

**MIDDLE TENNESSEE PRESBYTERY
MINUTES OF ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-SECOND STATED MEETING
NOVEMBER 8, 2025**

The 162nd Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee met in person at NaCoMe on Saturday November 8th, 2025. Stated Clerk Mary Catherine Sevier provided an orientation for first time commissioners. Moderator Rev. Jane Herring called the meeting to order at 10:00 am and opened with prayer.

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

Moderator Herring declared a quorum was present. The Presbytery's Mission and Operations Manual and the *Book of Order* provide for the seating of corresponding members and teaching and ruling elders with voice and those with voice and vote. Any ruling elder serving as presbytery's Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Moderator-in-Nomination, chairs of committees, members of the Administrative Committee, members of the Finance Committee, 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. Corresponding members were seated without objection and are listed with the roll (Attachment A). The Moderator also announced that the Stated Clerk had requested that Ruling Elder Chris Williams, First Pulaski, serve as parliamentarian. There was no objection.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

The moderator stated that the agenda and the consent agenda, which contained the minutes of the 161st Stated Meeting, a request for a waiver of the limitations on elder rotation pursuant to *Book of Order* G-0404 for First Lawrenceburg, Northminster, and First Brentwood, and a request to approve the Rev. Mary Sellers Shaw to serve communion during 2026 at UKirk Nashville, were sent to the commissioners on October 29, 2025. The main agenda and the consent agenda were approved without objection.

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

THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-SECOND STATED MEETING

THE PRESBYTERY OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE

AGENDA OF NOVEMBER 08, 2025

CAMP NaCoMe

9:30 am		Registration (Order of the Day in CAPS)
9:45 am		Orientation for First Time Commissioners – Mary Catherine Sevier(10 min)
10:00 am	1.	CONVENE • Establishment of Quorum • Adoption of Agenda and Consent Agenda • Seating of Corresponding Members • Recognition of First Time Presbyters
10:10 am	2.	Worship • Sermon: Patrick Woolsey, Candidate for Ordination • Service of Necrology/All Saints Remembrance • Offering: Centsability Food Insecurity program
11:15 am	3.	REPORTS (numbers indicate order in packet)
11:20 am		(1) Commission on Ministry – Rev. Dr. Amy Busse Stoker 30 mins) ○ Examination for ordination: Patrick Woolsey ○ Examination for Receipt to PC-USA: Rev. Joy Warren
11:50 am		• (2) Nominating Task Force – Leonard Jordan (10 minutes)
12:00 pm		• (3) Personnel Task Force – Lavona Russell (15 minutes) ○ Introduction of Temporary Executive Presbyter ○ Introduction of Temporary Stated Clerk
12:15 pm		• (4) Administrative Committee, Part I – Chris Williams (15 mins)
12:30 pm		LUNCH/BREAK
1:30 pm		RECONVENE
		• (4) Administrative Committee, Part 2-Chris Williams (60 mins)

- Presentation of Visioning Team Report (Team Chairs, Barbara Halverstadt and Hannah Cruse)
- 2:30 pm
 - (5) Finance Committee–Evelyn Graham (15 minutes)
 - 2026 Budget
- 2:45 pm
 - (6) Committee on the Preparation for Ministry – Lisa Hermann (15 minutes)
 - Examination of Kimberly Coward and disposition of request to move to candidacy
- 3:00 pm
 - (7) Committee on Church Transformation - John Hilley (15 minutes)
- 3:15 pm
 - (8) Stated Clerk Report – Mary Catherine Sevier (5 minutes)
- 3:20 pm
 - (9) Bridge Executive Presbyterian’s Report – Terry Newland (5 minutes)

OLD BUSINESS

3:25 pm ANNOUNCEMENTS and ADJOURNMENT
3:30 pm 163rd Stated Meeting, Saturday, February 7, 2026,
Nashville Korean, Brentwood TN
Closing Prayer
Adjournment

**Here are the ways to give to today's offering: ▲ send a check to the Presbytery office (1113 Murfreesboro Rd, Suite 106, #216, Franklin, TN 37064)
▲ go to the presbytery website, www.pbymidtn.org, and click*

*the “Give Now” button
▲ scan the QR Code below which will take you to the donation page*



Consent Agenda

158th Stated Meeting, Presbytery of Middle Tennessee, November 8, 2025

Item #	Title
(1)	Approval of Minutes and Roll of the 151 st Stated Meeting of August 7, 2025
(2)	Approval of Request by First, Lawrenceburg, Cripple Creek, First Brentwood, and Northminster of Waiver of Session Elder term limitation, pursuant to G-2.0404
(3)	Approval of request from UKirk Nashville for Rev. Mary Sellers Shaw to administer the sacrament of the Lord's Supper during the year 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. John Smith led the body in worship and Rev. Erin Howton Angel led the body in the remembrance of teaching and ruling elders who joined the saints during the past year. Candidate Patrick Woolsey delivered the sermon. The offering was given to the Centsability fund and matched by the Presbytery.

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

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

The Moderator recognized the Rev. Dr. Amy Stoker of First Pulaski and co-chair of the COM to present the Commission's report.

Installation of the Rev. Taylor Young, First Gallatin, the Rev. Courtney Veazey, Second, and the Rev. Stephanie Boaz, Westminster, Nashville

The COM approved the installation commissions of Rev. Taylor Young, First Gallatin, Rev. Courtney Veazey, Second Presbyterian, and Rev. Stephanie Boaz, Westminster Nashville.

MINUTES Installation Commission for Rev. Taylor Young, First Presbyterian Church Gallatin, TN

Sunday 21 September 2025 at 15:00

The installation Commission appointed by the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee to install Teaching Elder Taylor Young as Pastor met at the First Presbyterian Church, Gallatin, TN at 14:30. Members present were:

Teaching Elders

The Rev. Claire Berry, Pastor of Historic Franklin Presbyterian Church, Franklin, TN
The Rev. John A. Smith, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Dickson, TN
The Rev. Leslie Traylor, Pastor of Hermitage Presbyterian Church, Hermitage, TN

Ruling Elders

Chris Williams, Presbyterian Church of Pulaski, Vice-Moderator of PMT
Mickey Stueck, Presbyterian Church of Lebanon, Co-Moderator of COM

Invitation to sit with the Commission

The Rev. Joy Warren of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Murfreesboro Presbytery
The Rev. Taylor Kibler of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Nashville Presbytery

The commission was called to order by the Chair of the Commission Chris Williams and the Rev. John A. Smith was appointed Clerk of the Commission by the Chair. Rev. Smith 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 is attached to these minutes.

The commission recessed to the sanctuary for the Service of Worship with the chair presiding. The Sermon was preached by the Rev. John A. Smith. The Constitutional Questions were propounded to the Rev. Taylor Young by the Chair and they were answered in the affirmative. The Constitutional Questions were propounded to the congregation by Ruling Elder Mickey Stueck and answered in the affirmative by the congregation. A prayer was offered by Ruling Elder Susan Baker.

The Rev. Taylor Young was duly installed as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Gallatin, TN.

A charge was delivered to the Rev. Taylor Young by the Rev. Leslie Traylor and the Rev. Claire Berry charged the congregation. The service was closed with the Benediction pronounced by the Rev. Taylor Young. The Commission was adjourned at the benediction of the worship service.

Respectfully submitted:

Clerk of the Commission

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF GALLATIN



Where God's love overflows and service begins.

A SERVICE OF INSTALLATION
SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE	Toccata on Crucifer	Ficarri
INTROIT	Jubilate Deo	Wood
WELCOME	The Rev. Joy Warren	

*CALL TO WORSHIP

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

All: And also with you.

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

All: There is one body and one spirit, just as we were called to be the one hope of our calling.

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty and eternal God, by your grace, you have called us to this time and place to be your servant people as we follow our servant, Lord. Make your Holy Spirit move within and among us, that together we may live a new life in the crucified and risen Christ. Bind us together in faith, so that as we receive all spiritual gifts needed to fulfill our calling, we may support one another in common ministry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN 287** Lift High the Cross CRUCIFER

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus Christ gave Himself as a ransom for all who fall short of God's goodness. Trusting in God's mercy, let us turn to God and make our confession.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful and loving God, you have called us to be your people and claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ. We confess that we have not lived up to our calling to proclaim the good news in word and deed. We are quick to speak when we ought to listen and remain silent when it is time to speak. We put too much faith in our own actions and fail to trust the strength of your spirit. *(You are invited to a Time of Silent Confession)*
AMEN

O God, forgive our foolish and sinful ways. Strengthen us anew to follow Christ's way in the world. By your Holy Spirit, give us the grace we need to be your faithful disciples and fulfill our common calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your doing; it is the gift of God. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

All: Hallelujah, Amen.

*All who are able may stand

***GLORIA PATRI**

GREATEX

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end, Amen, Amen.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Taylor Kibler

Send us your Holy Spirit, O God, that these words might speak to us as your word, and our
lives bear witness to the good news of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Micah 6:8-10

Pew Bible Page 1060

He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?
⁹ The voice of the LORD cries to the city
(it is sound wisdom to fear your name):
Hear, O tribe and assembly of the city!
¹⁰ Can I forget the treasures of wickedness in the house of the wicked,
and the scant measure that is accursed?
This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Wilberg

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!
Come, all who hear, now to his temple draw near,
join me in glad adoration.
Praise to the Lord, above all things so wondrously reigning;
sheltering you under his wings, and so gently sustaining!
Have you not seen all that is needful has been
sent by his gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
if with his love he befriends you.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him.
Let the Amen sound from his people again;
gladly forever adore him.

