

**MIDDLE TENNESSEE PRESBYTERY  
MINUTES OF ONE HUNDRED SIXTIETH STATED MEETING  
MAY 3, 2025**

The 160<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee met in person at First Presbyterian Church, Pulaski, on Saturday, May 3, 2025. Stated Clerk Mary Catherine Sevier provided an orientation for first time commissioners. Moderator Rev. Jane Herring called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

**DECLARATION OF QUORUM / STATEMENT OF PROCEDURES / FIRST TIME  
COMMISSIONERS / CORRESPONDING MEMBERS**

Moderator Herring declared a quorum was present. The Presbytery's Mission and Operations Manual and the *Book of Order* provide for the seating of corresponding members and teaching and ruling elders with voice and those with voice and vote. Any ruling elder serving as presbytery's Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Moderator-in-Nomination, chairs of committees, members of the Administrative Committee, members of the Finance Committee, and the Moderator of Presbyterian Women, are enrolled as members of presbytery and shall have voice and vote. Ruling elders commissioned to particular pastoral service and ruling elders who have previously served as presbytery moderator, within five years of completion of his/her term of service, are enrolled as members of presbytery with voice and vote. Any ruling elder serving as a committee representative to a particular meeting of presbytery in the absence of the chair shall have the privilege of voice and vote for that particular meeting of the presbytery. Persons certified in church service who are ruling elders shall have the privilege of voice and vote at all meetings of the presbytery, during their term of service in ministry in the presbytery of Middle Tennessee. Persons certified in church service, who are members of congregations in the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee, shall have the privilege of voice at all meetings of the presbytery during their term of service in a congregation or other ministry validated by the presbytery. Should a question arise concerning the enrollment of any person, the presbytery may resolve the matter upon the recommendation of the Permanent Judicial Commission. Corresponding members were seated without objection and are listed with the roll (Attachment A). The Moderator also announced that the Stated Clerk had requested that the Rev. Sherard Edington, First Lebanon, serve as assistant parliamentarian. There was no objection.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA**

The moderator stated that the agenda and the consent agenda, which contained the minutes of the 159<sup>th</sup> stated meeting and the approval of a \$4000 hunger grant to Kinsman Redeemer and a \$7500 technology grant to Hillwood PC by the Committee on Mutual Support were sent to the commissioners on April 25, 2025. The main agenda and the consent agenda were approved without objection.

*The Presbytery of Middle Tennessee is a community of churches and church leaders whose role is to guide and support the work of its constituents, striving to build up the body of Christ through connections of mutual support, creating a culture of leadership excellence and church transformation.*

**THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTIETH STATED MEETING**

**THE PRESBYTERY OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE**

**AGENDA OF MAY 3, 2025**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PULASKI, TN**

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9:00 am		Registration (Order of the Day in CAPS)
9:15 am		Orientation for First Time Commissioners – Mary Catherine Sevier (10 min)
9:30 am	•	CONVENE <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Establishment of Quorum</li><li>• Adoption of Agenda and Consent Agenda</li><li>• Seating of Corresponding Members</li><li>• Recognition of First Time Presbyters</li></ul>
9:40 am	•	Worship <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sermon: Rev. Dr. Amy Busse Stoker</li><li>• Offering: Sabbatical Fund</li></ul>
10:25 am	3.	REPORTS (numbers indicate order in packet) (1) Keenan Rodgers, Ministry Consultant, Board of Pensions (10 minutes)
10:35 am		(2) Commission on Ministry – Mickey Stueck (30 minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Recognition of Retired pastor the Rev. Tom Bagley</li><li>▪ Recognition of Retired CRE Rick Robinson</li><li>▪ Re-commissioning of CRE Harold Dawkins to First, Fayetteville</li></ul>
11:05 am		(3) Nominating Task Force – Scott Huie (5 minutes)
11: 10 am		BREAK
11:30 am		Leadership Visioning Team (60 minutes)
12:30 pm		RECONVENE

- 12:30 pm (4) Committee on the Preparation for Ministry – Lisa Hermann (15 minutes)
- 12:45pm (5) Finance Committee – Evelyn Graham (15 minutes)
- 1:00 pm (6) Administrative Committee – Chris Williams (10 minutes)
- 1:10 pm (7) Stated Clerk - Mary Catherine Sevier (10 minutes)
- 1:20 pm Bridge Executive Presbyter – Terry Newland (10 minutes)
- 1:30 pm ANNOUNCEMENTS and ADJOURNMENT  
161<sup>st</sup> Stated Meeting, Thursday, August 7, 2025  
Priest Lake Presbyterian, Nashville  
Closing Prayer  
Adjournment

***\*Here are the ways to give to today's offering:  
▲ send a check to the Presbytery office (1113 Murfreesboro Rd, Suite 106, #216, Franklin, TN 37064)  
▲ go to the presbytery website, [www.pbymidtn.org](http://www.pbymidtn.org), and click the "Give Now" button  
▲ scan the QR Code below which will take you to the donation page***



### Consent Agenda

#### 160th Stated Meeting, Presbytery of Middle Tennessee, May 3, 2025

- | Item # | Title   |
|--------|---|
| (1)    | Approval of Minutes and Roll of the 159th Stated Meeting of February 8, 2025  |
| (2)    | Items to Admit to Record from the Committee on Mutual Support (complete report attached)  |
| a.     | Hunger Grant<br>\$4000 to Kinsman Redeemer Homeless Ministry (January 2025). This ministry aims to glorify God by caring for the homeless and displaced of Dickson County, showing the love of Christ and sharing His Gospel. They desire is to help them toward spiritual, physical, emotional, mental, and financial health by providing practical assistance with next steps toward wholeness. |
| b.     | Technology Grant<br>\$7500 to Hillwood Presbyterian Church (February 2025). These funds will help offset the cost for significant technology improvements at Hillwood. The Committee on Mutual Support is grateful to the Finance Committee for their partnership and contribution in ensuring the full award for Hillwood.   |

**\*A consent agenda provides a mechanism to use the meeting body's time efficiently. These items will not be considered individually UNLESS any member requests that one or all the items be removed from this consent agenda.**

Rev. Dr. Amy Stoker, pastor at First Pulaski, offered words of welcome and Moderator Herring commenced worship.

