedy, Presbyterian Mission Agency Associate Director for Special Offerings.
 - Sy Hughes, Presbyterian Mission Agency, Engagement Advisor for the Southeast
 - Kevin Cartee, Camping Ministries of the Carolinas, Executive Director
 - Katie Henderson, Camp Fellowship, Assistant Director of Programs
 - Bill McConnell, Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina, Foundations Director
 - Ashley Anderson, Union Presbyterian Seminary (Charlotte) Director of Admissions
 - Stefanie Marsden, Texas Presbyterian Foundation, Relationship Manager
- Reviewing the 2024 and 2025 schedule of Presbytery gatherings and confirming hosting congregations and discussing who else to invite to host.
 - May 18, 2024 will be hosted by the Limestone Church (Gaffney). The theme will be Mental Health Awareness Part I. The Bethesda Church (Gaffney) will partner in hosting with Limestone.
 - November 12, 2024 (Location to be determined). The theme will be Mental Health Awareness Part II.
- Per the duties of Council, we reviewed several items associated with property:
 - Simpsonville Church: Received and approved a request to allow the Lamb of God Lutheran Fellowship to use the sanctuary (must be reviewed annually) when the Fellowship Hall is not available due to extenuating circumstances. As a safeguard, Council requested a review of the lease and insurance with/of Lamb of God Lutheran Fellowship.

- Covenant Church: Received and reviewed a lease agreement between Covenant and the Ukrainian Congregation (Cornerstone Church, Assemblies of God) for use of their Sanctuary. Council approved, with amendments and are awaiting a legal review.
- North Anderson Community Church: Hearing a report about contract negotiations for church to lease a portion of their land for a cell tower. Our legal consultant, Pete Rowe (RE, Greenville), and Debbie Foster (Stated Clerk) have been advising. Once Pete completes review of the most recent lease, Council approved for the North Anderson Community Church to enter into an agreement.
- Landrum Church: Council received a letter from the Rev. Beth Hoskins (Pastor), and Jan Ludwig (Clerk), regarding the Session's desire to explore the sale of some of Landrum's property. They requested representatives from Council meet with Session to discuss the potential sale. Chair Schaff and Stated Clerk Foster will meet with Landrum's Session.
- Hearing reports and recommendations from the **Ecclesial and Diaconal Committees**:
 - Committee on Shared Ministry: Chair Audrey Reese highlighted the Mental Health Workshop planned in February, and provided updates related to Presbyterian Women. For Mission & Outreach, Reese shared that we have distributed \$600 to 16 ministries throughout the presbytery based on proceeds from Cents-ability.
 - Committee on Ministry: COM will highlight two Validated Ministries/Ministers at the February meeting and celebrate retirements.
 - Examinations Commission: Elder Robin Morris (Limestone) will be examined by the Examinations Commission and "if the way be clear," she will go before Presbytery at our February Presbytery Meeting.
- Hearing reports and recommendations from the **Core Committees of Council**. Discussed were:
 - Antiracism Ministry Team: Our AMT celebrates three years of work together. They provided a full report to Council which highlights the themes and rhythms of their work. Council approved their request to make a short video presentation and report at the Presbytery meeting.
 - Representation & Review: Shared the dates and times for the review of the 2023 Session Minutes for our fifty-eight congregations across the presbytery.

The Coordinating Council has no **recommendations** to bring before the body on February 20, 2024:

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Julie Schaaf, Chair

Members of Council: Trish Gwinn, Presbytery Moderator; Julie Schaaf, Chair; Elizabeth Clayton; Allyson Helvie; David Howell; Dennis Latham; Whitney Moss; Ansley Page; Audrey Reese; Michael Sullivan; Lud Weaver; Lerone Wilder; and Amos Workman

Ex Officio: Debbie Foster, Presbytery Leader and Stated Clerk; Pressley Cox, Associate for Mission and Ministry; Robin Morris, Associate Stated Clerk; Stan Reid, Treasurer; Charles Little, Assistant Treasurer; and Leland Burch, Recorder

Four Central Shifts

Rooted in the understanding that God provides [Enough]



Shift #1

1. **Fewer congregations** “Can less/decline = more?”
 - Asking the question, “How can we be good Stewards of what God has given?” **Evaluate property** – aligning properties with ministry
 - Repurpose
 - Remodel
 - Replant
 - What resources are available?
 - Covenant Partners:
 - [Presbyterian Foundation](#)
 - [Foundry Commercial](#)
 - [Presbyterian Mission Agency](#)
 - For reflection and study
 - Dwelling in the Word
 - [When Church Stops Working, Andrew Root](#)
 - [We Aren't Broke, Mark Elsdon](#)
 - [Imaginable](#), Jane McGonigal
 - [Sailboat Church, Joan Gray](#)
 - [Subtract: The Untapped Science of Less, Leidy Klotz](#)
 - Others

Shift #2

2. **Pastoral leadership** (COM Church Statistics Sheet)
 - New Models
 - Shared Pastoral Leadership
 - CREs
 - Student Leaders
 - Others
 - Training for Standard of excellence (CRE, CCE)
 - Seminary partnerships (MDiv)
 - For reflection and study
 - Outlook Article – [The Future of the PCUSA is Pastor-less and that is okay](#)
 - What else?

Shift #3

3. **Funding**
 - Updating the format for Presbytery's Annual Commitment Budget
 - Exploring sources of income
 - Annual Commitment from congregations
 - Draw from Investments
 - Others
 - Engaging congregations ([sharing the story of gratitude](#))

- Who is Presbytery?
- What are we called to do and be together?
- Why we need each other?