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Matthew 25:31-46

Pew Bible Page 35

³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the
throne of his glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people
one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³ and he will put the sheep

at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴ Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." ⁴¹ Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴² for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." ⁴⁴ Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" ⁴⁵ Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." ⁴⁶ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

The Rev. John Smith

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

STATEMENT ON ORDINATION

The Rev. John Smith

We are all called into the church of Jesus Christ by baptism,
and marked as Christ's own by the Holy Spirit.

This is our common calling,
to be disciples of Jesus Christ
and servants of our servant Lord.

Within the community of the church,
some are called to particular service
as deacons, as ruling elders,
and as ministers of Word and Sacrament.

Ordination is Christ's gift to the church,
assuring that his ministry continues among us.
Through ordination, God provides
for acts of care and compassion in the world,
for the ordering and governance of the church,
and for the preaching of the word
and celebration of the sacraments.

The Presbytery of Middle Tennessee, by means of this commission,
recognizes Taylor as a Minister of Word and Sacrament
and installs him as pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Gallatin

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Chris Williams

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.

Gracious and eternal God,
with joy we give you thanks and praise.

We praise you for leading your people, Israel
through the waters of the sea,
out of bondage and into freedom
in the land of your promise.

We praise you for sending Jesus, your Son,
who for us was baptized in the waters of the Jordan,
and was anointed as the Christ by your Holy Spirit.
Through the baptism of his death and resurrection
You set us free from the bondage of sin and death,
and give us cleansing and rebirth.

We praise you for pouring out your Holy Spirit,
who teaches us and leads us into all truth,
filling us with a variety of gifts,
that we might proclaim the gospel to all nations
and serve you as a royal priesthood.

We rejoice that you have claimed us in our baptism
and anointed us for service in Christ's name,
and that by your grace we are born anew.

By your Holy Spirit renew us,
that we may be empowered to do your will
and continue forever in the risen life of Christ,

to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all glory and honor, now and forever. **Amen.**

Remember your baptism and be thankful.
In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** |

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

Chris Williams

Taylor, in baptism
you were claimed by the love of God,
clothed in the grace of Jesus Christ,
and anointed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit
to share Christ's mission in the world.

Now you are called by God through the voice of the church
for new service and ministry in Jesus' name.

In accordance with the Constitution
of the Presbyterian Church (USA),
show your commitment to this calling
by responding to these questions:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church? *I do.*

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

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? *I will.*

To congregation

Mickey Stueck

Do we, the members of the church, accept Taylor 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, to 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 will.**

PRAYER OF INSTALLATION

Susan Baker

Gracious and eternal God,
with joy we give you thanks and praise.

Throughout the ages and in every place
You have chosen servants from among your people
to point the way to salvation by your grace.

We are grateful for ancestors in the faith
who followed without fear;
placing their trust in you alone—
for judges and monarchs
who ruled in righteousness and peace;
for prophets and apostles
who spoke your bold words of mercy and of truth;
for leaders and teachers in every age
who have nurtured your people in faith and faithfulness.

Above all, we praise you for Jesus Christ,
who came not to be served, but to serve,

and to give his life to set others free.
Anointed by your Holy Spirit,
he proclaimed your reign on earth,
revealing your saving love
in all he said and did.

Gracious God,
We *also* give you thanks for your servant Taylor
as he continues in the ministry
to which you have called him.
Help him to rely on the gifts of your Spirit
and to follow Christ faithfully in this calling.
By the gifts of your Holy Spirit
empower him 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,
give to all your servants gladness and strength,
discipline and hope,
humility, humor, and courage,
and an abiding sense of your presence.

Gracious God,
pour out your Spirit of power and truth
upon the whole church,
that we may be for you a holy people
baptized to serve you in the world.

Sustain your church in ministry.
Ground us in the gospel,
secure our hope in Christ,
strengthen our service to the outcast,
and increase our love for one another.

Show us the transforming power of your grace
in our life together,
that we may be effective servants of the gospel,
offering a compelling witness in the world
to the good news of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

DECLARATION OF INSTALLATION

Taylor, as a minister of Word and Sacrament
in the church of Jesus Christ,
you are now installed as pastor
of this congregation.

Chris Williams

Be faithful and true in your ministry
so that your whole life will bear witness
to the crucified and risen Christ. **Amen.**

CHARGE TO THE MINISTER

The Rev. Leslie Traylor

CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION

The Rev. Claire Berry

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

The Rev. Taylor Young

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift the up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

***HYMN ##559**

Here I am Lord

I, THE LORD OF SEA AND SKY

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

The Rev. Taylor Young

The LORD bless you and keep you;

the LORD make his face shine on you

and be gracious to you;

the LORD turn his face toward you

and give you peace.””

POSTLUDE

War March of the Priests from “Athalie”

Mendelssohn

The Postlude is the final musical offering at our service. The music is intended to continue the feeling of the service. We encourage the congregation to sit and reflect on the service in joyful prayer while the postlude is played.

MINUTES
Installation Commission for COURTNEY VEAZEY
SECOND Presbyterian Church
NASHVILLE, Tennessee

Sunday, 9/21/25 3:00 P.M.

The Installation Commission appointed by the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee to ordain and install the Teaching Elder C. Veazey as Pastor met at the Second Presbyterian Church of Nashville, Tennessee, on Sept. 21, 2025 at Second Presbyterian Church at 13 P.M. Members present were:

Teaching Elders

The Rev. Jane Herring, Pastor of Emmanuel Presbyterian Church of Nashville
The Rev. Stacy Reckert, Pastor of Second Presbyterian Church of Nashville
The Rev. Shane Smith, Pastor of Hillsboro Presbyterian Church of Nashville

Ruling Elders

Priscilla Coe, 2nd Presbyterian Church of Nashville
Kimberlee C. Anderson-Diaz, 1st Presbyterian Church of Beacon Kalama Zoo
Trice Gibbons, 2nd Pres Nashville / Deacon, Lehigh Presbytery

Invitation to sit with the Commission:

Amy Holt-Aviles Presbyterian Church of _____
_____, _____ Presbyterian Church of _____

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

The Commission recessed to the Sanctuary for the Service of Worship with the Chair presiding. The Sermon was preached by Rev. Stacy Reckert. The constitutional Questions were propounded to Rev. C. Veazey by the Chair and they were answered in the affirmative. The Constitutional Questions were propounded to the Congregation by Ruling Elder Trice Gibbons and answered in the affirmative by the Congregation. A prayer was offered by Amy Holt-Aviles.

Rev. Courtney Veazey was duly installed as Head Pastor of Second Presbyterian Church, Nashville.

A Charge was delivered to the teaching elder by Chad Braddock and Trice Gibbons charged the congregation. The Service was closed with the Benediction pronounced by Rev. Courtney Veazey. The Commission was adjourned at the benediction of the worship service.

Respectfully submitted:

Priscilla Coe, Clerk of the Commission



SECOND
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

We are a joyful community of faith called to:
Proclaim the Christian gospel in worship and education
Love one another, and
Witness to Jesus Christ through prayer, compassion,
and justice in our broken and fearful world.
As children of God, we live not on our own, but by
God's saving grace.

Installation of the Reverend Courtney Veazey September 21, 2025

Gathering

❖ INDICATES CONGREGATION IS INVITED TO STAND.
WORDS IN BOLD INDICATE CONGREGATIONAL PARTICIPATION.

WELCOME Rev. Jane Herring

PRELUDE Chorale Prelude on Abbot's Leigh

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE Trice Gibbons

OPENING WORDS Rev. Herring

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.**

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.**



ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

By grace you have been saved through faith,
and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.

I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ,
we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

❖ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Rev. Stacy Rector

SCRIPTURE LUKE 14:1, 7-14

Holy wisdom, holy word.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

❖ HYMN #303 "God the Spirit, Guide, and Guardian" CHURCH UNITED
Verses 1, 2, and 4

GATHERING PRAYER

Rev. Herring

Almighty and eternal God, by your grace
you have called us to this time and place
to be your servant people
as we follow our servant Lord.
Make your Holy Spirit move within and among us,
that together we may live a new life
in the crucified and risen Christ.
Bind us together in faith,
so that as we receive all spiritual gifts
needed to fulfill our calling,
we may support one another in common ministry;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

❖ HYMN #298 "Lord, You Give the Great Commission" ABBOT'S LEIGH
Verses 1, 2, and 5

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Rev. Shane Smith

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR NEED FOR GOD'S GRACE

**Merciful and loving God,
you have called us to be your people
and claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ.
We confess that we have not lived up to our calling
to proclaim the good news in word and deed.
We are quick to speak when we ought to listen
and remain silent when it is time to speak.
We put too much faith in our own actions
and fail to trust the strength of your Spirit.**

**O God, forgive our foolish and sinful ways.
Strengthen us anew to follow Christ's way in the world.
By your Holy Spirit, give us the grace we need
to be faithful disciples and fulfill our common calling;
through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.**

(silent confession)

Installation

A LITANY OF GIFTS

Rev. Herring

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 leaders work diligently for the people,
and let 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.**

In her baptism, Courtney was clothed with Christ.
She was ordained to the ministry of Word and Sacrament
by the Presbytery of the Mid-South,
and is now called as pastor of this congregation.

