

MINUTES OF THE STATED MEETING OF CHEROKEE PRESBYTERY
Saturday, October 9, 2021, 10:00 a.m. virtual ZOOM Meeting

Roll of Presbytery

ACTIVE MINISTERS
MINISTERS

CORRESPONDING MINISTERS

RETIRED

Alvis, Joel	P		Spangler, John	P
Aye-Addo, Kwasi	P	Pete Paulsen(RCA)	Speed, James	
Bogar, Fritz	P	Cathi Parchem (Savannah)	Stroup, George	
Braga, Reginaldo	Unex		Tarrant, John	
Collins, Nikki	Unex		Terrell, Ken	
Dunn, Tim	Ex	<i>[Excuses not required from Retired]</i>	Wade, Carol	P
Evans, Joe	P		Waskey, Jack	
Fuller, Julie	P		Weathersby, Frank	
Gray, Joan	P		Weaver, Charles	
Grove, David	Ex		Wood, Tom	
Haynes, Susan	P		(47)	
Henderson, Sam	Unex	<u>RETIRED</u>		
Jones, David	P			
Jones, Leigh	Unex			
Jones, Ray	P			
Jordan, David	P	Beltzner, Denise		
Josey, Camille	Ex	Blackwell, Rebecca	P	
Lee, Jennifer	P	Brice, Joe		
Mendes, Paulo	P	Carmichael, Bert		
Meyer, Renee	P	Cooley, Pem		
Milford, Elizabeth	P	Craft, Ed		
Moore-Keish, Chris	Unex	Edwards, Maxine		
Pezini, Jose	Ex	Esa, Donald	P	
Renken, Catherine	P	Estes, Coile		
Scott, Katie	P	Garrett, Eleana		
Scott, Will	P	Glauner, David		
Simpson, Jim	P	Gonzalez, Catherine		
Waddell, Bridget	P	Guder, Darrell		
Waddell, Kenneth	P	Gunter, Sid	P	
Waits, Cassie	P	Hittel, Maryellen		
Yoo, William	P	Hunter, Rodney		
Zaki, Raafat	P	Jones, Walter		
(32)		Kim, Jin Hoon		
		Lamberson, Zeta	P	
		Leyden, Stuart		
		Looby, Janet		
		Martin, John		
		Martin, Roger		
		McDonald, David		
		McKenzie, Ken	P	
		Moore, Greg		
		Neelly, Dick	P	
		Nesbit, Van		
		Ottaviano, Dan		
		Parr, Cyndi		
		Rhodes, Jan		
		Sapp, Frank		
		Sapp, Mary Kay		
		Scott, Carol		
		Sherwood, Paul	P	
		Smith, Cuyler		
		Smith, Ted		

CHURCH – RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS

Acworth (1)
Beersheba (1)
Brazilian Christian
Calhoun (1)
Cartersville (1)

Cedartown
Chickamauga (1)
Christ Fellowship
Cohutta
Covenant
Dalton
Deer Creek
Ebenezer Ghan. (1)
Faith Canton
Faith Blue Ridge (1)
Grace
Heritage (2)

John Knox (1)
Kirkwood (1)
LaFayette (1)
Light of Hope (1)
Macland

Marietta (3)

Morton Memorial
Ray-Thomas (1)
Rockmart (1)
Silver Creek (1)
Trinity (1)
Westminster (1)
Woodstock

Total Allocated Ruling Elder Commissioners: 37

OTHER RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS:

Teri Abercrombie P
Clay Gunter
Bob Butler P
Possible Ruling Elder total – 40

In Attendance:

Teaching Elders 23
HR Teaching Elders 9
Ruling Elders 23
Corresponding 2
Visitors 17
Presbytery Staff 1

Total Attendance 75

Absent:

Excused Teaching Elders 4
Unexcused Teach Elders 5

**MINUTES OF THE CHEROKEE PRESBYTERY
STATED MEETING OCTOBER 9, 2021**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Rev. Jim Simpson, Moderator at 10:00 A.M., a quorum was declared, and the meeting was opened with a prayer offered by Rev. Joe Evans.

Call to Worship

To remind us of the touchstones of our faith, The Presentation the Elements was offered via Power Point:

The candle, representing Jesus, the Light of the world

The Bible, representing the Word of the Lord

The bread and wine, representing the food of our sustenance

Welcome home!

Approval of Docket

Stated Clerk Joel Alvis reminded participants that the docket had been emailed and was also available on the website. It was **MOVED** and **Seconded** to accept the docket as distributed; **MOTION APPROVED**.

Welcome from the Host Church

The meeting was scheduled to be at First Presbyterian Church Marietta we are meeting via Zoom. Rev. Joe Evans welcomed all to this meeting.

Moderator Simpson reported that he has asked Rev. Dave Grove and Ruling Pat Alverson to read the minutes.

