

Minutes of the Annual Meeting Presbytery of Transylvania December 3, 2024

Opening

The annual meeting of the Presbytery of Transylvania was held on Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at Eastminster Presbyterian Church, 1161 Liberty Road, Lexington, KY 40505. Moderator John Leggett opened the meeting at 10 AM with an opening prayer. Commissioned pastor Sarah Wilson greeted the presbytery and shared information about the church. The body moved to worship, which included the sacrament of communion.

Business Items

A quorum was present. The roll of attendance (see Appendix A) for this meeting was formed. The stated clerk moved the printed docket. Motion approved.

Greetings from Mission Engagement Advisor

Lauren Rogers brought greetings from the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Ms. Rogers informed the body of available resources, a new website, and information on special offerings. Ms. Rogers recognized those congregations that had participated in all four special offerings over the past year: Buckhorn, First Presbyterian Lancaster, First Presbyterian Richmond, First Presbyterian Somerset, Second Presbyterian Lexington, Presbyterian Church Danville, and White's Memorial Berea. Ms. Rogers awarded a banner to Maxwell Street Presbyterian Lexington, recognizing 25 years of support for the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering.

Consent Agenda

The Stated Clerk moved the consent agenda: a) Stated Clerk's report, with recommendations to approve requests for excused absences, motion to seat corresponding members and grant privilege of the floor, approve the minutes of the May 18, 2024, stated meeting, approve the minutes of the October 7, 2024, called meeting, receive the minutes of Sarah Smith ordination of June 8, 2024, receive minutes of Shawn Barkley installation of July 28, 2024, receive the minutes of Wanda Olive installation of October 27, 2024, receive the minutes of Franklyn Pottorff installation of November 10, 2024, and receive the minutes of David Holden installation of November 17, 2024; b) Commission on Preparation for Ministry report; c) A Gathering Place (Morehead) report; d) Leadership Development Ministry report; e) Urban Village report; f) Pastoral Transitions Commission report; and g) Church Development and Revitalization Ministry report. Motion passed.

Comings and Goings

Presbytery executive Philip Lotspeich recognized and welcomed pastoral leaders who had accepted new calls and temporary positions. Mr. Lotspeich recognized those pastoral leaders who had ended calls. Teaching elders Keith Benze and Elizabeth Stone were recognized as

retired and the moderator led in prayer celebrating their ministries. Pastors with milestone ordination anniversaries (5-year increments) were recognized and honored with certificates. Ruling and teaching elder members of presbytery commissions completing terms were honored with a small gift crafted by ruling elder Susan Bradish.

General Presbyter

Presbytery executive Philip Lotspeich reported. Mr. Lotspeich offered a review of presbytery's activities in 2024 and encouraged the presbytery's commissions, ministries, and churches to establish achievable goals for 2025.

Presbyterian Women

Ruling elders Karen May and Emily Carroll reported. The spring 2025 gathering will be Saturday, April 26, 2025, at Cynthiana Presbyterian Church. Ms. Carroll honored business manager Robyn Justus with an honorary lifetime membership to PW.

Coordinating Commission

Presbytery executive Philip Lotspeich reported. The commission moved that the presbytery revise the Manual of Operations. Motion passed. The commission moved that the presbytery adopt a proposal supporting the legacy fund of Living Waters for the World. Motion passed. The commission moved that the presbytery elect ruling elder Jim Magee to Commission on Representation, class of 2017. Motion passed. The commission moved that the presbytery approve the following meeting dates for 2025: Saturday, March 1, 2025, Tuesday, May 20, 2025, Saturday, August 16, 2025, at First Presbyterian Church, Somerset, and Tuesday, December 2, 2025. Motion passed.

Administration Commission

Chair Bill Reed reported. The commission moved that the presbytery's portion of total per capita be set at \$25.58 per member for 2025. The total per capita is \$40.00. Motion passed. The commission moved that the distribution of Unified Mission Giving for 2025 be as follows: Transylvania Presbytery 78%, Synod of Living Waters 5%, and Presbyterian Church (USA) 17%. Motion passed. The commission moved that the 2025 operating budget of \$619,013 be adopted. Motion passed.

Congregational Issues Commission

Chair Mike Ward reported. The commission moved that in order to promote congregational health and effective ministry, that the Presbytery of Transylvania strongly encourage its congregations to conduct annual "ministry reviews" with their pastoral leaders, that at the time of establishing new pastoral relationships, the presbytery counsel and encourage congregations to create clear job descriptions and processes for regular ministry reviews, that the question "Has a ministry review been conducted with the congregation's pastoral leader(s)?" be added to the Administrative Review (i.e. Clerk's Report) submitted by congregations each year, and that the

Congregational Issues Commission make resources available, including human resources, to assist congregations in establishing useful and helpful practices for reviewing ministry with their pastoral leaders. Motion passed.