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

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

Rev. Herring and Priscilla Coe

PRAYER OF INSTALLATION

Kimberlee C. Anderson-Diaz

DECLARATION OF INSTALLATION

Rev. Herring

WELCOME

CHARGE TO THE NEWLY INSTALLED PASTOR

Chad Braddock and AJ Northrop

PRESENTATION OF SYMBOLS OF MINISTRY

Sally Goodrich

CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION

Trice Gibbons

Response

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Amy Holt Aviles

OFFERTORY

"Welcome Table"

arr. Mark Hayes

❖ DOXOLOGY

OLD 100TH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God whom we adore.
Amen.**

*(pastor continues prayer)*

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

**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.**



BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

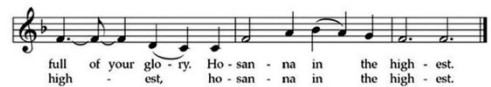
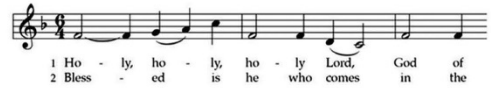
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(pastor continues prayer)

... giving drink to the thirsty,
raising the dead to life.

*(pastor continues prayer)*

... Take this bread and cup, O God – a feast of grace;
take our hearts and lives – an offering of praise.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Gracious God,
you have gathered us at this table
with all the company of your people
in heaven and on earth.
In your mercy we have been nourished
by the living bread, Jesus Christ,
and we have been refreshed
by the power of your Holy Spirit.
May we, who have shared this holy meal,
go out as glad disciples of our Lord,
following in Christ's way,
proclaiming Christ's truth,
and living Christ's love for the world.
Amen.**

Sending

❖ HYMN #761 "Called as Partners in Christ's Service" BEECHER

❖ BENEDICTION Rev. Veazey

POSTLUDE Toccata on Beecher

Members of the Installation Commission: Rev. Jane Herring (Chair), Kimberlee C. Anderson-Diaz, Amy Holt Aviles, Chad Braddock, Priscilla Coe, Trice Gibbons, AJ Northrop, Rev. Stacy Rector, Rev. Shane Smith

MINUTES
Installation Commission for Stephanie Boaz
Westminster Presbyterian Church
Nashville, Tennessee

Sunday, September 21, 2025 11^A P.M.

The Installation Commission appointed by the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee to ordain and install the Teaching Elder Stephanie Boaz as Pastor met at the Westminster Presbyterian Church of Nashville, Tennessee, on Sept 21, 2025 at Westminster Presbyterian Church at 11 P.M. Members present were:

Teaching Elders

The Rev. Dorothy Drake, Pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church of Nashville
The Rev. Guy Griffith, Pastor of u Presbyterian Church of u
The Rev. Bridgett Green, Pastor of u Presbyterian Church of u

Member at Large, Charlotte Presbytery

Ruling Elders

Anne Keener, 1st Presbyterian Church of Franklin
Virginia Reynolds, Westminster Presbyterian Church of Nashville

Invitation to sit with the Commission:

Rev Ashley Higgins, Westminster Presbyterian Church of Nashville
Rev Bob Miller, Westminster Presbyterian Church of Nashville

The Commission was called to order by the Chair of the Commission J. Christopher Williams and Virginia Reynolds 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 Dorothy Drake. The constitutional Questions were propounded to Stephanie Boaz by the Chair and they were answered in the affirmative. The Constitutional Questions were propounded to the Congregation by Ruling Elder Virginia Reynolds and answered in the affirmative by the Congregation. A prayer was offered by Bridgett Green.

Stephanie Boaz was duly installed as Associate Pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nashville.

A Charge was delivered to the _____ by Guy Griffith and Anne Keener charged the congregation. The Service was closed with the Benediction pronounced by _____. The Commission was adjourned at the benediction of the worship service.

Respectfully submitted:

Virginia Reynolds, Clerk of the Commission

**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
and
The Presbytery of Middle Tennessee's
Service of Installation**

**September 21, 2025
11:00 AM**

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

GATHERING

(Silence during the Prelude is requested in preparation for worship.)

About the Prelude

The Prelude is a musical offering to help move the hearts and minds of the gathering community from the daily struggles of life to the worship of God.

Worship on the Lord's Day

Worship begins as the people gather - greeting one another, praying in silence, or offering music to the glory of God. The act of assembling in Jesus' name bears witness to the Church's identity and mission as Christ's body in the world.

About Hymn 299

This hymn resembles many 18th-century drawings that show parallels between worship on earth and worship in heaven, especially as described in Revelation 7:9-11. This 18th-century tune has had many names; the one used here honors the dynasty of British monarchs, 1714-1901.

PRELUDE

Felix Mendelssohn
Sonate VI: Sostenuto e legato, Andante

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Bob Hines

Let us worship God!

(Those who are able may stand.)

O people of God, praise the Lord!
Blessed is God's name forever.
From break of day to setting sun,
let us praise the name of the Lord.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Bob Hines

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

God of grace,
you have given us minds to know you,
hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise.
Fill us with your Spirit,
that we may celebrate your glory
and worship you in spirit and in truth
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*(The Cross and Bible lead the procession, symbolic of the centrality
in worship of Jesus Christ - the Living Word,
and the Bible - the written Word.)*

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 299

HANOVER

You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim

CALL TO CONFESSION

Bob Hines

In a dark world we live;
from a dark world we come to worship, God of light.
We have come to confess
that we believe Jesus Christ to be our Lord and Savior.
Let your light by the Spirit shine out of us
wherever we go.

Let us confess our sins against God and neighbor.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Bob Hines

Call to and Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,
you made us in your image,
with a mind to know you,
a heart to love you,
and a will to serve you.
But our knowledge is imperfect,
our love inconstant,
our obedience incomplete.
Day by day, we fail to grow in to your likeness.
In your tender love, forgive us
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

(Silent confession)

A call to confession expresses God's initiative in calling for repentance and promising forgiveness in Christ. As members of Christ's body, we confess the reality of sin, captivity, and brokenness in personal and common life and ask for God's saving grace.

Kyrie

James MacMillan

About the Kyrie

The Kyrie (Greek "kyrios" [Lord]) is a corporate musical prayer for grace.

(Organ introduction) 4

1st-Choir/2nd-Congregation

Lord, have mer-cy, Lord, have

1st-Choir/2nd-Congregation

mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy, Christ, have

All sing

mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy, Lord, have mer-cy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Guy D. Griffith

Assurance of Pardon

Believe the Good News: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

***The Peace**

Since God in Christ has forgiven us,
let us also forgive one another.
The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

*(Please exchange the peace with the words,
"The peace of Christ be with you.")*

A declaration of forgiveness proclaims the good news of God's mercy and offers the assurance of pardon in Jesus' name. The liturgist pours water into the font, which reminds us of the grace and cleansing of our Baptism, and the baptismal call to new life in Christ.

Scripture

The scriptures bear witness to the word of God, revealed most fully in Jesus Christ, the Word who "became flesh and lived among us." (John 1:14) Where the word is read and proclaimed, Jesus Christ the living Word is present by the power of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, reading, hearing, preaching, and affirming the word are central to Christian worship and essential to the Service for the Lord's Day.

***ACT OF PRAISE**

(Singing together Hymn 581)

GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.**

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Guy D. Griffith

*(Everyone is asked to sign the Friendship pad,
which is located on the center aisle end of each pew.)*

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Ashley Higgins

SCRIPTURE

Hear the Word of God! **Our ears are open.**

Luke 16:1-13

Ashley Higgins

(New Testament, pages 79 in your pew Bible)

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

Psalms 113

AUSTRIA

Bless the Lord, O Saints and Servants

Bless the Lord, O saints and servants,
praise the might of God's great name:
ageless, matchless, filled with wonder,
yesterday, today, the same.

When the dawn receives the sunrise
till the night returns its rays,
shall the glory of God's goodness
be the theme of all our praise.

Who in heaven can be God's equal,
who on earth with God compare?
Who can raise the poor from ashes,
lift the needy from despair?

God alone invites the helpless
with the strong to share reward;
fields once barren yield a harvest,
tongues once silent praise their Lord.

1 Timothy 2:1-7

(New Testament, page 208 in your pew Bible)

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

SERMON

"First of all, then..."

Donovan Drake

(A moment for meditation)

INSTALLATION

A LITANY OF GIFTS

J. Christopher Williams

As in one body we have many parts,
and each part has its own function,
**so we, who are many, are one body in Christ,
and individually we are members one of another.**

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

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

STATEMENT ON THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

J. Christopher Williams

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

J. Christopher Williams

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

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

Anthem

How Firm a Foundation

arr. Tom Trenney

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

*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!**

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

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Bob Hines

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.

Creator of light, we rejoice in the sunrise of each day,
whether veiled with clouds
or brilliant with the colors of morning.
We celebrate your glory revealed in the face
of Jesus Christ.
We live in the light your Spirit spreads in our minds
and our hearts,
thankful for new understanding of your purposes for us,
for fresh courage to face adversity,
for new moral life as our sins are put to death.
We praise you, Light above us, Light beside us,
Light within us. Amen.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER** (Singing together)

*(Please refer to the inside back cover of your hymnal
for the words and music for this hymn.)*

SENDING

***HYMN 366**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Stephanie Boaz

POSTLUDE

Toccata & Fugue in C Major

Johann Pachelbel

**(Those who are able may stand.)*

About the Postlude

The Postlude is
considered the final
Alleluia of worship.

8

Retirement of the Rev. Heidi Hudnut Beumler

The COM approved the retirement of Rev. Heidi Hudnut Beumler from Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nashville effective May 23, 2025.

Pulpit Supply List

The COM approved Ruling Elder Rob McNutt to be added to the Pulpit Supply List following examination by the Exam Team.

Pastoral Care Funds

The COM approved adding currently serving CREs to be added to Pastoral Care funds.

Terms of Call for Co-Pastor Joy Warren, Trinity

The COM approved Terms of Call for temporary Co-Pastor Rev. Joy Warren, Trinity Presbyterian, pending successful completion of the examination/approval by the Presbytery. Annual Salar: \$70,000, BoP \$18,200, Additional Medical, \$10,300, Dental and Vision, \$1,162, Social Security Tax \$5250, 5 weeks annual vacation, continual education 2 weeks, sabbatical considered of three months following six years of continual service, three months of family leave.