Stated Clerk's Report

For Information:

1. Due to the challenges of the COVID pandemic, Session minutes have not been reviewed as in the past. The purpose of these reviews is to insure the adequate documentation of Session and congregational actions.
 - a. Several times this year, a minute's checklist has been made available and sent to all Clerks of Sessions with the request for a self-check. As of the time of this report's preparation, these Clerks of Session **have** responded:
 - i. Beersheba (2019 and 2020)
 - ii. Covenant (2020)
 - iii. Faith – Canton (2020)
 - iv. Faith – Blue Ridge (2020)
 - v. Grace (2020)

- vi. Heritage (2020)
- vii. Light of Hope (2020)
- viii. Silver Creek (2020)
- ix. Westminster (2020)

b. Reports **have not** been received from:

- i. Acworth
- ii. Brazilian Christian
- iii. Calhoun
- iv. Cartersville
- v. Cedartown
- vi. Chickamauga
- vii. Christ Fellowship
- viii. Deer Creek Shores
- ix. Heritage
- x. John Knox
- xi. Kirkwood
- xii. LaFayette
- xiii. Macland
- xiv. Marietta – First
- xv. Ray Thomas
- xvi. Rockmart
- xvii. Trinity
- xviii. Woodstock

c. **NOTE:** If additional reports are received by the end of the year, they will be added to this list.

2. The registered attendance at the June 12, 2021, meeting was 61.
3. Thank you to the Tech Team for this meeting: Rev. Kwasi Aye-Addo, Will Meyers, and Sarita Morris (Cherokee Presbytery staff) and the Rev. Jim Simpson. And thank you to the planning team for this meeting: Teri Abercrombie, the Rev. Joan Gray, and the Rev. Jim Simpson. A special thank you to our guest presenter at both the June and October meeting, Jane Hubbard, CRE.
4. PCUSA Planning Calendars for September 2021 – 2022 are available from the Presbytery office for \$10 each plus postage. Contact Sarita Morris at sarita@cherokeepresbytery.org or 770-382-6280 for additional information.

These items require action:

1. Request approval of the minutes for the June 12, 2021, Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery held via a Zoom meeting. The minute readers were the Rev. David Jordan and Ruling Elder Carol Callaway.

Motions

- It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the June 12, 2021, Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery as posted on the website and reviewed by Minister of Word and Sacrament David Jordan and Ruling Elder Carol Callaway be approved.

MOTION APPROVED.

Communications

- None.

Worship

Moderator Simpson introduced CRE Jane Hubbard to lead us in today's Lectio Divina. Attendees were then assigned to break out rooms.

Offering

SC Alvis announced that today's offering is being given to Must Ministries for the new homeless shelter. Please make checks out to Cherokee Presbytery and put Must Ministries in the memo line. Mail the checks to the Presbytery office. Offering \$700.00
Rev. Cassie Waits offered the prayer of thanksgiving.

Necrology

Congregation - 2021	Necrology - Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death
Acworth	Eldred Maxwell	12/17/1924	9/5/2021
Cartersville First	Karl Emil Baumheckel	10/17/1935	12/30/2020
Cartersville First	George Royal Bethune, Jr.	3/10/1914	11/8/2020
Cartersville First	Rose Diale	1/9/1954	4/1/2021
Cartersville First	Col. James M. Morris	9/1/1924	9/30/2020
Cartersville First	Charles Gilreath	8/10/1929	12/5/2020
Cartersville First	Emily (Thompson) Gilreath	5/24/1928	12/5/2020
Chickamauga	Joseph "Joe" Eugene Brown	3/13/1936	6/5/2021
Chickamauga	Gordon Leonard	2/11/1931	4/30/2021
Covenant	Ann Miller	4/1/1935	11/2/2020
Covenant	Jimmy Walker	8/24/1946	5/8/2021
Dalton	Johnnie Catherine Bakkum	1/19/1922	7/16/2021
Dalton	Charles Thomas	7/25/1927	3/17/2021
Heritage	Mary Ann Nicholas	11/22/1938	3/12/2021
John Knox	Harry D. Allen	5/13/1934	7/27/2021
Light of Hope	Charles (Charlie) Allen	10/14/1940	12/12/2020
Light of Hope	James (Jim) Curlee	6/15/1936	12/1/2020
Light of Hope	Golda Fuller	12/19/1947	3/19/2021
Light of Hope	Lottie Kershaw	11/27/1936	12/28/2020
Light of Hope	William (Bill) Kershaw	6/10/1933	3/8/2021
Marietta First	Peggy Barker Chesney	4/4/1929	12/3/2020
Marietta First	Mary Ella Nunn	9/4/1934	9/12/2021
Marietta First	Nelle Pender	1/4/1929	2/21/2021
Marietta First	William Wesley "Bud" Tubbs	1/25/1922	3/16/2021
Rockmart	Linda Waits	7/31/1942	8/27/2021
Trinity	Carl Abercrombie	6/6/1935	8/14/2021
Westminster	John D. Brown	4/2/1930	12/28/2020

Westminster	Neill Clark Goff Juventino "Tino"	11/3/1927	12/18/2020
Honorably Retired	Ballesteros	10/24/1933	1/5/2021
Honorably Retired	Susan Reggin	4/6/1945	10/20/2020
Honorably Retired	Donn Wright	6/10/1940	10/21/2020
Honorably Retired as 9/29/2021	Thomas J. Rogers	7/4/1929	5/8/2021

Coordinating Team Report

Team members: Teri Abercrombie RE (Moderator) 2021, John Spangler TE 2021, LaVert Jones RE 2021, Nancy Bertrand RE 2021, Elizabeth Milford TE 2022, Chris Moore-Keish TE 2022, Joan Gray TE 2022, Kwasi Aye-Addo TE 2022, Carol Callaway RE 2022, Pete Paulsen TE 2021, Billie Sutter RE 2021, Jim Simpson TE 2022, Paul Sherwood TE 2023
 Contact number/email: Teri Abercrombie 678-231-7792 teria7792@gmail.com

