

Memorandum

To: Commissioners, Members, and Attendees

From: Erin Bell, Temporary Stated Clerk, Middle Tennessee Presbytery (contact: sc@pbymidtn.org)

Re: Call to 165th Stated Meeting of the Middle Tennessee Presbytery to be held on August 6th, 2026

Date: July 30th, 2026

Please find attached the agenda, reports, and other relevant documents pertaining to the 165th Stated Meeting of the Middle Tennessee Presbytery. In keeping with the standing rules of the presbytery, this packet is distributed at least seven days before the meeting.

The meeting will be hosted by Bellevue Presbyterian Church of Nashville (100 Cross Timbers Dr, Nashville, 37221) on Thursday, August 6th, 2026. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. Following a break for lunch, the meeting is scheduled to conclude by 2:45 p.m.

Register online via the presbytery website at: <https://pbymidtn.org/meeting-registration/>

The word will be proclaimed by Rev. Eddie Bellis, Interim Pastor at First, Franklin.

In the packet titled “165th Stated Meeting Main Agenda and Materials” you will find the following:

- Map and Parking instructions for Bellevue Presbyterian Church
- Agenda
- Reports from various commissions, committees, task forces, and the Stated Clerk.
- Evaluation form to be submitted after the meeting

A second packet, entitled “165th Stated Meeting Consent Agenda and Materials”, contains the consent agenda and the minutes of the 164th Stated Meeting. These are sent separately for your convenience in accessing them before and during the meeting.

Thank you for your time in reviewing these documents and attending the meeting. We look forward to being together in person as we move forward with the ministry of the congregations and the business of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee.

Ways to Contribute to the Offering for the Nueva Vida Food Project

▲ Mail a Check to the Presbytery Office

The Presbytery of Middle Tennessee
1113 Murfreesboro Rd
Suite 106, #216
Franklin, TN 37064

▲ Visit the Presbytery Website

www.pbymidtn.org

Click the “Give Now” button

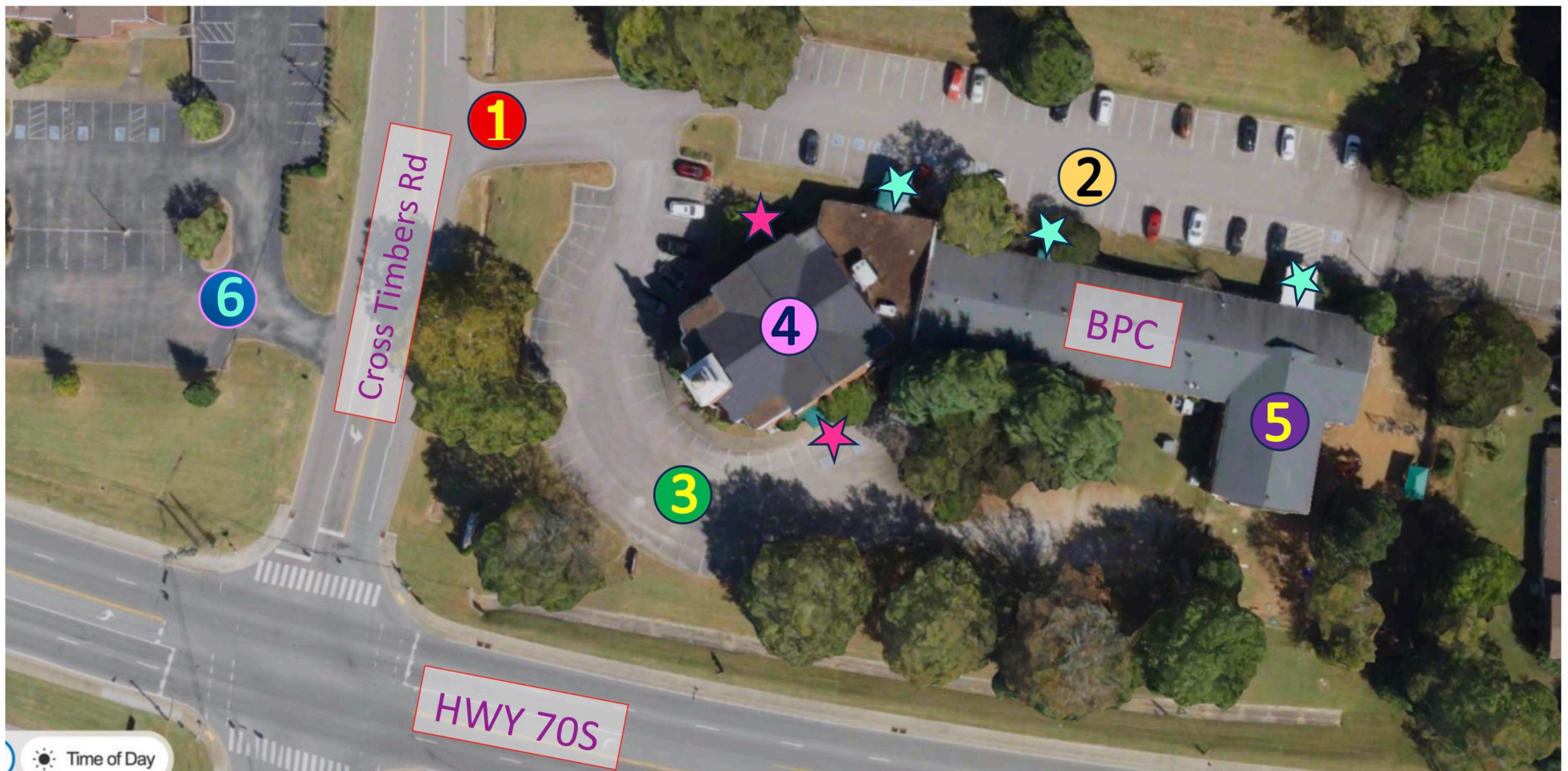
▲ Scan the QR Code with your phone’s camera

This link will take you to the donation page.



Remember to designate your giving.

Please specify that your donation is for the Nueva Vida Food Project.



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|---|--|
| <p>1 Entrance to Bellevue Presbyterian Church & Parking Lot</p> <p>2 Upper Parking Lot (Handicapped & Mobility Issues Parking: no stairs or hill)</p> <p>3 Lower Parking Lot (1-2 flights of stairs, or uphill in the parking lot)</p> <p>6 Overflow Parking (Bellevue Baptist Church across Cross Timbers Drive)</p> | <p>4 Sanctuary (Upper Level)</p> <p>5 Fellowship Hall (Upper Level)</p> <p> Upper Level Entrances (Event level)</p> <p> Side & Lower Entrances (w/Stairs or hill to Event Level)</p> |
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SPECIAL NOTES: Address: 100 CROSS TIMBERS RD, NASHVILLE, TN 37221

1. I-40 Exit 196.
2. Go South (toward Nashville and all the businesses).
3. Turn Left at Cross Timbers Rd (the corner has 3 churches and Red Caboose Park).
4. BPC is on your Right with Overflow Parking on the Left at Bellevue Baptist Church.

Bellevue Presbyterian Church is looking forward to hosting you at the Presbytery Meeting on Thursday, August 6, 2026.

If you have challenges on the morning of the 6th, please call Noralynn Knight at: 615-944-2009.

Presbytery of Middle Tennessee

165th Stated Meeting Main Agenda and Materials

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 SIXTY-FOURTH STATED MEETING
THE PRESBYTERY OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE
AGENDA OF AUGUST 6TH, 2026
BELLEVUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NASHVILLE**

- 9:00 Registration (Order of the Day in CAPS)
- 9:15 Orientation for First Time Commissioners (Erin Bell, Temporary Stated Clerk)
- 9:30 CONVENE
- Establishment of Quorum
 - Adoption of Agenda and Consent Agenda
 - Seating of Corresponding Members
 - Recognition of First Time Presbyters
- 9:40 WORSHIP
- Sermon: Rev. Eddie Bellis
 - Offering: Nueva Vida Food Project
- 10:25 BREAK (5 minutes)
- 10:30 REPORTS (numbers indicate order in packet)
- All speakers are advised to review the policies for oral reports and speaking during Stated and Called meetings of the Presbytery.*
- (1) Presbyterian Home for Children (Ms. Suzanne Cornett - 5 minutes)
 - (2) Board of Pensions (Mr. Keenan Rodgers – 5 minutes)
 - (3) Committee on Mutual Support (Rev. Claire Harris Kramer - 10 minutes)
 - (4) PAC (RE George Crawford - 10 minutes)
 - (5) Guest Speaker (Mr. Elliott Robinson, Program Specialist for the Civil Rights Room, Nashville Public Library– 20 minutes)
 - (6) Visioning Plan for the Presbytery (TBD - 45 minutes)
- 12:05 LUNCH – Your GA Commissioners, Mr. Keenan Rodgers, and Ms. Suzanne Cornett will be available for extended conversations during the lunch break. Rev. Jeannie Hunter will also be available to discuss the Society of St. Andrew.
- 1:00 RECONVENE
- (7) Joys, Concerns, & Announcements (Rev. Sherard Edington – 10 minutes)
 - (8) General Assembly Report (GA Commissioners – 20 minutes)

- (9) Ad Hoc Committee on General Assembly Nominating Criteria
(Rev. Mary Sellers Shaw – 10 minutes)
- (10) Administrative Committee (RE Suzanne McLemore - 15 minutes)
- (11) Finance Committee (Rev. Bruce McVey - 5 minutes)
- (12) Commission on Ministry (RE Mickey Stueck – 10 minutes)
- (13) Executive Presbyter's Report (Rev. Sherard Edington – 5 minutes)
- (14) Stated Clerk's Report (RE Erin Bell- 5 minutes)

2:25 CLOSING PRAYER & ADJOURNMENT

- 166th Stated Meeting: Saturday, November 7th, 2026
First Presbyterian Church, Franklin
- Closing Prayer – RE Chris Williams
- Adjournment

Contribute to Today's Offering: Nueva Vida Food Project

▲ Mail a Check to the Presbytery Office

Please note "Presbytery Meeting Offering" on the memo line.

The Presbytery of Middle Tennessee
1113 Murfreesboro Rd
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Franklin, TN 37064

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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.

Policies Approved by Middle Tennessee Presbytery May 3, 2025

Presbytery of Middle Tennessee
Committee on Mutual Support
August 2026

Information

The Committee on Mutual Support and the Committee on Social Justice have continued meeting together as a combined team. We continue to be excited to move forward with Mutual Support's proposal for the new "Missions and Ministries Grant" in the very near future.

In addition to reviewing Hunger Grants, the Committee on Mutual Support and Committee on Social Justice have been working to gather updates from Nueva Vida Food Bank, NaCoMe, and the three campus ministries (UKirk MTSU, UKirk Nashville, and UKirk Tennessee Tech). We are reviewing the budgetary needs from the ministries supported by Mutual Support so that we can submit our request to Finance for 2027.

Admit to Record

Technology Grant Awarded:

The Committee on Mutual Support and the Committee on Social Justice received an application for technology funding from Historic Franklin Presbyterian Church in the amount of \$535 for a new iPad for livestreaming. A motion to fund the project was moved and unanimously approved at the May 19 joint committee meeting.

Hunger Grants Received:

The Committee on Mutual Support and Social Justice Committee received the following Hunger Grant applications prior to our June 30 deadline: Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, New Creation Presbyterian Church, Nueva Vida Food Bank, and Second Harvest Food Bank. We are reviewing these applications and will respond to the applicants by August 31.

No Recommendations

**Report from the Permanent Administrative Commission
for the
Presbytery of Middle Tennessee
August 6, 2026**

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The Presbytery asked the PAC to draft policies, for Presbytery's approval, to receive congregations into our presbytery, and therefore, into our denomination. We first made the policies that we were proposing available at the February 2026 Presbytery meeting, and we asked for input as we moved forward. We were prepared to bring the policies at the May 2026 Presbytery meeting but learned at the last moment that there were concerns that we needed to address. Members of the PAC met with the Rev. Will Barger and the Rev. John Smith. Out of those discussions, it was agreed that the paragraph that is in red at the end of the policies would be included and would address their concerns. This is the only change from the policies that you reviewed in February and in May. The policies and procedures are below.

MOTION: The PAC moves that the attached policy to receive churches into our Presbytery, and therefore, into the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) be approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Allen Kennedy, RE, First Presbyterian Church, Nashville
Debbie Frasier, RE, First Presbyterian Church, Fayetteville
George Crawford, RE, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nashville
Greg Glover, TE, First Presbyterian Church, Clarksville
John Hinkle, TE, First Presbyterian Church, Murfreesboro
Melinda Sanders, RE, Woodland Presbyterian Church, Nashville

**PRESBYTERY OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE
POLICY GOVERNING RECEPTION OF CONGREGATIONS FROM OTHER DENOMINATIONS**

The Presbytery of Middle Tennessee adopts the following policies, procedures, and standards in the event that a congregation requests to enter into relationship with and come under the authority of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in the district that The Presbytery of Middle Tennessee covers. These policies, procedures, and standards attempt to reflect the same attitude of reconciliation and forbearance that the Gracious Separation Policy strives to maintain and encourage for our own congregations. It is not our objective to ever encourage division or dissatisfaction between a congregation and its denomination.

I. Principles and Overview

a. Presbytery's Authority

The Presbytery of Middle Tennessee has adopted this reception policy to guide the exercise of its constitutional responsibilities under G-1.02, G-3.0101, G-3.0303, and G-5.0101 on the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) commonly called the Book of Order:

G-1.02 The Organizing of a Congregation

A congregation in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) can be organized only by the authority of a presbytery and shall function under the provisions of this Constitution.

G-3.0101 Councils as an Expression of Unity of the Church

Powers not mentioned in this Constitution are reserved to the presbyteries.

G-3.0303 Relations with Sessions

Presbytery has a particular responsibility to coordinate, guide, encourage, support, and resource the work of its congregations

for the most effective witness to the broader community. In order to accomplish this responsibility, the presbytery has authority to:

- a. **develop strategy for the mission of the church in its district;**
- b. **control the location of new congregations and of congregations desiring to move** as well as to divide, dismiss, or dissolve congregations in consultation with their members;
- c. establish minimum compensation standards;
- d. counsel with a session concerning reported difficulties within a congregation, including:
 - (1.) advising the session as to appropriate actions to be taken to resolve the reported difficulties,
 - (2.) offering to help as a mediator, and
 - (3.) acting to correct the difficulties if requested to do so by the session or if the session is unable or unwilling to do so, following the procedural safeguards of the Church Discipline;
- e. assume original jurisdiction in any situation in which it determines that a session cannot exercise its authority.
- f. consider and act upon requests from congregations for permission to take the actions regarding real property as described in G-4.0206.

G-5.0101 Ecumenicity

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) at all levels seeks to manifest more visibly the unity of the body of Christ and will be open to opportunities for conversation, cooperation, and action with other ecclesiastical groups. It will seek to initiate, maintain, and strengthen relations with other Reformed and Christian entities.

b. Presbytery's Initial Responsibilities:

- i. **Strategy.** Identify the strategy for the mission of the church within the boundaries of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee and evaluate any request by a session, or the governing body of the congregation, to be recognized by the Presbytery as a member congregation in light of that strategy, especially whether the location, membership, and property of the transferring congregation are desirable for the fulfilment of the Presbytery's strategy for mission.
- ii. **Ecumenism.** Determine in conversation with the responsible officers of the transferring denomination what are the reasons for disaffiliation and, if

every opportunity for reconciliation has been exhausted, whether the transferring council concurs with the request of the transferring session.

II. Eligible Denominations:

The Presbytery shall consider requests by churches for transfer to the PC(USA) from any Reformed denomination, specifically any member of the World Communion of Reformed Churches, to which we may consider transfer a congregation. The Presbytery may consider transfer of a church from a denomination covered by the Formula of Agreement for full communion. The Presbytery shall not consider transfer of a congregation from independency.

III. New Church Development:

Special consideration shall be given to any congregation currently located in proximity to an area identified by the Presbytery as desirable for New Church Development.

IV. Responsibilities Delineated:

- a. The Stated Clerk shall be the official correspondent with the sending denomination. The moderator of the Administrative Committee, the Commission on Ministry and the Permanent Administrative Commission for Congregational Change of the shall be notified of the request by a congregation to be received by the Presbytery.
- b. The Administrative Committee shall determine the alignment of the entering congregation with the Presbytery's mission and goals for our region and recommend action regarding the request to the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee.
- c. The Finance Committee shall review the financial statements, obligations, etc. of the entering congregation and determine the fiscal health of the congregation.
- d. The Commission on Ministry shall examine the qualification of all transferring elders and ministers.
- e. The Permanent Administrative Commission for Congregational Change shall help manage terms of dismissal, transfer of title, name, by-laws, policies, incorporation status, refinancing of debt, determine the disposition of the congregation's physical assets, etc.

V. Initiating the Process for Receiving a Congregation:

- a. A session, or the governing body of a congregation, may initiate the process by sending a letter to the stated clerk requesting to be received as a congregation into the Presbytery. The stated clerk shall contact the equivalent officer of the transferring council to determine whether the council is in concurrence with the request and the reasons for the request.
- b. An officer of the transferring council may contact the stated clerk requesting that a congregation be received by the Presbytery.

VI. Dissolution:

If the Stated Clerk determines that a congregation has been dissolved by the "sending" denomination, the request shall be received by Presbytery as the request to form a new congregation.

- VII. Disciplinary Process:
The Presbytery shall not receive the transfer of any church or minister against whom there is an ongoing disciplinary case in another denomination. The Presbytery shall not receive ministers or elders of another denomination who have renounced jurisdiction of that denomination.
- VIII. The Administrative Committee:
a. The Administrative Committee shall make an initial determination as to the advisability and desirability of receiving the congregation based on potential impact to existing congregations and the Presbytery's strategy for mission. With the help of the Permanent Administrative Commission for Congregational Change and the Finance Committee, this shall include an evaluation of the costs and benefits of aiding members of the transferring church to join existing congregations of the Presbytery. If the congregation would cause substantial costs to the Presbytery, such as needing to pay off mortgages, buying property, and underwriting other obligations, that will be adequate reasons to not recommend moving forward in the process. If the initial determination is positive for transfer and recognition of the congregation as a congregation, the Administrative Committee shall request additional determinations by the Commission on Ministry and the Permanent Administrative Commission for Congregational Change. The Administrative Committee shall make a final recommendation to Presbytery as to the request by the congregation for transfer to the Presbytery. (This final recommendation shall include the recommendations of the Commission on Ministry and the Permanent Administrative Commission for Congregational Change.
- IX. Permanent Administrative Commission for Congregational Change (PACCC):
a. Examine any negotiated terms of dismissal between the congregation and the dismissing council regarding their potential financial (or other) impact on the Presbytery.
b. Review and recommend to the Presbytery actions related to the transferring church's name, records, property, liabilities, and debts.
c. Determine the value of transferring church property, other assets and resources and communicate those to the Administrative Committee and Finance Committee.
d. Review and make recommendations to the Presbytery regarding the transferring congregation's articles of incorporation, bylaws, and policies.
- X. The Commission on Ministry:
a. The Commission on Ministry shall determine whether there is an existing congregation of our Presbytery within a ten mile radius of the congregation that is requesting transfer and, in conversation with the pastor(s) and session(s) of the affected church(es), shall make a determination as to the significance and likely impact on the life and ministry of the church(es) in the neighborhood.
b. The Commission on Ministry, through its Mediation Team, shall lead at least one Town Hall Meeting with the congregation that is requesting transfer. There must be at least one town hall meeting to which the entire church family is invited. The purpose is to provide an opportunity for members of the congregation to engage in

dialogue with each other and with representatives of presbytery concerning the desire of members of the congregation to be received by the Presbytery. All recent members of the congregation should be invited to attend and, if feasible, the meeting(s) should precede any congregational vote for transfer by at least 30 days. No formal action may be taken at the informational town hall meeting(s).

- c. The Commission on Ministry shall determine whether the transferring body is doctrinally consistent with the essentials of Reformed theology, as those are understood by this presbytery, and whether the transferring congregation has been governed by a polity that is consistent in form and structure with that of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
- d. The Commission on Ministry shall determine if the transferring body understands and agrees to the financial obligations of membership in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the Presbytery including per capita, support of the mission and ministry of the Presbytery, minimum salary requirements, and obligations for the Board of Pension.
- e. The Commission on Ministry shall examine the pastor who is requesting transfer for membership in Presbytery, inquire as to the minister's collegiality in the transferring council, review the appropriateness of the terms of call, and examine and recommend either continuation or dissolution of the existing pastoral relationship.
- f. The Commission on Ministry shall determine if the incoming pastor and elders should undergo an educational process to understand the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Constitution to ensure that the vows that are taken are done with understanding and comprehension.

XI. Presbytery Action (upon final recommendation from the Administrative Committee):

- a. Approve the reception of the new congregation when the way be clear.
- b. Provide for a vote by the congregation and transfer of individual memberships by signature: "We, the undersigned, in response to the grace of God, desire to be **received** as a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), to be known as _____. We promise and covenant to live together in unity and to work together in ministry as disciples of Jesus Christ, bound to him and to one another as a part of the body of Christ in this place according to the principles of faith, mission, and order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)."
- c. Provide for the examination by the Presbytery of members of the congregations governing body who will be transferred in as elders who are active on Session.
- d. Examine and receive the pastor(s) of the congregation and approve terms of call.
- e. Provide for a worship service of the Presbytery in the location where the congregation will regularly worship to celebrate the recognition of the new congregation.

XII. Exceptions:

Exceptions to this policy may be proposed by any party responsible for carrying out its provisions as listed under Section IV Responsibilities Delineated. Exceptions shall require a 2/3 affirmative vote of the Presbytery.

July 29, 2026

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PRESBYTERY OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE

VISION FOR 2026 AND BEYOND



OUR VISION:

*CULTIVATING CONGREGATIONS TO BE
CHRIST'S AGENTS OF TRANSFORMATION
THROUGH RELATIONSHIPS, MINISTRIES, AND
MISSIONS THAT PRODUCE THE FRUITS OF
THE SPIRIT*

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INTRODUCTION TO THE PRESBYTERY OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE

VISION FOR 2026 AND BEYOND

(version: July 29, 2026)

In late October 2024, the Vision and Leadership Team convened for the first time to name our hopes for this spiritual work—and the anxieties and fears that naturally accompany change. As we met over the ensuing year, we came to know one another more deeply and felt a mounting excitement for the work beginning to take shape.

To start our journey, we hosted a three-part series of listening sessions at Presbytery meetings, inviting stories about our Past, Present, and Future.

- ✓ From the **Past**, we heard of a Presbytery rooted in connection and mission, and grounded in faith and service.
- ✓ For the **Present**, many urged a more communicative, relational, and imaginatively resourced structure, less siloed and more adaptive—able to accompany congregations, especially smaller ones, toward sustainable growth, rebirth, or dignified closure.
- ✓ For the **Future**, participants asked for a vision-driven, collaborative Presbytery with transparent communication and nimble, shared leadership—adaptive rather than hierarchical, fit for a changing landscape.
- ✓ A summary of our take-a-ways: Trust, Transparency, and Inclusion through better Communication, sharing of Resources and improved Presbytery Staffing.

The next step was to conduct interviews and zoom gatherings with the Presbytery's existing staff, the youth of our churches and the committees (most notably the Personnel Task Force) that expressed an interest in providing input. Taken together, these voices helped us discern the shape of the work ahead and clarified where energy already exists within the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee.