Reception of Rev. Courtney Veazey

The COM approved Rev. Courtney Veazey into PMT effective September 1, 2025.

Approval of Pastor Nominating Committees at Priest Lake, Normandy, Milldale, and Calvary Big Lick

The COM approved the election of Pastor Nominating Committees at Priest Lake Presbyterian Church. Members subsequently elected are Jon Loudermilk, Jeff Binns, Chelsea Glasme, Lisa Blowstone, and Tom Tozer. A PNC was approved for Normandy. Members elected are Suzie Lowe, Mark Riley, Kevin Auwater, Madeline Redford, and Brenda Hitt. A PNC was approved for Calvary at Big Lick. Members elected are: Judy Venable, Vickie Rhea, Bill Beckett, Lindsey Thompson, Martha Weaver. A PNC was also approved for Milldale PC. Members elected are Joy George (chair), Cindy Aucker, and James Trotter.

Approval of Associate Pastor for Youth and Families Nominating Committee, First Nashville

The COM approved the election of an APNC at First Nashville. Members elected are: Charlie Bryan Jr., moderator, Mary Daniel Danieley, Betsy Funk, Carrie Hininger, John Ridenour and Lauren Ross.

Dismissal of the Rev. Shawn Thomas Smith, the Rev. Stephen Yates, and the Rev. Aaron Stauffer

The COM approved the dismissal of the Rev. Shawn Thomas Smith to the Greater Atlantic Presbytery effective August 1, 2025. The COM approved the dismissal of the Rev. Aaron Stauffer to Heartland Presbytery effective September 9, 2025. The COM approved the dismissal of the Rev. Stephen Yates to the Presbytery of East Tennessee effective August 10, 2025.

Interim Contract, the Rev. Jim Moran and First Tullahoma

The COM approved the interim contract for Rev. Jim Moran at First Tullahoma for one year effective September 1, 2025. Terms include Cash salary, \$40,000, Housing \$28,287, 403(b), \$5380, medical and pension \$30,153, continuing education and professional expenses \$2533. Vacation of five weeks and two weeks of study leave.

Rev. Evelyn Graham, member at large

The COM approved a change of designation for the Rev. Evelyn Graham to Member-at-Large effective September 1, 2025.

Reception of the Rev. Diarmuid O'Hara

The COM approved the reception of the Rev. Diarmuid O'Hara, HR, from the East Tennessee Presbytery.

Endorsement of pastoral counseling, Rev. Jeannie Hoescht

The COM approved the endorsement for licensure to pastoral counseling in North Carolina for Rev. Jeannie Hoescht.

Ordination commission, Rev. Mallory Hammond

The COM approved the ordination commission of Rev. Mallory Hammond, First Presbyterian, Nashville, September 14, at 3:00 pm.

MINUTES
Ordination Commission for Mallory Hammond
First Presbyterian Church
Nashville, Tennessee

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

The Ordination Commission appointed by the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee to ordain the Teaching Elder Mallory Hammond met at the First Presbyterian Church of Nashville, Tennessee, on September 14 at First Presbyterian Church of Nashville at 3 P.M. Members present were:

Teaching Elders

The Rev. Ryan Moore, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Nashville
The Rev. Jane Herring, Pastor of Emmanuel Presbyterian Church
The Rev. Evelyn Graham, Member at Large

Ruling Elders

Mary Catherine Sevier, First Presbyterian Church of Murfreesboro
Austin McMullen, First Presbyterian Church of Nashville

Invitation to sit with the Commission:

Mickey Fitts, First Presbyterian Church of Nashville
Laura Coyle, First Presbyterian Church of Nashville

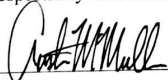
The Commission was called to order by the Chair of the Commission Rev. J.M. Herring and Austin McMullen was appointed Clerk of the Commission by the Chair. The Chair offered the opening prayer. The Order of worship for this Installation Service was reviewed with the constitutionally required elements 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. Ryan Moore. The constitutional Questions were propounded to Mallory Hammond by the Chair and they were answered in the affirmative.

Mallory Hammond was duly ordained as a Teaching Elder at First Presbyterian Church, Nashville.

A Charge was delivered to the Pastor by Rev. Sara Hill. The Service was closed with the Benediction pronounced by Mallory Hammond. The Commission was adjourned at the benediction of the worship service.

Respectfully submitted:

, Clerk of the Commission

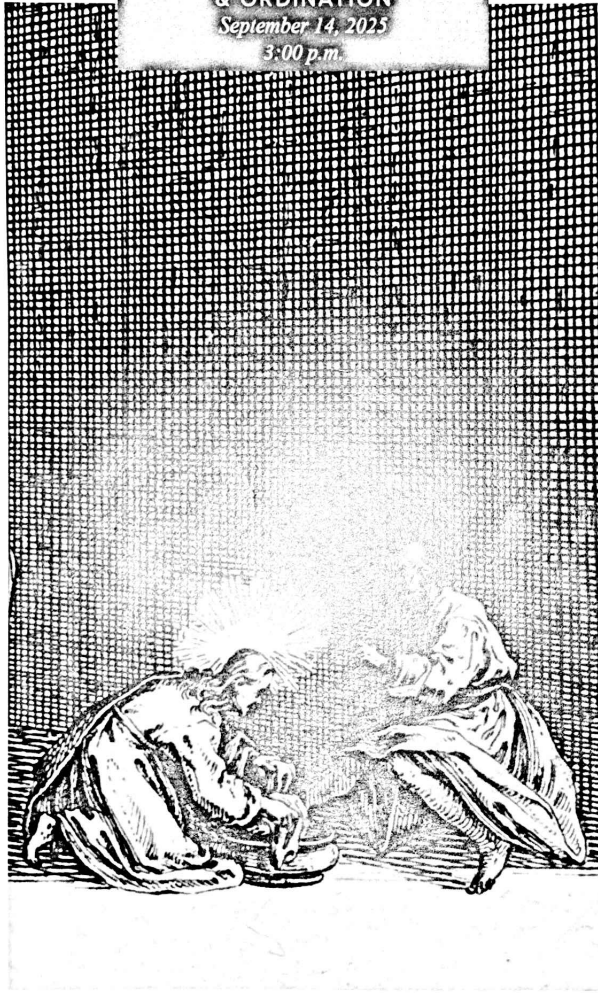


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Church *of* Nashville

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
& ORDINATION

September 14, 2025

3:00 p.m.



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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY

Choral Partita on "Praise to the Lord"
Joseph Ahrens

WELCOME

INTROIT

Come, Ye that Love the Lord
arr. Alice Parker

Come, ye that love the Lord, and let your love be known; join in a song of sweet accord and thus surround the throne, and thus surround the throne. Let those refuse to sing who never knew our God; but favorites of the heav'nly King may speak their joys abroad, may speak their joys abroad.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Adrian Taylor

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

All: **Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.**

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.

All: **Give thanks to him, bless his name.**

*OPENING HYMN 1

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty
NICAEA

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Austin McMullen

FIRST LESSON | Ezekiel 34:11-16 (page 722)

Askland Arnold

¹¹ "For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out.

¹² As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³ And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴ I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord God. ¹⁶ I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Gage Arnold

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, though you should guide us, we inform ourselves; though you should rule us, we control ourselves; though you should fulfill us, we console ourselves. We think your truth too high, your will too hard, your power too remote, your love too free. But they are not! And without them, we are of all people most miserable. Now heal our confused minds with your word, heal our divided wills with your law, heal our troubled consciences with your love, heal our anxious hearts with your presence, all for the sake of your Son, who loved us and gave himself for us. Amen.

A moment for silent confession.

ASSURANCE

*RESPONSE

Glory be to
and to the
is now and

AFFIRMATION

I believe in
our Lord:
Pilate, who
the dead;
thence he
church; t
everlasti

HYMN OF



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

Glory Be to the Father
GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Whether you are a longtime member or a guest, please mark your presence by
signing the friendship pad and greet those seated near you as you pass it along.*

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Holy Spirit Living Breath of God
Keith and Kristyn Getty Stuart Townend



1. Ho - ly Spir - it, liv - ing Breath of God, breathe new life in - to my will - ing soul.
2. Ho - ly Spir - it, come a - bide with - us, may Your joy be seen in all I do.
3. Ho - ly Spir - it, from cre - a - tion's birth, giv - ing life to all that God has made,



Let the pres - ence of the ris - en Lord come re - new my heart and make me whole.
Love e - nough to cov - er ev - 'ry sin, in each thought and deed and at - ti - tude.
show Your pow - er once a - gain on earth, cause Your church to hun - ger for Your ways.



Cause Your word to come a - live in me; Give me faith for what I can - not see,
Kind - ness to the greatest and the least, gen - tle - ness that sows the path of peace.
Let the fragrance of our pray'rs a - rise; Lead us on the road of sac - ri - fice,



give me passion for Your pu - ri - ty; Ho - ly Spir - it breathe new life in me.
Turn my strivings in - to works of grace; Breath of God show Christ in all I do.
that in u - ni - ty the face of Christ may be clear for all the world to see.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING | John 21:15–19 (page 907)

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Feed my lambs.” ¹⁶ He said to him a second time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Tend my sheep.” ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” and he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep.” ¹⁸ Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go.” ¹⁹ (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, “Follow me.”