### **WORSHIP**

Rev. Stoker led worship with the Rev. Erin Howton-Angel, First, Allardt serving as liturgist. Rev. Stoker delivered the homily and focused on the change in ourselves that we can see as a result of the Easter resurrection. The offering was given to the Sabbatical Assistance fund. Lovely music was provided by the First Pulaski organist, Charlotte Hughes.

Following worship, the Moderator continued the morning's order of business.

### **REMARKS FROM KEENAN RODGERS**

Keenan Rodgers, Church Consultant from the Board of Pensions, made remarks on initiatives in place to support congregations and pastors at the Board. These include the Shared Ministry program and several assistance grants.

### **COMMISSION ON MINISTRY**

The Moderator recognized RE Mickey Stueck of First, Lebanon and co-chair of the COM presented the Commission's report.

#### Robert Montgomery, First Lewisburg

The COM approved the postponement of retirement for TE Robert Montgomery at First Lewisburg until a date to be determined.

#### St. John, Fayetteville

The COM recommended the dissolution of St. John's Fayetteville to the Permanent Administrative Commission.

#### Milton, Hopewell

The COM recommended to the PAC to walk alongside Milton Hopewell's session and congregation as they discern next steps in the life of the congregation.

#### Maddie Smith, Silverpoint

The COM recommended the completion of the sale of Maddie Smith to the PAC.

#### Inhye Park, member-at-large

The COM approved the reception of the Rev. Inhye Park as a Member-at-Large. She is the wife of Rev. Kim, Nashville Korean.

#### Temporary Supply, Normandy

The COM approved the contract between Normandy PC and the Rev. Dr. Michael Bradley through December 31, 2025, in three-month increments, per his request.

#### Donelson PC Congregational Meeting

The COM approved RE Mickey Stueck to moderate the congregation meeting at Donelson PC to dissolve the pastoral relationship with the Rev. Paul Casner.

#### Milldale PC Moderator

The COM approved RE Mickey Stueck as moderator of the Milldale session following the retirement of CRE Rick Robinson.

#### Woodland PC Moderator

The COM approved the Rev. Zach Sasser to moderate the session of Woodland Presbyterian.

#### Transitions Team email account

The COM established an e-mail account for Transitions Team business.

#### Westminster, Nashville Congregational Meeting

The COM approved the request of Westminster, Nashville) to call a congregational meeting to dissolve their relationship with the Rev. Heidi Hudnut-Buemler.

#### Requests to Administer the Lord's Supper

The COM approved the request of First, Cookeville for the Rev. Katie Ory to administer communion and the request of Historic Franklin for the Rev. Micah Watson to administer communion.

#### Re-Commissioning of RE Harold Dawkins, First Fayetteville

The COM presented RE Harold Dawkins to be re-commissioned for service at First, Fayetteville for 12 months, beginning in June 2025. Mr. Dawkins discussed his own faith and his journey to pastoral service over the years. Following questions, RE Stueck moved that he be re-commissioned. The motion was unanimously approved. Supporters of Mr. Dawkins including many members of his family stood and were recognized.

#### Recognition of the career of the Rev. Tom Bagley

RE Stueck recognized the Rev. Dr. John Todd who offered remarks on the remarkable pastoral service of Tom Bagley, recently retired from Normandy. Rev. Bagley also offered remarks, and the many members of his family were recognized as well.

#### Recognition of the career of CRE Rick Robinson

RE Stueck recognized the Rev. Dr. Greg Glover who presented remarks from the Rev. Dr. Guy Griffith and his own thoughts on the career and service of CRE Rick Robinson, who recently retired from pastoring Milldale PC. The Rev. Bill Owen then offered remarks, and Mr. Robinson reflected on his career. His family and supporters were recognized.

#### Approval of Training Ruling Elders and Charging to Administer the Lord's Supper

The COM moved the approval of in person gatherings across the Presbytery to train interested Ruling Elders to administer the sacrament of the Lord's Supper pursuant to G-3.0301b and to charge those trained to administer the Lord's Supper. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **NOMINATING TASK FORCE**

The Moderator recognized the Rev. Scott Huie, Bellevue, to make the report from the Nominating Task Force. Rev. Huie asked that the standing rule requiring those who serve on committees and task forces be members of the Presbytery for at least one year be suspended for the purpose of electing the Rev. Il Sun Kim to the Executive Presbyter Search Committee. Following the motion and second, and approval of a three-quarters majority, the standing rule was suspended. The following individuals were nominated by the Task Force to serve on the Executive Presbyter Search Committee: Sherard Edington, TE, First, Lebanon, Beth McCaw, TE, Southminster, Lavona Russell, RE, East Brentwood, Amy Stoker, TE, First, Pulaski, Il Sun Kim (PK), TE, Nashville Korean, Spencer Truett, RE, First, Dickson, and David Wood, RE, First, Nashville. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

### **LISTENING SESSION**

Moderator Herring then recessed the meeting for a break with bountiful refreshments followed by the last of three listening sessions led by the Leadership Visioning Team. The attendees offered comments at each table group.

## **RECONVENING AND REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON THE PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY**

Moderator Herring reconvened the meeting and recognized TE Lisa Hermann to make the Committee on the Preparation for Ministry report.

### Transfer of Covenant of Care for Inquirer Dave Garvey

The Committee moved that the covenant of care between PMT, First Nashville, and Inquirer David Garvey be transferred to First, Oxford and St. Andrew Presbytery at Mr. Garvey's request and with the approval of First, Nashville's session, First Oxford's session, and St. Andrew. The motion was approved unanimously.