Building on all of these insights, the team gathered for a day-long writing retreat to craft a shared Vision Statement: "Cultivating congregations to be Christ's agents of transformation through relationships, ministries, and missions that produce the fruits of the Spirit", along with the Objectives and Supporting Statements that would guide our collective discernment.

With that compass in hand, we entered a focused stretch of self-led meetings to explore potential structures and practices that could better align the Presbytery with the vision we had named. After dozens of hours—many of them in late-night conversations

marked by rigorous debate, prayerful reflection, and mutual trust—the team reached consensus on a proposed framework and structure that can assist us in modifying our practices to live into The Great Commission “to make disciples” and The Great Commandment “to love one another”.

In order to embrace a more Christ-centered, vision-centered presbytery, it became clear that the bus we are all on is broken and in need of foundational repair. Committees are acting faithfully, but in isolation from one another. Many of the churches within the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee feel disconnected from the Presbytery and from each other, with little to no discernable common goals or support. And last, but certainly not least, the Presbytery is perceived as adding little to no value-added to the equation in helping its churches adapt, flourish, and share the Good News.

What follows is the result of our analysis and discernment on how to fix the bus and create a framework that we believe is faithful to the stories we heard, responsive to present realities, and oriented toward a hopeful future. We commend it to the Presbytery for consideration and discernment.

Objectives and Supporting Statements

Objective 1: Cultivate a Culture of Trust, Transparency, and Inclusion

Supporting Statements:

- Build structures and practices that model authentic communication, mutual respect, and inclusive decision-making across the Presbytery through the creation of four (4) Shepherd positions. These positions will provide assistance in facilitating the goals of transparency, communication, and connectivity throughout the entire presbytery.
 - Form a Coordinating Committee to provide cohesive ongoing visioning, strategic alignment, and operational coordination.
 - Make use of existing regional church neighborhoods to establish consistent, facilitated gatherings that nurture peer support, relational depth, and contextual collaboration, through the creation of one Shepherd position per neighborhood.
-

Objective 2: Encourage Adaptive Leadership and Inspire Innovation

Supporting Statements:

- Demonstrate flexibility and responsiveness at the presbytery level to inspire similar behavior in congregational leadership, through the creation of up to four (4) Dean positions, at any given time, in coordination with the Executive Presbyter, that will provide subject matter expertise to local congregations on a wide variety of subjects on an as-needed basis.
 - Launch innovation grants utilizing legacy funds from closed churches to seed creative, mission-driven initiatives.
 - Offer tailored learning opportunities (in-person and digital) for diverse congregational contexts—rural, urban, small, large—empowering leaders with relevant skills and imagination for ministry today.
 - Create and share on-demand video resources (e.g., short talks, interviews, storytelling) that equip and inspire leaders in real time.
-

Objective 3: Strengthen Congregations for Transformational Impact

Supporting Statements:

- Use Presbytery gatherings, platforms and the Shepherd positions to foster connection, highlight meaningful ministries, and elevate the witness of local congregations.
- Resource churches with best practices for ministry development—such as elder and deacon formation, session retreats, short-term mission, and Christian education.
- Connect congregations in shared ministries that address ongoing needs (e.g., food insecurity, mental health, justice work, LGBTQIA+ inclusion, elder care, youth ministry).
- Support revitalization and spiritual renewal efforts through coaching, training, and peer-learning cohorts.

Summary of Structural and Other Changes

After listening to the body (church members), the brain and heart (staff), and the hands and feet (youth and volunteers), the Vision and Leadership Team gathered, listened some more (to each other), listened to God (in prayer – individually and collectively) and what follows is what we heard:

- Everyone wants more communication and transparency.
- Everyone wants shared resources – best practices, guidance, partnerships, and financial support.
- Everyone wants more accountability – from the Presbytery to the churches.
- Everyone recognizes the need for support/inclusion/community within the body.
- Every church needs help.
- We are called:
 - ✓ to tell others about Christ
 - ✓ to love, to help, to support, to share
 - ✓ to communicate better with our communities and with each other
 - ✓ to live out our calling in ministries and missions that produce the Fruits of the Spirit

At the Presbytery level, there needs to be structural changes to facilitate the development of practices that can address all that we heard and to break down the siloes that have been created by the lack of a coordinating body to empower shared leadership. There also needs to be new and improved channels of communication to enable transparency and accountability. The changes we believe that will create the best environment in which to develop those practices are as follows:

- Modify the staffing of the Presbytery
 - ✓ Expand the Communications roll to Operations and Communications Coordinator (from part-time to full-time) with expanded duties
 - ✓ Modify the job descriptions for the Executive Presbyter and Stated Clerk
 - ✓ Add new positions – Deans and Shepherds (more on them later)
- Modify the number of Committees/Commissions within the Presbytery
 - ✓ Leadership Excellence and Committee on Mutual Support were identified as overlapping with the work/responsibilities of other committees and are recommended to be merged with the other committees with whom they were overlapping
 - Leadership excellence should be merged with the Commission on Ministry (the Coordinating Committee may need to recommend expansion of the membership of the Commission on Ministry in order to provide the resources needed to take on the extra duties; or simply

- merge the existing membership of both the Commission and the Committee)
- Committee on Mutual Support should be merged with the Committee on Social Justice (and likewise, the Coordinating Committee may need to recommend expansion of the membership of the Committee on Mutual Support in order to provide the resources needed to take on the extra duties; or simply merge the existing membership of both committees)
 - ✓ The Nominating Task Force will have ongoing additional responsibilities and the importance of their work was deemed to warrant a proposed move from a task force to a full committee
 - Create a Coordinating Committee to replace the Administrative Committee with changes to the make-up of the committee in order to create better communication and coordination between the committees/commissions. The Personnel Task Force will report to the Nominating Committee.

The Presbytery of Middle Tennessee

Proposed Job Description: Executive Presbyter

Purpose

The Vision and Leadership Team is proposing that the Presbytery maintain the Executive Presbyter as the full-time pastoral leader and head of staff for the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee, with responsibility to help care for the minister members of and oversee the operations of the Presbytery, in collaboration with the Coordinating Committee. The changes to this position mainly embody a shift in focus for the Executive Presbyter from simply being a head of staff to the more nuanced service as the Presbytery's primary facilitator of ministry and mission, demonstrating a pastoral and compassionate presence, encouraging, supporting, and celebrating the full spectrum of Presbytery's work. The Executive Presbyter, in collaboration with the Coordinating Committee, will help guide and supervise the Presbytery Staff, including the newly proposed Deans and Shepherds, in developing strategies and processes that further the Presbytery's efforts in: (A) cultivating a culture of transparency, trust and inclusion; (B) modeling adaptive and agile leadership while providing resources to congregations to do the same; and (C) supporting congregations to be agents of transformation.

Essential duties/Responsibilities

The Executive Presbyter will supervise the work of Presbytery Staff and help to facilitate the work of the committees and commissions of the Presbytery in fulfilling its mission by:

- Meeting regularly with specialty Deans, Stated Clerk, Operations & Communications Coordinator, and regional Shepherds in maintaining relationships of love, trust, and mutual accountability.
- Facilitating connections between congregations, minister members of Presbytery, Presbytery Staff, and chairs of Presbytery committees and commissions; cultivating overall health and celebrating successes.
- Ensuring compliance with processes including, but not limited to, necessary/required staff trainings.
- Managing the business and operational processes of the Presbytery.
- Coordinating the exploration of new and adaptive approaches to mission and ministry; identifying changing needs and challenges.
- Coordinating logistics for Presbytery meetings with Stated Clerk and Operations and Communications Coordinator, including preparing agendas, assembling and distributing meeting materials, arranging meeting spaces (in-person and virtual), and tracking attendance.

Relationships & Accountability

The Executive Presbyter will be accountable to the Presbytery through the Coordinating Committee working in close relationship with the Personnel Task Force. The Executive Presbyter will be reviewed by the Personnel Task Force of the Coordinating Committee at the end of the first year of their term. In the first half of the third year, a comprehensive evaluation will be conducted by the Personnel Task Force.

The Executive Presbyter will:

- Serve as Presbytery staff for all committees, councils, and commissions.
- Serve as Presbytery resource staff for special task forces and any Administrative Commission as appointed by the Moderator or elected by the Presbytery.
- Represent the Presbytery with denominational entities: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program, Board of Pensions, Presbyterian Mission Agency, Presbyterian Foundation, General Assembly, and Synod of Living Waters.
- Oversee the performance of the Presbytery's staff or contracted workers in collaboration with the Coordinating Committee and Personnel Task Force.

Essential Skills, Gifts, and Experience

- Strong understanding and articulation of Reformed Theology and a basic knowledge of denominational structures and resources
- Be a member in good standing, as Ruling or Teaching Elder, in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
- Proven ability to listen, empathize, assess, and use adaptive approaches to opportunities and problem solving, coupled with a willingness to work in partnership through the Presbytery's structures and systems, and following the Mission and Operations Manual
- Willingness to create space for a range of theological understandings and respect for other faith traditions; develops valued cross-cultural relationships, with humility and genuine engagement in the interests of others
- Demonstrated ability to navigate, interpret, and resource in complex situations, times of conflict, times of congregational transition, and the Presbytery's transition

- Embody emotional balance, confidence, grace, flexibility, and receptivity when faced with challenges, bringing a calm presence and mature self-awareness in times of transition, stress, grief, and conflict
- Punctual, reliable, well-organized, effective communicator, and ability to triage priorities

The Presbytery of Middle Tennessee Proposed Job Description: Stated Clerk

Purpose

The Vision and Leadership Team is proposing that the Presbytery maintain the Stated Clerk position as a part-time position. Many of the administrative tasks previously done by the Stated Clerk will now be assumed by the newly expanded position of Operations and Communications Coordinator thereby freeing up the Stated Clerk to concentrate their attention to the responsibilities as required by the Book of Order and the Missions and Operations Manual of the PMT. The Stated Clerk position is required by the Book of Order (G3.0104) to ensure that constitutional requirements are met by the Presbytery. The Stated Clerk fulfills duties assigned by the Presbytery through its Mission and Operations Manual, serves as Presbytery's parliamentarian, and contributes to cultivating a culture of transparency, trust and inclusion within the Presbytery operations to fulfill our mission and ministry purposes.

The Stated Clerk fills an important role in representing the values, vision, and goals of the Presbytery. Creativity and adaptability are expected, beyond the required record-keeping and compliance with the Book of Order. When polity or customary practices are tested, the Stated Clerk's response shall be exploring possibilities and inviting further conversation.

Essential Duties/Responsibilities

- Ensure that constitutional and polity requirements are met:
 - Record actions of the Presbytery including the recording of Presbytery minutes and filing statistical and other reports as required by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
 - Keep rolls of Presbytery membership and attendance
 - Preserve Presbytery minutes and other records, furnishing verified extracts upon request
 - Provide orientation, training, advice, and requested resources in matters of judicial process
 - Assist the Coordinating Committee in review of the process and formula for parity of minister and elder members, every five years
 - Ensure compliance with required processes, such as background checks, and records retention schedules.
- Fulfill duties assigned by the Mission and Operations Manual and Policies:

- Coordinate and collaborate with the Moderator, committee chairs, Operations and Communications Coordinator, and Executive Presbyter in logistics of preparing for and conducting Presbytery meetings (including preparing agendas, assembling and distributing meeting materials, arranging meeting spaces (in-person and virtual) and tracking attendance), trainings and other meetings as appropriate
- Attend meetings of the Coordinating Committee, Commission on Ministry, Committee on Preparation for Ministry, Permanent Judicial Commission, and other committees when invited by the chair, or as directed by the Executive Presbyter or the Coordinating Committee
- Support the work of commissions, committees, and task forces, as needed
- Ensure orientation for first-time commissioners at Presbytery meetings
- Ensure annual training for first-time Clerks of Session and annual review of church minutes. Participate in training of General Assembly commissioners
- Serve as Secretary of the Corporation.
- Serve as Presbytery's parliamentarian.
- Other Assigned Duties:
 - Collaborate with the Operations and Communications Coordinator in:
 - ✓ planning annual Committee Orientation
 - ✓ assisting Pastor Nominating Committees with posting Ministry Information Forms on Church Leadership Connection
 - ✓ providing announcements and updates for Presbytery eNews
 - ✓ keeping Presbytery's electronic files updated
 - Serve in the Larger Church – Attend the annual Polity, Benefits, and Mission Conference, Synod of Living Waters, and the General Assembly
 - Forward approved policy and documents to Operations Coordinator for posting on website
 - Serve collaboratively and transparently with the Executive Presbyter, Coordinating Committee, Operations and Communications Coordinator, committee chairs, Deans and Shepherds.

Relationships & Accountability:

The Stated Clerk shall be accountable to the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee through the Coordinating Committee. Regarding constitutional responsibilities, areas of concern will be communicated to the Executive Presbyter and Coordinating Committee through the Personnel Task Force. The Stated Clerk will be reviewed by the Personnel Task Force of the Coordinating Committee at the end of the first year of their term. In the first half of the third year, a comprehensive evaluation will be conducted by the Personnel Task Force.

Essential Skills, Gifts, and Experiences

- Be a member in good standing, as a Ruling or Teaching Elder, in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
- Proven knowledge of the Book of Order, Presbyterian Polity, Robert's Rules of Order, and PCUSA structures and resources
- Collaborative team-player, invested in best outcomes for all staff colleagues, Presbytery leaders, ministers, and churches
- Detailed record keeper who finds joy in sharing appropriate Presbytery documents, learning to improve as a Stated Clerk, and equipping others for their roles and responsibilities
- Trustworthy, approachable, prompt in responses, and respectful in all interactions
- Oversees and safeguards Presbytery property and documents, making them readily available and accessible, as needed or requested

Term of Service:

The Stated Clerk shall be nominated by the Personnel Task Force through the Coordinating Committee and be elected by the Presbytery for a three-year term (to begin January 1). The term is renewable.

The Presbytery of Middle Tennessee
Proposed Job Description:
Operations and Communications Coordinator

Purpose

The Vision and Leadership Team is proposing that this position be expanded to a full-time position (previously has been part-time) with expanded responsibilities for the dual purposes of relieving the Stated Clerk from administrative tasks that are clerical in nature, yet essential and time consuming, and to facilitate better communication and coordination of resources throughout the presbytery.

The Operations and Communications Coordinator provides essential administrative, operational, and communications support to the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee. This position works closely with the Executive Presbyter, Stated Clerk, and other staff to ensure smooth daily operations, clear and consistent communication, and effective coordination of Presbytery gatherings, resources, and initiatives.

Essential Duties/Responsibilities

- **Administrative & Operations Support**
 - Serve as the primary administrative resource for the Presbytery, managing daily operations such as supplies, mail, equipment, and file systems.
 - Coordinate logistics for Presbytery meetings with Executive Presbyter and Stated Clerk, including preparing agendas, assembling and distributing meeting materials, arranging meeting spaces (in-person and virtual), and tracking attendance.
 - Maintain designated administrative files, agreements, and operational records as assigned by the Executive Presbyter and Stated Clerk.
- **Communications & Technology**
 - Develop, manage, and distribute all internal and external communications, including print and electronic media, such as newsletters, social media, website updates, and email announcements.
 - Arrange audiovisual and technology support for meetings, online gatherings, and hybrid events.
 - Coordinate design, formatting, and distribution of communications materials in alignment with Presbytery's mission and branding.
- **Liaison & Support**
 - Assist with information dissemination between staff, committees, and commissions as assigned by the Executive Presbyter and Stated Clerk.

- Support coordination of special events, training opportunities, and mission initiatives.

Relationships & Accountability

- Reports to the Executive Presbyter.
- Works closely with the Stated Clerk, Treasurer, committee and commission chairs, and other Presbytery staff.
- Maintains collaborative relationships with volunteers and ministry partners.

Essential Skills, Gifts and Experiences

- Familiarity with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) structure, polity, and mission; willingness to learn and adapt as needed.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills with the ability to tailor messages for various audiences.
- Excellent organizational skills, with the ability to manage multiple priorities and meet deadlines.
- Proficiency with office software, content management systems, social media platforms, website development, online meeting tools, and audiovisual and technology tools.
- Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively, maintain confidentiality, and approach work with flexibility and adaptability.
- Cultivator of environments of trust, transparency, and inclusion in all communications and interactions.
- Supporter of the mission and ministry of the Presbytery with prayerfulness, creativity, and adaptability.

The Presbytery of Middle Tennessee Proposed Job Description: Deans

Purpose

A **Dean** in the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee is a person hired to act as a resource and training specialist for a specific area of church life. As a ministry/subject matter specialist, the role of Dean is an evolving one based on the needs of the presbytery. Deans will provide resources in specific areas of ministry and congregational life. This will allow all churches to have access to resources and expertise that they might not otherwise have. This will increase equity between the churches, regardless of size or location.

Proposal

The Vision and Leadership Team recommends that the presbytery hire up to four (4) Deans — they can be ordained or lay persons. They will work part-time (approx. 20 hrs/week) with their job description created by the Executive Presbyter in collaboration with the Personnel Task Force.

Generally, there will be two (2) to four (4) Deans working within the presbytery at any one time, but this number will be determined by the Executive Presbyter in collaboration with the Coordinating Committee and Finance Committee.

Each Dean will report directly to the Executive Presbyter who will oversee and manage the Dean program in collaboration with the Coordinating Committee. The Executive Presbyter in collaboration with the Coordinating Committee will determine what areas need to be served by a Dean. Such areas might include Christian education, technology, stewardship and finance, youth, arts, worship, music, missions, community involvement, security, etc. It will be up to the Executive Presbyter and Coordinating Committee to determine how Deans are to be allocated.

Each Dean will serve one (1) year terms which can be renewed. The program is intended to be flexible and responsive to the needs of the presbytery. For example, a Dean may be hired to focus on helping congregations develop more effective stewardship campaigns. After two years, it may be determined that this Dean has completed their task and this particular deanship can be closed.

Essential Duties/Responsibilities:

- Provide guidance and expertise to pastors, church officers, church committees, church members, and volunteers.
- Provide staff support to a presbytery committee that most closely aligns with their expertise.
- Organize workshops, seminars, and training sessions for congregations and church leaders within their area of expertise.
- Attend stated meetings of the presbytery.
- Facilitate communication and collaboration among congregations and church leaders and encourage the sharing of ideas, resources, and best practices.

Essential Skills, Gifts and Experiences

- Possess a strong understanding of Reformed theology as well as a commitment to the mission and values of the Presbyterian Church (USA), including intentionally cultivating a culture of transparency, trust, and inclusion.
- Possess excellent communication, interpersonal, and organizational skills. The ability to work independently, manage multiple projects, and collaborate with diverse groups of people is crucial. Proficiency with using digital tools and platforms for communication and resource sharing is also expected.

Salary will be competitive and commensurate with experience.

Sample Job Description

Dean for Christian Education

*Presbytery of Middle Tennessee is seeking a **part-time Dean of Christian Education** to support and enhance the educational ministries of its member churches. This individual will serve as a resource and specialist, helping congregations develop and implement effective Christian education programs for all ages.*

Essential Duties/Responsibilities:

- **Consultation and Support:** *Provide guidance and expertise to pastors, Christian education committees, and volunteers in developing curriculum, planning educational events, and addressing specific challenges.*
- **Resource Curation:** *Identify, evaluate, and recommend a variety of Christian education resources, including curricula, books, and digital tools, that align with Reformed theology and Presbyterian polity.*
- **Training and Development:** *Organize and lead workshops, seminars, and training sessions for Christian education leaders and teachers on topics such as effective teaching methods, child safety policies, and faith formation across different life stages.*
- **Networking and Collaboration:** *Facilitate communication and collaboration among Christian education leaders from different churches to share ideas, resources, and best practices.*
- **Program Development:** *Assist the Presbytery's **[insert appropriate committee or commission name here]** in developing and implementing presbytery-wide educational initiatives, such as youth retreats, leadership training programs, or adult education events.*

Essential Skills, Gifts and Experiences:

- **Educational Background:** *A bachelor's degree is required; a master's degree in Christian Education, Divinity, or a related field is highly preferred.*
- **Experience:** *A minimum of 3-5 years of experience in Christian education leadership, either as a director, pastor, or a key volunteer leader within a church or presbytery setting.*

- **Theological Understanding:** A strong understanding of Reformed theology and a commitment to the mission and values of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is essential.
- **Skills:** Excellent communication, interpersonal, and organizational skills are essential. The ability to work independently, manage multiple projects, and collaborate with diverse groups of people is crucial. Proficiency in using digital tools and platforms for communication and resource sharing is also preferred.
- **Personal Attributes:** The ideal candidate will be a self-starter, a creative problem-solver, and a passionate advocate for lifelong faith formation.

Position Details:

- **Hours:** To be determined.
- **Reporting:** The Dean will report to the Presbytery's Executive Presbyter and work closely with the **[insert appropriate committee or commission name here]**.
- **Compensation:** Salary is competitive and commensurate with experience.

The Presbytery of Middle Tennessee Proposed Job Description: Shepherds

*Know well the condition of your flocks, and give attention to your herds.
Proverbs 27:23*

Purpose

A Shepherd is a vital link between a group of churches and the wider presbytery, fostering collaboration, communication, and a shared sense of mission using the Presbytery's current neighborhood structure. Shepherds facilitate collaboration between the churches in their assigned neighborhood and the presbytery. Shepherds work with the churches in their neighborhood to build relationship and trust between the churches, to help churches connect with one another in common ministries, such as mission, stewardship, and education, and to advocate for the churches in that neighborhood to the whole presbytery. Because the Shepherd's role is to develop a relationship and connection with each church in their neighborhood, each congregation will feel better supported and ultimately more united with the larger presbytery. This position requires a unique blend of spiritual maturity, relational skills, and a deep understanding of the churches they serve.

Background

For many years, the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee has grouped its member congregations into 4 geographic "neighborhoods"¹. As stated in the presbytery's Mission and Operations Manual, "The presbytery will be divided into four neighborhoods to foster community and communication within the presbytery's geographic areas. These neighborhoods will be utilized by the various committees."

In reality, there has been little activity at the neighborhood level. Occasionally, there have been lunch meetings for neighborhood pastors, but these were organized by the Executive Presbyter and staff.

¹ The make-up and number of neighborhoods may need adjusting from time to time.

Given the number of churches in this presbytery (approx. 75), it is unreasonable to expect that the Executive Presbyter alone is able to regularly visit each congregation on a regular basis, which has left the churches that are geographically distant from Nashville feeling out of touch with the presbytery and the other churches within the presbytery and even within their own neighborhood.

Proposal

The Vision and Leadership Team recommends that the presbytery hire four (4) part-time Shepherds (approx. 10-20 hrs/week, the final determination of which is up to the Executive Presbyter in collaboration with the Coordinating Committee/Personnel Task Force) — one for each neighborhood. The responsibility of these Shepherds is to nurture and strengthen the relationship between churches in their assigned neighborhood and the presbytery. This role involves active listening, building trust, and facilitating communication to ensure the needs, concerns, and successes of the churches are represented to the presbytery, and that the presbytery's resources and vision are effectively shared with the churches. The Shepherd acts as a connector and advocate, embodying the unity of the church. In addition to being compensated for their work, we recommend that each neighborhood be granted a \$1,000 per year stipend to be used at the discretion of the Shepherd for that neighborhood.