Items for information:

- Rev. Elizabeth Milford gave an update on the search process for General Presbyter and Stated Clerk

Items for Action:

- Request approval of Cherokee Presbytery Meeting dates for 2022
 February 26, 2022 – Saturday
 June 4, 2022 – Saturday
 October 22, 2022 – Saturday
MEETING DATES APPROVED AS PRESENTED

- Request approval of Organizing Documents: By-Laws, Manual of Administrative Operations and Standing Rules – attachment F
 Presentation by RE Billie Sutter for review team including Rev. John Spangler and RE Elder LaVert Jones with Stated Clerk Joel Alvis
MOTION AND SECOND TO APPROVE ORGANIZING DOCUMENTS – MOTION APPROVED

- Request approval of Elder – Minister parity formula prepared by the Stated Clerk be approved for 2022 – attachment A
MOTION AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE ELDER-MINISTER PARITY FORMULA – MOTION APPROVED.

The Coordinating Team is composed of the moderators of each ministry team, past presbytery moderator, Committee on Representation Moderator, and one at-large member. The Coordinating Team meets at least quarterly to focus on the technical issues of calendaring, resource sharing and communication. The Coordinating Team is also the personnel committee for the presbytery and serves as a forum for interim decision making between presbytery meetings.

Ministry Support Team Report

Team Members: Paul Sherwood TE 2023 (Moderator), Honey Hite Burfield RE 2022, Cassie Waits TE 2023, Susan Haynes TE 2023, Minette Rutenberg, treasurer

Contact number/email: Paul Sherwood 770-364-9394, rpaulsherwood@gmail.com

Meeting Dates: August 19, 2021

Items of information:

1. Ministry Support Team is moving forward with a financial review of 2020 with Charles A. Hall, CPA. This should be completed by the end of the year.
2. MST is preparing a budget for 2022 that will be presented to the Coordinating Team for approval before the end of the year and shared with the Presbytery at the next Presbytery meeting.

Next meeting date and time: February 26, 2022

The Ministry Support Team serves Cherokee Presbytery by Building, monitoring, and managing an annual budget and stewardship plan for our shared work. Assisting congregations with matters of property and in the development of sound financial practices. Documenting financial best practices. Providing treasurer training and assisting administrative commissions with matters of finances and property.

Committee On Representation

Team Members: John Spangler TE (Moderator) 2021, Jennifer Lee TE 2021, Todd Johnson RE 2022, Erma Jones RE 2022, Paulo Mendes TE 2022

Contact number/email: John Spangler 770-819-7442 johnjspangler@hotmail.com

Reported for Action

The COR places in nomination for election the following named persons for leadership in Presbytery positions or Ministry Units specified as follows:

Alternate Commissioner to the November 2021 meeting of the **PC(USA) Synod of South Atlantic:**

Bridget Waddell

MWS/Chickamauga

Commissioner to the PC(USA) Synod of South Atlantic:

Bill Byars

Class of 2023

RE/Westminster

The Building Leaders Team:

Leigh Jones

Class of 2023

MWS/FPC-Cartersville

The Permanent Judicial Commission:

Leigh Jones

Class of 2026

MWS/FPC-Cartersville

Presbytery Moderator:

Catherine Renken Year of 2022

MWS/Kirkwood

Commissioners to the 2022/225th PC(USA) General Assembly

Nancy Tatnall

Year of 2022

RE/FPC-Marietta

Paulo Mendes

Year of 2022

MWS/Brazilian Christian Church

2022 Cherokee Presbytery: Parity of Ruling Elders and Ministers of Word and Sacrament
UNANIMOUS APPROVAL OF THE SLATE AS PRESENTED.

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Note that there are many other leadership positions needing nomination/election by the presbytery. Notably, we do not yet have a nominee for YAAD (Young Adult Advisory Delegate) to the 2022 General Assembly. Please advise the COR chairperson or members if you have an older high- school or college-age young adult whom you believe should be considered as our YAAD, noting that such persons need to be available for the period of June 17-July 9, 2022, for the hybrid meeting of the General Assembly. Also, as noted on the accompanying “Cherokee Presbytery Elected Leadership Roster”, there are a number of positions to be filled in the active membership of various Ministry Units in the presbytery!

The Book of Order requires each council to establish a Committee on Representation to hold us accountable to the principles and practices that ensure the presbytery will benefit from diverse voices in our common discernment.

Building Leaders Team Report

Team Members: Chris Moore-Keish TE Co-Moderator 2022, Elizabeth Lovell Milford TE Co-Moderator 2022, Rexford Gyeke RE 2022

Contact number/email: Chris Moore-Keish 404-687-4589 christopherelliott1933@gmail.com

Elizabeth Lovell Milford 615-268-7305 pastor@heritagepres.com

Meeting dates: June 24, 2021

Items for information:

1. Affirmed the enrollment of Mary Kate Marcum, (First Marietta) and Mi Ae Kim (Heritage) as Inquirers in Cherokee Presbytery.
2. The BLT celebrates with Mi Ae Kim passing the Bible Content Exam on September 3, 2021, and asks the Presbytery to pray for Inquirers and Candidates under care who will be taking ordination exams in the coming year.
3. The BLT is working to nomination Ordination Exam Readers for the 2021-2022 cycles to be a part of the Southern Region reading on February 7-11, 2022, and invites any interested RE or TE to communicate their interest to the BLT by October 15, 2021.