### Request of Waiver of Time Requirement for Candidate

The Committee moved that the time requirement of one year for candidates be waived for Candidate Gage Arnold at his request pursuant to the Book of Order G-2.0610 which allows waiver of all requirements except G-2.0607d for good and sufficient reasons and by a  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority vote. Rev. Hermann stated that Mr. Arnold had completed his requirements for ordination with another denomination before coming to the PC-USA and coming under the care of First, Nashville and the Presbytery. He had superior scores on all his ordination exams, and completed private tutoring requirements on Reformed Theology, received excellent evaluations on his CPE, and expressed through his compelling faith journey his readiness for ordination. After discussion, the motion was approved with a counted vote by the required  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority.

### Certification of Candidate Gage Arnold as Ready for Examination for Ordination Pending a Call

Rev. Hermann brought a motion from the committee to certify Candidate Gage Arnold ready for examination for ordination pending receipt of a call. The motion was approved. Mr. Arnold was present and was congratulated. His supporters were recognized.

### Receipt of Cara Moyers as Inquirer

Rev. Hermann brought a motion from the committee to receive Cara Moyers, a member at First, Franklin, as an Inquirer. Ms. Moyers is a long time member of the congregation and a student at Vanderbilt Divinity School. The motion was approved unanimously, and she and her supporters were recognized and congratulated.

### Request for Authority to Receive Inquirers

Rev. Hermann brought a motion from the committee requesting the Presbytery to charge it with the responsibility and authority to receive Inquirers following receipt of required paperwork, robust examination by the committee, and endorsement from the Inquirer's church. CPM will have the responsibility to report any such receptions to the Presbytery. After discussion, the motion was approved after a counted vote.

## **REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Moderator Herring recognized the Rev. Evelyn Graham, chair of the Finance Committee and Treasurer of the Presbytery to make the report of the Finance Committee. Rev. Graham called the body's attention to the statements included in the packet.

### Presbytery Insurance

Rev. Graham announced that upon the expiration of the Presbytery's current insurance policy on March 24, 2025, the Presbytery engaged the Insurance Board to provide insurance for the coming year.

### Changes to Designated Funds

Rev. Graham noted that the following four designated funds were closed in the 2025 budgeting process because of inactivity:

3001-10 Youth and Young Adult Support	\$10,000
3001-11 Connectional Development Fund	\$8,152.52
3001-12 Social Media & Technology Fund	\$6,875.39
3001-14 Mediation Fund	\$18,000

Subsequently, the Committee on Mutual Support and the Commission on Ministry requested that two of the accounts, be reinstated with the following amounts:

3001-12 Social Media & Technology Fund \$15,000

3001-14 Mediation Fund \$18,000

The Finance Committee approved these reinstatements.

#### 2023 Audit

An audit of the PMT's 2023 financials has been completed by Mullins, Clemmons & Mayes Accountants. Their report can be found as Attachment B. The committee confirmed a review of the 2024 financial statement will be supplied by our auditors at a cost of \$7,000.

#### Legal Task Force

The committee voted to approve the continuation of its Legal Task Force for 2025. Members who serve include Christi Scott Ligon, Chris Williams, Steve Douse, and Melinda Sanders.

#### PAC

The Permanent Administrative Commission (PAC), approved by the PMT at its February 2025 meeting, was tasked with working with St. John Presbyterian, Mattie Smith Presbyterian and Decherd Presbyterian. Both Decherd PC and Mattie Smith PC have been dissolved, and the PAC is working on the disposal of the properties. Milton Hopewell also asked for the PAC to walk beside them as they determine if their church should close.

#### Guatemala Mission Project

\$1,894 was donated to the Guatemala mission project at the February PMT meeting.

#### First Fayetteville Proof of Property Exemption

First Fayetteville has been added to our church property exemption list by providing proof of their exempt status.

#### Mattie Smith Memorial Presbyterian Church Property Sale

The sale of the Mattie Smith Memorial Presbyterian Church property has been completed. Thanks were expressed to Chris and Paula Adams for facilitating the sale and to Magnolia Title for completing the transactions.

### **REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE**

Moderator Herring recognized RE Chris Williams, First Pulaski, Vice-Moderator of Presbytery and Chair of the Administrative Committee to make the committee's report.

#### February 2025 Stated Meeting Evaluations

The Administrative Committee reviewed the evaluations of the February 2025 meeting.

#### May 2025 Stated Meeting

The Administrative Committee approved the offering at the May Stated Meeting to go to the Sabbatical Assistance Fund; the Rev. Dr. Amy Busse Stoker will preach.

#### 2026 Stated Meeting Dates

The Administrative Committee approved the following dates for the 2026 Stated Meetings:

- Saturday, February 7, 2026
- Saturday, May 2, 2026
- Thursday, August 6, 2026
- Saturday, November 7, 2026

### August 2025 Stated Meeting

The Administrative Committee accepted with thanks the gracious invitation of Priest Lake PC to host the August 7, 2025 Stated Meeting.

### November 2025 Stated Meeting

The Administrative Committee approved changing the date of the November Stated Meeting to Saturday, November 8, 2025 and accepted the gracious invitation of the NaCoMe staff to host that meeting. Additionally, the Administrative Committee approved a request from the Committee for Social Justice to make a presentation during the Stated Meeting.

### Resignation of Judy Schomber

The Administrative Committee accepted with regret the resignation of RE Judy Schomber from the Committee on the Preparation for Ministry and directed the Stated Clerk to inform the Nominating Task Force of the vacancy.

### Guidelines on Posting Unsolicited Items on PMT Website

Mr. Williams presented for approval upon motion from the committee guidelines on posting unsolicited items on the PMT website. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Presbytery of Middle Tennessee Website Posting Policy**

**Purpose** The purpose of this policy is to establish clear guidelines for evaluating and approving requests to post materials on the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee's website. This policy ensures that all content aligns with the mission, values, and priorities of the Presbytery while maintaining a professional, informative, and user-friendly online presence.