Commission on Representation

Chair Mary Reed reported. The commission places these names into nomination: ruling elder David Hoskins to Commission on Representation class of 2025; teaching elder Jennifer Hallberg to Commission on Representation class of 2026; teaching elder Jennifer Powell to Commission on Representation class of 2027; ruling elder David Whiteman, 2025 moderator; teaching elder Linda Kurtz, 2025 vice-moderator; teaching elder Jerry Utt, stated clerk class of 2027; ruling elder Kathy Fish to Coordinating Commission class of 2027; teaching elder Melissa Sevier to Coordinating Commission class of 2027; ruling elder Gabe Rogers to Administration Commission class of 2027; ruling elder Bill Reed to chair Administration Commission class of 2027; ruling elder Linder Jaeckels to Closing Commission class of 2025; ruling elder Steve Kelly to Closing Commission class of 2027; teaching elder Roger Dermody to Congregational Issues Commission class of 2027; ruling elder Sylvia Carter to Commission on Preparation for Ministry class of 2025; teaching elder Frank Pottorff to Commission on Preparation for Ministry class of 2026; teaching elder Scot Robinson to chair Commission on Preparation for Ministry class of 2027; ruling elder AJ Strauch to Commission on Preparation for Ministry class of 2027; teaching elder Michael Bean to Commission on Preparation for Ministry class of 2027; teaching elder David Holden to Pastoral Transitions Commission class of 2025; ruling elder Candace Lang to Pastoral Transitions Commission class of 2027; ruling elder Mike Burnside to chair Pastoral Transitions Commission class of 2027; teaching elder Darryl Baker to Permanent Judicial Commission class of 2030; ruling elder Ginny Shanda to Transformation and Innovation Commission class of 2025; teaching elder Keith Benze to chair Transformation and Innovation Commission class of 2025; ruling elder Jon Roller to Transformation and Innovation Commission class of 2026; teaching elder Mary Weese to Transformation and Innovation Commission class of 2026; ruling elder Juanita Spangler to Transformation and Innovation Commission class of 2026; teaching elder Shawn Barkley to Transformation and Innovation Commission class of 2027; ruling elder Darnaby Kerns to Transformation and Innovation Commission class of 2027; teaching elder Lisa Culpeper to Transformation and Innovation Commission class of 2027; teaching elder Hannah McIntyre to vice-chair Leadership Development Ministry class of 2027; ruling elder Joanie Lukins to commissioner to Synod of Living Waters class of 2026; and teaching elder Steve Pace to commissioner to Synod of Living Waters class of 2026. There were no nominations from the floor and those nominated were elected.

Installation of 2025 Moderator of Presbytery

Moderator John Leggett called David Whiteman forward and after prayers, Mr. Whiteman was installed as 2025 moderator. Presbytery executive Philip Lotspeich honored the last two moderators, teaching elder John Leggett and ruling elder Susan Bradish.

Closing Business



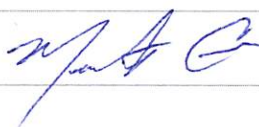

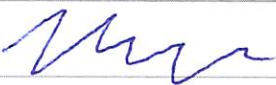
The moderator spoke words of gratitude and thanks to the pastor and people of Eastminster Presbyterian Church for their kind hospitality and for providing the lunch meal to follow the meeting. There being no further business, and on motion, the presbytery adjourned at 12:20 PM. The moderator spoke prayers at the conclusion of the meeting.

Submitted:

The Rev. Jerry L. Utt, II

Stated Clerk

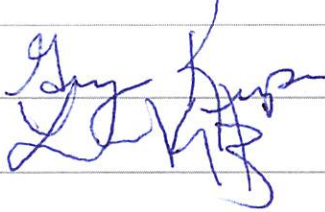


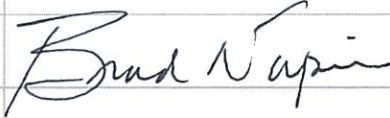



Attendance Sheets
Stated Presbytery Meeting
December 3, 2024

Ministers	
*Honorably Retired Status	
Anderson, The Rev. Rachel	
*Baker, The Rev. Darryl	
Barkley, The Rev. Shawn	
*Bean, The Rev. Michael	Excused
*Benze, The Rev. Dr. Keith	
*Bright, The Rev. Peggy	
*Brooks, The Rev. Dr. Gary	
Brothers, The Rev. Michael	
*Bunger, The Rev. Ron	
*Butler, The Rev. Angie	
Carver, The Rev. Martin	
Casal, The Rev. Jose Luis	
Cervas, The Rev. Scott	
*Chamberlian, The Rev. Mike	
*Chamberlain, The Rev. Pat	
Christian, The Rev. Curtis T.	
*Chumney, The Rev. David	
Clark, The Rev. Patterson	
Culpepper, The Rev. Dr. Lisa	
*Davis, The Rev. Mark	
Denney, The Rev. Michael	Excused