Date and time of next meeting: No date/time currently set.

Building Leaders Team Serves Cherokee Presbytery by

Creating learning opportunities for teaching and ruling elders, deacons, and certified Christian educators serving local congregations, in validated ministries, and as hospital and military chaplains. Oversee the preparation of inquirers and candidates for ministry. Provides officer training support. Conducts sexual misconduct prevention training and nominates ordination examination readers to the presbytery.

Congregational Health Team

Team members: LaVert Jones, (Co-Moderator) RE, Bill Byars RE, Edwin Gonzalez-Gertz, TE, Pete Paulsen, HR (Co-Moderator). Contact number/email: LaVert Jones 770-309-7772 lavjn@yahoo.com. Meeting dates, March 5, 2020

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Items for information:

1. As we rise from the impact of the **Epidemic Experience** let us capitalize on the opportunity to capture lessons learned. Let us pray that we be guided by God's infinite wisdom to chart our future.
2. Our third round of zoom **Elder Leadership Training** was held August 21, 2021. The emphasis was on Family Systems which provides an awareness on how the application of it can play a major role in improving healthy relationships.
3. Once again many of our congregations are already informally engaged in **Matthew 25 Initiatives** (Matthew 25: 31-46), a denomination-wide emphasis on opportunities for a local community mission field. You are encouraged to consider enrolling in the initiative, the focus of which is building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty. It can be an opportunity for spiritual growth. See <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministires/matthew-25/become-a-matthew-25-church/> for further information and editions of Presbyterian Today (Spotlights) on what other churches are doing.
4. Still looking for additional team members.
5. The Congregational Health Team is asking for topics for future elder training be submitted to them.

Date and time of next meeting: TBD

No formal meetings were held but numerous information, communications and engaging activities occurred since the last presbytery meeting.

The Congregational Health Team serves Cherokee Presbytery by

identifying, supporting, and guiding congregations in times of missional discernment congregational conflict identifying and building best practices in congregations developing policies that protect the health and welfare of our leaders and the children of our communities. And provide support for pastors in crisis.

Ministry Transitions Team

Meeting Dates: March 25, 2021, April 15, 2021, May 13, 2021, July 29, 2021, October 7, 2021

Presbytery Action Item:

1. Receive the resignation of Rev. Dr. Joel Alvis, Jr. as Mission Coordinator/Stated Clerk of Cherokee Presbytery effective December 31, 2021.

Items for Information:

1. Granted request for transfers of membership for Mike Anderson HR to the Twin Cities Presbytery and for Robin Gantz HR to the Palo Duro Presbytery.
2. Granted requests to be Honorably Retired to:
Zeta Lamberson, July 31, 2021
Fritz Bogar, December 31, 2021

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- Joel Alvis, December 31, 2021
3. Approved Installation Commission for Renee Meyer as Pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Rome, GA for the Service of Installation held on August 22, 2021, at 3:00 p.m.
 4. Approved 12-month contracts for:
 - Ken McKenzie as part-time Interim Pastor, Rockmart Presbyterian, beginning September 19, 2021
 - Jim Simpson as Interim Pastor, Covenant Presbyterian, beginning October 1, 2021
 - Susan Haynes, Interim Pastor, Faith/Blue Ridge, beginning October 1, 2021
 - Stephanie Bishop, Interim Pastor, Light of Hope, beginning November 22, 2021
 5. Approved dissolution of pastoral relationships between:
 - Jim Simpson and Faith Presbyterian, Blue Ridge, effective September 30, 2021
 - Fritz Bogar and John Knox Presbyterian, Marietta, effective December 31, 2021
 6. Concurred that State Supply contracts be ended for:
 - Don Esa HR and the congregations of Woodstock Presbyterian, Woodstock, and Trinity Presbyterian, Canton, October 3, 2021.
 - David McDonald HR and the congregation of First Presbyterian Church, Calhoun, October 3, 2021.
 7. Granted permission to Michael Sanchez, minister member of Foothills Presbytery, to labor within the bounds of Cherokee Presbytery as contracted Youth Director at First Presbyterian, Marietta.
 8. Received Validated Ministry Reports from: Ray Jones, Ken Waddell, Nichole Collins, Jennifer Lee, William Yoo, Jose Pezini, and Tim Dunn
 9. We have completed work on the Ministry Transitions Team Handbook and will be circulating it this fall for feedback.

Date and time of next meeting: December 2, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.

Billie Sutter presented the report of the MTT.

Items for Information:

Approved receipt of Rev. Joel Alvis resignation.

Rev. Renee Mayer offered prayer for those in transition in the presbytery.

Mission Coordinator Report

We have been singing some version of Psalm 13 for the past eighteen months: *How long, Oh Lord?*

Plans are made. Things happen. A new plan emerges.

When I began my time with you as Mission Coordinator and Stated Clerk of Cherokee Presbytery in May 2019, I had a plan. I needed to know you better. My plan was to visit with each church, get to know not only the ministers, but also the church leaders. Then we could chart a surer course to the future.

But something happened. The week after I had completed visiting all thirty churches, the COVID pandemic smacked us in the face. We needed to “stop the spread”. And so, the congregations and ministers pivoted. Within a week, so many of you adapted to the demands of new communication patterns. And over time, all of the churches found their own way to carry on.