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**Scope** This policy applies to all individuals, committees, churches, and partner organizations submitting requests to post content on the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee website.

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**Content Criteria** All materials submitted for posting must meet the following criteria:

1. **Alignment with Mission and Values**

Content must align with the mission and values of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Content should:

- Promote the spiritual, educational, or missional work of the Presbytery, its committees, or its member churches.
- Encourage connection, collaboration, and information-sharing within the Presbytery.
- Support and uplift the broader mission of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

2. **Relevance**

Content must be relevant to the work of the Presbytery, its member churches, or its ministries, including:

- Events, meetings, and programs sponsored by the Presbytery or its committees.
- Opportunities for worship, education, or mission that are open to the Presbytery community.
- News, resources, or updates from member churches or partner organizations.

3. **Accuracy and Quality**

- Content must be accurate, current, and complete at the time of submission.
- Materials should be free of grammatical and typographical errors.
- Submitted files, images, or documents must meet quality standards for readability and professional presentation.

4. **Non-Commercial and Non-Partisan**

- The website will not post content promoting commercial activities, private businesses, or partisan political agendas.
- Exceptions may be made for approved partnerships or vendors supporting Presbytery events.

#### 5. **Timeliness**

- Event-related materials must be submitted at least 7-10 business days prior to the desired posting date.
- Time-sensitive posts will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis for urgency.

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**Automatic Acceptance** The following events and materials are automatically accepted for posting:

- Events and activities sponsored by the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee.
- Events and activities organized by Presbytery committees, commissions, and task forces
- Events hosted by member churches, provided the event is sanctioned by the church's session or standing policies

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**Guidelines for Materials Submitted by Individuals and Third Parties** Materials submitted by individuals or third-party organizations that do not fall under the categories listed above will be considered for posting based on the following guidelines:

1. **Alignment:** Content must align with the mission, values, and priorities of the Presbytery.
2. **Relevance:** The material must be relevant and provide value to the Presbytery community.
3. **Non-Commercial Nature:** Submissions must not promote private businesses, commercial agendas, or partisan activities.
4. **Approval Process:** All individual or third-party submissions will be reviewed by Presbytery staff or the designated website administrator to determine appropriateness and compliance with this policy. Approval is at the discretion of the Presbytery staff.
5. **Supporting Materials:** Submissions must include all necessary supporting details, including event descriptions, contact information, and any relevant documents or links.
6. **Space Availability:** Posting of materials may be subject to available space and priority of Presbytery-sponsored content.

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**Approval Process** All requests to post content on the website must follow this process:

#### 1. **Submission**

- Requests must be submitted via the designated form or email address provided by the Presbytery office.
- Submissions must include a clear description, purpose, and any supporting materials (e.g., flyers, event details, links).

#### 2. **Review**

- The Presbytery staff or designated website administrator will review all submissions for compliance with this policy.
- The staff reserves the right to edit content for clarity, length, or formatting while maintaining the original intent.

#### 3. **Approval**

- Content that meets the criteria will be approved for posting.
- If a submission is denied, the requester will be notified with an explanation.

#### 4. Duration

- Approved posts will remain on the website for a period deemed appropriate for the content's purpose or relevance.
- The Presbytery may remove outdated or irrelevant content at its discretion.

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**Types of Acceptable Content** Examples of content that may be approved for posting include:

- Presbytery meeting announcements and materials
- Committee updates or reports
- Church events open to the Presbytery community (e.g., worship services, conferences, mission projects)
- Educational or spiritual growth opportunities (e.g., workshops, webinars, retreats)
- Job postings for Presbytery-related positions
- News or stories highlighting ministries within the Presbytery

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**Content Not Accepted** The Presbytery reserves the right to decline materials that:

- Violate the mission, values, or policies of the Presbytery
- Contain inappropriate, inflammatory, or divisive language
- Promote personal, political, or commercial agendas unrelated to the Presbytery's mission
- Are incomplete, outdated, or of poor quality

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#### Definitions

- **Partner Organization:** A group, institution, or entity that collaborates with or supports the Presbytery in its mission, ministries, or activities. Partner organizations may include denominational bodies, non-profits, educational institutions, or mission-related entities with shared goals and values.

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**Amendments** This policy may be revised or updated at any time by the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee. Any changes will be communicated to relevant parties.

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**Contact** For questions about this policy or to submit a request, please contact: Stated Clerk at [sc.midtennpres@gmail.com](mailto:sc.midtennpres@gmail.com)

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**Adopted by the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee**

May 3, 2025

#### Policies on Oral Reports and Discussion during Stated Meetings

Mr. Williams presented for approval upon motion from the committee a policy prohibiting committee oral reports without written reports submitted at least 7 days prior to the Stated Meeting and a policy limiting speakers during discussion to five minutes and two opportunities to speak. The policies were both approved.

**Presbytery of Middle Tennessee**

### **Committee Oral Reports Policy at Stated and Called Meetings**

Committee chairs shall provide oral reports at Stated or Called Presbytery Meetings only if they have submitted a written report that is part of the meeting packet and only on work pertaining to their committee, including any action items requiring consideration. As written reports are disseminated well before the presbytery meeting, keeping comments short when referring to (submitted written) information that does not require or inform an action is helpful. Reviewing and encouraging conversation around issues that do require action is welcome and fosters productive engagement.

### **Speaking during Stated or Called Presbytery Meetings Policy**

Any commissioner or member of Presbytery may speak to items under discussion during Stated Meetings. Speaking time is limited to five minutes per person. Per Roberts Rules of Order, individuals may not speak more than twice to a single issue unless the Moderator asks them a direct question.