**Attendance Sheets
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Dermody Jr., The Rev. Roger	Excused
*Deutsch, The Rev. William L	
Ehlert, The Rev. Kristy	
*Ensminger, The Rev. Douglas	
*Erwin, The Rev. James	
*Eyster, The Rev. Bert	
Falco, The Rev. Matt	<i>Matt Falco</i>
Foehse, The Rev. Caitlin	
*Gailey, The Rev. Carol	
Garrett, The Rev. Jim	<i>Jim Garrett</i>
Garrod-Logsdon, The Rev. Beth	<i>Excused</i>
*Gilbert, The Rev. James	
*Gnatuk, The Rev. Wayne A	
*Griffie, The Rev. Dr. L. Fred	
*Haga, The Rev. R. Jackson	
Hallberg, The Rev. Jennifer	<i>Jennifer Hallberg</i>
*Henery, The Rev. Dr. James	
Hofmeister, The Rev. Jake	
Hood, The Rev. Dr. Fred	
*Howard, The Rev. Scott	
Howie-Kippfut, The Rev. Lorilyn	
Johnson, The Rev. Jennifer	
*Jones, The Rev. Jon F.	
Kilpatrick, The Rev. Kara	

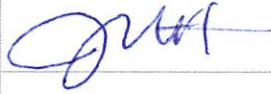
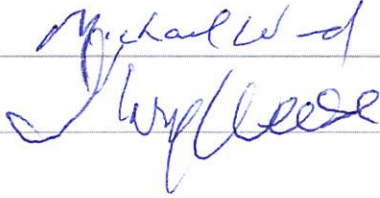


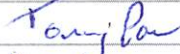
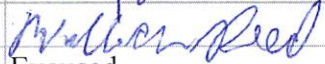
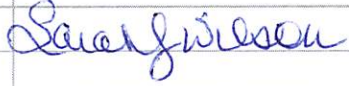
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Kim, The Rev. Yongwha	
*Kupar, The Rev. Greg	
Kurtz, The Rev. Linda	
Lattimore, The Rev. John	
Lee, The Rev. Dr. Hyeon Gu	
Leggett, The Rev. Dr. John	
*Lindberg, The Rev. Jackie	
Lotspeich, The Rev. Philip	
*Matthews, The Rev. Griffith	
*McAtee, The Rev. Dr. William M.	
McIntyre, The Rev. Hannah	Excused
*Mesta, The Rev. Edward Hugh	
Miller, The Rev. Emily	
*Moffett, The Rev. Howard W.	
*Mount, The Rev. Dr. C. Eric Jr	
Napier, The Rev. Bradley	
*Noel, The Rev. Dr. Tim	
Olive, The Rev. Wanda B.	
Pace, The Rev. Steve	
Pachauu, The Rev. Dr. Kima	
*Pettijohn, The Rev. Bonnie	
Pottorff, The Rev. Frank	
Powell, The Rev. Jennifer Jones	

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*Prewitt, The Rev. Janet	
*Redmond, The Rev. Katherine	Katherine Redmond
*Reed, The Rev. Mary	Mary Reed
*Rhodes, The Rev. Dr. Steve	
Riley, The Rev. Kathy	
*Roberts, The Rev. F. Morgan	
*Robinson, The Rev. Dr. Jack H	
Robinson, The Rev. Scot	Scot Robinson
*Rouse, The Rev. Erin	
Rucker Jr., The Rev. Dr. Jim	
Rucker, The Rev. Pamela C.	
Ryan, The Rev. Griffin Phillips	Griffin Ryan
*Scott, The Rev. Dr. Geary Neal	
*Sevier, The Rev. Dr. Melissa	
*Smith, The Rev. Joanne	
Smith, The Rev. Sarah	Sarah Smith
*Spickler, The Rev. Harry	
Stamper, The Rev. Janice	
*Stanley, The Rev. Donald	
*Steiner, The Rev. Betsy	
Stone, The Rev. Elizabeth	Elizabeth Stone
*Stricklin, The Rev. Dr. Ernest	
*Tarter, The Rev. Dr. Rollin	Rollin Tarter