The Presbytery did as well. For the first ten months of my tenure with you, the Coordinating Team of the Presbytery met only twice. There were good reasons – there was uncertainty as to the purpose. And to meet in person required a day of everyone’s time.

With the Pandemic, the need for meeting was amplified. And the mode of meeting was changed. The Coordinating Team, like congregations in worship and Sessions in meetings, shifted to a Zoom format. Since the Pandemic began, the Coordinating Team has gathered about every four to six weeks to discuss the life of the congregations and ministries of Cherokee Presbytery. As one member described this reality, it has been more “efficient and effective” as a meeting pattern. In addition, various ministry teams and leadership groups have used the same platform to meet.

The Coordinating Team postponed the June 2020 Presbytery meeting thinking that surely things would be “back to normal” by October 2020. But then, they were not. Now we are in our fourth Presbytery meeting via a Zoom format. The desire and need to be in physical proximity are compelling. This challenge will have to be confronted in the next phase of your life together.

In addition, to planning this different way of meeting, the Coordinating Team authorized grants of \$1,500 for each congregation to use as their Session determined as a response to the COVID challenge. Twenty-five churches requested the grant with most of it going to enhance technical capacity for online worship. Some used it to support mission responses of their congregation. Moreover, the Presbytery became a vehicle for some congregations to access Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) funds for their responses to community need.

This was all good in the moment. We can be proud as a Presbytery for what we have done. Yet something more is needed. While we are now “back to normal” in many ways, things are still not quite right. There are many articles circulating through church and secular media about how people are not returning to church as they had before. I have heard this similar refrain from several pastors and church leaders.

The Pandemic has brought to the forefront many things that were happening in the larger church world as well as in Cherokee Presbytery long before March 2020. The conflicts within the Presbytery that led to some congregations leaving and some other churches closing took a heavy toll on the spirit of Cherokee Presbytery.

The legal name of our Presbytery is Cherokee Presbytery Properties, Inc. This name contains a purpose for our work together that was fulfilled in a previous time but is not now accurate. During the latter part of the twentieth century and for the first few years of the present one, the Presbytery acquired property for new church developments. New church pastors were engaged, and congregations emerged. Once the congregation was functional, the property was transferred to the local church. Hundreds of thousands of dollars were given by congregations, individuals, and Presbyterian Church agencies to support this work. It produced some very good fruit. But along the way, there were also some very painful results when the dreams of some congregations ended.

Another purpose of the Presbytery was to provide a resource for faith development, especially for children and youth. The Presbytery supported a camp and then a conference center for this purpose. But “church camp” had to compete with many other forms of camping: space camp, soccer camp, math camp, etc., etc. The burden of operation became too great to bear and could not be sustained. The liability for the Cherokee Conference Center was concluded when the property was transferred to Bartow County, but grief lingers.

In addition, the time of Pandemic has been the occasion to witness social and racial strife. The racial and ethnic composition of Cherokee Presbytery is overwhelmingly White as is the territory of our footprint in Northwest Georgia. But we are not monolithic in composition or in attitudes and opinions. This year we have witnessed within our bounds murders that flowed from racism and misogyny.

Several years ago, the process of re-organizing the Presbytery to meet these challenges began. When I arrived, one task that was identified to address was the completion of this revision process. With this meeting, I trust, we will have completed the basic structure. However, each Ministry Team and Unit still needs to develop and present its own set of policies and procedures. The Ministry Transition Team is a good example of what this will look like as they will share their results at the next Presbytery meeting.

What the Manual completion means now is the work must begin. The structure is not the end of what the Presbytery needs to be and do. It is really the beginning for what will come next. Earlier this year I realized that I have provided what I have to share with you as Cherokee Presbytery. It is time for me to step away from this role with you.

I am deeply and profoundly grateful to you for inviting me to walk with you for this portion of your journey of faith and ministry. It is not what any of us would have expected. Along the way I have witnessed resiliency and adaptability in many places. You will forever be in my prayers with thanksgiving and gratitude as your new plans emerge.

Other Business

Moderator Simpson recognized this as the last stated meeting for the Mission Coordinator & Stated Clerk Joel Alvis. A brief video of testimonials was shared along with a gift from the Presbytery.

Rev. Alvis expressed deep appreciation.

Moderator Simpson asked if there was any Old Business. There being none, he moved on to New Business. There being none, he asked for a motion to adjourn.

It was MOVED and SECONDED and APPROVED to adjourn following the closing prayer and benediction.

Moderator Simpson thanked the Mission Coordinator/Stated Clerk and the Tech Team once again for their diligence.

The meeting adjourned at 12:50 PM.