Pastor: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Following The Shepherd

Dr. Ryan Moore

“Feed my lambs” —John 21:15

ANTHEM

O Love

Elaine Hagenberg

O love, that will not let me go, O love, I rest my weary soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe, that in thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be. O joy, that seeks me through the pain, O joy, I cannot close my heart to thee; I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

SERVICE OF ORDINATION

STATEMENT ON ORDINATION

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO THE CANDIDATE

Rev. Jane Herring

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?

ORDINATION PRAYER AND LAYING ON OF HANDS

DECLARATION OF ORDINATION

CHARGE TO THE PASTOR

Rev. Sara Hill

*CLOSING HYMN

Yet Not I, but Through Christ in Me
Johnny Robinson, Rich Thompson, Michael Farren



1. What gift of grace is Je - sus who re - deem - ed; there is no more for hea - ven now to give.
2. The night is dark but I am not for - saken, for by my side, the Sav - ior, he will stay.
3. No fate I dread, I know I am for - given. The fu - ture sure, the price it has been paid,
4. With ev - ery breath I long to fol - low Je - sus, for he has said that he will bring me home,

He is my joy, my righ - teous - ness, and free - dom; my stead - fast love, my deep and bound - less peace.
I la - bor on in weak - ness and re - joic - ing, for in my need, his pow - er is dis - played.
for Je - sus bled and suf - fered for my par - don, and he was raised to ov - er - throw the grave.
and day by day I know he will re - new me un - till I stand with joy be - fore the throne.

To this I hold, my hope is on - ly Je - sus; for my life is whol - ly bound to his.
To this I hold, my Shep - herd will de - fend me, through the deep - est val - ley he will lead.
To this I hold, my sin has been de - fea - ted; Je - sus now and ev - er is my plea.
To this I hold, my hope is on - ly Je - sus; All the glo - ry ev - er - more to him.

Oh how strange and di - vine, I can sing: "All is mine!" Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
Oh the night has been won, and I shall ov - er - come! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
Oh the chains are re - leased, I can sing: "I am free!" Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
When the race is com - plete, still my lips shall re - peat: "Yet not I, but through Christ in me."

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Mallory Hammond

CHORAL RESPONSE

The Lord Bless You and Keep You
Peter Lutkin

Sabbatical Grant Policy

The COM approved the Sabbatical Support Grant Policy and referred a request for funding to the Finance Committee.

Mediation Training

The COM approved mediation training for leaders in churches and the Presbytery March 2-6, 2026 with a cost to PMT participants of \$500 per individual. The initiative was referred to the Finance Committee for approval.

Rev. Joy Warren, Trinity

Rev. Dr. Stoker moved that Rev. Joy Warren, ordained in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, be examined for receipt into the denomination and the Presbytery. Rev. Warren has accepted a call as a co-pastor at Trinity Presbyterian pending receipt. Rev. Stoker invited her to the floor and began the examination. Following the examination, the Moderator asked her to leave the sanctuary. A discussion and vote followed, pursuant to G-2.0505(a)(2). The motion was approved by the required 2/3 majority. Rev. Warren was warmly welcomed. The Moderator invited TE John Smith to offer a prayer. The commission to install was reported having been approved by the COM and will take place on Sunday, November 23rd at 3:00 pm at Trinity with the following

members: Rev. John Smith, First Dickson, Rev. Taylor Young, First Gallatin, and Rev. Stacy Rector, validated at large as teaching elders and Mickey Stueck, First Lebanon, and Jackie Elbert, Trinity, as ruling elders.

Examination for Ordination and Installation of Candidate Patrick Woolsey

Rev. Dr. Stoker then moved that Patrick Woolsey, Candidate Certified Ready for Ordination Pending Receipt of a Call under the care of the Presbytery of East Tennessee and called to the installed pastorate at First McMinnville, be approved for ordination and installation. She invited Mr. Woolsey to the floor and opened the examination. Following the examination, the Moderator asked Mr. Woolsey to leave the sanctuary during the vote. The Motion was approved. Mr. Woolsey was called into the sanctuary and warmly congratulated and welcomed. The Moderator recognized Rev. Sally Hughes to offer a prayer. Rev. Dr. Stoker then moved that the Commission to Ordain and Install be approved. The service will take place Sunday, December 14th at 3:00 pm at First McMinnville with the following commission members: Rev. Sally Hughes, Trinity chair, the Rev. c.J. Thompson, First Manchester, ruling elders Barry Barnes, First McMinnville, Deidra Goins, First Manchester, Bethany Sterling, First Tullahoma, Debra Vandever, Historic Franklin, and Betsy Bond, Trinity. Guests of the commission will include Dr. Dan Spross of the Nazarene denomination and the Rev. Sherry Cothran of the United Methodist denomination. The motion was approved.

Introduction of Rev. Courtney Veazey

Rev. Dr. Stoker invited the Rev. Courtney Veazey to the floor to be welcomed and introduced. Rev. Veazey spoke briefly of her work as installed pastor and head of staff at Second Presbyterian. The Moderator offered a prayer.

NOMINATING TASK FORCE

The Moderator recognized Commissioned Ruling Elder Leonard Jordan of St. Andrews and chair of the Nominating Task Force.

Executive Presbyter Search Committee Vacancy

Mr. Jordan nominated TE Jane Herring, Emmanuel, to fill a vacancy on the Executive Presbyter Search Committee. The Moderator turned the moderator chair to the Stated Clerk without objection during the vote. There being no nominations from the floor, the motion was approved. The Stated Clerk returned the moderator chair to the Rev. Herring.

2026-2028 Committee Slate

Mr. Jordan asked that the standing rules be suspended for two purposes during the remainder of his report because two individuals from the same congregation were to serve on the Finance Committee, and several names had not been before the body for the required seven days. The motion to suspend was approved. Mr. Jordan then presented the following individuals for nomination. Administrative Committee, Class of 2026: Donovan Drake, TE Westminster Nashville; Class of 2028: Leonard Jordan, CRE, St Andrews, Kathy Corlew, RE, First Murfreesboro. Trustees: Chris Williams, RE, First Pulaski, Moderator, Erin Howton Angel, TE, First Allardt, Vice-Moderator, Bruce McVey, TE, First Fayetteville, Treasurer. Finance Committee, Class of 2028: George Crawford, RE, Westminster Nashville, Greg Glover, TE, First Clarksville. Committee on Church Transformation, Class of 2026: Lori Sain Smith, RE, First Shelbyville; Class of 2028: Jane Herring, TE, Emmanuel. Commission on Ministry, Class of 2027: Steve Thomas, TE, HR; Class of 2028: Beth McCaw, TE, Southminster, Rhonda Banasiak, CRE First Clarksville, Todd Jones, TE, HR, Mickey Stueck, RE, First Lebanon, Barbara Halverstadt, RE, Emmanuel. Committee on Mutual Support, Class of 2028: Will Wellman, TE, Validated at Westminster Nashville, Spencer Truett, RE, First Dickson, Charles Jordan, RE, St. Andrews. Committee on the Preparation for Ministry, Class of 2028: Stephanie Boaz, TE, Westminster Nashville, Judy Tygard, RE, Bellevue, Sandra Randleman, TE, First Nashville. Committee on Social Justice, Class of 2028: Greta McClain. Commissioners to Synod of the Living Waters: Vicky Harwell, RE, First Pulaski and Donovan Drake, TE, Westminster Nashville. Alternates: Anne Keener, CRE, First Franklin, and Gary Kelly, TE, HR. Commissioners to the 227th General Assembly: Betsy Bond, RE, Trinity, Mickey Stueck, RE, First Lebanon, Spencer Truett, RE, First Dickson, Jim Moran, TE, First Tullahoma, Mary Sellers Shaw, TE, validated (UKirk

Nashville), Bruce McVey, TE, First Fayetteville. Chairs of Committees/commissions: Erin Howton Angel, Administrative; Bruce McVey, Finance; Mickey Stueck and Amy Stoker, co-chairs Commission on Ministry; Lisa Hermann, Committee on the Preparation for Ministry; Bobby Harding, Committee on Mutual Support; John Hilley, Committee on Church Transformation; Dave Nock, Committee on Leadership Excellence. Ordination Exam readers: Greg Glover, Gloria Dale, Guy Griffith, Annesse Ashton, alternates Sally Hughes and Joyce Harris.

There being no nominations from the floor, the motion was approved.

PERSONNEL TASK FORCE

The Moderator recognized Lavona Russell, RE, East Brentwood of the Personnel Task Force. Mrs. Russell reported on the process as set forth in the personnel manual for hiring temporary staff and introduced newly hired TE Sherard Edington as the Transitional Executive Presbyter and RE Erin Bell, Downtown, as the Temporary Stated Clerk. Mrs. Russell then called on Erin Howton Angel who expressed appreciation to outgoing Bridge Executive Presbyter Terry Newland and Chris Williams who expressed appreciation to outgoing Stated Clerk Mary Catherine Sevier.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

The Moderator recognized RE Chris Williams, First Pulaski, chair of the Administrative Committee.

Criteria for Nomination as a General Assembly Commissioner

Mr. Williams presented a motion out of committee on the guidelines for nomination to serve as a GA Commissioner for this presbytery. The committee proposed that TEs be considered if they have been ordained in the PC-USA for seven years and served two terms on PMT committees, and REs be considered if they have been ordained in the PC-USA for seven years and served two terms on PMT committees with preference given to those who attend Presbytery meetings. John Smith, TE First Dickson, made a motion to refer to a special committee reflective of the presbytery and appointed by the moderator composed of five individuals who are charged with reporting to the Administrative Committee and bringing a recommendation to the body for consideration no later than the August 2026 Stated Meeting. The motion was seconded and approved.

Crisis Communication Policy

Mr. Williams presented a motion out of committee to update the Crisis Communication Policy as well as to report the required appendix of membership. The motion was approved.