**Attendance Sheets
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Thompson, The Rev. Gene	
Thro, The Rev. Julie Urback	
Utt, The Rev. Jerry L. II	
*Vanzant, The Rev. William	
*Ward, The Rev. Dr. Michael	
*Warren, The Rev. Susan	
Weese, The Rev. Mary Seeger	
White, The Rev. John C.	Excused
*Wilhelm, The Rev. Jack	
Williams, The Rev. Susan	
*Woodring, The Rev. James	
Corresponding Members	
Commissioned Pastors	
Akers, Josh	
Bradish, Susan	
Carter, Sylvia	
Dougans, Jim	
Hampton, Mikkle	
McIntyre, Pat	
Poe, Tommy	
Reed, Bill	
Schonblom, Eric	Excused
Wilson, Sarah	





Attendance Sheets
Stated Presbytery Meeting
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Ruling Elder Commissioners	
Ashland, First	
Augusta	
Augusta, Sharon	
Bellefonte, Community	
Beattyville, McGuire Memorial	
Berea, Whites Memorial	
Blackey, Doermann Memorial	
Booneville, First	
Buckhorn, Buckhorn Lake	
Canada, Highland	
Carlisle	
Cawood	
Corbin	
Cow Creek	
Cynthiana	
Danville	<i>Candace Purdom</i> <i>Alice H Davis</i>
Ezel, United	
Flemingsburg, First	
Georgetown, First	<i>Emy Carroll</i>
Grayson, Bayless Memorial	
Greenup	
Harlan, First	
Harrodsburg, United	
Hazard, First	<i>Tomson</i>
Isom	
Jackson, Guerrant Memorial	
Lancaster, First	
Lawrenceburg, First	
Lexington, Beaumont	<i>Beth Alexander</i> <i>Jon Kellum</i>

Attendance Sheets
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Lexington, Bethel	
Lexington, Eastminster	Mary Walls Dinny Baker
Lexington, First	
Lexington, Hunter	
Lexington, Lex. Korean	
Lexington, Maxwell Street	
Lexington, Meadowthorpe	
Lexington, Mt. Horeb	Karen May
Lexington, Second	
Lexington, Walnut Hill	
London, First	
Maysville, First	
McAfee, New Providence	
Middlesboro, First	Barby Newell
Midway	
Millersburg, First	
Morehead, Faith	
Mt. Sterling, First	MM
Paint Lick, Old Paint Lick	
Paris, First	Darnaby Kerns
Paris, Hopewell	
Perryville	
Pikeville, First	
Prestonsburg, First	
Richmond, First	Paul Hayes

**Attendance Sheets
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Somerset, First	
Somerset, Pisgah	
Stanford	
Versailles	
Versailles, Pisgah	
Versailles, Troy	
Whitesburg, Graham Memorial	
Wilmore	Penny Lamb
Winchester, First	
Winchester, Salem	
Ruling Elders Serving Commissions and Ministries of the Presbytery	
Auvenshine, Steve	
Bolton, Anne	
Burnside, Mike	
Fegenbush, Nik	
Fish, Kathy	
Gaines, Lois	
Harney, Jean	
Hatton, Angie	
Hoskins, David	
Jaeckels, Linder	
Marsh, Jennifer	
Olive, Jim	Excused
Pratt, Mike	
Purdom, Candance	
Rogers, Barbara	Excused
Shanda, Ginny	
Snyder, Larry	

**Attendance Sheets
Stated Presbytery Meeting
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Spangler, Juanita	<i>Grant & Colleen Spgh David Whiteman</i>
Whiteman, David	
Woodford, Catesby	
Wood, Andrew	

Visitors

*Robyn Justus - Presbytery Staff
Lauren Rogers - PCUSA Ministry Engagement & Support*

Summary of Attendance

Ministers	25
Corresponding Members	0
Commissioned Pastors	5
Non-Presbyterian Supply	0
Ruling Elders Commissioners from Churches	14
Ruling Elders Serving Commissions/Ministries of Presbytery	6
Visitors	2
Total Attendance	52

TRANSYLVANIA PRESBYTERY
Manual of Operations
A Manual of Administrative Operations for the Presbytery of Transylvania

1 . Commissions of the Presbytery

1.1 General Provisions for Commissions of the Presbytery

A. Members of the commissions of the presbytery shall consist of both teaching elders and ruling elders, with the presbytery seeking to uphold as closely as possible an equal balance with particular attention to diversity in representation.

B. Members shall be elected at the final presbytery meeting of the year and shall assume office in the next calendar year.

C. Terms of office shall be three years. Members shall be eligible for re-election for a second three-year term but thereafter shall not be eligible for re-election until one year has elapsed. In cases where the member is appointed to fill an unexpired term, if the term to be filled be for one year or less, the person filling the unexpired term shall be eligible for two full terms on his/her own, with total eligibility not to exceed seven (7) years. If the unexpired term be for more than one year, the appointee shall be eligible for but one full term of his/her own.

D. The chair of each commission shall be nominated by the Commission on Representation (COR) and elected by the presbytery at the annual meeting, to take the office in the next calendar year.