Essential Duties/Responsibilities

- Relationship Building
 - Develop and maintain strong, trusting relationships with pastors, elders, and key leaders in each assigned church. Regularly visit churches to build rapport, attend meetings and celebrations, and become familiar with their unique cultures, challenges, and ministries.
- Communication & Advocacy
 - Serve as the primary point of contact between churches and the presbytery. This includes sharing information, representing the churches' perspectives in presbytery meetings, and advocating for their needs. The Shepherd will also

communicate presbytery decisions, initiatives, and resources to the churches in a clear and timely manner.

- Spiritual and Pastoral Support
 - Provide spiritual and pastoral care to church leaders, offering encouragement, a listening ear, and support during times of difficulty.
- Facilitation of Resources
 - Help churches access and utilize the resources available through the presbytery, such as educational materials, training opportunities, and ministerial support. The Shepherd should be knowledgeable about these resources and proactive in connecting churches with them.
- Reporting
 - Regularly report to Executive Presbyter on the state of the churches in their neighborhood, including their health, challenges, and successes.

Essential Skills, Gifts and Experiences:

- A deep and abiding faith, with a strong commitment to the mission and values of the presbytery.
- Proven experience in a pastoral, leadership, or congregational role within a church setting.
- Exceptional interpersonal and communication skills, with the ability to build rapport and trust with diverse individuals and groups.
- Strong active listening skills and a non-judgmental approach.
- Demonstrated ability to handle sensitive information and difficult conversations with discretion and grace.
- Familiarity with the structure, polity, and mission of the presbytery.
- It is not required that a Shepherd reside within their Neighborhood.
- The Shepherd program, as well as the hiring and dismissal of Shepherds, will be managed and overseen by the Executive Presbyter.

Compensation is to be determined by the Executive Presbyter in collaboration with the Coordinating Committee and Finance Committee.

The Presbytery of Middle Tennessee Proposed: Coordinating Committee

Recommendation

The Vision and Leadership Team recommends that the work of the Administrative Committee be transferred to a **Coordinating Committee**² for the purpose of better facilitating the sharing and coordinating of information among the presbytery's leadership and each committee and commission of the presbytery. In addition to conducting the regular business of the presbytery, all participants on this committee will share reports, updates, and feedback from their respective committees.

The responsibilities of the Coordinating Committee shall be the same as the former Administrative Committee; however, the membership of the Coordinating Committee shall consist of:

1. Moderator + Chairs of the following Committees/Commissions (or their designees):
 - Committee on Church Transformation
 - Commission on Ministry (COM)
 - Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM)
 - Finance Committee/Treasurer
 - Committee on Mutual Support and Social Justice
 - Committee on Nominations
 - Permanent Visioning Team
2. Executive Presbyter
3. Stated Clerk
4. Vice-moderator (will be Chair of the Coordinating Committee)

² If approved, this change will necessitate that The Missions and Operations Manual be updated

Additional Recommendation

Transformation through relationships, ministries and missions that produce the Fruits of the Spirit requires an underpinning of active connectivity and authentic communication. As a result of our discernment process, it became clear that we must first, as a starting point for revitalization within the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee, build out a better network to promote the connectivity and authentic communication that is required. Therefore, the fruit of our labors has centered on multiplying and better connecting the number of workers in the field to accomplish this essential first step.

Implementation is absolutely crucial to the vitality of this framework. We learned from the previous vision process that without implementation the work can become void, the opportunity of the Spirit denied, and the fruit dies on the vine.

We recognize that much still needs to be done to accomplish the revitalization that we all seek in order to continue to share the Good News of Christ with our brothers and sisters that have yet to be meaningfully introduced to our Savior. **Therefore, it is the additional recommendation of the Vision and Leadership Team that a new Vision Team be created soon so that the work can be continued to take a deeper dive into discerning how to faithfully transform into active disciples and messengers by utilizing these connective communication channels.**

Proposed Organizational Chart

THE PRESBYTERY OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE

VISION: Cultivating congregations to be Christ's agents of transformation through relationships, ministries, and missions that produce the fruits of the Spirit

EMPLOYEES POSITIONS:

- Full Time EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER (40 hrs/wk)
- Part-time STATED CLERK (20-30 hrs/wk)
- Full Time OPERATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR (40 hrs/wk)
- Up to four (4) Deans (approx. 20 hrs/week), flexible positions to be created on an as-needed basis with the area of focus of each Dean to be determined by the Executive Presbyter in cooperation with the Coordinating Committee
 - Sample possibilities are:
 - ✓ Conflict and Transitions
 - COMMISSION ON MINISTRY – AC's, Church Conflict, Liaison with Churches, Pastoral Transitions, Leadership development
 - ✓ Congregational Transformation – Focusing on strategies for large, rural and small churches – formation, expansion, and discipleship
 - COMMITTEE ON CHURCH TRANSFORMATION – to be expanded to a number commensurate with the projects to be undertaken
 - ✓ Christian Formation and Education
- Four (4) Shepherds (one for each neighborhood) (approx. 10-20 hrs/week), with a stipend available for each neighborhood to spend per year.

PRESBYTERY COMMITTEES

- PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION [PJC]
- PERMANENT ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION FOR CONGREGATIONAL CHANGE [PAC]
- COORDINATING COMMITTEE [CC]

Members: Moderator, Vice Moderator (Chair), Executive Presbyter (*ex officio*), Stated Clerk (*ex officio*) + 1 member from each of the following committees/commissions (Chairs or Chairs' designee – 10 members total)

- COMMISSION ON MINISTRY [COM]
 - Examinations Team
 - Review Team
 - Transitions Team
 - Mediation Team
 - Pastoral Care Team
 - Leadership Development
- COMMITTEE ON CHURCH TRANSFORMATION [CCT]
 - (expand the membership significantly and partner with a Dean to oversee its projects – see above.)
- COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY [CPM]
- COMMITTEE ON MUTUAL SUPPORT AND SOCIAL JUSTICE [CMSJ]
 - Guatemala Task Force
- FINANCE COMMITTEE [FIN]
 - Investment Task Force
 - Legal Task Force
 - Budget Team
 - Stewardship Team
- COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS [NOM]
 - Personnel Task Force
- PERMANENT VISIONING TEAM [PVT]

**Report from Betsy Bond on the 227th General Assembly of the PC(USA)
Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 22-July 2, 2026**

8-1

I am Betsy Bond, Ruling Elder from Trinity Presbyterian Church in Nashville. This was my first time attending General Assembly.

My committee assignment was General Assembly Operations. One of our key items of business [GAO-01] was approving the location of the 228th General Assembly, which will be held in San Juan, Puerto Rico. We also recommended that General Assembly committee work be completed in person in 2030, which was approved [GAO-02]. We made many other decisions related to motions that committees brought to the floor. We had daily worship services with great music and sermons. I love attending worship.

When we were not working, I attended several small group meetings related to women involved in Presbytery work. I also attended a luncheon for Ruling Elders. While attending GA, I met some really interesting people.

The program that left the biggest imprint in my heart and in my mind was the "Healing Not Harm: A Walk to End Gun Violence" event. This was part of the General Assembly's community day. The event started with a gathering at the park on the banks of the river. We had an opportunity to see a Guns to Gardens blacksmith demonstration and hear speakers from the national offices and the area give presentations related to gun violence. A dad shared the life, mental health challenges and suicide of his teenaged son. The second speaker, a mom who introduced herself, "I used to be the mom of two children who were killed due to gun violence." The two speakers were amazing as they shared their stories. The event ended with a short walk to Milwaukee's City Hall. Our group encircled the building in prayer and then walked back to the convention center. I had no idea the PC(USA) church is involved so deeply in the "Guns to Gardens" program. I'm going to find a way to be involved in any way I can.

I am honored to have been there and witnessed the living, compassionate work that the PC(USA) is doing from sea to shining sea, from the north to the south and the east to the west.

Respectfully submitted,
Betsy Bond
Ruling Elder Commissioner, 227th General Assembly

Report from Bruce McVey on the 227th General Assembly of the PC(USA) **8-2** Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 22-July 2, 2026

I am Bruce McVey, pastor at First Fayetteville, and it was my distinct honor to serve our presbytery as a Teaching Elder Commissioner at the 227th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

As many of you know, serving as a GA commissioner is both a privilege and a commitment. Most days kept us engaged in worship, committee work, plenary business, debate, discernment, and voting from 8:30 in the morning until nearly 10:00 at night. Yet even through the long hours, technical challenges, and difficult conversations, I experienced a deep spirit of connection, careful listening, and grace.

While we conducted a vast amount of business, one of the most meaningful highlights for me was our time together in worship. Our scriptural theme for the Assembly came from Revelation 22:2: *"The leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations."*

We were deeply blessed by a sermon preached by the Rev. Dr. Kevin Vandiver (ELCA) (<https://tinyurl.com/kmcn3fdf>). He challenged us with the powerful image of the "Tree of Life" which, defying natural laws, stands on *both* sides of the river of human division. He reminded us that God's power to bridge our deepest social, racial, political, and theological divides is grander than our human limitations, and he called on us as a church to "take our own medicine" of grace and reconciliation rather than just prescribing solutions for others.

When it came to the floor business, the Assembly wrestled with many complex issues facing our church and our world today. Here are a few major action items passed by the 227th General Assembly:

- As is the custom, we tracked the financial implications of our actions daily. The General Assembly per capita rates were officially set at \$13.04 for 2027 and \$12.72 for 2028.
- The Assembly voted overwhelmingly to host the 228th General Assembly in San Juan, Puerto Rico in 2028. This marks an historic milestone as the first time our highest council will meet on Latin American and Caribbean soil.
- The Assembly voted to fully abolish the historic "Doctrine of Discovery," committing the PC(USA) to ongoing reconciliation and repair alongside Indigenous communities.
- We adopted a social witness policy on Generative AI and created a permanent standing committee to ensure emerging technologies are used ethically and never replace Spirit-led pastoral care or human discernment.

- The Assembly approved the updated *Kairos Palestine II* document; formally recognized the ongoing military destruction in Gaza as genocide, while also denouncing both antisemitism and Islamophobia globally.
- GA approved sending a proposed constitutional amendment to presbyteries establishing a "Senior Ordination Portfolio" as an alternative assessment alongside standard ordination exams. GA also approved mandating anti-racism training every 36 months for teaching elders and commissioned ruling elders.
- The Excellence in Theological Education Awards were presented to Dr. Frances Taylor Gench and Dr. James Hudnut-Beumler for their lifetime contributions to biblical scholarship and pastoral mentorship.
- GA marked 70 years of the ordination of women in our denomination, honoring the witness of trailblazing women such as the Rev. Margaret Towner and the Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett.

Across these actions, I was reminded again of what it means to be Presbyterian. We do not always agree quickly or easily. We amend. We debate. We ask questions. We worry about process, language, budgets, and implications. But at our best, we do these things because we believe Jesus Christ is still at work in the church, and because we trust that the Holy Spirit can guide us through honest conversation toward greater faithfulness.

My time at the 227th General Assembly deepened my gratitude for our connectional church. I am grateful for the commissioners and advisory delegates who listened carefully, spoke courageously, and prayed faithfully. I am grateful for the staff and leaders who guided the General Assembly through complex business. Most of all, I am grateful to the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee for entrusting me with this responsibility and for inviting me to serve at the table of the wider church.

Respectfully submitted,
 Rev. Bruce McVey
 Teaching Elder Commissioner, 227th General Assembly

**Report from Jim Moran on the 227th General Assembly of the PC(USA)
Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 22-July 2, 2026**

8-3

I am Jim Moran, Teaching Elder, and Interim Pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Tullahoma. It was an honor to be sent by the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee as a commissioner to the 227th General Assembly (GA) of the Presbyterian Church (USA). The official Assembly began on Monday, June 22 at 8 a.m. with an online plenary. Afterwards, GA committees gathered online for three days before journeying to the land of cheese, cherries, cranberries, beer, and ginseng.

On Friday, June 26 most of the commissioners flew/drove to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. On Saturday, there were committee lunches to begin our Milwaukee work. I served on the Reformed Identity around the World (RIW) committee. Each day began with worship planned by various committee volunteers. We had eight multi-hour sessions in our three-day meeting. We discussed, deliberated, and voted on 11 overtures from the presbyteries. All six of our MTP commissioners sat together toward the back of the large convention hall - three directly in front of three on the left inside aisle.

Several RIW-approved committee overtures were placed on the consent agenda. One overture requested that the U.S. Congress approve an embargo of Israel until the war in Gaza/Lebanon ended, and another overture named what was going on in Gaza genocide. One of these overtures was amended in RIW committee over the concern rightly expressed about possible violence towards Jews by clearly stating that Israel's government was responsible for the genocide, not the Jewish people. A couple of overtures discussed the Palestinians and their place in the Middle East, including the support of the *Kairos Document* titled "Kairos Palestine – The Palestinian Christian Initiative", subtitled "A Moment of Truth: Faith in a Time of Genocide." We heard remotely from the Reverend Dr. Fahed Abul Akel, himself a Palestinian and the former Moderator of the 2002 GA, having been elected at the 2001 GA in Columbus, Ohio, on these issues at both our RIW committee meeting and plenary as we considered these two overtures. Another overture recommended to request the U.S. Congress to end the embargo with Cuba and reopen trade.

These overtures were a major part of what our GA committee discussed and a part of the approved work of the GA plenary. Some of our overtures were directed at developing a new missiology (RIW-02) and to review the processes that terminated mission co-workers around the world and the PC(USA)'s fiduciary responsibility for the use of funds given for missions. My hope is that there can be compassionate reconciliation with the mission co-workers terminated and our global mission partners affected by these seemingly abrupt terminations.

The Middle Tennessee Presbytery is well represented in the GA by ruling elder Cristi Scott Ligon as Co-Moderator of the Unification Commission (UC). The UC began in 2014 and has had the huge task of reorganizing the national offices. The Assembly ended with the election of co-moderators to preside over the GA228, June 11-22, 2028, in San Juan, Puerto Rico: the Rev. Marta Pumroy-Cordero, border ministry coordinator for the Tres Rios Border Foundation in Tres Rios Presbytery, and the Rev. Dr. Kristopher D. Schondelmeyer, pastor and head of staff at First Presbyterian Church in Davenport, Iowa. What a joy to serve!

It was an honor to represent the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee at the 227th General Assembly in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Commissioners, made up of Teaching Elders and Ruling Elders, gathered from every Presbytery in the denomination, first virtually for a week of committee meetings then in person for a week of plenary business. Present also were Young Adult Advisory Delegates, Theological Student Advisory Delegates, Partner Advisory Delegates, and representatives from the denominational office (now named Presbyterian Life & Witness [PLW]) and various stakeholders.

I served on the Climate and Environmental Justice (CLJ) committee, which discussed five overtures. All of our overtures passed with a majority in committee and were approved via the consent agenda in plenary (the only committee to do so). Through CLJ's work, we approved new divestment policies for the denomination to continue previous GA's efforts to divest our funds away from fossil fuels and to seek renewable energy sources instead. We also voted to establish a permanent endowment fund to support environmental concerns called the "Green Future Fund"; provide educational resources about regenerative farming; and adopt a new policy named "Intent, Effect, Haste: Ethical Guidance on Fossil Fuels," as guidance for the PC(USA) in future decision-making about fossil fuels and their use. While I care deeply about climate change and environmental justice, I was not as familiar with the topics CLJ was discussing. This was an interesting and helpful committee to be placed on so that I could deepen my understanding of how we can respond faithfully on a systemic level to environmental concerns, and I'm grateful for the proactive and unified response from the whole assembly.

During plenary, there were several highlights that were interesting to discuss. I was particularly interested to learn about recommendations for ordination guidelines, including potentially allowing a portfolio instead of or in addition to ordination exams. We had many discussions about the repercussions of the denomination's restructuring (previously with the Office of the General Assembly and Presbyterian World Mission being separate entities, now PLW). A potential new confession was presented but was referred for further study and development before returning to the next GA.

Our denomination also committed to making bold statements denouncing white Christian nationalism as well as the genocide in Palestine. We committed new policies for the study of racial justice, LGBTQIA+ advocacy, and other justice issues, continuing our commitment to advocating for the flourishing of all people.

While there were certainly moments we disagreed and challenged one another, there were so many more moments of unity, compassion, and hope. It was a gift to join together with people from across the denomination as we discerned together where God is calling us as individuals and as the Church to live with justice, mercy, and humility in the face of our world today. With prayer and thanksgiving, we continue the work and look forward to the next time we all gather together— 2028 in San Juan, Puerto Rico!

**Report from Mickey Stueck on the 227th General Assembly of the PC(USA)
Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 22-July 2, 2026**

8-5

I am Mickey Stueck (she/her), First Presbyterian Church, Lebanon. This was my third GA. My first was to 221st in Detroit (2014) as an observer and 222nd in Portland (2016) as a commissioner. In 2014 and 2016, committee meetings were held in person whereas the 227th committee meetings were held by Zoom.

The theme of this Assembly was “Persevering toward Wholeness”. Rev. 22:2 “...and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.”

There were ten committees, and our Presbytery was represented on six.

I served on the Financial Stewardship and Witness committee. We heard from each of the remaining nine committees regarding financial implications of each of the overtures coming through their committees. We discussed the financial implications on future ministries/missions with recommendations and motions to be presented during plenary. Each approved item coming before plenary had the potential to affect per capita and the 2027-2028 budget.

Unlike the other nine committees whose work was completed before plenary, the Financial Stewardship and Social Witness met one more time. After the last plenary on Wednesday night, we met in person to finalize the proposed per capita and 2027-2028 budget. The committee recommended and moved the following to plenary: PL&W per capita* be set at \$13.04 for 2027 and \$12.72 for 2028 and the 2027-2028 budget of \$188.4 million.

Other action items:

- A seven-member commission to investigate the 2025 dissolution of Presbyterian World Missions and termination of some of the staff.
- Proposed Book of Order amendment regarding White Christian Nationalism as a theological error incompatible with the teachings of Jesus.
- Several other proposed Book of Order amendments
- Israel’s military actions against Gaza as genocide
- Gender affirming health care and other gender related issues
- Changes to ministry preparation and ordination

Final order of business was the election and installation of the co-moderators: Rev. Marta Pumroy-Cordero and Rev. Doctor Kristopher Schondelmeyer.

The 228th Assembly will be in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in 2028.

It has been an honor to represent the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee at the 227th General Assembly. It is a lot of work and very informative, but well worth the effort. Thank you for the

opportunity. A special highlight for me was to see and visit with three of my friends from my former presbytery.

*“Per capita is an annual apportionment per member requested from congregations.” These funds are used to support the Presbytery, Synod, and PL&W’s ministry/missions.

Report from Spencer Truett on the 227th General Assembly of the PC(USA) **8-6** **Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 22-July 2, 2026**

My name is Spencer Truett, Ruling Elder from First Presbyterian Church of Dickson, TN. This was my first time serving as a commissioner to General Assembly, and I served on the General Assembly Relationships (GAR) Committee.

Our committee's real work started before the Assembly ever convened. The week before Milwaukee, we spent three straight days on Zoom, roughly 14 hours each, getting through the bulk of our docket before we'd even met in person. The item that consumed the most time was GAR-05, the Unification Commission's recommendation for a new Organization for Mission: essentially, how Presbyterian Mission and World Mission's work will be governed, and how the pieces of our denomination relate to each other between Assemblies. It was as complicated as it sounds. We heard from speaker after speaker on both sides, worked through a complex substitute motion, and fielded more than 60 amendments before it was finally settled. Nearly a full day of committee time went into that one item alone. Sitting through it, what struck me wasn't the frustration of it dragging on; it was that this is what the actual work of the church looks like when it's being done carefully: slow, exhausting, occasionally testing everyone's patience, but not a minute of it wasted. When it finally passed, amended, by a unanimous 57-0 vote, the relief was palpable.

GAR-03 was the other item that stuck with me, for a different reason. It concerned the Board of Pensions, and whether the Assembly should establish a formal deliverance or refer the matter for further study. The heat in that debate didn't really come from the committee itself; it came from the advocates representing the Board of Pensions and the Unification Commission, whose exchanges kept devolving into a kind of "he said, he said" that made it obvious there was still real disagreement and miscommunication between the two sides that hadn't been worked out. Those pushing for the minority report wanted to move forward with the original recommendation anyway, disagreements and all. Still, the committee ultimately felt the wiser course was to refer the matter for further study rather than force a resolution before those issues were actually settled. That recommendation to refer carried on the floor of the full Assembly as well. I came away from it thinking about how much of this work depends on people being willing to say "we're not ready" instead of just pushing a vote through when we're all tired and ready for the day to end.

Upon arriving in Milwaukee, each day of the full Assembly began with worship, and it did a lot to hold everything else together. There's something genuinely moving about a room of hundreds of Presbyterians singing and worshiping at the same time, especially before walking into a day like the ones we were having. Once the gavel came down and business started, the pace didn't really let up. The floor had its own strange emotional rhythm: that little burst of

applause when a motion passed unanimously, and right behind it, the small groan we'd all let out together when a vote everyone assumed would be unanimous fell one short and robbed us of the chance to clap. We worked through a packed docket all week, plenty of overtures, reports, and routine business that never makes the news but still takes real time and real care to get right. We tackled numerous items of business that came to the floor, listened to countless motions both for and against with passionate voices on both sides, engaged in thoughtful discernment, and came away with a heightened appreciation for the phrase "I move to call the question." Notably, in a vote that's already made news well beyond our denomination, the Assembly adopted RIW-04, declaring that the government of Israel has violated international law prohibiting genocide in its war in Gaza, alongside RIW-10, commending the Kairos Palestine II document for study in our congregations and presbyteries. Watching the whole Assembly wrestle publicly with something that consequential, and do it together, was a reminder of just how much weight our collective voice carries when we're actually willing to use it.

Honestly, though, what I'll remember most didn't happen on the floor at all. It was the conversations, with Teaching and Ruling Elders from presbyteries all over the country, hearing how their churches are wrestling with the same things ours is, or hearing about something they're doing that I want to take home with me. It reframed what I think of as a "small church," sitting next to people whose churches and presbyteries are a fraction of the size of Middle Tennessee's. The days were long enough to test anyone's patience. Fourteen hours in a convention chair is its own kind of spiritual discipline. Some of the best moments, though, happened apart from the deliberation on the floor: cutting up with our own Presbytery's commissioners at our table, a late-night drink at the hotel bar, a shared meal at the German beerhall working off the day. I left Milwaukee with friendships I expect to keep for a long time.

Serving as a first-time commissioner was an honor, and more of an education than I expected. I'm grateful to the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee for the chance to represent our churches, and for the chance to sit at that much larger table.

Respectfully submitted,

Spencer Truett

Synod and General Assembly Commissioner Guidelines- Amendment Recommendations

9

- Members- Rosanna Anderson, Greg Glover, Jane Herring, Leonard Jordan, Mary Sellers Shaw, John Smith
- Process- The Presbytery and Administrative committee charged the Moderator with appointing a special committee to review our current nomination guidelines for commissioners to Synod meetings and General Assembly. This committee met multiple times via Zoom throughout spring 2026 to discuss the current guidelines and recommend changes. The group held a variety of experiences and perspectives that led to robust conversation. The committee's new recommendations are made to ensure our commissioners are representative of our Presbytery's diversity while also maintaining a commitment to participation in the life of the Presbytery. After multiple discussions and edits, these recommendations are presented unanimously for the Presbytery's consideration.
- Motion- Move to amend the Presbytery's handbook with the recommended language to update the Synod and General Assembly commissioner guidelines.