Approved by Middle Tennessee Presbytery  
May 3, 2025

## **REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK**

Moderator Herring recognized Mary Catherine Sevier, RE, First Murfreesboro and Stated Clerk to make her report.

### Report of the Commissioner to the 2025 Stated Meeting of the Synod of Living Waters

The Stated Clerk received the report of TE Andy Gay, HR, PMT commissioner to the 2025 Stated Meeting of the Synod of Living Waters.

This was my first judicatory meeting to attend since 2021, with the exception of one in-person presbytery meeting that was mostly a zoom meeting. It was good to be out again, and to become reacquainted with the workings of the synod, as well as see some old friends.

Despite the downward trends in church attendance and giving across the PCUSA, the synod is a surprisingly dynamic body. The reports from the partner colleges was an eye opener, particularly Dr. Burton Webb's report from the University of Pikeville which is expanding its medical degrees into dentistry, with the acquisition of new facilities in partnership with the state, in response to the ongoing paucity of dental care in that part of Kentucky.

As one would expect, the Presbyterian Foundation's stewardship presentation was dynamic, particularly in demonstrating how to form stewardship around a church's, or organization's story, as an alternative to dry spreadsheets and language that only accountants can understand.

Although I have always admired the people and energy behind the "Living Waters of the World" mission - I was a pastor for four years in the 90's in St. Andrew's Presbytery, and not far from Camp Hopewell - it was amazing to see how the ideas of clean water filtration units that local people can maintain has spread around the world into thousands of locations. I am considering signing up for Clean Water U that will take place at Camp Hopewell this fall.

It was a joy to be a part of this gathering.

In the hope of Christ,  
Andy Gay

### Commission to Install the Rev. Claire Berry

The Stated Clerk has received the minutes of the Commission to Install the Rev. Claire Berry as pastor of Historic Franklin Presbyterian Church. The members of the commission were: The Rev. Jane Herring, Emmanuel PC, the Rev. Mary Sellers Shaw, Validated Minister, the Rev. Guy Griffith, Westminster, Nashville, the Rev. Marjorie Thompson, Honorably Retired, Susan Henry, RE, Historic Franklin PC, Nancy Morris, RE, Second PC, and Douglas Berry, RE, Westminster, Nashville. The Rev. Dr. Sherry Ikar, Westlake Hills PC, Austin, TX, Mission Presbytery was invited to sit with the commission.

MINUTES  
Installation Commission for Rev. Claire Berry  
Historic Franklin Presbyterian Church  
Franklin, Tennessee

Sunday, Feb. 2, 2025 3 P.M.

The Installation Commission appointed by the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee to ordain and install the Teaching Elder Claire Berry as Pastor met at the Historic Franklin Presbyterian Church of Franklin, Tennessee, on Feb. 2, 2025 at Historic Franklin Presbyterian Church at 2:40 P.M. Members present were:

Teaching Elders

Validated Minister, Marjorie Bryan  
The Rev. Mary Sellers Shaw, Pastor of Historic Franklin Presbyterian Church of Nashville  
The Rev. Jane Herring, Pastor of EPC Presbyterian Church of Nashville  
The Rev. Dr. Guy Griffith, Pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church of Nashville  
Rev. Marjorie Thompson HR

Ruling Elders

Historic  
Susan Henry, Franklin Presbyterian Church of Franklin, TN  
Nancy Morris, Second Presbyterian Church of Nashville, TN  
Douglas Berry, Westminster " " Nashville, TN  
Invitation to sit with the Commission:  
Rev. Dr. Stacy Kard West Presbyterian Church of Austin, TX  
Hills Presbyterian Church of \_\_\_\_\_

The Commission was called to order by the Chair of the Commission Rev. Jane Herring and MARY SELLERS SHAW was appointed Clerk of the Commission by the Chair. The Chair offered the opening prayer. The Order of worship for this Installation Service was reviewed with the constitutionally required elements for such a service found to be in place. By common consent the Order of Worship was adopted and a copy of the printed program will be attached to these minutes.

The Commission recessed to the Sanctuary for the Service of Worship with the Chair presiding. The Sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Stacy Kard. The constitutional Questions were propounded to Rev. Claire Berry by the Chair and they were answered in the affirmative. The Constitutional Questions were propounded to the Congregation by the Chair and answered in the affirmative by the Congregation. A prayer was offered by Rev. Marjorie Thompson.

Rev. Claire Berry was duly installed as Pastor of Historic Franklin Presbyterian Church, Franklin, TN

A Charge was delivered to the Pastor by Rev. Dr. Guy Griffith and Rev. Mary Sellers Shaw charged the congregation. The Service was closed with the Benediction pronounced by Rev. Claire Berry. The Commission was adjourned at the benediction of the worship service.

Respectfully submitted:

M. S. Shaw, Clerk of the Commission

Commission to Install the Rev. Il Sun Kim

The Stated Clerk has received the minutes of the Commission to install the Rev. Il Sun Kim as pastor of Nashville Korean PC. The members of the commission were: The Rev. Jane Herring, Emmanuel, PC, the Rev. Dr. Amy Stoker, First Pulaski, and the Rev. John Smith, First Dickson and Ellis Grove PC, Mickey Stueck, RE, First Lebanon, and Yeon Su Ha, Nashville Korean PC. The Rev. Moongil Cho, PMA, and the Rev. Jae Heung Chung, Honorably Retired were invited to sit with the commission.

**MINUTES**  
**Installation Commission for Nashville Korean Presbyterian Church**  
**Nashville, Tennessee**

Sunday, January 26, 2025, 3:00 P.M.