Formal Thanks to the Visioning Leadership Team

Mr. Williams presented a motion of formal thanks to the Visioning Leadership Team for its work in producing the Visioning Report. The motion carried.

Following prayers of the people with joys and concerns led by Bridge EP Terry Newland and Transitional EP Sherard Edington, the Moderator announced that the body would stand in recess for lunch.

Following the recess, the Moderator re-convened the body and recognized RE Chris Williams for the remainder of the Administrative Committee report.

The Visioning Report

Mr. Williams asked that the Moderator recognize RE Barbara Halverstadt and Hannah Cruse who presented information on the Visioning Report. Following their report, Mr. Williams made a motion out of committee that deliberate and intentional education and discussion opportunities be undertaken throughout the Presbytery and that a vote on the Vision report as well as a vote on a plan of implementation be taken at the February 2026 Stated Meeting.

John Smith, TE of First Dickson, moved the following amendment to the motion: that deliberate and intentional education and discussion opportunities be undertaken throughout the Presbytery ~~and that a vote on the Vision report as well as a vote on a plan of implementation be taken at the February 2026 Stated~~

~~Meeting~~ led by a team nominated by our regular process and elected at the February meeting of presbytery and that a vote on the vision report and plan of implementation be taken no later than the August 2026 Stated Meeting. The amendment was seconded and approved.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Moderator recognized the Rev. Evelyn Graham, member-at-large and treasurer and chair of the Finance Committee to make the report.

Financial Position

Rev. Graham noted that pledged giving is over budget for the month of September and for the year. She expressed to the congregations of the Presbytery. She further noted that expenses are under budget. While the investment accounts are up approximately \$758,000 year-to-date, Rev. Graham reported that the gain is due mainly to the success of our stock market accounts and should not be considered normal or sustainable.

Correction of Amounts in Specific Designated and Temporarily Restricted Funds

Rev. Graham noted that Mullins Clemmons & Mayes, our accounting firm, is working to help correct amounts in several of the designated and temporarily restricted funds, especially those relating to the Nueva Vida Food Bank and the Nueva Vida New Church Development (NCD). These amounts should be corrected in the October 2025 financial statements.

Mission and Ministries Grant Fund

Rev. Graham reported that the Committee on Mutual Support has proposed the creation of a new fund entitled the Mission and Ministries Grant Fund with monies in the Presbytery accounts. The Finance Committee, after lengthy consideration, has declined to approve bringing that recommendation to the body until after the body has considered the visioning report. Once the body makes disposition of the visioning report, the committee hopes that Mutual Support will re-submit. Finance thanked Mutual Support for its passionate support of our congregations.

Southminster Woodbine Partnership

Rev. Graham announced that Southminster Presbyterian has presented an initiative to the Committee on Church Transformation and the Finance Committee to enter a partnership with Woodbine. The proposal requires a long term 99 year lease among other provisions. The Finance Committee has referred the document to the Legal Task force and will report to Southminster and the body after it receives the recommendation from the Task Force. Rev. Graham that the Committee on Church Transformation would present more information in the meeting about this initiative.

First Cookeville Request from Upper Cumberland

The Finance Committee approved a request from the Committee on Church Transformation (CCT) to support a new mission position for First Cookeville. Subject to approval, the presbytery will commit \$150,000, by declining amounts over the next 5 years, according to the plan documents received by CCT and Finance. The \$150,000 would come out of the New Church Development Upper Cumberland, Acct 3001-08. The motion approved by Finance is as follows:

The Finance Committee speaks favorably to the plans being developed collaboratively by Cookeville and CCT, together with other consultants, recognizing that these plans further the mission of Jesus Christ and the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee. The committee affirms that the work being undertaken seeks to reach out with the Gospel of Christ and to love and serve the world at the doorstep of the First Church of Cookeville and fits within the funding available to the Cumberland Plateau. Furthermore, the Finance Committee requests that the CCT provide the presbytery an annual report describing how funds were utilized, what aspects of the project proved effective, and what challenges were encountered, with the hope that this shared learning will strengthen and inform the ministries of other congregations within the Presbytery.

Closure of Mattie Smith Memorial Account

The Committee approved closure of account 2001-41 (Silver Point, Mattie Smith) into 3001-04 (Designation-NCD Properties-Other) due to the conclusion of financial matters and disposal of the property.

Hillwood Property Disposition

The Committee was informed that the session of Hillwood Presbyterian called a congregational meeting to vote on the sale of a separate lot from the main property on which Hillwood has and will continue ministry as committed participants of the PCUSA. This lot was used to support activities of Hillwood High School which no longer exists. This congregation has taken the exemption provided for in G-4.0208.

Calvary Big Lick Hurricane Damage

The Committee was directed at the August Stated Meeting to work with Calvary Big Lick to provide funding for hurricane damage repairs in addition to the PDA grant which we secured for them and the matching \$5000 already given. The Committee has worked closely with the congregation and their COM liaison and has tabled the additional funding until further need can be determined.

Brick Church Quit Claim

The Brick Church quit claim deed has been filed, and the property has been removed from the presbytery's assets.

Approval of Transitional EP Housing Allowance

The Committee approved a housing allowance of \$54,000 for the Transitional Executive Presbyter.

Mediation Fund Designation Change and Training Expense Approval

The Committee has approved a COM request to change the language in the Financial Policies and Procedures Appendix A for the Mediation designated fund, Acct 3001-14, to the following (change to current wording is in **bold**):

This fund consists of money set aside by the Presbytery to help churches address situations of serious conflict, by covering the expense of utilizing trained mediators within the Presbytery or by hiring outside mediators or consultants, with the Commission on Ministry's approval. **This fund can also be used to pay for mediation training for presbytery members (ministers and members) who are willing to serve on the team.** The churches involved may be asked to match monies used from this fund. This fund is administered by the Commission on Ministry.

Rev. Graham reported that if the body approves this change, Finance has approved a COM request to hold a mediation training on March 2-6, 2026. Cost is \$8,612.00 plus no more than \$1,500 for food for 12 people. Cost to PMT members would be \$500 and willingness to serve on the Mediation Team of COM. The training will be open to other presbyteries after a cutoff date, and they will be charged \$850 to attend.

Rev. Graham made the following motion out of committee: To approve changes in the wording of the Mediation Fund, Acct 3001-14 to allow the designated fund to be used for fund training for PMT members who are willing to serve on the team. Following discussion, the motion was approved.

Old Hickory Presbyterian Pass Through Fund

Rev. Graham announced that Old Hickory PC is the beneficiary of a bequest restricted to the construction and/or maintenance of the physical facilities. The congregation has asked COM to assist in record keeping and disbursement, and COM has agreed to appoint a Task Force. The Finance Committee approved the request from COM to establish a pass through fund for these monies and recommended that the fund be approved.

Rev. Graham made a motion out of committee that a pass-through fund to be created to receive money from the estate of Mary Field Nevill. The language to be included in the Financial Policies and Procedures, Appendix A would be as follows (new fund language indicated in **bold**):

This temporary fund was established to receive and distribute money received from a limited bequest by Mary Field Neville to Old Hickory

Presbyterian Church with the restriction that it be used for construction and/or maintenance of physical facilities. This fund was established by the Finance Committee in October 2025. The Old Hickory Task Force of the COM administers this fund in consultation with the congregation/session. This fund's end date will be at its depletion. Should Old Hickory PC cease to exist before that time, the funds revert to Mrs. Neville's estate.

The motion did not need a second and was approved.

Sabbatical Assistance Fund

Rev. Graham announced that the COM has appointed a task force to consider and update the guidelines for sabbatical assistance and to establish a grant request and award procedure. Following that task force's report to COM, the Commission requested that Finance establish a new designated fund for Sabbatical Assistance to supplement the current restricted Sabbatical Assistance fund, acct 3002-26. Finance has approved this action. In the old restricted fund, monies were collected from a presbytery meeting in July 2011. This restricted fund currently gives a maximum of \$600 to small churches of less than 100 members for a pastor's sabbatical assistance. Under the new grant application process for sabbatical assistance, successful recipients must have submitted current statistical report information, and priority is given to single pastor churches. Finance approved creating a new designated fund and seeding the fund with \$12,500, to be taken from Unrestricted Net Assets, Acct 3001, with the following language for this new account (changes indicated in **bold**):

From this fund grants of up to \$1,500 are awarded to sessions pursuant to the sabbatical policy and grant application process of the Commission on Ministry (COM). Successful recipients must have submitted annual complete statistical reports (including the budgetary portion) and priority is given to single pastor churches. If a successful session is under 100 members, the first \$600 of the grant is taken from Restricted Fund 3002-26 (which will go away after depleted), with this fund supplying the balance. The fund is replenished by Presbytery offerings and requests from COM to the budget taskforce and is administered by COM.

Rev. Graham made a motion from committee that the new fund be created with the above description. The motion was approved.

Centsability Fund

Rev. Graham announced that the Committee had approved a request from the Committee on Mutual Support for additional funds for the Centsability program and approved matching funding of dollar for dollar by the presbytery for monies received by the churches. Although this program is no longer supported by the PCUSA, churches continue to collect funds which are put into the restricted Centsability fund, Acct 3002-01. The hunger need is great and requests are turned down due to lack of funding. The Finance Committee recommends that the body create a new designated fund in honor of the commitment of the congregation of St.

John's Presbyterian in Lincoln County in their work to alleviate hunger by using some of the funds from the sale of their church property. This fund would be seeded with \$12,500 by the closure of St. John's, Fayetteville, Acct 3001-46. Also, presbytery will match funds received dollar for dollar from a special offering to be collected at the November 8, 2025 presbytery meeting and will match additional funds dollar for dollar as they are collected from churches and given to the presbytery beginning in 2026. Restricted monies must be used first when awarding hunger grants.