Recommended Amendment:

Commissioners to the General Assembly and the Synod of Living Waters, as well as alternate commissioners, are to be elected at the November meeting the year prior to their term of service. The Nominating Task Force shall nominate General Assembly commissioners, General Assembly advisory delegates, and Synod commissioners, as well as their alternates, according to the number allotted to the Presbytery by the respective councils. The following criteria for selection for nominees to the General Assembly and the Synod of Living Waters are appropriate and may be used and should be published on the Presbytery's website and to the Presbytery at the August stated meeting.

- Teaching and ruling elders and young adults will ordinarily only be elected once to serve as commissioners to the General Assembly or Synod from the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee.
- Teaching Elders should have demonstrated experience in the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee. Normally, a full term of service on one of the Presbytery's committees is sufficient. Alternative demonstration of experience may be considered.
- Teaching and ruling elders who have a history of active involvement in the work of the Presbytery.
- Ruling elders from churches who have not recently sent a representative as a commissioner to General Assembly or Synod.

- Commissioners should represent the diversity of our Presbytery in accordance with the Book of Order
- Prior General Assembly and Synod alternates, and Presbytery moderators, will be given consideration as Commissioners.
- The ability to work effectively with technology and materials from the General Assembly and Synod committees and plenary sessions, understanding that stamina and energy are required.
- The ability to understand and the willingness to communicate the work of the General Assembly and Synod to the Presbytery and the ability to understand and the willingness to communicate the work of the Presbytery to the General Assembly and Synod.

The Stated Clerk shall keep a cumulative list of commissioners, alternates, and young adult advisory delegates to General Assembly and Synod, for the use of the Nominating Task Force.

Amended Text:

Commissioners to the General Assembly and the Synod of Living Waters, as well as alternate commissioners, are to be elected at the November meeting the year prior to their term of service. The Nominating Task Force shall nominate General Assembly commissioners, General Assembly advisory delegates, and Synod commissioners, as well as their alternates, according to the number allotted to the Presbytery by the respective councils. The following criteria for selection for nominees to the General Assembly and the Synod of Living Waters ~~shall be~~ are appropriate and may be used and should be published on the Presbytery's website and to the Presbytery at the August stated meeting.

- Teaching and ruling elders and young adults will ordinarily only be elected once to serve as commissioners to the General Assembly or Synod from the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee.
- ~~Teaching elders who have been members of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee for at least seven years. Teaching Elders should have demonstrated experience in the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee. Normally, a full term of service on one of the Presbytery's committees is sufficient. Alternative demonstration of experience may be considered.~~
- Teaching and ruling elders who have a history of active involvement in the work of the Presbytery.
- Ruling elders from churches who have not recently sent a representative as a commissioner to General Assembly or Synod ~~in four years or more.~~
- Commissioners should represent the diversity of our Presbytery in accordance with the Book of Order
- ~~A balance between women and men, teaching and ruling elders, and young adults from churches outside the Nashville area and those within the Metro Nashville area.~~
- Prior General Assembly and Synod alternates, and Presbytery moderators, will be given consideration as Commissioners.
- The ability to work effectively with technology and materials from the General Assembly and Synod committees and plenary sessions, understanding that stamina and energy are required.
- The ability to understand and the willingness to communicate the work of the General Assembly and Synod to the Presbytery and the ability to understand and the willingness to communicate the work of the Presbytery to the General Assembly and Synod.

The Stated Clerk shall keep a cumulative list of commissioners, alternates, and young adult advisory delegates to General Assembly and Synod, for the use of the Nominating Task Force, ~~in order to ensure compliance with the criteria.~~

Original Text:

Commissioners to the General Assembly and the Synod of Living Waters, as well as alternate commissioners, are to be elected at the November meeting the year prior to their term of service. The Nominating Task Force shall nominate General Assembly commissioners, General Assembly advisory delegates, and Synod commissioners, as well as their alternates, according to the number allotted to the Presbytery by the respective councils. The following criteria for selection for nominees to the General Assembly and the Synod of Living Waters shall be used and published on the Presbytery's website and to the Presbytery at the August stated meeting.

- Teaching and ruling elders and young adults will ordinarily only be elected once to serve as commissioners to General Assembly or Synod from the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee.
- Teaching elders who have been members of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee for at least seven years.
- Teaching and ruling elders who have a history of active involvement in the work of the presbytery.
- Ruling elders from churches who have not sent a representative as a commissioner to General Assembly or Synod in four years or more.
- A balance between women and men, teaching and ruling elders, and young adults from churches outside the Nashville area and those within the Metro Nashville area.
- Prior General Assembly and Synod alternates, and presbytery moderators, will be given consideration as Commissioners.
- The ability to work effectively with technology and materials from the General Assembly and Synod committees and plenary sessions, understanding that stamina and energy are required.
- The ability to understand and the willingness to communicate the work of the General Assembly and Synod to the Presbytery and the ability to understand and the willingness to communicate the work of the presbytery to the General Assembly and Synod.

The Stated Clerk shall keep a cumulative list of commissioners, alternates, and young adult advisory delegates to General Assembly and Synod, for the use of the Nominating Task Force, in order to ensure 6 compliance with the criteria.

Erin Howton-Angel
931-265-0481
rev.erin.angel@gmail.com

Information

The Administrative Committee conducts a hybrid meeting at 4:00 on the third Thursday of each month at Westminster Nashville in person and on Zoom. The committee meets immediately after the Finance Committee so that the committees can meet to discuss joint issues, if necessary.

Admit to Record

1. The Administrative Committee met with Phil Lotspeich, who spoke about Missional Incubators, a 9-to-12-month Mid Council and Presbytery program designed to equip church leaders and entrepreneurs to launch innovative ministries. Those eligible to participate include churches from all areas (urban, suburban, small town and rural). The Administrative Committee leadership will follow up with Phil Lotspeich.
2. As mandated in the November 2025 meeting of the Presbytery, a series of educational town hall meetings related to the Presbytery's Visioning Plan were led by the Visioning Education Team in July. This team was elected by the Presbytery in the May meeting.
3. The committee approved the PAC's request to call a meeting to approve the sale of the Decherd Presbyterian Church property. The motion was approved by the Presbytery.
4. The committee was asked to help source materials that can meet the requirements noted in the presbytery's anti-racism policy. This task has been delegated to the Operations and Communications Coordinator, in partnership with the COM review team. The policy states: "Training: All officers, staff, and committee leaders in the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee shall be trained in this policy at least every 36 months. The Presbytery office shall keep training records for those trained and the date trained."
5. Dates for the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee 2027 meetings are set for:
 - * February 6th at First Presbyterian Church of Allardt
 - * May 1st - location request is pending committee approval
 - * August 7th -location request is pending committee approval
 - * November 6th - location request is pending committee approval
6. The Nominating Task Force members are: CRE Leonard Jordan (Chair), TE Sarah Hill, TE Jonathan Angel, TE Scott Huie, RE Vickie Harwell, and RE Verna Rydlund.
7. The Nominating Task Force is working to fill vacancies in committees and identify Stated Clerk Search Committee.

8. Members of the Presbytery are encouraged to review the 2026-2028 slate of Presbytery Committees and consider serving on a committee. Email sc@pbymidtn.org for more information.
9. RE Denise Moran and TE Michale McLaughlin were appointed by the Administrative Committee to the Personnel Task Force with three-year terms, ending in 2028. They join current members: RE Kathy Corlew, (Chair, 2028), RE Lavona Russell (2027) and RE Jack Baxter (2028).
10. In July, the Personnel Task Force asked the Administrative Committee to follow-up with the Executive Presbyter search committee to ensure they have begun their work and offer any support needed.
11. The planned elimination of the part-time Operations Coordinator position became effective June 30. The Presbytery of Middle Tennessee thanks Gregory Taylor for his service and wishes him success in future endeavors.
12. The new full-time Operations and Communications Coordinator position went into effect on July 1, 2026. Rory Womack was hired to fill this position.

Special Note:

The Administrative Committee gives thanks for all the commissioners and support people who worked so hard to represent the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee at the 227th General Assembly in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Thank you for listening and acting prayerfully, as the Spirit guided you regarding the many items of business covered.

GA commissioners will be available during the lunch break of the next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery to answer questions or engage in discussions about General Assembly.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
REPORT TO THE PRESBYTERY OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE
August 6, 2026**

11

Bruce McVey
931-433-1905
brucemcvey@fpunet.com

INFORMATION

1. The Finance Committee conducts a hybrid meeting at 2:00 on the third Thursday of each month at Westminster Nashville in person and on Zoom. The committee meets immediately before the Administrative Committee so that the committees are able to meet to discuss joint issues, if necessary.

ADMIT TO RECORD

1. Financial statements are attached—including year to date activity through June 30, 2026.
 - a. Income: Year-to-date ordinary income is about \$197,000; roughly \$27,000 below budget through June.
 - b. Pledges: Pledged giving totals about \$137,000 YTD, approximately \$27,000 below budget and the primary reason income is trailing projections.
 - c. Expenses: Ordinary expenses are about \$228,000 YTD, approximately \$23,000 under budget, which has helped offset most of the income shortfall.
 - d. Bottom line: Ordinary operations show a \$31,000 YTD deficit, about \$3,600 worse than budget. Including investment gains and restricted-fund activity, however, the overall YTD bottom line is positive by approximately \$176,000.
 - e. Investments: Vanguard investments totaled approximately \$6.31 million at June 30. The portfolio had a strong quarter, including about \$275,000 in market appreciation and \$55,000 in investment income.
2. The Finance Committee created the Transitional Pastor Training Fund (3001-24) and seeded it with \$10,000. The presbytery funded and filled all of our slots for this transitional ministry training. The training will begin in October.
3. The following members of the Budget Task Force were elected in the May meeting of the Finance Committee: Hal Sauer (chair), Melinda Sanders, Mike Koban, and Greg Glover; with Sherard Edington ex officio.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee authorize the Cowan congregation to sell its manse located at 718 Elliott Drive Cowan, TN 37318.

The Presbytery of Middle Tennessee
Statement of Financial Position
As of June 30, 2026

	<u>Jun 30, 26</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
1005 · Pinnacle Bank - PMT	50,620.78
1007 · First Horizon - Brentwood 1st	1,061.73
1015 · Pinnacle Bank - NV	<u>2,053.47</u>
Total Checking/Savings	53,735.98
Other Current Assets	
1102 · Prior year pledges receivable	7,900.00
1300 · Investments	
1300-11 · Vanguard-Pooled	5,669,606.34
1300-12 · Vanguard-Default Reserve	629,766.84
1300-13 · Vanguard-Endowment	10,749.80
1300-14 · Vanguard-Cash Equivalent	<u>7.95</u>
Total 1300 · Investments	6,310,130.93
1400 · Miscellaneous receivables	<u>-2,880.50</u>
Total Other Current Assets	<u>6,315,150.43</u>
Total Current Assets	6,368,886.41
Fixed Assets	
1500 · Fixed Assets	
1500-02 · Furniture and Equipment	2,165.37
1500-10 · Accumulated Depreciation	<u>-2,165.37</u>
Total 1500 · Fixed Assets	<u>0.00</u>
Total Fixed Assets	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>6,368,886.41</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
20000 · *Accounts Payable	<u>9,003.95</u>
Total Accounts Payable	9,003.95
Credit Cards	
2015 · Pinnacle Bank Credit Card	<u>1,605.54</u>
Total Credit Cards	1,605.54
Other Current Liabilities	
2500 · Designated gifts	
2500-23 · Old Hickory Neville Bequest	35,166.36
2500-30 · Other designated gifts	<u>8,000.00</u>
Total 2500 · Designated gifts	43,166.36
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>43,166.36</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>53,775.85</u>
Total Liabilities	53,775.85
Equity	
3001 · Unrestricted Net Assets	
3001-01 · Allowance for church defaults	200,000.00
3001-04 · Designation - NCD (Properties)	
3001-08 · Designation - NCD Upper Cumberl	288,387.20
3001-44 · Decherd PC	-30,410.94
3001-47 · Hopewell PC, Milton	-2,500.00
3001-48 · Brentwood FPC	2,606,189.52
3001-49 · Woodland PC	-3,000.00
3001-50 · Mt Pleasant FPC	-14,120.13
3001-04 · Designation - NCD (Properties) - Other	<u>197,459.79</u>
Total 3001-04 · Designation - NCD (Properties)	3,042,005.44
3001-13 · Leadership Dev & Education Fund	12,933.68
3001-14 · Mediation Fund	18,980.00
3001-15 · Matthew 25 Fund	19,680.00
3001-17 · EP Transition Fund	16,526.74
3001-19 · Nueva Vida NCD - PMT Budget	21,999.96
3001-20 · Investment Income - PMT Budget	20,183.62
3001-21 · NV Food Bank - PMT Budget	10,656.61
3001-22 · Sabbatical Assistance - COM	9,500.00
3001-23 · Centsability - COM	8,751.63
3001-24 · Transitional Pastor Training	3,000.00
3001 · Unrestricted Net Assets - Other	<u>2,568,120.94</u>
Total 3001 · Unrestricted Net Assets	5,952,338.62
3002 · Temporarily restricted funds	
3002-01 · Centsability	12,838.94
3002-05 · Guatemalan Support Funds	6,602.83
3002-06 · Pastoral Care	1,470.00
3002-09 · Disaster Assistance Fund	14,269.02
3002-10 · Triennium	2,941.26
3002-26 · Sabbatical Assistance	5,877.82
3002-27 · Nueva Vida New Church Dev	9,686.46
3002-32 · CPM - Scholarships	5,574.18
3002-33 · Nueva Vida Food Bank	
3002-35 · NV Food Bank - Kharis Grant	<u>27,500.02</u>
Total 3002-33 · Nueva Vida Food Bank	27,500.02
3002-50 · St. Andrews Fund	56,636.75
3002-52 · Meeting scholar/preacher	<u>5,000.00</u>
Total 3002 · Temporarily restricted funds	148,397.28
3003 · Permanently restricted funds	10,749.80
3100 · Restricted/Designated income	27,622.77
Net Income	<u>176,002.09</u>
Total Equity	<u>6,315,110.56</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>6,368,886.41</u>

The Presbytery of Middle Tennessee
Actual to Budget
Statement of Activity
Period Ending June 2026

	JUNE 2026			YTD 2026			2026 Annual	
	Actual	Budget	\$ Over Budget	Actual	Budget	\$ Over Budget	Budget	
Ordinary Income/Expense								
Income								
4000 - Pledged giving	21,314.78	29,992.27	-8,677.49	136,765.32	163,685.19	-26,919.87	520,000.00	
4005 - Contributions	0.00			30.40				
4070 - Investment income								
4070-10 - Investment income	29,868.75	29,867.25	1.50	59,792.22	59,734.50	57.72	119,469.00	
Total 4070 - Investment income	29,868.75	29,867.25	1.50	59,792.22	59,734.50	57.72	119,469.00	
Total Income	51,183.53	59,859.52	-8,675.99	196,587.94	223,419.69	-26,831.75	639,469.00	
Gross Profit	51,183.53	59,859.52	-8,675.99	196,587.94	223,419.69	-26,831.75	639,469.00	
Expense								
5000 - Finance								
5000-01 - Occupancy	550.00	550.00	0.00	3,300.00	3,300.00	0.00	6,600.00	
5000-02 - Equipment	0.00	41.67	-41.67	1,400.00	250.02	1,149.98	500.00	
5000-03 - Insurance	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,138.00	2,000.00	138.00	4,000.00	
5000-05 - Office Expense	431.26	250.00	181.26	1,895.20	1,500.00	395.20	3,000.00	
5000-06 - POMA (Database)	0.00	0.00	0.00	830.00	1,750.00	-920.00	1,750.00	
5000-07 - Telephone	159.28	250.00	-90.72	2,085.11	1,500.00	585.11	3,000.00	
5000-08 - Audit Fee	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,000.00	
5000-11 - Processing Fees (Bank, Payroll)	344.61	233.33	111.28	1,642.49	1,399.98	242.51	2,800.00	
5000-12 - Webpage	75.00	83.33	-8.33	278.00	499.98	-221.98	1,000.00	
5070-01 - GA Per Capita	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	164,452.30	
5070-03 - Synod Per Capita	14,531.97	14,531.97	0.00	29,063.94	29,063.94	0.00	58,127.90	
Total 5000 - Finance	16,092.12	15,940.30	151.82	42,632.74	41,263.92	1,368.82	252,230.20	
5020 - Committee on Mutual Support								
5010-03 - NaCoMe Camp	0.00	0.00	0.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	0.00	30,000.00	
5020-01 - Nueva Vida Food Bank	2,357.69	2,083.33	274.36	12,774.34	12,499.98	274.36	25,000.00	
5020-02 - MTSU Campus Ministry	1,833.33	1,833.33	0.00	10,999.98	10,999.98	0.00	22,000.00	
5020-03 - TTU Campus Ministry	1,666.67	1,666.66	0.01	10,000.02	9,999.96	0.06	20,000.00	
5020-05 - Vanderbilt Campus Ministry	1,916.67	1,916.66	0.01	11,500.02	11,499.96	0.06	23,000.00	
5020-06 - Synod - Campus Ministry Support	-2,201.41	-2,201.41	0.00	-13,208.46	-13,208.46	0.00	-26,417.00	
Total 5020 - Committee on Mutual Support	5,572.95	5,298.57	274.38	62,065.90	61,791.42	274.48	93,583.00	
5030 - Committee on Ministry								
5030-04 - Background Checks	0.00	166.66	-166.66	427.13	999.96	-572.83	2,000.00	
Total 5030 - Committee on Ministry	0.00	166.66	-166.66	427.13	999.96	-572.83	2,000.00	
5040 - Comm. on Prep. for Ministry	0.00	33.33	-33.33	0.00	199.98	-199.98	400.00	
5060-01 - Comm. for Social Justice	0.00	83.33	-83.33	0.00	499.98	-499.98	1,000.00	
5100 - Administrative Committee								
5100-02 - Presbytery Meeting Expenses	-711.33	166.66	-877.99	57.37	999.96	-942.59	2,000.00	
5100-03 - Moderator Conference	0.00	41.66	-41.66	0.00	249.96	-249.96	500.00	
5100-04 - EP expenses	1,247.56	833.33	414.23	9,194.73	4,999.98	4,194.75	10,000.00	
5100-05 - EP Salary	3,750.00	3,750.00	0.00	22,500.00	22,500.00	0.00	45,000.00	
5100-06 - EP Housing	4,500.00	4,500.00	0.00	27,000.00	27,000.00	0.00	54,000.00	
5100-07 - EP FICA	631.09	631.12	-0.03	3,786.69	3,786.72	-0.03	7,573.50	
5100-08 - EP Medical/Pension	1,803.80	2,145.00	-341.20	10,822.19	12,870.00	-2,047.81	25,740.00	
5100-20 - Stated Clerk Salary	3,750.00	3,750.00	0.00	22,500.00	22,500.00	0.00	45,000.00	
5100-21 - Stated Clerk FICA	286.88	286.87	0.01	1,721.16	1,721.22	-0.06	3,442.50	
5100-23 - Stated Clerk expenses	0.00	333.33	-333.33	625.43	1,999.98	-1,374.55	4,000.00	
5100-30 - Operations Coord. Wages	2,000.00	4,416.66	-2,416.66	12,000.00	26,499.96	-14,499.96	53,000.00	
5100-31 - Operations Coord. FICA	153.00	337.87	-184.87	918.00	2,027.22	-1,109.22	4,054.50	
5100-32 - Operations Coord. Med/Pension	665.82	833.33	-167.51	3,994.92	4,999.98	-1,005.06	10,000.00	
5100-61 - Accounting	888.30	1,500.00	-611.70	7,411.60	9,000.00	-1,588.40	18,000.00	
5100-70 - Legal Fees	0.00	833.33	-833.33	0.00	4,999.98	-4,999.98	10,000.00	
Total 5100 - Administrative Committee	18,965.12	24,359.16	-5,394.04	122,532.09	146,154.96	-23,622.87	292,310.50	
Total Expense	40,630.19	45,881.35	-5,251.16	227,657.86	250,910.22	-23,252.36	641,523.70	
Net Ordinary Income	10,553.34	13,978.17	-3,424.83	-31,069.92	-27,490.53	-3,579.39	-2,054.70	
Other Income/Expense								
Other Income								
7001 - Unbudgeted Income								
7001-15 - Unrealized gain/loss on Invest.	-44,479.69			234,694.78				
7001-21 - Temp. Restricted-Receipts	14,535.69			88,133.24				
Total 7001 - Unbudgeted Income	-29,944.00			322,828.02				
Total Other Income	-29,944.00			322,828.02				
Other Expense								
7002 - Unbudgeted expenses								
7002-21 - Temp. Restricted disbursements	14,862.96			115,756.01				
Total 7002 - Unbudgeted expenses	14,862.96			115,756.01				
Total Other Expense	14,862.96			115,756.01				
Net Other Income	-44,806.96			207,072.01				
Net Income	-34,253.62	13,978.17	-48,231.79	176,002.09	-27,490.53	203,492.62	-2,054.70	

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY
Report to the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee
August 6, 2026

INFORMATION

1. The Commission meets on the second Tuesday of the month in hybrid format at 4:00 pm.
2. It receives reports from the Bridge Executive Presbyter and the Temporary Stated Clerk.
3. The Commission hears reports from active Administrative Commissions on a quarterly basis and reports those to the Presbytery.