The Installation Commission appointed by the **Presbytery of Middle Tennessee** to install the Teaching Elder **Rev. Ilsun (PK) Kim** as Pastor met at the **Nashville Korean Presbyterian Church** (Nashville, Tennessee) on **January 26, 2025** at 2:08 P.M. Members present were:

Teaching Elders

**The Rev. Jane Herring**, Pastor of Emmanuel Presbyterian Church of Nashville, Moderator  
**The Rev. Dr. Amy Stoker**, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Pulaski  
**The Rev. John Smith**, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Dickson

Ruling Elders

**Elder Mickey Stueck**, First Presbyterian Church of Lebanon  
**Elder Yeon Su Na**, Nashville Korean Presbyterian Church

Invitation to sit with the Commission:

**The Rev. Moongil Cho**, PMA Staff (Associate for Korean Intercultural Congregational Support)  
**The Rev. Jae Heung Chung**, Honorary Retired

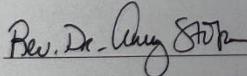
The Commission was called to order by the Chair of the Commission **Rev. Jane Herring** and **Rev. Dr. Amy Stoker** was appointed Clerk of the Commission by the Chair. The Chair offered the opening prayer. The Order of worship for this Installation Service was reviewed with the constitutionally required elements for such a service found to be in place. By common consent the Order of Worship was adopted and a copy of the printed program will be attached to these minutes.

The Commission recessed to the Sanctuary for the Service of Worship with **Rev. Amy Stoker** presiding. The Sermon was preached by **Rev. Moongil Cho**. The constitutional Questions were propounded to **Rev. Ilsun (PK) Kim** by the Chair and they were answered in the affirmative. The Constitutional Questions were propounded to the Congregation by **Elder Yeon Su Na** and answered in the affirmative by the Congregation. A prayer was offered by **Rev. Jane Herring**.

**Rev. Ilsun (PK) Kim** was duly installed as **Pastor/Head of Staff** of **Nashville Korean Presbyterian Church** (Nashville, Tennessee).

A Charge was delivered to the **Rev. Ilsun (PK) Kim** by **Rev. John Smith** and **Rev. Jae Heung Chung** charged the congregation. The Service was closed with the Benediction pronounced by **Rev. Ilsun (PK) Kim**. The Commission was adjourned at the benediction of the worship service.

Respectfully submitted:

 Clerk of the Commission

Approval of 2024 Minutes of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee

The Synod of Living Waters approved the 2024 minutes of meetings of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee.

Sale of Maddie Smith PC Property

The Permanent Administrative Commission (PAC) has completed the sale of the Maddie Smith PC property for \$2500.

PAC Milton Hopewell Team

The PAC team assigned to walk alongside Milton Hopewell has met with the clerk of session; the session and congregation are in discernment about next steps, and the PAC team will continue to support them in this process.

### Decherd PC Property

The PAC continues to receive reports from Chris Adams who has been asked to market the property of the former Decherd PC.

### PAC St. John Presbyterian

The PAC voted to assume Original Jurisdiction of St. John's Presbyterian Church since its pastor and a representative from the elders informed the former Isaiah 1:18 team and the PAC team that the church had unanimously voted to form Christ the King Community Church and to associate with the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference; all members have transferred membership and the session no longer functions, according to the representatives.

### Bellevue Presbyterian Youth Rally

The Stated Clerk moved that a youth rally approved by the Bellevue PC session to be held May 23<sup>rd</sup> at Bellevue from 6:30 until 10:00 and to which the session has invited any youth from Middle Tennessee Presbytery be approved by the Presbytery. Presbytery policies on child and youth protection have been provided to Bellevue ministerial staff, and the Presbytery has offered to assist with background checks for volunteers. The motion was seconded and approved.

### Amendment of Manual of Operation and Missions

The Stated Clerk with the approval of the Administrative Committee moved that the presbytery approve the following addition to the Manual of Operation and Missions on page 10, line 35:

*The Permanent Administrative Commission (PAC) for Congregational Change was established by the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee (PMT) to support congregations facing declining membership and financial difficulties. The PAC provides guidance, resources, and oversight for congregations considering mergers, yoking, joint witness, or dissolution.*

*Key responsibilities of the PAC include assisting congregations in transitioning to new ministry models or closing if necessary, ensuring pastoral care and planning a closing worship service for dissolving churches, managing church records and legal affairs, including property and financial assets, overseeing the sale or transfer of church property in alignment with Presbytery policies, educating congregations on alternative ministry options and maintaining regular reporting.*

*The PAC makes regular reports at every Stated Meeting while it is actively engaged with a congregation.*

*The PAC consists of 5 to 9 members serving staggered three-year terms, with a balance of Teaching and Ruling Elders to ensure diversity in representation.*

The Stated Clerk reminded the body that the motion must pass with a 2/3 majority vote. The motion was seconded and approved.

### Amendment of the the Manual of Operation and Missions

The Stated Clerk with the approval of the Administrative Committee moved the following amendment to the Manual of Operation and Missions on page p. 16, line 46:

*(additional words in red)*

*Recommending to Presbytery **the approval of all necessary steps in the covenant relationship and process of individuals discerning calls to ordained ministry including the approval of Candidacy for Inquirers after appropriate background check clearance is complete and the approval of final readiness for ordination pending acceptance of a call;***

The Stated Clerk reminded the body that the motion must pass with a 2/3 majority vote. The motion was seconded and approved.

### Dissolution of the former St. John PC

The Stated Clerk moved that the former St. John congregation be dissolved because of communication between the leadership of the congregation with both the former Isaiah 1:18 team and the Executive Presbyter that the congregation was now devoid of members because of transfer to Christ the King, a congregation who as of May 29, 2024, is part of the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference. The PAC team assigned to this congregation has also met with the leadership of the former St. John. The motion was seconded and approved.

### **EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER'S REPORT**

The Moderator recognized the Rev. Terry Newland, corresponding member from Sheppard's and Lapsley and Bridge Executive Presbyter. Rev. Newland noted that the Visioning Leadership Team is nearing the end of the process, and he urged all present to keep the team and its work in their prayers. He also noted his joy at the atmosphere of community present at Stated Meetings, with tears of joy, laughter, and respectful discussion taking place and demonstrating community.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Moderator Herring made announcements regarding upcoming events and led the body in a closing prayer. She then asked for a motion to adjourn which was seconded and approved. After announcing that the 161<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting will be August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at Priest Lake Presbyterian, she adjourned the meeting at 1:54 pm.