2022 Cherokee Presbytery: Parity of Ruling Elders and Ministers of Word and Sacrament
 Arranged alphabetically within categories

Churches over 500 members

Church	2020 Membership	2020 Ruling elders	2022 recommendation
Marietta	1105	4	4

Over 200 members

Cartersville	359	3	3
Heritage	253	2	2
Macland	259	2	2

> 100 members

Calhoun	110	1	1
Covenant	172	1	1
Dalton First	137	1	1
Faith, Blue Ridge	167	1	1
Grace	101	1	1
Kirkwood	192	1	1
Westminster	175	1	1

< 100 members

Acworth	59	1	1
Beersheba	43	1	1
Brazilian Christian	77	1	1
Cedartown	66	1	1
Chickamauga	56	1	1
Christ Fellowship	20	1	1
Cohutta	23	1	1
Deer Creek Shores	74	1	1
Ebenezer Ghan.		1	1
Faith, Canton	20	1	1
John Knox	99	1	1
LaFayette	17	1	1
Light of Hope	90	1	1
Morton Memorial	37	1	1
Ray-Thomas Mem.	45	1	1
Rockmart	83	1	1
Silver Creek	53	1	1
Trinity	45	1	1
Woodstock	26	1	1

Total # of RE Commissioners– 2022	# active MWS – 2020	#CREs – active 2020	# HR MWS – 2020	REs serving as Presbytery Ministry Team Moderator or Co-Moderator
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37	30	3	58	2
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Cherokee Presbytery P&L	<u>Jan - Aug 21</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
44009 · Budgeted Receipts	<u>117,776.22</u>
Total Income	<u>117,776.22</u>
Gross Profit	117,776.22
Expense	
55100 · Synod Mission Giving	500.00
51300 · Misc. Presbytery Expense	5,550.00
56218 · Contingency Expenses	581.25
51216 · Pby Office Operating Expense	9,902.05
52201 · Desig/ Cap/ Debt	994.28
51000 · Salaries & Benefits	85,085.35
54505 · CPM/Building Leaders Team	62.20
60001 · Payroll Expenses	<u>172.17</u>
Total Expense	<u>102,847.30</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>14,928.92</u>
Net Income	<u><u>14,928.92</u></u>

Balance Sheet	<u>Aug 31, 21</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	<u>183,133.03</u>
Total Current Assets	183,133.03
Fixed Assets	2,649,182.10
Other Assets	<u>1,059,436.77</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>3,891,751.90</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	<u>-731.22</u>
Total Current Liabilities	-731.22
Long Term Liabilities	<u>128,958.40</u>
Total Liabilities	128,227.18
Equity	<u>3,763,524.72</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>3,891,751.90</u></u>

2021 Unified and Per Capita Pledges Received/Paid

Church	Membership/ Attendance	Unified Pledged	Per Capita Pledged	Unified Received	Per Capita Received
Acworth	58/50			2,300.00	
Beersheba	42/25			960.00	482.16
Bethany				2,400.00	
Brazilian Christian	77/-	200.00		1,600.00	
Calhoun	110/50	1,500.00		1,000.00	
Cartersville First	366/120	6,300.00		3,683.67	2,100.84
Cedartown	90/-			583.32	602.53
Chickamauga	56/26	500.00		500.00	642.88
Christ Fellowship	20/-			100.00	229.60
Cohutta	23/12			300.00	264.04
Covenant	172/81	8,000.00		5,328.00	1,316.32
Dalton First	137/76	15,000.00		25,000.00	1,572.76
Deer Creek Shores	74/48			1,500.00	498.08
Ebenezer Ghanaian	0/0	1,000.00		500.00	
Faith Canton	22/17			500.00	252.56
Faith North Georgia	167/109	3,000.00		2,250.00	1,917.16
Grace	101/-	5,340.00		5,297.87	1,159.48
Heritage	253/140			525.00	1,694.21
John Knox	99/-			1,925.00	1,136.52
Kirkwood	192/93	6,000.00		4,000.00	1,472.16
LaFayette	17/-	2,000.00		2,000.00	195.16
Light of Hope	90/54	8,436.00		5,624.00	688.80
Macland	259/115				
Marietta First	1105/393			18,750.00	
Morton Memorial	37/-			800.00	424.76
Ray-Thomas Memorial	89/40				345.00
Rockmart	83/48			1,875.00	575.25
Silver Creek	53/24	2,200.00		1,100.00	304.00
Trinity	45/-	3,000.00		3,000.00	515.25
Westminster	175/94	6,600.00		4,950.00	
Woodstock	26/-			300.00	298.48
8/31/2021					
Miscellaneous Receipts	2019#'s			10.00	
Totals	4038/1615	69,076.00	0.00	98,661.86	18,688.00

2020 \$ paid in 2021 Marietta 2083.34, Morton Mem 100.00, Rockmart 625.00, John Knox 275.00, Westminster 550.00, Grace 1963

Cherokee Presbytery Loan Worksheet

Church Name	Loan Amount	Balance	Loan Date	Maturity Date	Next Reset Date	Bank	Rate %	Monthly Payment	Co-sign By Pby.	Pd. By Church	Up-date
Acworth	200,716	30,466	5/1/16			Regions	4.95	712		x	7/21
Bethany 10244706	300,000	111,326	3/18/08	3/25/28		PCUSA	3.50	2022	x	x	6/21
Calhoun 1026807	920,000	188,874	1/16/08	5/1/30		PCUSA	4.02	2117	x	x	6/21
Faith/BR 1052318	1,182,960	745,404	12/21/18	9/1/2040		PILP	4.04	5,496		X	6/21
Grace 1022405	400,000	128,958	2/3/06	3/1/26		PILP	4.50	2,557		x	6/21
Heritage 1038211	2,000,000	1,165,726	2/21/12	3/1/2032		PILP	4.00	11,142		x	6/21
John Knox	95,000	95,000	1/1/2021	1/1/2031		PILP	4.00			X	6/21
Kirkwood 9013803	150,000	126,300	6/28/18	7/25/33		PCUSA	3.28	1,056		X	6/21
Macland 1041813	1,600,000	1,087,999	12/16/13	1/1/2041		PCUSA	4.00	6,689		x	6/21
Westminster	1,577,422	896,400	6/9/2020	5/9/2023		Gr Rome Com	4.75	6,131		X	8/21
Woodstock 10267801	16,500	4,689	09/23/20	10/25/25		PCUSA	3.25	298		x	3/21
Totals	8,442,598	4,581,143									
6/30/2021											
Churches	No Loans										
Beersheba											
Braz Christian											
Cartersville											
Cedartown											
Chickamauga											
Christ Fellowship											
Cohutta											
Covenant											
Dalton											
Deer Creek											
Faith/Canton											
LaFayette											
Light of Hope											
Marietta 1st											
Morton Mem.											
Ray-Thomas											
Rockmart											
Silver Creek											
Trinity											