E. In addition to the Coordinating Commission, the following are the standing commissions of the presbytery:

Administrative
Closing Commission
Congregational Issues Commission
Pastoral Transitions Commission (PTC)
Permanent Judicial (PJC)
Preparation for Ministry (CPM)
Representation (COR)
Congregational Transformation and Innovation (CTI)

1.2 Administrative Commission

The Administrative Commission shall be composed of six members. Its duties shall include serving as the trustees of the presbytery and having responsibility for accounting, budgeting, and staff services. The treasurer of the presbytery shall serve as an advisory member with voice and without vote.

The Administrative Commission shall serve as trustees for and on behalf of the Presbytery of Transylvania, Inc., a religious corporation. ~~The Corporation shall elect the process agent, who is responsible for performance of the duties prescribed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky with reference to corporations. The Stated Clerk fills this office and shall also serve as process agent for the trustees.~~ serves as the corporate process agent. The trustees are empowered to receive, to hold, to encumber, to manage, and to transfer property, real or personal, for the presbytery; to accept and to execute deeds of title to such property; to hold and to defend title to such property; to manage any permanent special funds for the furtherance of the purposes of the church, when authorized to do so by the presbytery. It is the duty of the trustees to facilitate the management of the civil affairs of the presbytery in keeping with the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The trustees shall report to the presbytery as necessary or as requested and shall function in accord with the *Book of Order*, G-4.02.

The commission shall be responsible for supervision of the staff of the presbytery in accordance with G-3.0110. When there are staff vacancies, it shall recommend to presbytery the process by which the General Presbyter is recruited, called, and hired, and to the Coordinating Commission the process by which all other staff are recruited, called, and hired. It shall conduct semi-annual ~~annual~~ performance reviews and evaluations. ~~and five-year comprehensive reviews.~~ It shall make recommendations concerning matters related to the presbytery staff to the Coordinating Commission or to the presbytery as circumstances determine. The commission shall provide and maintain for the presbytery approved personnel policies, including a position description for all presbytery employees.

The commission shall obtain budget recommendations from the appropriate commissions and ministries of the presbytery and develop, propose, and monitor, in consultation with the treasurer, the presbytery budget, incorporate the total financial functions of the presbytery under one single administration; maintain and supervise a single and unified accounting system subject to an annual outside audit and a simple, all-inclusive financial statement whereby a comprehensive picture of the whole mission of the presbytery can be seen.

The commission shall manage Burnamwood camp property, rentals, finances, and staffing ~~during the period of sabbatical and~~ until the Presbytery directs otherwise.

1.3 Closing Commission

The Closing Commission shall be composed of five members. The Closing Commission shall counsel with congregations that have indicated their desire to end their relationship with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) or those that have reached the completion of their effective ministry. This commission shall receive referrals from the presbytery, the Commission on Congregational Issues or the Coordinating Commission. This commission shall determine a course of action, either division, dismissal, or dissolution, negotiate the terms of such action, and recommend it to the

presbytery for final approval. Such negotiations include consultation with the Administrative (trustees) Commission.

1.4 Congregational Issues Commission

- The Congregational Issues Commission shall be composed of five members, divided into three classes.
- The Congregational Issues Commission will work with congregations that need assistance in dealing with concerns related to congregational life that are not conflict situations, but for which outside consultation might be helpful. This commission will work closely with the Leadership Development Ministry to help focus resources on congregational health and vitality.
- The commission will work closely with the Pastoral Transitions Commission if issues arise in congregations with temporary pastors or congregations that are in transition.
- This commission will assist congregations with any difficult issues that arise, including conflictual situations and complaints involving the actions of teaching and ruling elders. Installed teaching elders may initiate a request for assistance from the commission; ruling elders and congregation members also may contact the commission for assistance.
- Formal complaints that rise to the level of a disciplinary case will not be handled by this commission but will be referred to the presbytery's Permanent Judicial Commission.
- The commission will also undertake other responsibilities as assigned by the presbytery or Coordinating Commission. This commission may recruit, seek additional help, and build teams with people not on the commission for short-term projects when necessary.

1.5 Pastoral Transitions Commission

The Pastoral Transitions Commission shall be comprised of nine members divided into three classes. The Pastoral Transitions Commission will shepherd a congregation from the moment a pastoral leader decides to leave, is removed from office or retires until a new leader is formally installed. This commission is responsible for working with the Session to determine the best course of action for a congregation searching for new, *permanent* leadership, including all the various steps of the PNC process including examining and receiving the new teaching elder or commissioned pastor/CRE, approving any interim contracts and new terms of call. The design of this commission is to create a “turn-key” process to ease the burden, eliminate the confusion and lower the anxiety for congregations in transition. The commission recommends presbytery minimum terms of call each year after a thorough evaluation of national and local salary trends. This commission shall appoint moderators to Sessions of churches with leadership vacancies due to the search process and other duties assigned by the presbytery or Coordinating Commission. This commission may recruit, seek additional help, and build teams with people not on the commission for short-term projects when necessary. This commission has the authority to receive and dismiss teaching elders and receive candidates who have been certified to receive

Approved by Presbytery of Transylvania on 11/12/2016, to be effective 3/30/2017.