Mary Catherine Sevier  
Stated Clerk

## Attachment A

### Teaching Elders

\_P\_Adams, Chris  
\_E\_Anderson, David  
\_E\_Anderson, Rosanna  
\_P\_Angel, Erin Howton  
\_P\_Angel, Jonathan  
\_E\_Arnold, Judith  
\_P\_Bagley, Tom  
P\_Bellis, Eddie  
\_E\_Berry, Claire  
\_E\_Berger, Will  
\_P\_Boaz, Stephanie Hanson  
\_P\_Bradley, Michael  
\_E\_Bray, Linda  
\_E\_Bryan, Mark S.  
\_E\_Burgener, John "Bo"  
\_E\_Caldwell, Elizabeth  
\_E\_Canon, Amelia  
\_E\_Carrell, Len  
\_E\_Casner, Paul  
\_E\_Catoe, Lee  
\_E\_Cejka, III, Joseph  
\_E\_Cheetham, John T.  
\_E\_Chucquimia, Teddy  
\_E\_Coates, Coleman Lewis  
\_E\_Cox, M. Elian  
\_E\_Crawford, John  
\_E\_Crumpler, David  
\_E\_Danner, Charles  
\_P\_Davis, Michael  
\_E\_DeVries, Adam  
\_E\_DeVries, Mark  
\_E\_Drake, Donovan  
\_P\_Durnell, Warner R.  
\_E\_Early, Kim Maphis  
\_E\_Early, Robert  
\_P\_Edington, Sherard  
\_E\_Eisenmenger, David  
\_E\_Fraser, Carrie  
\_E\_Gasser, Anna D.  
\_E\_Gay, Andy  
\_E\_Gerber, David  
\_P\_Gilliam, Elizabeth  
\_E\_Gilliss, Martha Schull  
\_P\_Glover, Gregory  
\_E\_Glover, Leslie  
\_E\_Gordon, Stuart  
\_P\_Graham, M. Evelyn  
\_E\_Griffith, Guy D.  
\_E\_Gung, Justin  
\_E\_Gunter, Keith  
\_E\_Hamman, Jaco  
\_E\_Handlson, Pat  
\_E\_Harding, Bobby  
\_E\_Harrell, James E.  
\_E\_Hassall, Harry S.  
P\_Hermann, Lisa C.  
\_P\_Herring, Jane  
E\_Higgins, Ashley  
\_E\_Hill, Austin  
\_E\_Hill, Ellen  
\_P\_Hill, Sara  
\_E\_Hilley, John R.  
\_P\_Hinkle, Jr., John  
\_E\_Hodgson, Peter  
\_E\_Hoehst, Jeanne'  
\_E\_Hudnut-Beumler, Heidi  
\_E\_Hudnut-Beumler, James  
\_E\_Hughes, Sally  
\_P\_Huie, Scott  
\_E\_Hunter, Jeannie  
\_E\_Johnson, Charles N.  
\_E\_Jones, Todd B.  
\_P\_Kane, Jeff  
\_E\_Kang, Se Bong  
\_E\_Kang, Shin  
\_E\_Kaufman, John E.  
\_P\_Kelly, Gary  
\_E\_Kidd, David  
E\_Kim, Eunjoo  
P\_Kim, Il Sun (PK)  
\_E\_Klein, Candice  
\_E\_Kneff, Sarah Bird  
\_E\_Knight, Carole

### May 3, 2025 Stated Meeting Roll

P\_Kramer, Claire Harris  
\_E\_Lancaster, Jimmie  
\_E\_Larson, John  
\_E\_Leftwich, Phil  
\_E\_Lewis, John  
\_E\_Lipsey, McCurdy  
\_E\_Logan, Gail  
P\_Mayes, Jim  
\_E\_McCaw, Beth  
\_E\_McClure, Annie  
\_E\_McCormack, Robert E.  
\_E\_McCullough, John  
\_E\_McKinsey, Sally Ann  
\_P\_McLaughlin, Michael D.  
\_E\_McVey, Bruce  
\_E\_Moffatt, III, Charles L.  
\_E\_Montgomery, Robert  
\_P\_Moore, Ryan  
\_E\_Moran, James A.  
\_E\_Muse, Perry  
\_E\_Musgrave, John  
\_E\_Musick, Steve  
\_E\_Nally, Sara  
\_E\_Neil, Richard  
\_E\_Newsom, Ernest B.  
\_E\_Nichols, James A.  
\_E\_Nyhuis, Jule  
\_E\_Orfield, Rachel Thompson  
\_E\_Paddon, Richard  
\_E\_Page, Fred  
\_E\_Park, Inhye  
\_E\_Paterik, Roy  
\_E\_Patton, Tom  
\_E\_Pentecost, Mike  
\_E\_Picard, John Paul  
\_E\_Ramirez, Lilia M.  
\_E\_Randleman, Sandra  
\_P\_Rector, Stacy  
\_E\_Richardson, W. W.  
\_E\_Ritchie, Jeff  
\_E\_Ritchie, Megan  
\_E\_Rodriguez, Josh  
\_E\_Rogers-Vaughn, Annette  
\_E\_Rouquie, Richard  
\_E\_Salyer, Carson  
\_E\_Salyer, Janet  
\_E\_Sasser, Zach  
\_E\_Sawyer, David  
\_E\_Schultz, Harris  
\_E\_Schwartz, Cindy  
\_E\_Shaw, Mary Sellers  
\_E\_Skelly, John J., III  
\_E\_Smith, Jimmy D.  
\_P\_Smith, John A.  
\_E\_Smith, Shane  
\_E\_Smith, Shawn Thomas  
\_E\_Soderquist, Ann  
\_E\_Stauffer, Aaron  
\_P\_Stoker, Amy B.  
P\_Taber, Chuck  
\_E\_Tate, Carol  
\_E\_Tennyson, Walt  
\_E\_Thomas, C. S. (Steve) III  
\_E\_Thomas, Ray  
\_P\_Thompson, C.J.  
\_E\_Thompson, Marjorie  
\_P\_Todd, John  
\_P\_Traylor, Leslie  
\_E\_Tuck, Janet  
\_E\_Tyndall, Thomas B.  
\_E\_Vasquez-Paredes, Gustavo  
\_E\_Venable, III, Sid  
\_E\_Wallace, Morgan  
\_E>Weingartner, Robert J.  
\_E\_Wellman, Will  
\_E\_White, Jack  
\_E\_White, Linda  
\_E\_Wilson, Amos L.  
\_E\_Yang, Sunggu  
\_E\_Yates, Stephen  
\_E\_Zeigler, Richard