Updated 8/10/2021

**Cherokee Presbytery
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Organizing Documents**

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**Bylaws of the Cherokee Presbytery
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Cartersville, Georgia**

These Bylaws, having been adopted by the action of Cherokee Presbytery at its Stated Meeting of October 9, 2021, shall be effective immediately, and hereby replace and supersede any and all other Bylaws and regulations of Cherokee Presbytery, which has its principal offices at 183 West Main Street, Cartersville, Georgia.

I. Organization

- A. Cherokee Presbytery (the “Presbytery”), being a council of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and incorporated under the laws of the state of Georgia, as a non-profit 501c3 organization, recognizes that the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the laws of the state of Georgia, as they pertain to the organization of religious institutions, are obligatory upon it and its members.
- B. The legal name of this church body and of the Corporation is Cherokee Presbytery Properties, Inc. The Corporation is a constituent part of the Synod of South Atlantic and shall function in accordance with Parts 1 and 2 of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the rules, procedures, and organization set forth in the Presbytery’s Manual of Administrative Operations.
- C. These Bylaws shall, to the extent possible, be interpreted to maintain consistency with the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), including any amendments thereto. To the extent these bylaws cannot be interpreted consistent with the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), including any amendments thereto, the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) shall control the proceedings of the Church. Annually, the Stated Clerk shall report at the next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery, following the adjournment of the General Assembly, whether any amendment to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is inconsistent with these Bylaws, and if so, propose appropriate amendments to these Bylaws to insure consistency between the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and these Bylaws.

II. Membership and Meetings

- A. Membership in the Presbytery shall be determined consistent with the provisions of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
- B. Stated Meetings: The Presbytery shall hold Stated (or regular) Meetings on such dates as are determined by the Coordinating Team, which shall announce them no later than October 31 of the previous calendar year. The Annual Meeting of the Presbytery shall be the regular Stated Meeting of the Presbytery held in the first quarter of the calendar year.

- C. Special Meetings: Special Meetings may be called in any manner authorized by the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Such calls shall clearly state the purpose of the meeting, and no other matter not so specified shall be considered. The calling body or persons shall bear the cost of notice of the Special Meeting.
- D. Moderator: The Moderator of the Presbytery shall be elected in the manner authorized by the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) for a term of one year, beginning each year at the Annual Meeting of the Presbytery, which shall normally be the regular Stated Meeting of the Presbytery in the first quarter of the calendar year. The Immediate Past Moderator or a Former Moderator will preside in the absence of the Moderator.
- E. Voting: The members of the Presbytery as determined consistent with the provisions of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), shall be eligible to vote at all Stated and Special Meetings of the Presbytery.
- F. Parliamentary Authority: Meetings of the Presbytery shall be conducted in accordance with the most recent edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, except in cases in which the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) provides otherwise.
- G. Opening and Closing with Prayer: All meetings of the Presbytery shall be opened and closed with prayer.
- H. Quorum: A quorum of a Meeting of the Presbytery shall be one-fourth of the non-retired Ministers of Word and Sacrament and representative Ruling Elders from one-fourth of the congregations of the Presbytery. Reasons for non-attendance on the part of Ministers and non-representation on the part of congregations shall be given to Presbytery in writing.
- I. Business of the Corporation: At any Meeting of the Presbytery, the Presbytery is constituted as a Meeting of the members of the Corporation and may conduct such business on behalf of the Corporation as is proper under the laws of the state of Georgia, and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), including the election of Trustees. The Annual Meeting of the Corporation shall normally be the regular Stated Meeting of the Presbytery held in the first quarter of the calendar year.
- J. Electronic Meetings of the Presbytery or Presbytery Ministry Units
 - 1. It is permissible for the Presbytery or any Presbytery Ministry Units to hold a meeting by electronic means. These may include:
 - a. Conference calls via phone,
 - b. Skype, Zoom or other online technology that at a minimum allows all participants to hear each other and respond,
 - c. Joining one or more persons into an electronic meeting as described above.

2. Rules to govern these meetings:
 - a. Every participant must have access to the same materials.
 - b. Voting is permitted.
 - c. The Moderator conducts the meeting and sets the guidelines as to how speakers are recognized.
 - d. Minutes of these meetings are written as is the norm for each Ministry Unit.