Updated by presbytery 8/12/2017, 3/13/2018, 12/7/2019, 8/22/2024.

a call (pending their successful examination on the floor of the presbytery); the authority to approve calls, or changes in calls, when they are found to be in order, and to appoint commissions to ordain and/or install; the authority to dissolve pastoral relationships in cases where the teaching elder and congregation concur; the authority to grant the status of ~~Honorably~~ retired; the authority to approve validated ministries and confer upon teaching elders the status of member-at-large; the authority to counsel with a local church session and approve the election of a Pastor Nominating Committee; the authority to grant permission to a local congregation to circulate a Ministry Discernment Profile Information Form; the authority to approve commissioned pastor CRE/CLP contracts and to commission each commissioned pastor CRE/CLP to their ministry.

1.6 Permanent Judicial Commission (PJC)

In accordance with D-~~35~~, the Presbytery shall elect, by nomination from the COR, a Permanent Judicial Commission, as outlined in the *Book of Order*, D-~~35~~.0000.

1.7 Commission on Preparation for Ministry (CPM)

In accordance with G-3.0307, the presbytery designates a Commission on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) that shall be composed of nine members. The commission shall fulfill the functions related to the process of preparation for ordination as teaching elder as set forth in G-2.06 and shall provide for the training and nurture of ruling elders who apply to become Commissioned Pastors (CPs) ~~Ruling Elders (CREs)~~. To this end, the work of CPM includes:

In its work with inquirers and candidates, the commission shall be directed by the resources and guidance of General Assembly agencies. ~~in consultation with the Office of the General Assembly.~~ The commission may recommend to the presbytery for its approval particular standards and processes that facilitate the discernment of call and the preparation of persons for ordained or commissioned ministry.

The commission shall have authority to enroll or remove inquirers and dismiss candidates to other presbyteries, with all such actions being reported to the next stated meeting of the Presbytery.

The commission shall be responsible for the recruitment and training components of the Commissioned Pastor CRE Program, in keeping with the provisions of G-2.10 and in accordance with the policies approved by the presbytery.

The CPM shall nurture inquirers and candidates for ordination as teaching elders and/or commissioning as commissioned pastors ~~Ruling Elders~~, including assistance in vocational discernment and guidance in the policies and procedures of the PC(USA) and the presbytery.

The CPM shall elect teaching and ruling elders to serve as readers for ordination examinations.

1.8 Commission on Representation (COR)

The Commission on Representation shall be composed of six members who shall be nominated by the Coordinating Commission and elected by the presbytery. It is tasked with an intentional purpose: to ensure the church's commitment to inclusiveness and the principles of unity and diversity (per G-3.0103). To this end, the work of COR includes:

COR is charged with the responsibility of nominating. COR shall nominate to the presbytery a moderator, a vice-moderator and a treasurer, members of the standing commissions, the chairs and vice-chairs of all the commissions and ministries, members of the Coordinating Commission, commissioners to other councils of the church, and representatives to boards and agencies. Ordinarily, the list of nominees shall be presented for election at the annual meeting of the presbytery.

COR shall advise the Coordinating Commission with respect to its membership and the membership of all presbytery commissions and ministries, groups, and entities, including boards and agencies, to ensure fair and effective representation in the decision-making bodies of the presbytery.

The chair of a commission or ministry shall report to the stated clerk, who shall report to the chair of COR, concerning mid-term vacancies. This may be due to a resignation, or vacancy due to lack of participation. Should any commission or ministry member miss three consecutive meetings, and after personal contact from the ministry or commission chair, the absences shall constitute a resignation and the commission or ministry chair shall submit the resignation to the stated clerk. COR is charged with recommending to the Coordinating Commission the appointment of a temporary replacement until elections to fill vacancies can be held at the next meeting of the presbytery.

1.9 Commission for Transformation and Innovation (CTI)

The Commission for Congregational Transformation and Innovation will be composed of eight ~~six~~ members divided into three classes. The purpose of the commission will be to help transform current church congregations; to identify, develop, and establish new worshipping communities; and to provide resources and support for new worshipping communities.

The commission has these responsibilities:

- 1) Congregational Transformation:
 - a) Work with congregations to understand and develop their dreams and assist them in transforming their congregation based on those dreams.
 - b) Provide recommendations and resources for transformation.
 - c) Provide on-going support.