Rev. Graham made a motion out of committee that a new designated Centsability fund be created with the following description in the Financial Policies and Procedures, Appendix A (changes indicated in **bold**):

This fund administered by the Committee on Mutual Support is to supplement and further the presbytery's commitment to hunger

insecurity and participation as a presbytery in the Matthew 25 program of the PCUSA. This fund was created to honor the work of the congregation of St. John's Presbyterian in their commitment to alleviating hunger in Lincoln County. Monies from the sale of the property of St. John's, Fayetteville will be used to seed the new fund with \$12,500. Presbytery will match funds dollar for dollar collected by churches for the Centsability program beginning with the November 8, 2025 presbytery meeting and continuing into 2026 and beyond by using funds from the sale of St. John's, Fayetteville's church property. Restricted monies in the Centsability Acct 3002-01 must be used first. COMS can request additional money through the annual budget process of the presbytery.

The motion was approved.

PMT 2026 Budget

Rev. Graham noted the following points on the 2026 budget and then asked the Moderator to recognize RE Hal Sauer of First Nashville and chair of the Budget Task Force to present the 2026 budget for approval. She called attention to:

- a. Financial Policies and Procedure require a balanced budget to within +/- 2%.
- b. The line items of salary and benefits for the new Transitional Executive Presbyter and the new Transitional Stated Clerk are taken from the offer letters given to those two people who have accepted these positions.
- c. The Administration Coordinator was budgeted for full time with medical and pension benefits.
- d. Missional giving to the UKirk campuses, the Nueva Vida food bank, and NaCoMe are funded at the same amounts as 2025.

RE Sauer further elaborated on these items and answered questions.

Rev. Graham made the motion that the 2026 budget be approved. The motion was approved.

COMMITTEE ON THE PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

The Moderator recognized the Rev. Lisa Hermann, member at large and chair of the Committee on the Preparation for Ministry. Rev. Hermann moved that Kimberly Coward, Inquirer under the care of CPM and First Franklin, be examined and approved for receipt to Candidacy. She invited Ms. Coward to the floor of the Presbytery to be examined. The motion to receive her to Candidacy was approved. Ms. Coward was welcomed. The Rev. Sally Hughes, Trinity, charged the candidate and RE Verna Rylund, First Franklin offered the prayer.

COMMITTEE ON CHURCH TRANSFORMATION

First Cookeville Request for Upper Cumberland Fund Monies

The Moderator recognized the Rev. John Hilley, East Brentwood to make a report as chair of the Committee on Church Transformation. Rev. Hilley recognized TE Michael McLaughlin and RE Cade Arnold of First Cookeville to present an mission initiative to increase outreach within the community. The mission is already finding considerable success including the twice a month "Giving Griddle" event which feeds anyone who asks. Following the presentation, Rev. Hilley made a motion to approve \$150,000 over 5 years from the New Church Development Upper Cumberland Fund, Acct 3001-08, to support a new mission position at First Cookeville. The motion was approved.

Southminster Proposal to House Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities

Rev. Hilley recognized TE Beth McCaw and RE Jenn Maxwell of Southminster, who presented information on a proposed partnership with local non profits to build affordable housing for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Following their information, Rev. Hilley noted that the proposal includes a 99 year lease and that the agreements are in process with the PMT Legal Task Force.

REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK

The Moderator recognized the Stated Clerk, RE Mary Catherine Sevier of First Murfreesboro.

Members of the Permanent Judicial Commission

Pursuant to the Book of Order, G-3.0206 (b), the following individuals comprise the PJC

Class of 2026	Class of 2028	Class of 2028
Michael Bradley, TE	Bill Russell, RE	Keith Dennen, RE
HR	FPC Spring Hill	New Creation
James Hudnut-Beumler, TE	Walt Tennyson, TE	Ryan Moore, TE
Vanderbilt Divinity School	Alive Hospice	First, Nashville
J.B. Smith, RE	Terry Denton, RE	John Smith, TE
FPC Pulaski	Emmanuel PC	First, Dickson

Review of Session Minutes

Pursuant to the Book of Order, Pursuant to the Book of Order, G-3.0108, the following session clerks submitted minutes for review or participated in the review process to improve their minutes procedures and formats:

Bellevue, Belfast, Bethany, Blue Spring, Calvary Big Lick, Calvary, Christ, Clarksville First, Cookeville First, Cowan Fellowship, Dickson First, Double Springs, Downtown, Eastminster, Ellis Grove, Fayetteville First, Gallatin First, Harpeth, Hendersonville First, Hermitage, Historic Franklin, Lawrenceburg First, Lebanon First, Lewisburg First, McMinnville First, Milldale, Normandy, Northminster, Old Hickory, Petersburg First, Priest Lake, Pulaski First, Second, Smyrna First, Spring Hill First, Tullahoma First, Westminster Columbia, Westminster Fairfield Glade, Westminster Nashville.

Resolutions of Gratitude

The session of First Clarksville approved the following resolutions of gratitude to the Committee on Church Transformation and to the Rev. John Hinkle, First Murfreesboro.



First Presbyterian Church

**A Resolution of Gratitude to the Rev. John Hilley and the Committee on Church Transformation of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee
Adopted by the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Clarksville, Tennessee**

Whereas, the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Clarksville, Tennessee, has established an Intentional Property Redevelopment Team to faithfully study and discern the best use of the church's property for the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, this Team identified the need for a professional consultant to guide its complex and important work, ensuring a diligent and faithful process; and

Whereas, the Team requested financial support from the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee to secure the services of said consultant; and

Whereas, the Committee on Church Transformation of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee, under the leadership of its chair, the Rev. John Hilley, graciously considered and approved this request; and

Whereas, the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee, through its Committee on Church Transformation, has provided a grant of \$12,500 to assist First Presbyterian Church in this vital work;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Clarksville, Tennessee, on behalf of its entire congregation, expresses its profound gratitude and deepest appreciation to the Rev. John Hilley and the members of the Committee on Church Transformation for their generous support, partnership in ministry, and commitment to the flourishing of congregations.

Be it further resolved, that this resolution be entered into the official minutes of the Session, and that a formal copy be conveyed with gratitude to the Rev. John Hilley, the members of the Committee on Church Transformation, and the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee.

Adopted and approved by the Session this 17th day of August, 2025.

Lesa Goder
Clerk of Session
First Presbyterian Church
Clarksville, Tennessee



First Presbyterian Church

A Resolution of Gratitude to the Rev. Dr. John Hinkle, Jr.

Adopted by the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Clarksville, Tennessee

Whereas, the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Clarksville, Tennessee, has established an Intentional Property Redevelopment Team to faithfully study and discern the best use of the church's property for the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, this Team identified the need for a professional consultant to guide its complex and important work, ensuring a diligent and faithful process; and

Whereas, the Presbytery's Church Transformation Committee presented a report to the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee in recognition of its contribution of \$5,000 to assist First Presbyterian Church in securing said consultant; and

Whereas, the Rev. Dr. John Hinkle, Jr., recognizing the significance of this initiative and the true cost of such professional services, did thoughtfully and persuasively make a motion and argument on the floor of Presbytery to increase this support; and

Whereas, as a direct result of Rev. Dr. Hinkle's effective advocacy, the Presbytery voted to increase the amount of support to First Presbyterian Church from \$5,000 to \$12,500;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Clarksville, Tennessee, on behalf of its entire congregation, expresses its profound gratitude and deepest appreciation to the Rev. Dr. John Hinkle, Jr., for his collegial support, wise counsel, and decisive action on their behalf.

Be it further resolved, that this resolution be entered into the official minutes of the Session, and that a formal copy be conveyed with gratitude to the Rev. Dr. John Hinkle, Jr., and to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee.

Adopted and approved by the Session this 17th day of August, 2025.

Lesa Goder

Clerk of Session

First Presbyterian Church

Clarksville, Tennessee

The Stated Clerk asked that three items from the Committee on Mutual Support's report be admitted to record. The Moderator so ordered.

Hunger Grant Awards

The Committee awarded \$1020 each to The Journey Home, Nueva Vida Food Bank, First Smyrna, and Community Outreach.

Technology Grant Awards

The Committee made two technology grants. Emmanuel received \$2965 for upgrades and purchases to enhance worship. The Committee also awarded \$4000 to Downtown for website development and live streaming capabilities.

Hunger Grant Application Changes

The Committee determined that Hunger Grants will be awarded semiannually on February 28 (application deadline January 1) and August 31 (application deadline July 1). The application was updated to reflect these changes and can still be found on the PMT website.

REPORT OF THE BRIDGE EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER

The Moderator recognized the Bridge Executive Presbyter. He thanked the Presbytery for the work it has done during his tenure and expressed appreciation to the members.

ADJOURNMENT

Moderator Herring led the body in a closing prayer. She then asked for a motion to adjourn which was seconded and approved. After announcing that the 163rd Stated Meeting will be February 7, 2026, at Nashville Korean, she adjourned the meeting at 4:00 pm.