ADMIT TO RECORD

1. Approved a six-month discernment period for Ms. Adrian Taylor with a COM-appointed mentor, leading to consideration for ordination
 - a. Rev. Sally Hughes was appointed as mentor for Ms. Taylor.
2. Authorized Rev. Sally Hughes to provide an additional training for Ruling Elders to serve communion
 - a. The training was held at Glen Leven Presbyterian Church and by Zoom on July 11th. Certificates of completion were provided.
3. Approved the addition of RE Trice Gibbons and RE Wayne Patten to the pulpit supply list
4. Ratified the email vote to grant Rev. Roger Speer temporary membership in the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee
5. Approved the sabbatical grant request for \$1,500 to Emmanuel Presbyterian Church for Rev. Jane Herring
6. Approved the retirement status for Rev. Robert Montgomery
7. Moderated a meeting to dissolve the pastoral relationship between Robert Montgomery and First Presbyterian Church of Lewisburg
8. Amended the membership status for Rev. Jeff Kane to member-at-large
9. Approved the following contracts:
 - a. Rev. Roger Speer at Normandy Presbyterian Church
 - b. Rev. Ray Thomas at Priest Lake Presbyterian Church
 - c. Rev. Jeanne Hunter at Shelbyville Presbyterian Church.
 - d. Rev. Dennis Buckley at Northminster Presbyterian Church
 - e. Rev. Jason Loscuito at Glencliff Presbyterian Church
 - f. Rev. Stuart Gordon as Transitional Pastor at Columbia Westminster
10. Approved the Installation Commission for Rev. Sarah Bird Kneff at Nashville Westminster

- a. This was previously noted incorrectly as an ordination and installation commission.
- 11. Authorized Rev. Clint Loveall to labor inside the bounds to perform a wedding on June 6, 2026
- 12. Approved the following Mission Studies:
 - a. First Presbyterian, Lewisburg
 - b. First Presbyterian Church, Lebanon
 - c. First Franklin Presbyterian
 - d. Westminster, Nashville
 - e. Donelson Presbyterian Church
- 13. Approved the Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP) for Donelson Presbyterian Church
- 14. Renewed the Commission for Ruling Elder Rhonda Banasiak at First Presbyterian, Clarksville
 - a. The 3-year commission will expire on July 1, 2029.
- 15. Approved the request from First, Lewisburg, for the Rev. Sally Hughes to moderate their session provided the date and time do not conflict with COM meetings
- 16. Delegated the responsibility for boundary training to the Review Team with the support of the Presbytery staff
- 17. Authorized the Temporary Stated Clerk to schedule a Commission on Ministry training to be provided by staff of the Presbyterian Life & Witness, previously the Office of General Assembly
- 18. Sustained the examination of JooYoung Hong and approved his call to the Nashville Korean Presbyterian Church
 - a. He is to be introduced at the August 6th, 2026, Presbytery meeting.
- 19. Referred Belfast Presbyterian Church, Belfast, Tennessee, to the PAC
- 20. The following churches have Solo Pastor positions posted on the Church Leadership Connection portal:
 - a. Harpeth Presbyterian Church, Brentwood
 - b. Normandy Presbyterian Church, Normandy
 - c. Calvary Presbyterian Church of Big Lick, Crossville
 - d. First Presbyterian Church, Tullahoma
 - e. Priest Lake Presbyterian Church, Nashville
 - f. First Presbyterian Church, Smyrna
 - g. Donelson Presbyterian Church, Nashville

Recommendations:

None at this time.

TEMPORARY STATED CLERK
REPORT TO THE PRESBYTERY OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE
August 6, 2026

INFORMATION

1. Collaborative sessions for Clerks of Session to review 2025 session minutes and share best practices or special challenges will be planned for the late summer and early fall months.
2. Supplemental reports are in the meeting packet; please read them, as they contain important information about the Presbytery's committees, commissions, and task forces.
3. The Temporary Stated Clerk attended a General Assembly orientation held at First, Franklin on May 17th & 18th. The event was well-organized and immensely beneficial in preparing to attend General Assembly.
4. Per the Book of Order, councils are mandated to require certificates of completion of boundary training, particularly around sexual misconduct and child sexual abuse prevention, every 36 months from its members, all Certified Christian Educators, all Commissioned Ruling Elders, and all Inquirers and Candidates. Sessions must require boundary training for their active members as well.

The presbytery has approved training content by Praesidium. This material is provided to church leadership at no additional cost. The training consists of on-demand video modules that take 15-20 minutes to complete. A certificate of completion is provided at the conclusion of each module. If this training applies to you, contact the Temporary Stated Clerk. Each Clerk of Session on record with PMT has received information.

5. As Temporary Stated Clerk, I would like to recognize the contributions of Gregory Taylor, part-time Operations Coordinator for the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee. He has been a joy to work with, offering a warm welcome to the work of the Presbytery with encouragement and support. The Temporary Stated Clerk joins with the Presbytery in wishing him well in his future endeavors. A small gift of appreciation for his contributions to the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee has been presented to Gregory.
6. The Temporary Stated Clerk attended the 227th General Assembly with six commissioners, and the Transitional Executive Presbyter. The Rev. Erin Howton-Angel volunteered behind the scenes, assisting with the teleprompter for the Co-Moderators and speakers. The Temporary Stated Clerk's Report from the 227th General Assembly follows this report.

ADMIT TO RECORD

1. The Stated Clerk received the minutes of the Commission to Ordain and Install the Rev. Gage Arnold as Associate Pastor for Youth and Their Families at First Presbyterian Church, Nashville. The members of the commission were: Rev. Ryan Moore and Rev. Sandra Randleman of First Presbyterian Church of Nashville; Rev. Austin Hill, Member-at-Large, Presbytery of Middle Tennessee; Mr. Chris Williams, RE, First Presbyterian Church of Pulaski; Ms. Carrie Hininger, RE, Rev. Cort Gatliff, South Highland Presbyterian Church of Birmingham, AL; and Rev. Ken Loggett, Koininia Church, (Southeast EPC) *[minutes to be included in permanent record]*

2. The Stated Clerk received the minutes of the Commission to Install the Rev. Sarah Bird Kneff as Associate Pastor for Faith Formation at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nashville. The members of the commission were: Rev. Evelyn Graham, Executive Director of Nueva Vida Food Project; Mr. Ned Hildebrandand, RE, Westminster, Nashville; Rev. Donovan Drake, Rev. Ashley Higgins, and Rev. Adam DeVries of Westminster, Nashville; and Ms. Becky Campbell, RE, First Presbyterian Church, Nashville.*[minutes to be included in permanent record]*
3. The Stated Clerk received written reports from each of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee's General Assembly Commissioners: RE Betsy Bond, RE Mickey Stueck, RE Spencer Truett, TE Bruce McVey, TE Jim Moran, and TE Mary Sellers Shaw.

**Report from Erin Bell, Temporary Stated Clerk, on the 227th General Assembly of the PC(USA)
Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 22-July 2, 2026**

It was my distinct honor to represent the Presbytery as Temporary Stated Clerk during the 227th General Assembly. My primary role was caretaker for the Presbytery's commissioners, ensuring that everyone had what they needed to complete their work.

On the Saturday before GA business commenced, I joined RE Betsy Bond in attending "Healing not Harm: A Walk to End Gun Violence". The event began with a rally where speakers shared personal experiences and calls to action. We observed a blacksmith transforming weapons into art. The event concluded with a march to City Hall. It was very moving to encircle the building and pray for the people and policies needed to enact meaningful change. The event was well-organized, and served as a public witness of the values of the PC(USA).

On Sunday, RE Mickey Stueck and I attended worship at Calvary Presbyterian Church, the "Big Red Church" in downtown Milwaukee. As a member of a downtown church with unique architecture, I was overjoyed to worship in this historic space. Members of the church provided lunch (brats with beer or not) and provided us with the utmost hospitality. I felt it most strongly on Sunday, but the worship services throughout the week were times to set business to the side and simply be in community with fellow Presbyterians.

I spent the bulk of my time during plenary in my assigned seat in the area designated for Stated Clerks and Executive Presbyters to observe the proceedings. I learned quite a bit about parliamentary procedure that I hope will enable me to better serve this Presbytery. It was very informative to see how per capita is used to further the mission and ministries of the PC(USA). Listening without a vote offers a unique perspective on the process. I enjoyed the discussion, the points & counterpoints, the care & attention given to each item of business. Everything was done with deliberation and intention. It was exciting to clap and cheer when motions were approved unanimously, but I most enjoyed the hearty round of applause that each committee received when their final reports were submitted. You could feel a particular kind of joy or pride when a committee stood to be recognized.

Outside of plenary, I attended multiple events with Mid Council colleagues, a Ruling Elder luncheon with two of our commissioners, and a Mid Council breakfast featuring speaker Robert P. Jones on the topic of intersectionality in religion, culture, and public policy. I was also fortunate to share several meals with the PMT Commissioners. These were wonderful opportunities to hear their perspectives on the process and reflections on completed business.

In the coming months, I will be reporting official business from General Assembly that will merit your consideration. Many of these items are highlighted in the GA reports of your commissioners and the summary provided by *The Presbyterian Outlook*. The work of the

General Assembly will soon expand, and Presbyteries will be asked to make decisions with deliberation and intention. For now, I extend my gratitude to you for giving me the invitation to attend, to learn, to worship, to observe, to collaborate, and to serve.

Respectfully submitted,
Erin Bell
Temporary Stated Clerk
Presbytery of Middle Tennessee

PERSEVERING *toward* WHOLENESS

The 227th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, addressed constitutional governance, racial justice, gender justice, denominational finances and the direction of the church, laying groundwork for work continuing through the next assembly.

Co-moderators elected, GA228 to be held in Puerto Rico

Commissioners elected the **Rev. Marta Pumroy-Cordero**, border ministry coordinator for the Tres Rios Border Foundation in Tres Rios Presbytery, and the **Rev. Dr. Kristopher D. Schondelmeyer**, pastor and head of staff at First Presbyterian Church in Davenport, Iowa, as co-moderators. They will preside at GA228, June 11-22, 2028, in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Commissioners also **approved full, in-person assemblies**, including an exhibit hall, beginning in 2030.

Budget and per capita

Commissioners approved a **balanced \$188.4 million unified budget** for Presbyterian Life & Witness (PL &W) and the A Corporation for the 2027–2028 biennium, about \$5.8 million more than the previous budget: \$90.45 million for 2027 and \$97.92 million for 2028. Per capita rates were set at \$13.04 in 2027 and \$12.72 in 2028.

General Assembly Relationships

The GAR Committee approved the new Organization for Mission, the structure for the General Assembly as the denomination's highest council, and **established PL&W** and its governing board.

Israel/Palestine

Commissioners approved RIW-04, declaring that the **Israeli government has violated international law** prohibiting genocide in its war in Gaza. As amended, RIW-04 directs the denomination's Office of Public

Witness to advocate against U.S. military sales to Israel and purchases from Israel. It also encourages members to avoid products from Israeli companies linked to violations of international law.

Constitutional interpretation, missiology, and mission co-worker dismissals

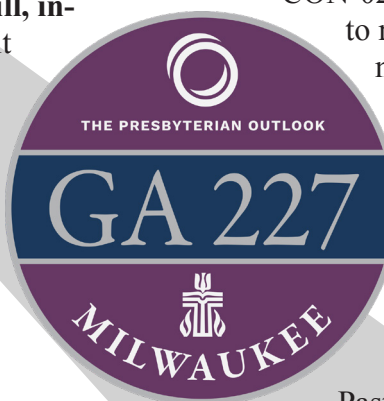
Following testimony on staff dismissals during **World Mission's closure**, the assembly approved CON-02, directing PL&W and the A Corporation to revise employment policies to prohibit nondisclosure covenants for employees, with a report due to the 2028 assembly. RIW-01 calls for review of the processes that terminated mission co-worker positions and World Mission. RIW-02 directs the development of a new missiological statement for global engagement.

Pastors will now be required to complete **boundary and abuse-prevention training** at least every three years. An overture to remove the Board of Pensions' medical coverage requirements was rejected.

Commissioners referred CON-10, which seeks an authoritative interpretation of monogamy, for discussion within the theological framework proposed in GEN-09, "Beyond Changing Families."

Gender and Sexuality Justice

The Constitutional Interpretation Committee **rejected a call for a special study of the Olympia Overture amendments**, citing related proposals GEN-06 and GEN-09. GEN-06 directs the development



of a mechanism that would allow congregations to indicate their openness and readiness to call an LGBTQIA+ candidate on their Ministry Discernment Profiles. Candidates would be allowed to view congregational responses. GEN-09, “Beyond Changing Families: Flourishing Relationships and Belonging,” seeks a theological framework and a study guide on human sexuality and gender that reflect the PC(USA)’s commitment to full inclusion.

The assembly reaffirmed support for **access to medically necessary gender-affirming healthcare** and approved development of a survey collecting non-identifying information about sexual misconduct in church settings.

Climate and Environmental Justice

The Climate Justice Committee approved CLJ-02, “Changing Course for a Green Future,” **directing divestment from more than 50 companies** by 2030 and barring new investments in them. All CLJ items were placed on the consent agenda, including a call for education on regenerative farming and prioritizing responses to the climate crisis.

White Christian nationalism

Commissioners voted overwhelmingly to declare White Christian nationalism and similar ideologies “**a theological error**” incompatible with the teachings of Jesus Christ; language changes in the *Book of Order* require presbytery ratification. Commissioners rejected an amendment that would have removed references to White Christian nationalism from the Special Committee on the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and Race report.

Racial justice

The Racial Justice Committee advanced several recommendations **strengthening the denomination’s**

anti-racism work, including RAC-04, “The Report from the Special Committee on the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) on Race,” directing “PL&W to create a tracking system that displays the progress/ completion of all GA business... related to race, racism, and White supremacy ...”

RAC-01 calls for PC(USA) entities to report to the 228th GA on implementation of RGJ-13, the 2022 Report from the Disparities Experienced by Black Women and Girls Task Force. RAC-03, the “Resolution on Liberia Project 180,” explores establishing theological learning and repair, and developing **acknowledgment and apology for Presbyterian involvement** in and support of the American Colonization Society and its lasting effects on Indigenous Liberians.

Ordered ministry

The Theological Education and Ordination Committee approved changes **modernizing preparation for ministry** while preserving Presbyterian ordination standards. ORD-02 clarifies that ministry preparation in G-2.06 and G-2.07 of the *Book of Order* applies to those training for the ministry of Word and Sacrament; it requires a two-thirds presbytery vote. ORD-03, addressing collaborative ministry teams, was approved; ORD-04, seeking removal of the time-of-service requirement for ruling elders in mid council roles, was not.

A new confession

A newly appointed special committee will continue **considering a new confession**. The draft seeks to articulate Christian faith in response to contemporary challenges including racism, economic inequality, environmental degradation, violence and political polarization.

For full stories about General Assembly or other news from the PC(USA):

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Minutes from the Ordination and Installation Commission for Rev. Gage Arnold

MINUTES
Ordination/Installation Commission for Gage Arnold
First Presbyterian Church
Nashville, Tennessee

Sunday, May 3, 2026, 11 A.M.

The Ordination/Installation Commission appointed by the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee to ordain and install the Teaching Elder Gage Arnold as Pastor met at the First Presbyterian Church of Nashville, Tennessee, on May 3, 2026 at First Presbyterian Church at 10:30 A.M. Members present were:

Teaching Elders

The Rev. Ryan Moore, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Nashville
The Rev. Sandra Raudenbush, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Nashville
The Rev. Austin Hill, Pastor of — Presbyterian Church of —
Member-at-large Middle TN. Presbytery

Ruling Elders

Chris Williams, First Presbyterian Church of Pulaski
Carrie Hinger, First Presbyterian Church of Nashville

Invitation to sit with the Commission:

Darren Kennedy, First Presbyterian Church of Nashville
Sam Hill, First Presbyterian Church of Nashville

The Commission was called to order by the Chair of the Commission Chris Williams and Carrie Hinger 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 Ryan Moore. The constitutional Questions were propounded to Gage Arnold 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 Austin Hill.

Gage Arnold was duly installed as Associate Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Nashville.

A Charge was delivered to the Gage Arnold by Rev. Ken Loggott and Darren Kennedy charged the congregation. The Service was closed with the Benediction pronounced by Gage Arnold. The Commission was adjourned at the benediction of the worship service.

Respectfully submitted:

Carrie Hinger, Clerk of the Commission





FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Church of Nashville

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 3, 2026

11:00 a.m.



To know Christ, to make Him known and to exhibit His love through worship, education and service.

What is our hope in life and death? Christ alone, Christ alone. What is our only confidence? That our souls to him belong. Who holds our days within his hand? What comes, apart from his command? And what will keep us to the end? The love of Christ, in which we stand. O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal. O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess, Christ our hope in life and death. What truth can calm the troubled soul? God is good, God is good. Where is his grace and goodness known? In our great Redeemer's blood. Who holds our faith when fears arise? Who stands above the stormy trial? Who sends the waves that bring us nigh unto the shore, the rock of Christ? Unto the grave, what will we sing? "Christ, he lives; Christ, he lives!" And what reward will heaven bring? Everlasting life with him. There we will rise to meet the Lord, then sin and death will be destroyed. And we will feast in endless joy when Christ is ours forevermore.

As you reflect on the Lord's goodness, you can make an offering by dropping your gift in the offering plate, texting "GIVE" to 707-475-3005, or donating online at fpcnashville.org.

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF GAGE ARNOLD

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF THE SERVICE

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO THE CANDIDATE | *Book of Order*, W-4.0404 Chris Williams

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

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

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

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

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

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

Will you be a faithful minister of the Word and Sacrament, proclaiming the good news in Word and Sacrament, teaching faith and caring for people? Will you be active in government and discipline, serving in the councils of the church; and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION

Carrie Hininger

Do we, the members of the church, accept Gage Arnold as our associate pastor, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to guide us in the way of Jesus Christ?

Do we agree to pray for Gage, to encourage him, to respect his decisions, and to follow as he guides us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

Do we promise to pay him fairly and provide for his welfare as he works among us; to stand by him in trouble and share his joys? Will we listen to the Word he preaches, welcome his pastoral care, and honor his authority as he seeks to honor and obey Jesus Christ our Lord?

PRAYER OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Dr. Austin Hill

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

DECLARATION OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Chris Williams

CHARGE TO THE PASTOR

Rev. Ken Leggett

CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION

Dr. Darren Kennedy

*CLOSING HYMN 39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness
FAITHFULNESS

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

May the Mind of Christ, My Savior
ST. LEONARDS

May the mind of Christ, my Savior, live in me from day to day, by his love and power controlling all I do and say. May the Word of God swell richly in my heart from hour to hour, so that all may see I triumph only thro' his pow'r. May the peace of God my Father rule my life in everything, that I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing. May his beauty rest upon me as I seek the lost to win; and may they forget the channel, seeing only him.

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Fugal Selections from Magnificat Sexti Toni
Johannes Pachelbel

** Those who are able, please stand.*

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Ryan Moore, PhD – *Pastor*
Gage Arnold, MDiv – *Director of Youth Programming*
Mallory Hammond, MDiv – *Parish Associate, Director of Ministry to Children and Their Families*
Sara Hill, MDiv – *Parish Associate for Congregational Care*
Sandra Randleman, DMin – *Parish Associate for Congregational Care*
Raphael Bundage, DMA – *Director of Music*
Stephen King, Guitar and Vocals
Zac Schurman, Guest Organist
Emily Young, Soprano; Sara Crigger, Alto; Kevin Salter, Tenor; Ryan Bede, Bass
Acolytes – Elijah Moore, Jonah Moore

Commission Members and Guests:

Austin Hill, DMin, TE Member-at-Large, Presbytery of Middle Tennessee
Carrie Hininger, RE, First Presbyterian Church of Nashville
Darren Kennedy, PhD, TE First Presbyterian Church of Nashville
Ken Leggett, MDiv, TE Koinonia Church, Mid-South Presbytery (EPC)
Ryan Moore, PhD, TE First Presbyterian Church of Nashville
Sandra Randleman, DMin, TE First Presbyterian Church of Nashville
Scotty Smith, DMin, TE Member-at-Large, Nashville Presbytery (PCA)
Missy Wallace, Liturgist
J. Christopher Williams, RE First Pulaski, Moderator of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Alice Ann Floyd Barge by her family.

SUPPORTING FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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**Installation of Sarah Bird Kneff to Assoc. Pastor of Adult Faith Formation
Westminster Presbyterian Church
Minutes from the Commission to Install
May 17, 2026**

Present at the Meeting:

Ned Hildebrand, RE Westminster

Donovan Drake, TE Westminster

Adam DeVries, TE Westminster

Becky Campbell, RE First Nashville

Evelyn Graham, TE Nueva Vida Food Project (validated ministry), Chair of
Commission

Absent at the meeting but present during the service: Ashley Higgins, TE
Westminster.

The installation was held during the Sunday morning 11am worship service at Westminster Presbyterian. The commission gathered with Rev. Kneff and Evelyn Graham opened the meeting with prayer approximately 10:30. Each person was given their assignment for the installation.

After fulfilling the requirements of the presbytery, the commission was disbanded by the charge and blessing given by Rev. Kneff approximately 12:15pm.

Respectfully submitted.

M. Evelyn Graham, Chair of the Commission

A photograph of a church with a tall steeple, framed by large trees. A group of people is gathered in front of the entrance, which is decorated with a large floral arrangement.

Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 17, 2026
11:00 AM

 **LIVING** OUT **THE WORD**
LOVE • RECONCILE • SHINE • TRANSFORM

John 17:1-11

(New Testament, page 109 in your pew Bible)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

"Who Hears a Prayer?"

Donovan Drake

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**New life in Christ takes shape in a community
in which people know
that God loves and accepts them
in spite of what they are.
They therefore accept themselves
and love others,
knowing that no one has any ground
on which to stand,
except God's grace.**

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.22

INSTALLATION

A LITANY OF GIFTS (*Based on Rom. 12:4–8, 11–13*)

Rev. Evelyn Graham

As in one body we have many parts and each part has its own
function, so all of us together with Christ are one body,
and we all belong to each other.

**We have different gifts according to the grace God has
given us.**

If your gift is to hear God's Word,
speak it out in faith.

If your gift is service,
live to serve others.

If your gift is the heart of a teacher,
teach what is true.

Let preachers preach with conviction, and givers give freely;
**let officers work diligently for the people, and those who
serve the poor, serve gladly.**

Let us not lack for enthusiasm, but be ardent in spirit,
**serving the Lord, rejoicing in hope, patient in suffering,
constant in prayer, supporting one another,
and welcoming all.**

STATEMENT ON THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Becky Campbell

We are called out by God to be the Church of Jesus Christ,
a sign in the world today of the new life that God intends for all.
Today we reclaim our historic calling
and reclaim the great ends of the church:

**The proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of
humankind; the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship
of the children of God;
the maintenance of divine worship;
the preservation of the truth;
the promotion of social righteousness;
and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.**

Book of Order, F-1.0304

PRESENTATION OF THE PASTOR-ELECT

Rev. Evelyn Graham

We remember with joy
our common calling to serve Christ,
and we celebrate God's call to our sister, Sarah,
to serve among us as pastor.

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO PASTOR

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO CONGREGATION

Ned Hildebrand

PRAYER OF INSTALLATION

Rev. Ashley Higgins

DECLARATION OF INSTALLATION

Rev. Evelyn Graham

CHARGE TO THE NEWLY INSTALLED PASTOR

Rev. Adam DeVries

CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION

Rev. Evelyn Graham

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

Anthem

arr. Alice Parker

Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower,
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

*DOXOLOGY

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Offering

Offerings received at ordination and installation services go to The Presbytery Assistance Fund to support Presbyterian pastors in times of financial need.

Doxology

A short hymn of praise to the triune God (God, Jesus Christ, Holy Spirit).

CPM Report to the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee for August 6, 2026

Committee Chair: Stephanie Boaz, TE Westminster-Nashville

Vice Chair: Sandra Randleman, TE First-Nashville

Clerk: Judy Tygard, RE Bellevue PC

In addition to our work with those in the Call process, in 2026, the CPM's goal is to help congregations and their sessions understand the role of the CPM. More importantly, the committee hopes to impress upon the churches and their leadership that the Call to be a Teaching Elder/Minister of Word and Sacrament always begins in the local church. In order to help congregations understand and embrace their role, the committee is happy to send a team to your session meeting or special meeting to give a presentation and answer questions. If your church is interested in receiving a visit, please reach out to: Stephanie Boaz, sboaz@nashvillewpc.org.

To Be Recorded:

Jessie King, Youth Intern at Westminster-Nashville, was endorsed by the session at Westminster to begin the Call process. She met with the CPM and was enrolled as an Inquirer on April 28, 2026. She plans to attend Princeton Seminary once she has completed her time as a Youth Intern at Westminster.

Cade Arnold, a student at Dubuque Theological Seminary, was endorsed by the session of his congregation, First-Cookeville, to begin the Call process. He met with the CPM and was enrolled as an Inquirer on May 26, 2026.