- d) Be proactive in identifying congregations that need help before it becomes a crisis.
- 2) New Worshipping Communities:
- a) Working with the presbytery, individual congregations, and/or community organizations, identify, develop, and establish new worshipping communities.
 - b) Provide support for the start-up of new worshipping communities to include:
 - i) Creating financial policies and procedures and establishing bank accounts
 - ii) Setting-up on-line and other electronic ways of giving
 - iii) Offering guidance on establishing payroll systems for employees
 - iv) Offering assistance in reviewing and obtaining adequate insurance coverage
 - v) If necessary, registering a new worshipping community as a corporation and obtaining tax-exempt status.
 - c) Providing leadership and oversight of new worshipping communities, and in consultation with the presbytery's ~~Administrative~~ Commission, hire and manage personnel.
 - d) Provide guidance and necessary approvals for worship and celebration of sacraments.
 - e) Recommend to the presbytery the chartering of a new worshipping community as a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA).
- 3) Help establish and promote connections (networks) of churches working together and sharing resources in the areas of transformation and development of new worshipping communities.

2. Ministries of the Presbytery

2.1 General Provisions for Ministries of the Presbytery

A. Each ministry of the presbytery shall have control over its budget as approved by the presbytery.

B. A chair and vice-chair (ordinarily, one being a teaching elder, the other being a ruling elder) shall be elected by the presbytery to a 3-year term. The chair and vice-chair may appoint additional members as needed for the mission of the particular ministry, seeking to uphold parity between teaching elders and members of congregations and honoring the full diversity of the presbytery in representation.

C. Ministries of the Presbytery currently include:

~~Christian Formation~~
Leadership Development
Mission

2.2 Christian Formation Ministry

~~This Ministry shall be responsible for coordinating the Presbytery's work in strengthening and supporting congregations in their faithful discipleship through Biblical and theological knowledge, a commitment to stewardship, and spiritual formation. To this end:~~

~~The Ministry will focus on areas of mission including youth, young adults and campus ministry, continuing education, stewardship, and discipleship and spiritual formation within congregations.~~

~~The Ministry will celebrate and support the established events and programs of the Presbytery that inform Christian formation among and within the Presbytery's congregations, as well as build on these offerings.~~

~~The Ministry will encourage the use and sharing of resources within the Presbytery. The Ministry will inform congregations of denominational and other resources that are available that may prove useful in endeavors to strengthen and deepen the discipleship and *caritas* of members in the congregations of the Presbytery.~~

~~The Ministry shall receive, discern, and respond to needs for the training of leaders, including teachers, officers, youth, etc. The Ministry will work with congregations and the whole Presbytery to provide appropriate events for instruction and growth in the fullness of spiritual development and Christian living for members of all ages. The Ministry will seek to develop events and programs specifically designed for youth, as well as promote wider denominational youth events, and it will work with local congregations to develop youth leadership and more programming.~~

~~The Ministry shall work with the Administrative Commission in interpreting to the congregations the work of the Presbytery and encouraging congregations in their connection to the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly through prayer, service, and the sharing of resources (per capita apportionment, Unified Mission Giving, Special Offerings, and other avenues) to build up the ministry of Jesus Christ as witnessed in and through the larger church.~~

2.23 Leadership Development Ministry

The Leadership Development Ministry oversees the content and schedule of leadership development for the presbytery. This group looks at issues of leadership. This group is tasked with the training of commissioned pastors. This group supports newly ordained clergy and pastors new to the presbytery. This group provides Sexual Misconduct Prevention Training at regular intervals to ensure that all teaching elders, presbytery employees, commissioned pastors, and chairs/vice-chairs of commissions and ministries may be trained at least every three years. These trainings, whether in person or on-line shall be offered and available to any volunteers under the supervision of the presbytery.

The youth component of this ministry seeks to foster relationships and community among the youth of this presbytery. This group will work with local churches in education and youth leadership development in the congregation.

~~The Leadership Development Ministry oversees the content and schedule of leadership development for the presbytery. While there is overlap with the area of Christian Formation, this group would look at issues of conflict management, leadership, organizational change, and the need for adaptive change process. This group would be tasked with the training, oversight and continued education of Commissioned Ruling Elders. This group would also work with newly ordained clergy, Pastors new to the Presbytery and consider developing a coaching program for clergy.~~

~~This group would provide Sexual Misconduct Prevention Training at regular intervals to ensure that all teaching elders, Presbytery employees, commissioned ruling elders, and chairs/co chairs of commissions and ministries may be trained at least every five years. These trainings, whether in person or on-line shall be offered and available to any volunteers under the supervision of the Presbytery.~~

2.34 Mission Ministry

The Mission Ministry shall seek to strengthen and support congregations in their mission to their communities and to the world, and to assist in coordinating mission opportunities within the presbytery. To that end, the ministry:

Shall endeavor to ascertain what mission is happening in and through the congregations of the presbytery and help to communicate that information and opportunities for service throughout the presbytery.