Shift #4

4. Courageous Conversations (Discipleship and Spiritual Faith Formation)

- Continue Engaging congregations and sharing the story by taking it to a deeper level. Asking questions such as:
 - How are listening and learning from our past to inform our future?
 - Who are we missing?
 - Who/What is being left behind?
- What resources do we have/need?
 - Our Presbytery's Antiracism Ministry Team
 - [Statement on racial injustice](#)
 - [Two years of resources](#)
 - Seven [Courageous Conversations](#) interviews (in production)
 - [DART](#) Direct Action Research Training Center and [GOAL](#)
 - [At the River: Struggle and Grace in the Segregated South](#)

What is the Presbytery's role? G-3.0301

The presbytery is responsible for the Government of the church throughout our six counties (58 Churches, nearly 13,000 members), and for

Assisting and supporting the witness of congregations to the sovereign activity of God in the world, so that all congregations become communities of **faith, hope, love**, and witness.

Keeping before it the Marks of the Church, its Foundations, and The Great Ends of the Church (F-1.0302, F-1.0303, F-1.0304)

What New Thing (Isaiah 43: 1-3, 18-19)?

How do we Encounter God already at work in our community? We Listen/Act/Share by:

- CONNECTing the Presbytery/Congregations
 - Future Church Initiatives
 - Legacy Work Continues
 - Faithful Innovation adaptation
 - ?
- CAPTUREing the possibilities - Recast the Vision
 - Think Tank
 - Stewardship of Property
 - Courageous Conversations
- CHALLENGEing presbytery to step out/risk
 - Who are the Supporters/Challengers?
 - What are the risks?
 - Who/What are we leaving behind?
- Knowing that CHAOS will come (lament/pain)
- REORDERING will come.

DGF 02082024

Racial Ethnic Cabinet Report February 2024

The Racial Ethnic Cabinet (REC) **reports** that our group has re-engaged and meets regularly every other month on a Saturday to support one another and our respective congregations.

We **report** that at our **October 14, 2023**, meeting:

1. We centered our time with a homily from the Rev. Bessie Black (Westminster Saxon) using Psalm 46. She talked about the sufficiency, security, and supremacy of God.
2. The REC continued discussions about forming a joint choir to sing at special worship services or other celebrations at our churches.
3. Kim Smith (Bethesda) suggested that the Racial Ethnic Cabinet host a Music Workshop. All agreed this is a good idea and will continue discussions.
4. Each congregation identified representatives to serve on the Racial Ethnic Cabinet. The recommendations will be shared with the Foothills Nominations Committee.
5. Lerone Wilder (Mattoon) shared information about upcoming events. On November 11th, there will be a dedication service for the new historical marker at Mattoon Church. On November 12th, Mattoon will celebrate their 145th Anniversary.
6. Belton Lane (Walker's Chapel) shared that Walker's Chapel Church will celebrate their 150th anniversary on November 19th.

We **report** that at our **January 20, 2023**, meeting:

1. Rev. Lerone Wilder (Mattoon) provided an opening homily with 2 Corinthians 5:11-17. He discussed Possibilities, Problems, Pains, Promises, Perspective, and Personhood.
2. Elder Kim Smith (Bethesda) continued leading the discussion about holding a Music Workshop. An initial draft of a flyer was shared. Kim will schedule a meeting to decide on the details about the workshop.
3. Rev. Michael Sullivan shared that he had tendered his resignation from Nicholtown. He also stated that he was resigning as Chair of the Racial Ethnic Cabinet.
4. Rev. Grace Winestock McMahan was introduced as a guest pastor who has provided supply pastoral leadership at Nicholtown.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Michael Sullivan

Members: Chris Alexander, Kenneth Anderson, Angel Bailey, Bessie Black, Daisy Blake, Mary Burts, Rafus Camp, Daisy Dover, Herman Glenn, Semmada Gordon, Belton Lane, Sandra Mack, Anna Smith, Kim Smith, Michael Sullivan (Chair), and Lerone Wilder (Vice Chair)

Worship Committee February 2024

The Worship Committee met on January 31 and February 8, 2024, for the purpose of planning worship for the 2024 Presbytery meetings.

The Tuesday, February 20th Presbytery meeting will be held at the Fountain Inn Church. We are excited to welcome the Rev. Shavon Starling-Louis, Co-Moderator of the 225th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), as the preacher for worship. Rev. Starling-Louis will preach a sermon using Matthew 25:31-49, incorporating the Co-Moderators' theme of "Unbound We Thrive." The worship committee chose to incorporate [worship resources](#) from the Presbyterian Mission Agency. With permission from David Gambrell, the service will use the refrain from "The Song of the Lark" throughout the service. Other music includes "God of the Great and God of the Small" and "Lift Every Voice and Sing."

The worship committee discussed plans for the May and November meetings. Both worship services will have an emphasis on Mental Health. The November meeting will include Naming of the Saints, Communion, and Anointing with Oil.

Respectfully submitted,
Allyson Helvie

Worship Committee Members: Holt Andrews, Meg Flannagan, Allyson Helvie (Chair), Mandy Keathley, Lynn Miller, Pressley Cox (Presbytery Staff)



Reminder!

We are still receiving payments, contracts, and other communications to our physical address, which no longer has a mailbox.

PLEASE ensure that your front office, financial office, and all personnel who send any mailed correspondence use our mailing address:

Foothills Presbytery
P.O. Box 1118
Simpsonville, SC 29681-1118

Thank you!