No action Items

Presbytery of Middle Tennessee

2026 – 2028 Members of Presbytery Committees and Commissions

** indicates second term of service
Chairpersons names are noted in bold*

Trustees of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee		
Trustees serve as members of the Administrative and Finance Committees by virtue of office.		
Presbytery Moderator (President)	Presbytery Vice-Moderator (Chair of Admin.)	Presbytery Treasurer (Chair of Finance)
Chris Williams (RE) Pulaski, First	Erin Howton-Angel (TE) Allardt, First	Bruce McVey (TE) Fayetteville, First

Administrative Committee		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Donovan Drake (TE) Nashville, Westminster	*Betsy Bond (RE) Nashville, Trinity	*Leonard Jordan (CRE) Nashville, St. Andrews
	*Mark Bryan, (TE) Nashville, Glen Leven	*Kathy Corlew (RE) Murfreesboro, First
		Suzanne McLemore (RE) Westminster, Nashville Moderator-in-Nomination

Finance Committee		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
*Anders Hall (RE) Nashville, Westminster	*Mark Bryan (TE) Nashville, Glen Leven	George Crawford (RE) Nashville, Westminster
VACANT (TE)	VACANT (RE)	Greg Glover (TE) Clarksville, First

Committee on Church Transformation		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
* John Hilley (TE) Brentwood, East Brentwood	*Keith Gunter (TE) Hendersonville, New Creation	VACANT (RE)
Lori Sain Smith (RE) Shelbyville, First	VACANT (TE)	VACANT (TE)

Committee on Leadership Excellence		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Denise Moran (RE) Tullahoma, First	Sara Hill (TE) Nashville, First -Validated	VACANT (RE)
Dave Nock (RE) Nashville, Priest Lake	VACANT (RE)	VACANT (TE)

Commission on Ministry		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Carrie Fraser (TE) Member-at-large	Brett Withers (RE) Nashville, Woodland	Austin Hill (TE) Nashville, Westminster
*Sally Hughes (TE) Retired Chair of Examinations	*Bill Patterson (RE) Murfreesboro, First	Rhonda Banasiak (CRE) Clarksville, First Chair of Pastoral Care Team
*Amy Stoker (TE) First, Pulaski Co-chair of COM	Zach Sasser (TE) Nashville, Downtown	*Todd Jones (TE) Retired
David Sadler (CRE) Nashville, Priest Lake Chair of Review Team	Cade Arnold, (RE) Cookeville, First	*Mickey Stueck (RE) Lebanon, First Co-chair of COM
Susan Carey (RE) Westminster, Nashville Chair of Transitions Team	Steve Thomas (TE) Retired	Barbara Halverstadt (RE) Nashville, Emmanuel Chair of Mediation Team
VACANT (TE)	VACANT (RE)	Geeta McMillan (RE) Sparta, Blue Spring

Committee on Mutual Support		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
*Bobby Harding (TE) Murfreesboro, First	Samara Zavaro (RE) Nashville, Downtown	*Will Wellman (TE) Nashville, Westminster - Validated
Claire Harris-Kramer (TE) NCCC - Validated		*Spencer Truett (RE) Dickson, First
		Charles Jordan (RE) Nashville, St. Andrews

Committee on Social Justice		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
*Andrea Elkins Murfreesboro, First	*Henry Deaderick (RE) Nashville, St. Andrews	Greta McClain (RE) Nashville, Southminster
*Claire Berry (TE) Historic Franklin	*Adam Devries (TE) Nashville, Westminster - Validated	VACANT (TE)

Permanent Administrative Commission		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Debbie Fraley (RE) First, Fayetteville	John Hinkle (TE) First, Murfreesboro	Melinda Sanders (RE) Nashville, Woodland
Greg Glover (TE) First Clarksville	George Crawford (RE) Westminster, Nashville	Allen Kennedy (RE) Nashville, First

Committee on Preparation for Ministry		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
*James Peeler (RE) Brentwood, Harpeth	Marilee Meschefske (RE) Columbia, Westminster	*Stephanie Boaz, TE Nashville, Westminster
VACANT (RE)	CJ Thompson (TE) Manchester, First	*Judy Tygard (RE) Nashville, Bellevue
VACANT (TE)	Rosanna Anderson (TE) Fisher Island Union Chapel, NY- Validated	Sandra Randleman (TE) Nashville, First

Ordination Exam Readers			
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028	Alternates:
PK Kim (TE) Nashville, Korean	Gloria Dale (RE) Columbia, First		Sally Hughes (TE) Retired
	Annesse Ashton (RE) Nashville, St. Andrews		Joyce Harris (RE) Nashville, St. Andrews
	Greg Glover (TE) Clarksville, First		
	Guy Griffith (TE) Nashville, Westminster		

Permanent Judicial Commission		
Class of 2026	Class of 2028	Class of 2030
Michael Bradley (TE) Retired	Bill Russell (RE) First, Spring Hill	John Smith (TE) Dickson, First Waverly, Ellis Grove
James Hudnut-Beumler (TE) Retired	Walt Tennyson (TE) Alive Hospice - Validated	Keith Dennen, RE Hendersonville, New Creation
J.B. Smith, RE First, Pulaski	Terry Denton (RE) Nashville, Emmanuel	Ryan Moore (TE) Nashville, First

Presbytery of Middle Tennessee Commissioners 2026

General Assembly Commissioners - 2026			
Spencer Truett (RE) Dickson, First	Bruce McVey (TE) Fayetteville, First	Jim Moran (TE) Tulahoma, First	Alternate: Leslie Traylor (TE) Hermitage, Hermitage
Betsy Bond (RE) Nashville, Trinity	Mickey Stueck (RE) Lebanon, First	Mary Sellers Shaw (TE) UKIRK - Validated	

Synod of Living Waters Commissioners - 2026			
*Donovan Drake (TE) Nashville, Westminster	Vickie Harwell (RE) Pulaski, First	Gary Kelly (TE) HR	Anne Keener (CRE) Franklin, First

Presbytery of Middle Tennessee Relevant Boards

UKIRK Board Members			
Members are reported only; not elected by the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee.			
Mr. David Carlton	Ms. Barbara Fay	Dr. Brent Graham	Rev. Shane Smith
Rev. Lee Catoe	Dr. Ryan Fox	Ms. Holly Miller	
Ms. Kelly Christie	Dr. Nathaniel Freymeyer	Mary Sellers Shaw, Executive Director	

revised 7/28/2026

Presbytery of Middle Tennessee

165th Stated Meeting Consent Agenda and Materials

Consent Agenda

165th Stated Meeting, Presbytery of Middle Tennessee

August 6th, 2026

Item #	Title
(1)	Approval of Minutes and Roll of the 164th Stated Meeting of May 2nd, 2026
(2)	Approval of Minutes and Roll of the Called Meeting of the Presbytery on July 10th, 2026

***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.**

**PRESBYTERY OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE
MINUTES OF ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-FOURTH STATED MEETING
MAY 2, 2026**

The 164th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee (PMT) was held in person at First Presbyterian Church of Cookeville on Saturday May 2nd, 2026. Rev. Chris Adams provided an orientation for first-time commissioners. Vice-Moderator Erin Howton-Angel called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and opened with prayer.

DECLARATION OF QUORUM / STATEMENT OF PROCEDURES

Vice-Moderator Erin Howton-Angel 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, members of the Permanent Administrative Commission, 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. The Vice-Moderator also announced that, prior to the meeting, the Temporary Stated Clerk requested that Rev. Chris Adams of First Presbyterian Church of Spring Hill, serve as Deputy Stated Clerk and timekeeper. There was no objection.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

The Vice-Moderator stated that the agenda and the consent agenda were sent to the commissioners on April 22nd. These contained the minutes of the 163rd Stated Meeting, and the Called Meeting held online via Zoom on March 27th. The main agenda was approved without objection. Due to unforeseen circumstance Moderator RE Chris Williams was excused from the meeting. It was noted that Rev. Erin Howton-Angel would moderate the meeting and CRE Leonard Jordan would present the Administrative Committee's report. The consent agenda was approved with an amendment to include Commissioned Ruling Elders who had been omitted from the roll of the Stated Meeting.

SEATING OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Corresponding members were seated without objection and are listed with the roll (Attachment A).

RECOGNITION OF FIRST-TIME COMMISSIONERS

The Vice-Moderator welcomed first time commissioners and invited them to introduce themselves.

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 SIXTY-FOURTH STATED MEETING
THE PRESBYTERY OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE
AGENDA OF MAY 2nd, 2026
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF COOKEVILLE, TN**

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 9:00 | Registration (Order of the Day in CAPS) |
| 9:15 | Orientation for First Time Commissioners (Chris Adams) |
| 9:30 | CONVENE <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establishment of Quorum• Adoption of Agenda and Consent Agenda• Seating of Corresponding Members• Recognition of First Time Presbyters |
| 9:40 | WORSHIP <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sermon: Rev. Sherard Edington, Transitional Executive Presbyter• Offering: Guatemala-Peten Partnership Task Force |
| 10:45 | PRESBYTERIAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSICIANS (Elizabeth Deibert- 5 minutes) |
| 10:50 | BREAK (10 minutes) |
| 11:00 | REPORTS (numbers indicate order in packet)
<i>All speakers are advised to review the policies for oral reports and speaking during Stated and Called meetings of the Presbytery.</i>

<ul style="list-style-type: none">(1) Administrative Committee (Rev. Erin Howton-Angel - 10 minutes)(2) Finance Committee (Rev. Bruce McVey - 10 minutes)(3) PAC (RE Melinda Sanders - 20 minutes)(4) Presentation on small and rural churches (Rev. Roger Speer - 30 minutes)(5) Nominating Task Force (CRE Leonard Jordan - 5 minutes) |
| 12:15 | LUNCH - A few tables will be designated for attendees who would like to discuss church transitions. Roger Speer will also be available to answer questions or discuss his presentation. |

- 1:30 **RECONVENE**
- (6) Joys, Concerns, & Announcements (Rev. Sherard Edington – 10 minutes)
 - (7) Commission on Ministry (RE Mickey Stueck – 10 minutes)
 - (8) Stated Clerk's Report (Chris Adams - 5 minutes)
 - (9) Executive Presbyter's Report (Rev. Sherard Edington – 5 minutes)
- 2:00 **CLOSING PRAYER & ADJOURNMENT**
- 165th Stated Meeting: Saturday, August 6th, 2026
Bellevue Presbyterian Church – Nashville, TN
 - Closing Prayer – RE Chris Williams
 - Adjournment

Ways to Contribute to Today's Offering

▲ Mail a Check to the Presbytery Office

The Presbytery of Middle Tennessee
1113 Murfreesboro Rd
Suite 106, #216
Franklin, TN 37064

▲ Visit the Presbytery Website

www.pbymidtn.org

Click the "Give Now" button

▲ Scan the QR Code

This link will take you to the donation page.

▲ Designate your giving – Please specify that your donation is for the Guatemala Task Force.



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.

Policies Approved by Middle Tennessee Presbytery May 3, 2025

Consent Agenda

164th Stated Meeting, Presbytery of Middle Tennessee

May 7th, 2026

Item #	Title
(1)	Approval of Minutes and Roll of the Called Meeting of the Presbytery on March 27 th , 2026
(2)	Approval of Minutes and Roll of the 163 rd Stated Meeting of February 7 th , 2026

*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.

WORSHIP

Rev. Michael McLaughlin led the body in worship. Worship music was provided by First, Cookeville's talented musicians and singers. Rev. Sherard Edington, Transitional Executive Presbyter, preached an engaging sermon. The worship offering was collected for The Nueva Vida Food Project.

REMARKS FROM REV. ELIZABETH DEIBERT

Rev. Elizabeth Deibert, Development Manager for the Presbyterian Association of Musicians (PAM) gave a brief presentation to the Presbytery. This included an invitation to the upcoming Music and Worship Conference. The theme will be: "Who will be a witness for my Lord?" She then highlighted PAM's Child of Blessing initiative about children and worship and the "First Call" support for first call pastors. PAM has a new "Sounding Board" podcast that members may find interesting.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

The Vice-Moderator recognized CRE Leonard Jordan of St. Andrews, Nashville, member of the committee and Chair of the Nominating Task Force to present the committee's report.

Motion to Amend Schedule for Stated Meetings of the Presbytery

CRE Jordan moved that Stated Presbytery meetings be held only on Saturdays beginning in 2027. He noted this will require a change to the PMT's Missions and Operations manual, and requires a 2/3 majority. Discussion of the motion noted the challenges to achieve optimum attendance at Thursday meetings. Concerns about childcare on Saturdays were also noted. With no further discussion, the vote was held. Rev. Claire Berry called for a vote count with the following result: 58 affirmative, 17 opposed; the motion carried.

Motion to Approve Amendments to the Presbytery's Personnel Manual

CRE Jordan moved to approve the Personnel Task Force's recommended changes to the Personnel manual. The Vice-Moderator recognized RE Connie Hamblen to speak to the motion, which required a simple majority to be approved. RE Mickey Stueck requested the Personnel Task Force include vaping and other forms of tobacco use. RE Hamblen agreed to take the suggestion to the Task Force in an upcoming meeting. The motion carried.

Motion to Amend the Policy for Presbytery Committee Eligibility

CRE Jordan moved to remove the requirement for Ruling Elders to be a member of the Presbytery for one year before being eligible to serve on a committee. He noted this will require a change to the PMT's Missions and Operations manual, and requires a 2/3 majority. The motion carried.

Motions to Amend the Presbytery's Missions and Operations Manual

CRE Jordan moved to approve the Commission on Ministry's recommendation to amend the Mission and Operations Manual by adding the following line to page 5, following line 44: The Commission on Ministry will maintain a current list of churches, which will be posted on the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee's website. He noted that all changes to the PMT's Missions and Operations manual require a 2/3 majority. The motion carried.

CRE Jordan moved to approve the Commission on Ministry's recommendation to amend the Mission and Operations Manual by removing the table on pages 5 and 6 which lists the churches by neighborhood. The motion carried.

CRE Jordan moved to approve the Commission on Ministry's recommendation to amend the Mission and Operations Manual on page 16, line 1, by replacing seven (7) with four (4) as the minimum number of members of the pastoral care team. He noted that this change is to provide consistency with the COM manual, which notes the minimum number is 4. The motion carried.

CRE Jordan moved to approve the Temporary Stated Clerk's recommendation to amend the Mission and Operations Manual by adding the following line to page 5, following line 17: The Stated Clerk shall add members of dissolved congregations, who have not transferred to another congregation, to a temporary roll of the Presbytery. The membership shall be granted for two (2) years or until notice of transfer is received. It is the duty of the Stated Clerk to maintain this roll. A commissioner asked for clarification of the current policy. The Vice-Moderator recognized RE Melinda Sanders, Chair of the Permanent Administrative Commission to respond to the question. RE Sanders responded that the current manual does not include instructions for maintaining this type of membership roll. The Temporary Stated Clerk and the PAC requested this change to clarify the process and delegate responsibility accordingly. The motion carried.

CRE Jordan concluded the report of the Administrative Committee.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Vice-Moderator recognized Rev. Bruce McVey of First, Fayetteville, Chair of the Finance Committee to make the report. Rev. McVey also serves as Treasurer and Trustee for the Prebytery.

Financial Statements

Financial statements including quarter-to-date activity through March 31, 2026 were included with the meeting packet.

Appointing Members to the Legal Task Force

Ruling Elders Melinda Sanders and Christi Scott were appointed to the Legal Task Force in the April meeting of the Finance Committee. RE George Crawford serves as Chair of the Legal Task Force.

Distribution of Presbytery Disaster Assistance (PDA) Grants

Four congregations received approval from the PDA for grants related to the winter storms in January (approximately \$8,000 in total). The Finance Committee has disbursed bridge loans (from 3002-09 Disaster Assistance Fund) to these four congregations until the Presbytery receives the grant proceeds from PDA.

Expenses Paid from the Mary Neville Restricted Gift Fund

The Finance Committee disbursed approximately \$3,500 for squirrel eradication from the Mary Neville restricted gift fund.

Rev. McVey concluded the report of the Finance Committee.

PERMANENT ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION (PAC)

The Vice-Moderator recognized Melinda Sanders, RE from Woodland, Nashville and Chair of the PAC to make the report.

Merging of Hopewell Pres. Church in Milton and Northminster Pres. Church in Murfreesboro

RE Sanders noted one of the best parts of serving on the PAC is the opportunity to work with churches to find creative ways to continue their life and ministry when they reach the point that they cannot continue as they are currently operating. She listed a few of the potential reasons churches face closure: the membership gets too small, the building becomes overwhelming, a beloved pastor leaves and the church cannot afford to replace them. RE Sanders noted that when a church is referred to the PAC prior to a vote by the church, the Commission has an opportunity to work with that congregation to look for solutions besides closure. She highlighted Hopewell Presbyterian Church in Milton as an example of this process.

The Vice-Moderator then recognized Rev. Dr. John Hinkle, member of the PAC and Pastor at First, Murfreesboro to explain the process of merging the Hopewell Presbyterian Church and Northminster Presbyterian Church congregations. He is the PAC member that worked most closely with Hopewell and has particular insights to offer.

Rev. Hinkle shared the following information: Hopewell Presbyterian church has a rich history and legacy. They recently asked to merge with Northminster, which both Sessions approved. The existing Northminster Chapel will be renamed "Hopewell Chapel". Hopewell Presbyterian Church held their last service on May 19th, 2026. Northminster cancelled their regular worship service in order to celebrate the joint worship with Hopewell, and honor its many years of existence. Rev. Hinkle further noted that a service of union is upcoming at Northminster. Rev. Dennis Buckley has been serving as the Stated Supply Pastor for Hopewell. He is now serving as the Pastor at Northminster. Rev. Hinkle expressed gratitude for Rev. Buckley's support and assistance through the process of bringing together these churches. Rev. Hinkle further commended the Sessions of Northminster, Murfreesboro and Hopewell, Milton for their faithful work. He closed his report by giving all glory to God.

Dissolution of Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church

RE Sanders moved that the First Presbyterian Church of Mt. Pleasant be dissolved and the membership roll of the church be transferred to the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee. She further requested the Presbytery's permission to have the Stated Clerk attach a short history of the church in the minutes of the Presbytery meeting when it is provided. The motion carried. It was noted that the legacy and ministry of this church will be recognized at a Presbytery meeting that is closer in proximity to Mt. Pleasant.

Policies and Procedures for Receiving Congregations into the PC(USA) through this Presbytery

RE Sanders then presented the PAC's report on their work to propose Policies and Procedures for Receiving Congregations into this Denomination through this Presbytery. When the request was made by the Presbytery, a process for this work was determined, which included circulating a draft asking for comments and concerns. The PAC would then present the policies with their reasoning and rationale. This was completed prior to and

during the February Meeting of the Presbytery, held at Nashville Korean Presbyterian Church. RE Sanders explained that the PAC, having not received any communications about the policies, had intended to bring the proposed policies for a vote in the meeting. However, the PAC very recently learned that a small group in the Presbytery has concerns about the policy and feel an amendment would be needed in today's meeting.

RE Sanders stated: "Because we believe strongly in careful deliberation of a policy such as this, and because we are certain that no one in this Presbytery would try to gain an advantage through last minute tactics, the PAC has voted not to bring the policies which are attached to our report for a vote today. This way whoever has concerns can bring them forward to us and then eventually to the Presbytery so that we are not voting on something that we have not had adequate time to consider."

Citing the concerns from members and a desire for a more deliberative process, the PAC opted not to bring the motion forward. RE Sanders then concluded the report of the PAC.

PRESENTATION ON SMALL AND RURAL CHURCHES

Rev. Roger Speer gave a presentation on small and rural churches. He stated that rural churches are losing people as they move from rural to urban areas. "What does the church have to do to address the challenges?" According to Rev. Speer, we are not facing a "narrative of decline," but "Ecclesial Detachment Disorder."

He shared three new measures that a cohort of 12 churches is testing in a 3-month process over the summer.

1. Worship Ecology Index (33% of population) - average Sunday attendance adjusting
2. Worship Importance Inventory - What kind of worship would match its psychological needs? Is the church united in worship or fracturing?
3. Congregational Vitality Index - This measures a church's willingness to adapt to the world. How well does it follow Pastoral or lay leadership? This looks at the church's relationship to the neighborhood and expression to its neighbors. This measure is an opportunity to gauge vitality vs. former measures of success.

Rev. Speer asked for prayerful reviews of this work. He challenged the body to ponder the questions - Are we dying? Or are we having the wrong conversation? He noted that the definition of church has to change. In closing, he shared information about a free Small Church Rising Conference, to be held on September 26th at School of Theology in Suwanee. He asked, "Is my ecclesial identity in line with what the Spirit is doing in my neighborhood?"

During the brief time for questions and answers, Rev. Speer responded that he is open to giving a comparable presentation for smaller groups. When asked how to define a "small" church, he noted that is a relative, or subjective, question without a solid answer. The answer will vary from person to person. He is also familiar with a Town Square Conference in Arkansas.

NOMINATING TASK FORCE

The Vice-Moderator recognized Commissioned Ruling Elder Leonard Jordan of Nashville, St. Andrews and Chair of the Nominating Task Force.

Motion to Amend the Standing Rules

CRE Jordan moved to amend the standing rules for the meeting to allow a vote on the election of Rev. Austin Hill to the Commission on Ministry and to elect a team to provide education on the 2026 Vision Plan for the Presbytery. These names were not included in the report for this meeting, and therefore have not been in the hands of the body for 7 days. The Mission and Operations Manual allows suspension of the standing rules by a three-quarters vote of members present at the meeting. The motion carried.

Election of Austin Hill to the Commission on Ministry

CRE Jordan moved to elect Rev. Austin Hill to the 2028 Class of the COM. The motion carried.

Election of an Education Team for the Presbytery's Proposed 2026 Vision Plan

CRE Jordan moved to elect TE Jane Herring, himself, RE Barbara Halverstadt, TE Keith Gunter, and TE Sherard Edington to a visioning education team. They are tasked with undertaking deliberate and intentional education and discussion opportunities for the Presbytery's visioning plan. CRE Jordan noted the election of this team completes an action item mandated by the Presbytery in November 2025. The motion carried.

The PMT's Missions and Operations Manual directs the Nominating Task Force to include a list of all current members of presbytery committees and commissions with every report to presbytery. This information is located at the conclusion of the minutes.

CRE Jordan encouraged those present to get involved with the Presbytery's many committees, commissions, and task forces. There are a number of vacancies that need to be filled. CRE Jordan noted that he would be available to answer questions after the meeting. He concluded his report by asking members to contact him if they know someone that the Nominating Task Force should consider contacting.

RECOGNITION OF FORMER MODERATOR – REV. JANE HERRING

On behalf of the Presbytery, Vice-Moderator Erin Howton-Angel presented Rev. Jane Herring with a small gift of appreciation for serving as Presbytery Moderator in 2025. This recognition was followed by a hearty round of applause for her work.

RECESS FOR LUNCH

The Vice-Moderator invited the body to recess for lunch, pre-ordered boxed lunches, and offered a blessing for the meal. She also noted that a few tables were designated for attendees who would like to discuss church transitions. Roger Speer was available to answer questions or discuss his presentation. Calvary of Big Lick had a display with information about their Pastoral opening. Elizabeth Deibert was also available for continued discussion of the Presbyterian Association of Musicians. Many attendees visited the display tables and engaged in conversations on these highlighted topics.