Shall respond to resources and training for congregations to educate and inform them about mission opportunities within the local community and worldwide.

Shall strive to connect congregations within the presbytery who may have common mission interests and goals.

Shall promote and inform congregations of denominational special offerings and programs for mission.

May coordinate mission initiatives within or beyond the presbytery, in particular in times of disaster and difficulty, so that the particular contributions of the presbytery's congregations can more efficiently be distributed and then reported and shared throughout the presbytery.

Shall support the congregations of the presbytery and their mission work by offering a wide variety of resources and channeling resources of the Synod and the General Assembly to local congregations.

Shall be responsible for supporting the work of congregations and the presbytery as they witness to the love of Jesus Christ by feeding the hungry, sheltering the poor and homeless, welcoming the stranger, encouraging the care and protection of God's creation, and promoting social justice.

Synod of Living Waters Proposal Meeting

November 12, 2024

Attendees: Susan Bradish, Robyn Justus, Philip Lotspeich, Jerry Utt

Earlier in the 2024, a request was received from the Synod of Living Waters requesting that the presbytery participate in the Living Waters for the World Legacy Fund. **(Appendix A)** The funds raised will ensure that clean water systems that are already installed will be able to be maintained and serviced in the future.

The request is to use a portion of funds that Presbytery may receive in the future when churches close and are sold.

Different scenarios were reviewed by the group and approved the following recommendation to the Coordinating Commission and Administration Commission:

Recommend that 5% of the net proceeds from the future sales of dissolved church properties beginning with the sale of the Normal Presbyterian Church property after payment of all outstanding debts, closing expenses or operating expenses to maintain the property until sale is finalized be sent to the Synod of Living Waters for the Living Waters for the World Legacy Fund.

Recommend that 5% of the net proceeds from the future sales of dissolved church properties beginning with the sale of the Normal Presbyterian Church property after payment of all outstanding debts, closing expenses or operating expenses to maintain the property until sale is finalized be held in a Presbytery designated fund for presbytery sponsored and approved mission partnerships.

Recommend that the remaining 90% of the net proceeds from the future sales of dissolved church properties beginning with the sale of the Normal Presbyterian church property after payment of all outstanding debts, closing expenses or operating expenses to maintain the property until sale is finalized be held in the Presbytery designated fund "Proceeds from Sale of Church Property" to be available to Presbytery's new worshipping communities and church transformation projects. Funds will be budgeted and approved by the Church Innovation and Transformation Commission and the Administration Commission.



A Mid-Council of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Proposal: Transylvania Presbytery - Living Waters for the World Legacy Partnership

Background:

A life without clean drinking water is a severely diminished life, and not what God desires for God's children. 600 million people globally suffer with this reality, keeping children out of school and adults unable to stay healthy and work to make a better future. Living Waters for the World was officially recognized as a global ministry of Synod of Living Waters in 1993. Since then, hundreds of PCUSA water teams, most hailing from the 12 presbyteries comprising the Synod of Living Waters, have been trained to form partnerships with churches, schools, orphanages and clinics in international communities, and working together, install and operate water purification systems to benefit families without access to clean drinking water. The impact is incalculable, Over 1100 clean water systems have been installed by LWW trained teams, the vast majority of them are still in operation. Teams from Transylvania have installed 23 systems, 20 of those are still operating. In addition, Transylvania teams have worked on rehabs or remodels of older systems at 10 more locations. .

Sustainable, clean water provides instant change and, more importantly, generational change. Therefore, supporting the long-term success of our partners is essential. Living Waters for the World's 11 regional networks provide assistance to our trained water teams while in-country, and ongoing support for Operating Partners – where water systems are in service.

The Legacy Fund:

The Synod of Living Waters has established a Living Waters for the World Legacy Fund for the purpose of sustaining our operating partners into the future. Funds raised will support Living Waters for the World international network operations, where direct support of communities takes place. A sufficient corpus raised will ensure that earnings from the fund can be drawn upon annually, thus ensuring generational support of Living Waters for the World communities.

The Transylvania Presbytery - Living Waters for the World Legacy Partnership

Changing the trajectory of hope for the children and their families served by Living Waters for the World is a beautiful way for a church's mission to live on, even as their day to day operations cease. Needs at home are obviously important but it is also important to honor our global bonds established by our water teams – our global family of faith. Therefore, a portion of funds received by Transylvania Presbytery from the closing of churches and liquidation of assets will be designated for the Living Waters for the World Legacy Fund at Synod of Living Waters.