Mary Catherine Sevier
Stated Clerk

Teaching Elders

_E_Adams, Chris
 _E_Anderson, David
 _E_Anderson, Rosanna
 _P_Angel, Erin Howton
 _E_Angel, Jonathan
 _E_Arnold, Judith
 _E_Bagley, Tom
 E_Bellis, Eddie
 _P_Berry, Claire
 _P_Berger, Will
 _P_Boaz, Stephanie Hanson
 _E_Bradley, Michael
 _E_Bray, Linda
 _P_Bryan, Mark S.
 _E_Burgener, John "Bo"
 _E_Caldwell, Elizabeth
 _E_Canon, Amelia
 _E_Carrell, Len
 _E_Casner, Paul
 _E_Catoe, Lee
 _E_Cejka, III, Joseph
 _E_Cheetham, John T.
 _E_Chquimia, Teddy
 _E_Coates, Coleman Lewis
 _E_Cox, M. Elia
 _E_Crawford, John
 _E_Crumpler, David
 _E_Danner, Charles
 _E_Davis, Michael
 _E_DeVries, Adam
 _E_DeVries, Mark
 _P_Drake, Donovan
 _P_Durnell, Warner R.
 _E_Early, Kim Maphis
 _E_Early, Robert
 _P_Edington, Sherard
 _E_Eisenmenger, David
 _P_Fraser, Carrie
 _E_Gasser, Anna D.
 _E_Gay, Andy

_E_Gerber, David
 _E_Gilliam, Elizabeth
 _E_Gilliss, Martha Schull
 _P_Glover, Gregory
 _E_Glover, Leslie
 _P_Graham, M. Evelyn
 _P_Griffith, Guy D.
 _E_Gung, Justin
 _E_Gunter, Keith
 _E_Hamman, Jaco
 _E_Hammond, Mallory
 _E_Handson, Pat
 _E_Harding, Bobby
 _E_Harrell, James E.
 P_Hermann, Lisa C.
 _P_Herring, Jane
 E_Higgins, Ashley
 _E_Hill, Austin
 _E_Hill, Ellen
 _E_Hill, Sara
 _P_Hilley, John R.
 _E_Hinkle, Jr., John
 _E_Hodgson, Peter
 _E_Hoechst, Jeanne
 _E_Hudnut-Beumler, Heidi
 _E_Hudnut-Beumler, James
 _P_Hughes, Sally
 _E_Huie, Scott
 _E_Hunter, Jeannie
 _E_Johnson, Charles N.
 _E_Jones, Todd B.
 _E_Kane, Jeff
 _E_Kang, Se Bong
 _E_Kang, Shin
 _E_Kaufman, John E.
 _E_Kelly, Gary
 _E_Kidd, David
 E_Kim, Eunjoo
 P_Kim, Il Sun (PK)
 _E_Klein, Candice
 _P_Kneff, Sarah Bird

November 8, 2025 Stated Meeting Roll

_E_Knight, Carole
 E_Kramer, Claire Harris
 _E_Larson, John
 _E_Leftwich, Phil
 _E_Lewis, John
 _E_Lipsey, McCurdy
 _E_Logan, Gail
 _P_Loscuito, Jason
 E_Mayes, Jim
 _P_McCaw, Beth
 _E_McClure, Annie
 _E_McCormack, Robert E.
 _E_McCullough, John
 _E_McKinsey, Sally Ann
 _P_McLaughlin, Michael D.
 _P_McVey, Bruce
 _E_Moffatt, III, Charles L.
 _E_Montgomery, Robert
 _E_Moore, Ryan
 _P_Moran, James A.
 _E_Muse, Perry
 _E_Musgrave, John
 _E_Musick, Steve
 _E_Nally, Sara
 _E_Neil, Richard
 _E_Newsom, Ernest B.
 _E_Nichols, James A.
 _E_Nyhuis, Jule
 _E_O'Hara, Diarmuid
 _E_Paddon, Richard
 _E_Page, Fred
 _P_Park, Inhye
 _E_Paterik, Roy
 _E_Patton, Tom
 _E_Pentecost, Mike
 _E_Picard, John Paul
 _E_Ramirez, Lilia M.
 _E_Randleman, Sandra
 _E_Rector, Stacy
 _E_Richardson, W. W.
 _E_Ritchie, Jeff
 _E_Ritchie, Megan
 _E_Rodriguez, Josh
 _E_Rogers-Vaughn, Annette
 _E_Rouquie, Richard
 _E_Salyer, Carson
 _E_Salyer, Janet
 _P_Sasser, Zach
 _E_Sawyer, David
 _E_Schultz, Harris
 _E_Schwartz, Cindy
 _E_Shaw, Mary Sellers
 _E_Skelly, John J., III
 _E_Smith, Jimmy D.
 _P_Smith, John A.
 _P_Smith, Shane
 _E_Soderquist, Ann
 _P_Stoker, Amy B.
 P_Taber, Chuck
 _E_Tate, Carol
 _P_Tennyson, Walt
 _P_Thomas, C. S. (Steve) III
 _E_Thomas, Ray
 _P_Thompson, C.J.
 _E_Thompson, Marjorie
 _E_Todd, John
 _P_Traylor, Leslie
 _E_Tuck, Janet
 _E_Tyndall, Thomas B.
 _E_Vasquez-Paredes, Gustavo
 _E_Venable, III, Sid
 _P_Veazey, Courtney
 _E_Wallace, Morgan
 _E>Weingartner, Robert J.
 _E_Wellman, Will
 _E_White, Jack
 _E_White, Linda
 _E_Wilson, Amos L.
 _E_Yang, Sunggu
 _P_Young, Taylor
 _E_Zeigler, Richard

P - Present

E – Excused

A – Absent

I - Inactive

Ruling Elder Commissioners

<u>Church</u>	<u>Represented By</u>		
Alexandria, Liberty Hill		Spring Creek	2.
Allardt, First			
Alpine, Christ			
Ardmore, Bethany		<u>Church</u>	<u>Represented By</u>
Belfast		Lewisburg, Bethberei	
Bethpage, Oak Grove		First	1.
Brentwood, Brentwood First			2.
East	1. Lavona Russel	Lynnville, First	
	2.	Manchester, First	
	3.	McMinnville, First	1. Barry Barnes
Harpeth	1.	Milton, Hopewell	
	2.	Mt. Pleasant, First	
Buffalo Valley	1. DeeDee Lopes	Murfreesboro, First	1. Teri Windham
Clarksville, First	1. Ken Giles		2.
	2. Craig Schyler		3.
	3. Doug Young	Northminster	
	4.	Nashville, Bellevue	1.
Macedonia	1.		2.
Columbia, First	1. Jean Mac Ball	Donelson	1.
	2.		2.
	3.	Downtown	1. Dave Coleman
Westminster			2. Tara Herbert
Cookeville, Double Springs		Eastminster	1. Connie Hamblen
First	1. Dee Tompkins		2.
	2. Cade Arnold	Emmanuel	1. Barb Halverstadt
Post Oak		First	1. Michael Hindman
Cowan, Fellowship			2. Hal Sauer
Crossville, Calvary	1.		3. Laura May
	2.		4. Wayman Tipton
Dickson, First	1. Vicky McMillen		5.
	2. Jesse Colston		
	3. Spencer Truett		
Pond		Glen Leven	1. Irene Hanson
Fairfield Glade, Westminster			2. Lorolei Victory
Fayetteville, First	1.		3. Margie McCullough
	2.	Glenclyff	1. Betty Curry
St. John		Hillsboro	1.
Franklin, First	1. Verna Rydlund		2.
	2. Tammy Love	Hillwood	1. Bob Cooper
	3. Starr Nolan		2.
	4. Jim Petersen	Korean	1.
Historic	1. Tonya Young		2.
	2. Debra Vandever	Priest Lake	
New Hope		Second	1. Priscilla Coe
Gallatin, First	1. Baker Ring		2. Nancy Morris
	2.		3. Annette Calloway
Sudanese	1. Tut Lane		4. Brian Overton
	2.		
Hendersonville, First	1. Howard Renton	Southminster	1. Jenn Maxwell
	2.	St. Andrews	1.
	3.		2.
New Creation		Trinity	1. Jackie Elbert
Hermitage	1. Nancy Abbott		
	2.	Westminster	1. Suzie Lane
Lawrenceburg, First			2. Jim Barr
Lebanon, First	1. Margaret Ann Trail		3. Kevin Gentry

Woodland	4. Katherine McElroy
Normandy	5. Ward DeWitt
	6. Jennifer Corbett
	1. Claudia Hazelwood

Church
Old Hickory
Petersburg, First

Pulaski, First

Readyville, Cripple Creek
Shelbyville, First

Smyrna, First

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

Milldale
Thompson Station, Bethesda
Tullahoma, First

Watertown, First
Waverly, Ellis Grove

Represented By

1. John Hay
- 2.
1. Mary Brown
2. Sarah Natale
3. Aaron Crafton

1. Mike Jones
- 2.

- 1.
- 2.

1. J. Ray Jollenbeck
2. Murray Brown
3. Augur Harris

Visitors without Voice:

Elbert, Phil
Guerraro, Roe
Guerraro, Luz
Gentry, Debra
Warren, Chris
Puckett, Shirley
Moran, Denise
Baker, Vira
Baker, Vera
Barnes, Debbie
Goode, Linda
Goode, Raymond

Commissioned Ruling Elders

Leonard Jordan, St. Andrews; Rhonda Banasiak, First
Clarksville; David Paduil, Nuer Sudanese; David Sadler, Priest
Lake

Ruling Elders, Voice and Vote:

Administrative Committee: Betsy Bond, Kathy Corlew;
Mary Catherine Sevier, Stated Clerk; Chris Williams, Vice-
Moderator; Finance Committee; David Nock, Committee on
Leadership Excellence chair;
Moderator within five years of office: Cristi Scott Ligon,
Theresa Denton

Corresponding Members, Voice, without Vote:

Newland, Terry, Sheppard and Lapsley

Visitors with Voice:

Bell, Erin
Coward, Kimberly
Cruse, Hannah
Warren, Joy
Woolsey, Patrick