RECONVENE WITH THE SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Following the break for lunch, the Vice-Moderator reconvened the meeting. She recognized Rev. Sherard Edington, Transitional Executive Presbyter, who asked attendees to share their praises, requests for prayer, and announcements. Expressions of care/concern were offered for those in churches that are dissolving and merging as they lean into a new season of faith. Prayers were requested for those who were or still are impacted by Winter Storm Fern. Pastoral condolences were shared by Rev. Edington, who then led the body in prayer.

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

The Vice-Moderator recognized Ruling Elder Mickey Stueck to give a report from the Commission on Ministry (COM). RE Stueck requested that twenty items, noted below, be admitted to record.

Ministry Discernment Profiles Approved

COM approved MDPs for Calvary, Big Lick; First, Tullahoma; Priest Lake, Nashville; and First, Smyrna.

Request from Westminster, Fairfield Glade

A request from Westminster, Fairfield Glade in Cumberland County to transfer to the Presbytery of East Tennessee was referred by the COM to the higher councils.

Appointment of Moderators of Session

COM approved CRE Teresa Burns, to moderate Ardmore, Bethany session with RE Bill Patterson as alternate. Rev. Sally Hughes was appointed to moderate Westminster, Columbia's called congregational meeting to approve the dissolution of the relationship with Rev. Jeff Kane.

Approval of Terms of Call

The terms of call for Rev. Dr. Darren Kennedy to be Associate Pastor for Discipleship at First, Nashville were approved. Terms of Call for Rev. Sarah Bird Kneff to be Associate Pastor for Adult Faith Formation at Westminster, Nashville were also approved.

Permission to Labor Outside the Bounds

COM approved a request from the Chicago Presbytery to grant Rev. Eddie Bellis permission to labor outside the bounds of the Presbytery for the purpose of performing a wedding in Chicago on April 25, 2026.

Appointment of Mentor/Ministry Colleague

COM appointed Rev. John Smith mentor/ministry colleague for Rev. Gage Arnold.

Approval of Stated Supply Contract

COM approved the supply contract for Dakota Norris (Disciples of Christ) to serve Milldale Presbyterian Church in Springfield. The supply contract for Rev. Dr. Michael Andrew Ingram for First, Smyrna was also approved.

Approval of Interim Contract

Rev. Jeannie Hunter was approved to serve as Interim Pastor at First, Shelbyville, pending positive background check and completion of boundary training.

Approval of Mission Studies

COM approved First, Franklin's Mission Study. They may now form a Pastor Nominating Committee.

Distribution of Sabbatical Grants

First Presbyterian Church of Pulaski's request for a sabbatical grant of \$1,500 was approved. Rev. Dr. Amy Stoker's sabbatical extends June 1st to August 16th, 2026.

Ordination and Installation Commissions

The Ordination and Installation Commission for Rev. Gage Arnold to Director of Youth Programming at First, Nashville was approved. COM ratified the e-mail approval of Darren Kennedy's installation commission at First, Nashville.

Clerical Amendments to Policy Documents

COM approved the Temporary Stated Clerk's request to add a signature and date line to the sexual misconduct self-certification on page 7 of the Validated Ministry Request form. The neighborhood list of churches was updated to reflect recent dissolutions of congregations. Changes to the Missions and Operations Manual were presented to the Administrative Committee for consideration.

Changes to the Membership Roll of the Presbytery

COM ratified an email vote to dismiss the Rev. Lynn Carroll to the Presbytery of New York City. Rev. Linda White's membership status was updated to retired.

Motion to Add Rev. Roger Speer as a Member of the Presbytery

RE Stueck moved that Rev. Roger Speer be added to the roll of the Presbytery as a temporary member from another denomination. The motion carried.

RE Stueck concluded her report by recognizing the ministry of Rev. Jeff Kane.

REPORT OF THE TEMPORARY STATED CLERK

The Vice-Moderator recognized the Deputy Stated Clerk, Rev. Chris Adams, of First Presbyterian Church, Spring Hill. Rev. Adams presented the Temporary Stated Clerk's report on behalf of Ms. Erin Bell, who was excused from the meeting.

Rev. Adams began the report by conveying Ms. Bell's regrets that she was being unable to attend the meeting. He requested four items, noted below, be admitted to record. He then requested that four items, noted below, be admitted to the permanent record.

1. The Stated Clerk received the minutes of the Commission to Install the Rev. Patrick Woolsey as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, McMinnville. The service took place on Sunday, December 14th at 3:00 pm at First McMinnville with the following commission members: Rev. Sally Hughes, Trinity, Nashville (Chair); Rev. C.J. Thompson, First, Manchester; RE Barry Barnes, First, McMinnville; RE Deidra Goins, First, Manchester; RE Bethany Sterling, First, Tullahoma; RE Debra Vandever, Historic, Franklin; and Betsy Bond, Trinity, Nashville. Guests of the commission included Rev. Dr. Dan Spross of the Nazarene denomination and Rev. Sherry Cothran of the United Methodist denomination.
2. The Stated Clerk received the minutes of the Commission to Install Rev. Dr. Darren Kennedy as Associate Pastor for Discipleship at First Presbyterian Church, Nashville, TN. The service took place on Sunday, March 8th at 11:00 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church, Nashville with the following commission members: RE Chris Williams, First, Pulaski (Chair); Dr. Ryan Moore, First, Nashville; Ms. Jane Smith, First, Nashville; Rev. Sara Hill, First, Nashville; Rev. Sally Hughes, retired; the Rev. Sherard Edington Transitional Executive Presbyter, and Rev. Sandra Randleman, First, Nashville. Guests of the commission included Dr. Mark Labberton, Dr. Adam Neder, Dr. Shane Berg, Dr. Elisabeth Kennedy, and Dr. Jeff O'Grady.
3. As part of the 2025 year-end reporting to the PC(USA), annual statistics reports were received from the following congregations: Alexandria, Liberty Hill; Allardt, Allardt; Alpine, Christ Church; Ardmore, Bethany; Belfast, Belfast; Bethpage, Oak Grove; Brentwood, East Brentwood; Brentwood, Harpeth; Buffalo Valley, Buffalo Valley; Clarksville, First; Columbia, First; Columbia, Westminster; Cookeville, First; Cookeville, Double Springs; Crossville, Calvary of Big Lick; Dickson, First; Fairfield Glade, Westminster; Fayetteville, First; Franklin, First; Franklin, Historic Franklin; Gallatin, Sudanese American New; Hendersonville, First; Hendersonville, New Creation; Hermitage, Hermitage; Lawrenceburg, First; Lebanon, First; Lewisburg, First; Manchester, First; McMinnville, First; Mt. Pleasant, First; Murfreesboro, First; Murfreesboro, Northminster; Nashville, Bellevue; Nashville, Donelson; Nashville, Downtown; Nashville, Eastminster; Nashville, Emmanuel; Nashville, First; Nashville, Glen Leven; Nashville, Glenciff; Nashville, Hillwood; Nashville, Korean; Nashville, Priest Lake; Nashville, Second; Nashville, Southminster; Nashville, Trinity; Nashville, Westminster; Nashville, Woodland; Normandy, Normandy;

Old Hickory, Old Hickory; Petersburg, First; Pulaski, First; Shelbyville, First; Smyrna, First; Sparta, Blue Spring; Spring Hill, First; Springfield, Milldale; Thompson Station, Bethesda; Tullahoma, First; Waverly, Ellis Grove

4. The Stated Clerk was informed of the passing of ministers with close connections to the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee. We give thanks for the life, ministry, and remembrances of these men:
- Rev. Charles Moffatt passed away on April 14th at the age of 101. Services were held at First Presbyterian Church of Gallatin, where we served as Pastor for 29 years.
 - Rev. David Garth passed away on Saturday, February 28th. Rev. Garth served as the Senior Pastor of First Presbyterian Church - Murfreesboro from 1994-2006. He and his wife, Debbie, returned to Virginia when he retired.
 - On January 28, Rev. Diarmuid O'Hara passed away in Murfreesboro, TN. As a retired minister, Rev. O'Hara had been a valued member of the First, Murfreesboro Church family.

Rev. Adams concluded the report by sharing a brief reminder of the Presbytery's required boundary training.

- Per the Book of Order, councils are mandated to require certificates of completion of boundary training, particularly around sexual misconduct and child sexual abuse prevention, every 36 months from its members, all Certified Christian Educators, all Commissioned Ruling Elders, and all Inquirers and Candidates. This also means that sessions must require boundary training for their members as well. The presbytery has approved training content by Praesidium Academy. This material is provided to church leadership at no additional cost. The training consists of on-demand video modules that take 15-20 minutes to complete. A certificate of completion is provided at the conclusion of each module. A form to request registration for boundary training through Praesidium Academy can be found on the Presbytery website. If you have questions, please contact Erin Bell.

Upon the conclusion of his report, the Vice-Moderator extended a particular word of gratitude to Rev. Adams for giving of his time and talents to serve as Deputy Stated Clerk for this meeting.

Minutes from the Installation Commission for Rev. Dr. Darren Kennedy

Minutes of the commission for the installation of Dr. Darren Kennedy as associate pastor for discipleship at First Presbyterian Church, Nashville, Tennessee
March 8, 2026

The members of the commission, and staff of FPC, gathered in the outer office of Dr. Ryan Moore at 10:30 AM, March 8, 2026.

Present: Chris Williams, chair of the commission; Dr. Ryan Moore (FPC), Ms. Jane Smith (FPC), the Rev Sara Hill (FPC), the Rev. Sally Hughes (HR), the Rev. Sherard Edington (Executive Presbyter), the Rev. Sandra Randleman (FPC) and guests of the commission: Dr. Mark Labberton, Dr. Adam Neder, Dr. Shane Berg, Dr. Elisabeth Kennedy, Dr. Jeff O'Grady

The commission was called to order by Chris Williams. Ryan Moore opened with prayer, and then went over the worship service. At 11 AM, the commission and guests gathered at the back of the sanctuary and processed into the sanctuary.

Following the sermon, which was delivered by Dr. Labberton, Mr. Williams propounded the constitutional questions to Dr. Kennedy. Ms. Smith propounded the questions to the congregation. Dr. Neder presided and prayed during the laying on of hands. Dr. O'Grady delivered the charge to the pastor. Dr. Berg delivered the charge to the congregation.

Dr. Darren Kennedy gave the benediction, which concluded the work of the commission as well as the worship service.

Respectfully submitted,
Sally Hughes

Since the worship bulletin is 8 pages long, I have attached just the installation portion.

Worship Bulletin from the Service of Installation for Rev. Dr. Darren Kennedy

SERMON	What Is First?	Dr. Mark Labberton
OFFERTORY	<i>O How Amiable</i> R. Vaughan Williams	
<i>O how amiable are thy dwellings, thou Lord of hosts! My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord. My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young: even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house. They will be always praising thee. The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us; prosper thou the work of our hands upon us. O prosper thou our handiwork, O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.</i> <i>As you reflect on the Lord's goodness, you can make an offering by dropping your gift in the offering plate, texting "GIVE" to 707-475-3005, or donating online at fpcnashville.org.</i>		
INSTALLATION OF DARREN KENNEDY (11:00)		
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF THE SERVICE		Dr. Ryan Moore
CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO THE CANDIDATE (see back of bulletin)		Chris Williams
CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION (see back of bulletin)		Jane Smith
PRAYER OF INSTALLATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER		Dr. Adam Neder
DECLARATION OF INSTALLATION		Chris Williams
CHARGE TO THE PASTOR		Dr. Jeffery O'Grady
CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION		Dr. Shane Berg

MINUTES
Ordination/Installation Commission for Patrick James Woolsey
First Presbyterian Church
McMinnville, Tennessee

Sunday, Dec 14 3:00 P.M. 2025

The Ordination/Installation Commission appointed by the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee to ordain and install the Teaching Elder Patrick Woolsey as Pastor met at the First Presbyterian Church of McMinnville, Tennessee, on Dec 14 at First Presbyterian Church at 2:30 P.M. Members present were:

Teaching Elders

The Rev. Sally Hughes, Pastor of Trinity Presbyterian Church of Nashville, TN
The Rev. CJ Thompson, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Manchester, TN
The Rev. _____, Pastor of _____ Presbyterian Church of _____

Ruling Elders

Barry Barnes First Presbyterian Church of McMinnville, TN
Bethany Sterling First Presbyterian Church of Manchester, TN
Debra Vanderveer Historic Franklin Presbyterian Church, Franklin, TN

Invitation to sit with the Commission:

Dr. Dan Spross Presbyterian Church of Nazarene Church
Rev Sherry Cothran Presbyterian Church of United Methodist Church

The Commission was called to order by the Chair of the Commission Sally Hughes and Debra 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 Dr. Dan Spross. The constitutional Questions were propounded to Patrick Woolsey by the Chair and they were answered in the affirmative. The Constitutional Questions were propounded to the Congregation by Ruling Elder Barry Barnes and answered in the affirmative by the Congregation. A prayer was offered by Rev Sherry Cothran

Patrick J. Woolsey was duly installed as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, McMinnville, TN

A Charge was delivered to the pastor by Debra Vanderveer and the Rev C.J. Thompson charged the congregation. The Service was closed with the Benediction pronounced by the Rev Patrick Woolsey. The Commission was adjourned at the benediction of the worship service.

Respectfully submitted:

Debra Vanderveer Clerk of the Commission

Worship Bulletin from the Service of Ordination and Installation for Rev. Patrick Woolsey

to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
and to announce that the time had come
when you would save your people.
He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.
When the Lord Jesus ascended, He promised to be with us always,
in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us,
he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,
gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."
When the supper was over he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."
And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory,
and we feast at his heavenly banquet.
Through your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours,
Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

— SENDING —

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

CHARGE & BLESSING

Rev. Patrick Woolsey

HYMN

"Lift High The Cross"

PH 371

POSTLUDE



First Presbyterian Church McMinnville
205 W Main St McMinnville TN 37110
(931)473-2690

firstpresmcminn@gmail.com
Pastor: Rev. Patrick J. Woolsey



THE ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF PATRICK J. WOOLSEY

GATHERING

PRESENTATION

Rev. Sally Hughes

As many of you as were baptized into Christ
have clothed yourselves with Christ.

**There is one body and one Spirit,
just as we were called to the one hope of our calling.**

In baptism, Patrick was clothed with Christ, and is now called by God
through the voice of the church to enter into ministry as a teaching elder.

**We remember with joy our common calling to serve Christ, and we
celebrate God's particular call to our brother, Patrick.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

GREETING

Bethany Sterling

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord:
let us exalt the name of the Lord together.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

HYMN

"God of Grace, God of Glory"

PH 420

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Rev. Sally Hughes

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF SIN

Mighty and merciful God, you have called us to be your people,
to live boldly in the way of Jesus Christ.
But we confess, we have been cautious when you ask for courage,
silent when you called for witness,
fearful when you promised your Spirit's power.
Forgive us, O God, our timid hearts,
our small faith, our unfinished obedience.
By the waters of our baptism, stir up your restless Spirit within us.
Renew our strength to follow Christ's risky way, with courage,
compassion, and joy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

BOLD PRINT—congregational response

THE PEACE

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.
To this peace we were called as member of a single body.
The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**
*(people may exchange with one another, by words and gesture,
signs of peace and reconciliation.)*

— THE WORD —

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Dr. Dan Spross

FIRST READING — 1 Kings 19:15-21

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING — Philippians 2:5-11

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Dr. Dan Spross

HYMN

"Here I Am Lord"

PH 525

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Rev. Sally Hughes

There are varieties of gifts, but is the same Spirit who gives them.
**There are different ways of serving God,
but it is the same Lord who is served.**

God works through each person in a unique way,
but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.
To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.

Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

STATEMENT OF ORDINATION

REAFFIRMATION OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

RENUNCIATIONS

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin
and renounce evil and its power in the world? **I do.**

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior,
trusting in his grace and love? **I do.**

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing
his love? **I will, with God's help.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

With the whole church let us confess our faith.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eternal and gracious God... be all glory and honor, now and forever.

Amen.

Remember your baptism and be thankful.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

CONGREGATIONAL QUESTIONS

Barry Barnes

Do we, the members of the church, accept Patrick J. Woolsey as our
pastor, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation
to guide us in the way of Jesus Christ? **We do.**

Do we agree to pray for him, encourage him, to respect his decisions,
and to follow as he guides us,
serving Jesus Christ who alone is Head of the Church? **We do.**

Do we promise to pay him fairly
and provide for his welfare as he works among us;
to stand by him in trouble and share his joys? **We do.**

Will we listen to the word he preaches, welcome his pastoral care,
and honor his authority as he seeks to honor and obey Jesus Christ
our Lord? **We do and we will.**

PRAYER OF ORDINATION

PRAYER OVER CANDIDATE

Rev. Sherry Cothran

Gracious God, pour out your Spirit upon your servant Patrick,
whom you called by baptism as your own.

Grant him the same mind that was in Christ Jesus.

**Give him a spirit of truthfulness rightly to proclaim your Word in
Christ from pulpit, table, and font, and in the words and actions of
daily living. Give him the gifts of your Holy Spirit to build up the
church, to strengthen the common life of your people,
and to lead with compassion and vision.**

**In the walk of faith and for the work of ministry, grant to Patrick,
and to all who bear the burden and joy of pastoral calling,
gladness that overcomes weariness, discipline that refines devotion,
hope that resists despair, humility to know their limits,
humor to bear with their own pretensions,
courage to act faithfully when outcomes are uncertain,
that amid both achievement and failure,
they may find rest in the sovereignty of God's grace.**

PRAYER

Rev. Sally Hughes

DECLARATION OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Patrick, you are now a teaching elder in the church of Jesus Christ and for this
congregation. Be faithful and true in your ministry so that your whole
life will bear witness to the crucified and risen Christ. **Amen.**

WELCOME

CHARGE TO THE NEWLY ORDAINED

CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION

HYMN

"The Church's One Foundation"

PH 442

— THE EUCHARIST —

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Rev. Patrick Woolsey

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.
You formed us in your image
and breathed into us the breath of life.
When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.
You delivered us from captivity,
made covenant to be our sovereign God,
and spoke to us through your prophets,
And so, with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,

REPORT OF THE TRANSITIONAL EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER

The Vice-Moderator recognized Rev. Sherard Edington, Transitional Executive Presbyter to give a report on the recent annual meeting of the Synod of Living Waters. He began by noting the Synod approved a recommendation from the Budget and Finance Committee to increase per capita by \$0.40 (from \$3.98 to \$4.38) beginning in 2027. The Synod has a goal to broaden the use of presbytery funds. Annual reports and highlights from multiple covenant partners were provided. It was particularly noteworthy to learn that Living Water for the World originated in the Synod. This organization installs wells all over the world (78 water systems in Cuba).

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other items on the agenda, Vice-Moderator Howton-Angel reminded attendees to complete the meeting evaluation forms, which are used to inform planning for future meetings. She announced that the 165th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery will take place on Thursday, August 6th at Bellevue Presbyterian Church in Nashville. She then asked for a motion to adjourn which was seconded and approved. After a closing prayer, the meeting adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

Submitted by Erin Bell,
Temporary Stated Clerk

with notes from Rev. Chris Adams,
Deputy Stated Clerk

Presbytery of Middle Tennessee
2026 – 2028 Members of Presbytery Committees and Commissions

** indicates second term of service
Chairpersons names are noted in bold*

Trustees of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee		
Trustees serve as members of the Administrative and Finance Committees by virtue of office.		
Presbytery Moderator (President)	Presbytery Vice-Moderator (Chair of Admin.)	Presbytery Treasurer (Chair of Finance)
Chris Williams (RE) Pulaski, First	Erin Howton-Angel (TE) Allardt, First	Bruce McVey (TE) Fayetteville, First

Administrative Committee		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Donovan Drake (TE) Nashville, Westminster	*Betsy Bond (RE) Nashville, Trinity	*Leonard Jordan (CRE) Nashville, St. Andrews
	*Mark Bryan, (TE) Nashville, Glen Leven	*Kathy Corlew (RE) Murfreesboro, First
		Suzanne McLemore (RE) Westminster, Nashville Moderator-in-Nomination

Finance Committee		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
*Anders Hall (RE) Nashville, Westminster	*Mark Bryan (TE) Nashville, Glen Leven	George Crawford (RE) Nashville, Westminster
VACANT (TE)	VACANT (RE)	Greg Glover (TE) Clarksville, First

Committee on Church Transformation		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
*John Hilley (TE) Brentwood, East Brentwood	*Keith Gunter (TE) Hendersonville, New Creation	VACANT (RE)
Lori Sain Smith (RE) Shelbyville, First	VACANT (TE)	VACANT (TE)

Committee on Leadership Excellence		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Denise Moran (RE) Tullahoma, First	Sara Hill (TE) Nashville, First -Validated	VACANT (RE)
Dave Nock (RE) Nashville, Priest Lake	VACANT (RE)	VACANT (TE)

Commission on Ministry		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Carrie Fraser (TE) Member-at-large	Brett Withers (RE) Nashville, Woodland	Austin Hill (TE) Nashville, Westminster
*Sally Hughes (TE) Retired Chair of Examinations	*Bill Patterson (RE) Murfreesboro, First	Rhonda Banasiak (CRE) Clarksville, First Chair of Pastoral Care Team
*Amy Stoker (TE) First, Pulaski Co-chair of COM	Zach Sasser (TE) Nashville, Downtown	*Todd Jones (TE) Retired
David Sadler (CRE) Nashville, Priest Lake Chair of Review Team	Cade Arnold, (RE) Cookeville, First	*Mickey Stueck (RE) Lebanon, First Co-chair of COM
Susan Carey (RE) Westminster, Nashville Chair of Transitions Team	Steve Thomas (TE) Retired	Barbara Halverstadt (RE) Nashville, Emmanuel Chair of Mediation Team
VACANT (TE)	VACANT (RE)	Geeta McMillan (RE) Sparta, Blue Spring

Committee on Mutual Support		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
*Bobby Harding (TE) Murfreesboro, First	Samara Zavaro (RE) Nashville, Downtown	*Will Wellman (TE) Nashville, Westminster - Validated
Claire Harris-Kramer (TE) NCCC - Validated		*Spencer Truett (RE) Dickson, First
		Charles Jordan (RE) Nashville, St. Andrews

Committee on Social Justice		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
*Andrea Elkins Murfreesboro, First	*Henry Deaderick (RE) Nashville, St. Andrews	Greta McClain (RE) Nashville, Southminster
*Claire Berry (TE) Historic Franklin	*Adam Devries (TE) Nashville, Westminster - Validated	VACANT (TE)

Permanent Administrative Commission		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Debbie Fraley (RE) First, Fayetteville	John Hinkle (TE) First, Murfreesboro	Melinda Sanders (RE) Nashville, Woodland
Greg Glover (TE) First Clarksville	George Crawford (RE) Westminster, Nashville	Allen Kennedy (RE) Nashville, First

Committee on Preparation for Ministry		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
*James Peeler (RE) Brentwood, Harpeth	Marilee Meschefske (RE) Columbia, Westminster	*Stephanie Boaz, TE Nashville, Westminster
VACANT (RE)	CJ Thompson (TE) Manchester, First	*Judy Tygard (RE) Nashville, Bellevue
VACANT (TE)	Rosanna Anderson (TE) Fisher Island Union Chapel, NY- Validated	Sandra Randleman (TE) Nashville, First