P - Present  
E - Excused

A - Absent  
I - Inactive

**Ruling Elder Commissioners**

<u>Church</u>	<u>Represented By</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Represented By</u>
Alexandria, Liberty Hill		New Creation	4.
Allardt, First		Hermitage	1. Donnie Williams
Alpine, Christ		Lawrenceburg, First	1. Carole Ivey
Ardmore, Bethany		Lebanon, First	1. Mickey Stueck
Belfast			2. Frank Reeves
Bethpage, Oak Grove		Spring Creek	3.
Brentwood, Brentwood First		Lewisburg, Bethberei	
East	1. Tyler Spaid	First	1.
	2.		2.
	3.		3.
Harpeth	1.	Lynnville, First	
	2.	Manchester, First	
Buffalo Valley		McMinnville, First	
Clarksville, First	1. Mary Johnson	Milton, Hopewell	
	2. Doug Young	Mt. Pleasant, First	
	3. Phil Kemmerly	Murfreesboro, First	1. Patsy Coleman
	4.		2. Brian Iske
Macedonia			3.
Columbia, First	1. Tonjia Potts		4.
	2. Terri Thompson	Northminster	1. Larry McElroy
	3. Amy Overton	Nashville, Bellevue	1.
	Merrilee Meschefskee		2.
Westminster			3.
Cookeville, Double Springs		Donelson	1.
First	1. Cade Arnold		2.
	2.		3.
	3.	Downtown	1. Debra Gentry
Post Oak		Eastminster	1.
Cowan, Fellowship			2.
Crossville, Calvary	1.	Emmanuel	1. Barbara Halverstadt
	2.	First	1. Emmett Russell
Dickson, First	1. Spencer Truett		2. Charlie Bryan
	2.		3. Bill Akin
	3.		4. Lyn Kednate
Pond			5.
Fairfield Glade, Westminster		Glen Leven	1. Lorilea Victory
Fayetteville, First	1. Bonnie Hereford		2. Matthew Victory
	2. Claire Wells		3. Marjorie McCulloch
	3. Dan Tice	Glenclyff	1. Betty Currey
Franklin, First	1. Dan Crunk	Hillsboro	1.
	2. Verna Rydlund		2.
	3. Jim Mehvrin		3.
	4. Jim Petersen		4.
Historic	1. Debra Van Deveer	Hillwood	1. Bob Cooper
	2. Staci Johnson		
	3.	Korean	1.
Gallatin, First	1. Susan Baker		2.
			3.
Sudanese	1. Tuh Lam		4.
	2.	Priest Lake	
Hendersonville, First	1. Sarah Ice	Second	1. St. Clair Blue
	2.		2. Baint Dixon
	3.		3.
New Creation	1.		4.
	2.	Southminster	
	3.		

<u>Church</u>	<u>Represented By</u>	Milldale
St. Andrews	1.	
	2.	
Trinity	1. Vera Baker	
Westminster	1.	
	2.	
	3.	
	4.	
	5.	
Woodland	1. Brett Withers	
Normandy	1. Claudia Hazelwood	
Old Hickory		
Petersburg, First		
Pulaski, Brick Church		
First	1. Brent Stoker	
	2.	
	3.	
Readyville, Cripple Creek		
Shelbyville, First	1. Richard Smith	
	2. Marg Brown	
	3. Aaron Crafton	
Smyrna, First	1.	
Sparta, Blue Spring		
Hickory Valley		
Robinson Chapel		
Spring Hill, First	1.	
	2.	
	3.	
Springfield, First	1.	
Milldale		
Thompson Station, Bethesda		
Tulahoma, First	1. Murray Brown	
	2. Charlotte Broyles	
	3. Karla Haws	
Watertown, First		
Waverly, Ellis Grove		

### **Commissioned Ruling Elders**

Ed Keith, Ardmore; Rick Robinson, Milldale; Kevin Whitfield, Westminster, Columbia; Rhonda Banasiak, First, Clarksville; David Paduil, Nuer Sudanese; David Sadler, Priest Lake

### **Ruling Elders, Voice and Vote:**

Administrative Committee: Kathy Corlew, Betsy Bond, Chris Williams; Mary Catherine Sevier, Stated Clerk; Finance Committee: Hal Sauer, Melinda Sanders; Presbyterian Women Diane Thurston

### **Corresponding Members, Voice, without Vote:**

Terry Newland, Shepard and Lapsley  
Keenan Rodgers, Board of Pensions

### **Visitors:**

Therese Bell, First, Gallatin, Sharon Robinson, Milldale, Nancy McElroy, Northminster, Lee Ann Dawkins, First Fayetteville, Lynn Bagley, Cara Myers. Karen Tice, First Fayetteville, Laura Marzano, Franklin, Sharon Robinson,

See Separate Attachment B

2023 Audit

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