Ordination Exam Readers			
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028	Alternates:
PK Kim (TE) Nashville, Korean	Gloria Dale (RE) Columbia, First		Sally Hughes (TE) Retired
	Annesse Ashton (RE) Nashville, St. Andrews		Joyce Harris (RE) Nashville, St. Andrews
	Greg Glover (TE) Clarksville, First		
	Guy Griffith (TE) Nashville, Westminster		

Permanent Judicial Commission		
Class of 2026	Class of 2028	Class of 2030
Michael Bradley (TE) Retired	Bill Russell (RE) First, Spring Hill	John Smith (TE) Dickson, First Waverly, Ellis Grove
James Hudnut-Beumler (TE) Retired	Walt Tennyson (TE) Alive Hospice - Validated	Keith Dennen, RE Hendersonville, New Creation
J.B. Smith, RE First, Pulaski	Terry Denton (RE) Nashville, Emmanuel	Ryan Moore (TE) Nashville, First

Presbytery of Middle Tennessee Commissioners 2026

General Assembly Commissioners - 2026			
Spencer Truett (RE) Dickson, First	Bruce McVey (TE) Fayetteville, First	Jim Moran (TE) Tulahoma, First	Alternate: Leslie Traylor (TE) Hermitage, Hermitage
Betsy Bond (RE) Nashville, Trinity	Mickey Stueck (RE) Lebanon, First	Mary Sellers Shaw (TE) UKIRK - Validated	

Synod of Living Waters Commissioners - 2026			
*Donovan Drake (TE) Nashville, Westminster	Vickie Harwell (RE) Pulaski, First	Gary Kelly (TE) HR	Anne Keener (CRE) Franklin, First

Presbytery of Middle Tennessee Relevant Boards

UKIRK Board Members			
Members are reported only; not elected by the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee.			
Mr. David Carlton	Ms. Barbara Fay	Dr. Brent Graham	Rev. Shane Smith
Rev. Lee Catoe	Dr. Ryan Fox	Ms. Holly Miller	
Ms. Kelly Christie	Dr. Nathaniel Freymeyer	Mary Sellers Shaw, Executive Director	

revised 4/21/2026

Attachment A
May 2, 2026 Stated Meeting Roll

Teaching Elders

E Adams, Chris	P Glover, Gregory	E Kneff, Sarah Bird	E Rogers-Vaughn, Annette
E Anderson, David	E Glover, Leslie	E Knight, Carolyn	E Rouquie, Richard
E Anderson, Rosanna	E Graham, M. Evelyn	E Larson, John	E Salyer, Carson
P Angel, Erin Howton	E Griffith, Guy D.	E Leftwich, Phil	E Salyer, Janet
P Angel, Jonathan	E Gung, Justin	E Lipsey, McCurdy	P Sasser, Zach
E Arnold, Judith	E Gunter, Keith	E Loscuito, Jason	E Sawyer, David
E Bagley, Tom	E Hamman, Jaco	E Logan, Gail	E Schultz, Harris
E Bellis, Eddie	E Hammond, Mallory	E Magee, Michael J.	E Schwartz, Cindy
P Berger, Will	E Handlson, Pat	E Mayes, Jim	E Shaw, Mary Sellers
P Berry, Claire	E Hanson Boaz, Stephanie	E McCaw, Beth	E Skelly, John J., III
E Bradley, Michael	E Harding, Bobby	E McClure, Annie	E Smith, Jimmy D.
E Bray, Linda	E Harrell, James E.	E McCormack, Robert E.	E Smith, John A.
E Bryan, Mark S.	E Harris Kramer, Claire	E McCullough, John	E Smith, Shane
E Burgener, John "Bo"	E Hermann, Lisa C.	E McKinsey Sisk, Sally A.	E Soderquist, Ann
E Caldwell, Elizabeth	P Herring, Jane	P McLaughlin, Michael D.	P Stoker, Amy B.
E Canon, Amelia	E Higgins, Ashley	P McVey, Bruce	E Tate, Carol
E Casner, Paul	E Hill, Austin	E Montgomery, Robert	E Tennyson, Walt
E Catoe, Lee	E Hill, Ellen	E Moore, Ryan	P Thomas, C. S. (Steve) III
E Cejka, III, Joseph	E Hill, Sara	P Moran, James A.	E Thomas, Ray
E Cheetham, John T.	P Hilley, John R.	E Muse, Perry	E Thompson, C.J.
E Chuquimia, Teddy	P Hinkle, Jr., John	E Musgrave, John	E Thompson, Marjorie
E Coates, Coleman Lewis	E Hodgson, Peter	E Musick, Steve	E Todd, John
E Cox, Meredith	E Hoechst, Jeanne	E Nally, Sara	E Traylor, Leslie
E Crawford, John	E Hudnut-Beumler, Heidi	E Neil, Richard	E Tuck, Janet
E Danner, Charles	E Hudnut-Beumler, James	E Newsom, Ernest B.	E Tyndall, Thomas B.
E Davis, Michael	E Hughes, Sally	E Nichols, James A.	E Vasquez-Paredes, Gustavo
E DeVries, Adam	E Huie, Scott	E Nyhuis, Jule	E Veazey, Courtney
E DeVries, Mark	E Hunter, Jeannie	E Paddon, Richard	P Venable, III, Sid
E Drake, Donovan	E Johnson, Charles N.	E Page, Fred	E Wallace, Morgan
E Durnell, Warner R.	E Jones, Todd B.	P Park, Inhye	E Warren, Joy
E Early, Kim Maphis	E Kane, Jeff	E Paterik, Roy	E Weingartner, Robert J.
E Early, Robert	E Kang, Se Bong	E Patton, Tom	E Wellman, Will
P Edington, Sherard	E Kang, Shin	E Pentecost, Mike	E White, Jack
P Eisenmenger, David	E Kaufman, John E.	E Picard, John Paul	E White, Linda
E Fraser, Carrie	E Kelly, Gary	E Ramirez-Jimenez, Lilia	E Wilson, Amos L.
E Gasser, Anna D.	E Kidd, David	E Randleman, Sandra	P Woolsey, Patrick
E Gay, Andy	E Kim, Eun Joo	E Rector, Stacy	E Yang, Sunggu
E Gerber, David	P Kim, Il Sun	E Ritchie, Jeff	E Young, Taylor
E Gilliam, Elizabeth	E Klein, Candice	E Ritchie, Megan	E Zeigler, Richard
E Gilliss, Martha Schull			

P - Present
E - Excused
A - Absent
I - Inactive

Ruling Elder Commissioners

<u>Church</u>	<u>Represented By</u>
Alexandria, Liberty Hill	1.
Allardt, First	1. D.J. Brown
Alpine, Christ	1.
Ardmore, Bethany	1.
Belfast, Belfast	1.
Bethpage, Oak Grove	1.
Brentwood, East	1. Tyler Spaid
	2.
	3.
Brentwood First	1.
Brentwood, Harpeth	1.
	2.
	3.
Buffalo Valley	1. Shirley C. Puckett
Clarksville, First	1. Phil Kemmerly
	2. Doug Young
	3.
	4.
Clarksville, Macedonia	1.
Columbia, First	1. Tonjia Potts
	2. Terri Thompson
	3.
	4.
Columbia, Westminster	1.
Cookeville, Double Springs	1. Dora S. Estes
Cookeville, First	1. Donna Simpson
	2. Cade Arnold
	3. Dee Tompkins
Cookeville, Post Oak	1.
Cowan, Fellowship	1.
Crossville, Calvary of Big Lick	1. Vickie Rhea
Dickson, First	1. Kerry Martinez
	2. Spencer Truett
	3.
Dickson, Pond	1.
Fairfield Glade, Westminster	1.
Fayetteville, First	1. Carol Foster
	2. Bonnie Hereford
	3. Donna West
Franklin, First	1. Dan Crunk
	2. Jim Petersen
	3. Rick Blackburn
	4. John Korab
Franklin, Historic	1. Susan Henry
	2. Mona Lee
	3.
Gallatin, First	1. Susan Johnson
Gallatin, Sudanese	1. David Reatt
	2.
Hendersonville, First	1. Paulette Farnhau
	2. Howard Renton
	3.
Hendersonville, New Creation	1.
	2.

Church

Hendersonville, New Creation	3.
	4.
Hermitage, Hermitage	1.
Lawrenceburg, First	1.
Lebanon, First	1. Margaret Ann Trail
	2. Rachel Low
	3.
Lebanon, Spring Creek	1.
Lewisburg, Bethberei	1.
Lewisburg, First	1.
	2.
	3.
Lynnville, First	1.
Manchester, First	1.
McMinnville, First	1.
Milton, Hopewell	1.
Mt. Pleasant, First	1.
Murfreesboro, First	1. Matt L.
	2. Rogers Harrison
	3. Jackie Jenkins
	4.
Murfreesboro, Northminster	1. Larry McElroy
Nashville, Bellevue	1.
	2.
	3.
Nashville, Donelson	1.
	2.
	3.
Nashville, Downtown	1.
Nashville, Eastminster	1. Connie Hamblen
	2.
Nashville, Emmanuel	1.
Nashville, First	1. Hal Sauer
	2. Emmett Russell
	3. Ben Elrod
	4. Scott Standard
	5.
Nashville, Glen Leven	1.
	2.
	3.
Nashville, Glencliff	1.
Nashville, Hillsboro	1.
	2.
	3.
	4.
Nashville, Hillwood	1.
Nashville, Korean	1.
	2.
	3.
	4.
Nashville, Priest Lake	1. Nathaniel Jennette
Nashville, Second	1. Priscilla Coe
	2. Jacky Samuels
	3.
	4.

Church

Nashville, Southminster
Nashville, St. Andrews

Nashville, Trinity
Nashville, Westminster

Nashville, Woodland
Normandy, Normandy
Old Hickory, Old Hickory
Petersburg, First
Pulaski, First

Readyville, Cripple Creek
Shelbyville, First

Smyrna, First
Sparta, Blue Spring
Sparta, Hickory Valley
Sparta, Robinson Chapel
Spring Hill, First

Springfield, First
Springfield, Milldale
Thompson Station, Bethesda
Tullahoma, First

Watertown, First
Waverly, Ellis Grove

Represented By

- 1.
- 1.
- 2.
1. Vira Baker
- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
1. Brett Withers
1. Mark Riley
- 1.
- 1.
- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 1.
1. Aaron Crafton
2. Sarah Natale
- 3.
1. Paul Dunne
1. Geeta McMillan
- 1.
- 1.
- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 1.
- 1.
- 1.
- 1.
1. Denise Moran
2. Sally Hochl
3. Bethany Sterling
- 1.
- 1.

Commissioned Ruling Elders

Rhonda Banasiak – Clarksville, First
Amy Harkness – Belfast, Belfast
Leonard Jordan – Nashville, St. Andrews
Anne Keener – Franklin, First
David Paduil – Clarksville, Sudanese

Ruling Elders, Voice and Vote by Virtue of Office:

Erin Bell (Nashville, Downtown), Temporary Stated Clerk
Debbie Fraley (Fayetteville, First), PAC
Melinda Sanders (Nashville, Woodland), PAC
Mickey Stueck (Lebanon, First), Co-chair of COM
Chris Williams (Pulaski, First) PMT Moderator

Moderator within five years of office:

N/A

Corresponding Members, Voice, without Vote:

N/A

Visitors with Voice:

Elizabeth Deibert, Presbyterian Assoc. of Musicians
Rev. Roger Speer

Visitors without Voice:

Derrick C. (Sparta, Blue Spring)
Debby Wilson (Crossville, Calvary of Big Lick)
Lindsey Thompson (Crossville, Calvary of Big Lick)
William Beckett (Crossville, Calvary of Big Lick)
Karen Shanks (Crossville, Calvary of Big Lick)
Cindy Fisher
Suzanne Maguire

**PRESBYTERY OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE
MINUTES OF CALLED MEETING
JULY 10, 2026**

A Called Meeting of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee was held electronically via Zoom at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, July 10th, 2026.

**STATEMENT OF PROCEDURES / DECLARATION OF QUORUM/
SEATING OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS/ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Temporary Stated Clerk Erin Bell provided Zoom tips to attendees. The poll feature within Zoom was used to verify attendance and confirm a quorum. Moderator Chris Williams called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m. and opened with prayer.

Moderator Williams declared a quorum was present. The Presbytery's Mission and Operations Manual provides that a called meeting may be held providing the Administrative Committee has called it by submitting the call in writing to the Stated Clerk and the call has gone out 7 days before the meeting. The quorum for called meetings is 12 Teaching Elders and 12 Ruling Elders from different congregations. 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).

AGENDA

The Moderator stated that the only item of business which could be properly considered was the approval of the sale of the property of the former First Presbyterian Church of Decherd, Tennessee. This business item was stated in the call.

OFFER TO PURCHASE PROPERTY

The Moderator recognized RE Melinda Sanders, Chair of the Permanent Administrative Commission (PAC), to speak to the business at hand.

RE Sanders stated the following motion: The Permanent Administrative Commission moves that the Presbytery accept the offer of \$300,000 for the property and building of the former Decherd Presbyterian Church and that the Presbytery authorize the trustees and the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery to execute the necessary paperwork including the signing the deed.

The Moderator recognized RE Sanders to speak to the motion. She noted that one of the first tasks given to the PAC was to sell the property that had been the site of the First Presbyterian Church, Decherd, Tennessee. At that time, the church had voted to close; the congregation had dispersed, and the Presbytery had dissolved the church.

The Moderator noted that the motion is from a commission of the Presbytery and does not require a second, then asked for discussion. Following a brief clarifying question, the motion was unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

The Moderator thanked everyone for their time and asked for a motion to adjourn. It was seconded and passed unanimously. The Moderator announced that the next stated meeting of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee will be held on Thursday, August 6th at Bellevue Presbyterian Church in Nashville, TN. Rev. Sherard Edington closed the meeting with prayer. The Moderator declared the meeting adjourned at 4:19 p.m.

Erin Bell
Temporary Stated Clerk
Presbytery of Middle Tennessee

DRAFT

Attachment A

PMT Called Meeting Roll July 10, 2026 - 4:00 p.m. via Zoom

Teaching Elders

_P_Adams, Chris	_E_Gilliss, Martha Schull	_E_Klein, Candice	_E_Rogers-Vaughn, Annette
_E_Anderson, David	_P_Glover, Gregory	_P_Kneff, Sarah Bird	_E_Rouquie, Richard
_P_Anderson, Rosanna	_E_Glover, Leslie	_E_Knight, Carolyn	_P_Salyer, Carson
_E_Angel, Erin Howton	_P_Graham, M. Evelyn	_E_Larson, John	_E_Salyer, Janet
_E_Angel, Jonathan	_E_Griffith, Guy D.	_E_Leftwich, Phil	_E_Sasser, Zach
_E_Arnold, Gage	_E_Gung, Justin	_E_Lipsey, McCurdy	_E_Sawyer, David
_E_Arnold, Judith	_P_Gunter, Keith	_E_Logan, Gail	_E_Schultz, Harris
_E_Bagley, Tom	_E_Hamman, Jaco	_E_Loscuito, Jason	_E_Schwartz, Cindy
_E_Bellis, Eddie	_E_Hammond, Mallory	_E_Magee, Michael J.	_E_Shaw, Mary Sellers
_E_Berger, Will	_E_Handlson, Pat	_E_Mayes, Jim	_E_Skelly, John J., III
_E_Berry, Claire	_E_Hanson Boaz, Stephanie	_E_McCaw, Beth	_E_Smith, Jimmy D.
_E_Bradley, Michael	_E_Harding, Bobby	_E_McClure, Annie	_E_Smith, John A.
_E_Bray, Linda	_E_Harrell, James E.	_E_McCormack, Robert E.	_E_Smith, Shane
_E_Bryan, Mark S.	_E_Harris Kramer, Claire	_E_McCullough, John	_E_Soderquist, Ann
_E_Burgener, John "Bo"	_E_Hermann, Lisa C.	_E_McKinsey Sisk, Sally Ann	_E_Speer, Roger
_E_Caldwell, Elizabeth	_P_Herring, Jane	_P_McLaughlin, Michael D.	_E_Stoker, Amy B.
_E_Canon, Amelia	_E_Higgins, Ashley	_E_McVey, Bruce	_E_Tate, Carol
_E_Casner, Paul	_E_Hill, Austin	_E_Montgomery, Robert	_E_Tennyson, Walt
_E_Catoe, Lee	_E_Hill, Ellen	_E_Moore, Ryan	_E_Thomas, C. S. (Steve) III
_E_Cejka, III, Joseph	_E_Hill, Sara	_P_Moran, James A.	_E_Thomas, Ray
_E_Cheetham, John T.	_P_Hilley, John R.	_E_Muse, Perry	_P_Thompson, C.J.
_E_Chiquimia, Teddy	_P_Hinkle, Jr., John	_E_Musgrave, John	_E_Thompson, Marjorie
_E_Coates, Coleman Lewis	_E_Hodgson, Peter	_E_Musick, Steve	_E_Todd, John
_E_Cox, Meredith	_E_Hoechst, Jeanne	_E_Nally, Sara	_P_Traylor, Leslie
_E_Crawford, John	_E_Hudnut-Beumler, Heidi	_E_Neil, Richard	_E_Tuck, Janet
_E_Danner, Charles	_E_Hudnut-Beumler, James	_E_Newsom, Ernest B.	_E_Tyndall, Thomas B.
_E_Davis, Michael	_E_Hughes, Sally	_E_Nichols, James A.	_E_Vasquez-Paredes, Gustavo
_E_DeVries, Adam	_E_Huie, Scott	_E_Nyhuis, Jule	_E_Veazey, Courtney
_E_DeVries, Mark	_E_Hunter, Jeannie	_E_Paddon, Richard	_E_Venable, III, Sid
_E_Drake, Donovan	_E_Johnson, Charles N.	_E_Page, Fred	_E_Wallace, Morgan
_E_Durnell, Warner R.	_E_Jones, Todd B.	_E_Park, Inhye	_E_Warren, Joy
_E_Early, Kim Maphis	_E_Kane, Jeff	_E_Paterik, Roy	_E>Weingartner, Robert J.
_E_Early, Robert	_E_Kang, Se Bong	_E_Patton, Tom	_E_Wellman, Will
_P_Edington, Sherard	_E_Kang, Shin	_E_Pentecost, Mike	_E_White, Jack
_E_Eisenmenger, David	_E_Kaufman, John E.	_E_Picard, John Paul	_E_White, Linda
_E_Fraser, Carrie	_E_Kelly, Gary	_E_Ramirez-Jimenez, Lilia M.	_E_Wilson, Amos L.
_E_Gasser, Anna D.	_P_Kennedy, Darren	_E_Randleman, Sandra	_E_Woolsey, Patrick
_E_Gay, Andy	_E_Kidd, David	_E_Rector, Stacy	_E_Yang, Sunggu
_E_Gerber, David	_E_Kim, Eun Joo	_E_Ritchie, Jeff	_E_Young, Taylor
_E_Gilliam, Elizabeth	_P_Kim, Il Sun	_E_Ritchie, Megan	_E_Zeigler, Richard

P - Present
E - Excused
A - Absent
I - Inactive

Ruling Elder Commissioners

<u>Church</u>	<u>Represented By</u>
Alexandria, Liberty Hill	1.
Allardt, First	1.
Alpine, Christ	1.
Ardmore, Bethany	1.
Belfast, Belfast	1.
Bethpage, Oak Grove	1.
Brentwood, East	1.
	2.
	3.
Brentwood, Harpeth	1.
	2.
	3.
Buffalo Valley, Buffalo Valley	1. DeeDee Lopes
Clarksville, First	1. Ken Giles
	2. Phil Kemmerly
	3. Doug Young
	4. Ross Hicks
Clarksville, Macedonia	1.
Columbia, First	1.
	2.
	3.
	4.
Columbia, Westminster	1.
Cookeville, Double Springs	1.
Cookeville, First	1.
	2.
	3.
Cookeville, Post Oak	1.
Cowan, Fellowship	1.
Crossville, Calvary	1.
Dickson, First	1.
	2.
	3.
Dickson, Pond	1.
Fairfield Glade, Westminster	1.
Fayetteville, First	1.
	2.
	3.
Franklin, First	1.
	2.
	3.
	4.
Franklin, Historic	1.
	2.
	3.
Gallatin, First	1.
Gallatin, Sudanese	1.
	2.
Hendersonville, First	1.
	2.
	3.

Church

<u>Church</u>	<u>Represented By</u>
Hendersonville, New Creation	1.
	2.
	3.
	4.
Hermitage, Hermitage	1.
Lawrenceburg, First	1.
Lebanon, First	1. Marilyn Peyton
	2.
	3.
Lebanon, Spring Creek	1.
Lewisburg, Bethberei	1.
Lewisburg, First	1.
	2.
	3.
Lynnville, First	1.
Manchester, First	1.
McMinnville, First	1.
Mt. Pleasant, First	1.
Murfreesboro, First	1.
	2.
	3.
	4.
Murfreesboro, Northminster	1.
Nashville, Bellevue	1.
	2.
	3.
Nashville, Donelson	1.
	2.
	3.
Nashville, Downtown	1.
Nashville, Eastminster	1. Connie Hamblen
	2.
Nashville, Emmanuel	1. Barbara Halverstadt
Nashville, First	1.
	2.
	3.
	4.
	5.
Nashville, Glen Leven	1.
	2.
	3.
Nashville, Glencliff	1.
Nashville, Hillsboro	1.
	2.
	3.
	4.
Nashville, Hillwood	1.
Nashville, Korean	1.
	2.
	3.
	4.
Nashville, Priest Lake	1. Nancy Loudermilk

Ruling Elder Commissioners**Church****Represented By**

Nashville, Second	1. 2. 3. 4.
Nashville, Southminster	1.
Nashville, St. Andrews	1. 2.
Nashville, Trinity	1. Vira Baker
Nashville, Westminster	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.
Nashville, Woodland	1.
Normandy, Normandy	1.
Old Hickory, Old Hickory	1.
Petersburg, First	1.
Pulaski, First	1. Emmylou Williams 2. 3.
Readyville, Cripple Creek	1.
Shelbyville, First	1. 2. 3.
Smyrna, First	1.
Sparta, Blue Spring	1.
Sparta, Hickory Valley	1.
Sparta, Robinson Chapel	1.
Spring Hill, First	1. 2. 3.
Springfield, First	1.
Springfield, Milldale	1.
Thompson Station, Bethesda	1.
Tullahoma, First	1. Alan Harris 2. 3.
Watertown, First	1.
Waverly, Ellis Grove	1.

Commissioned Ruling Elders

N/A

Ruling Elders, Voice and Vote by Virtue of Office:

Debbie Fraley (Fayetteville, First), Member of PAC
Melinda Sanders (Nashville, Woodland), Chair of PAC
Mickey Stueck (Lebanon, First), Co-Chair of COM
Chris Williams (Pulaski, First), Member of Admin.

Moderator within five years of office:

N/A

Corresponding Members, Voice, without Vote:

N/A

Visitors with voice:

Erin Bell (Nashville, Downtown), PMT Temp. Stated Clerk
Rory Womack, PMT Operations Manager

Visitors:

N/A