III. The Trustees

- A. The Trustees of the Corporation shall be the members of the Coordinating Team. The Moderator of the Presbytery shall serve as the President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Corporation. The Secretary of the Corporation shall be the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery. The Treasurer of the Corporation shall be the Treasurer of the Presbytery.
- B. Authority delegated by Presbytery: The Presbytery delegates to the Board of Trustees the following responsibilities and authorizes it to spend such funds as are approved in the Annual Budget in the following areas:
 1. To receive, hold, encumber, manage, and transfer property, real or personal for the Presbytery, and to accept and execute deeds of title to such property and to hold and defend title to such property, consistent with the provisions of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
 2. To maintain the property of the Presbytery
 3. To approve sales, purchases, leases, and mortgages of the property of congregations in the Presbytery subject to ratification at the following meeting of the Presbytery
 4. To account for the income and expenses of the Presbytery in conjunction with the Treasurer, and to provide the Presbytery with regular reports of such income and expenses
 5. To manage the funds of the Presbytery in conjunction with the Treasurer, and to provide the Presbytery with regular reports of the balance of such funds
 6. To obtain sufficient liability coverage to protect the facilities, programs, and officers of the Presbytery and to retain legal counsel.
- C. The Presbytery, in accordance with and not contrary to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) may delegate by Standing Rule such other authority and responsibilities to the Board of Trustees as the Presbytery determines.

IV. Presbytery Ministry Units

- A. The Ministry Units of the Presbytery shall be those determined to be necessary by the Presbytery in order to carry out its work. These may include committees, commissions, teams, task groups, and other entities.
- B. Terms of service on Presbytery Ministry Units shall be as provided for in the Standing Rules of the Presbytery.
- C. Terms of membership on the Presbytery Ministry Units shall begin January 1 of the year following election and shall end on December 31 of the year of the election class.
- D. Any Ministry Unit vacancies due to resignation, death, or any other cause may be filled by the Presbytery, which may elect persons to fill unexpired terms at any meeting of the presbytery.

V. Nominations and Elections

- A. Eligibility for office or service on the Ministry Units of the Presbytery shall be consistent with the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
- B. In accord with requirements of *The Book of Order*, except for the offices of the Stated Clerk and the Treasurer of the Presbytery, the Committee on Representation shall nominate persons to serve in leadership positions requiring election by the Presbytery.
- C. The Coordinating Team, in consultation with Committee on Representation, shall nominate the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery to serve for an initial term of three years. Ordinarily, no individual shall serve more than four consecutive terms as Stated Clerk.
- D. The Coordinating Team, in consultation with the Committee on Representation, shall nominate the Treasurer of the Presbytery to serve for a term of one year.

VI. Amendments

- A. These Bylaws may be amended, subject to the Charter of the Corporation, the laws of the state of Georgia, and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), by approval of the Presbytery at any stated or special meeting of the Presbytery by a majority vote of those present and voting, provided that a full reading of the proposed changes or a distribution by any printed or electronic means of the same shall have been made in connection with the call of the meeting.

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- B. These Bylaws may not be amended contrary to, or so as to not include the provisions of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

The Manual of Administrative Operations for Cherokee Presbytery

Vision Statement

Cherokee Presbytery seeks to be “One church, Many locations, Serving Christ together”, as it supports God’s mission in the world, empowering the ministries of congregations and the life of the beloved community.

Guiding Principles

Believing that the “mission of God in Christ gives shape and substance to the life and work of the Church” (F-1.01), this Manual of Administrative Operations gives shape to Cherokee Presbytery’s common life, always open to ways to reform in faithfulness.

The Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (USA) directs “each council [to] develop a manual of administrative operations that will specify the form and guide the work of mission in that council”. (G-3.0106). The following principles are operative in the governance of the Cherokee Presbytery:

1. We recognize and affirm that “God alone is Lord of the conscience”. As is true of Reformed polity in general, there is recognition that persons chosen to lead Cherokee Presbytery are governed not by those whom they represent but by the Holy Spirit working within them and guided by Scripture as the “only rule of faith and practice”.
2. We recognize and affirm the principle that a larger part of the church shall govern a smaller and that the matters shall be finally decided by the “collected wisdom and united voice of the whole Church”. This principle is the foundation of operations for Cherokee Presbytery: that all decisions may ultimately be subject to the “collected wisdom and united voice” of the Presbytery, understanding that when the people of God are gathered together to listen to the Holy Spirit, their collective voice is more likely to reflect the will of God.
3. The provisions of this Manual of Administrative Operations are subordinate to *The Book of Order*.
4. Ministry Units of Cherokee Presbytery shall develop operational handbooks to guide their practice and policy. These handbooks work in concert with the Manual of Administrative Operations and *The Book of Order*, while providing appropriate flexibility for the changing nature of the ministry of Cherokee Presbytery.
5. Those sections of The Form of Government of *The Book of Order* which employ the word “shall” are obligatory upon the Presbytery and need no further reference in this Manual. Likewise, those sections in the Presbytery’s manuals and handbooks that employ the word “shall” are obligatory, whereas the word “may” is permissive.
6. Cherokee Presbytery is a not-for-profit corporation formed under the authority of the Secretary of State of the State of Georgia.

Method of Amendment

The Coordinating Team may recommend amendments to this Manual for approval by a two-thirds vote of the Presbytery at any Stated Meeting. Any amendments proposed by other parties will be submitted to the Coordinating Team for review and approval, preceding presentation to the Presbytery.

Presbytery Structure

The work and ministry of Cherokee Presbytery is carried out both through its congregations and specific Ministry Units of the Presbytery. A more detailed outline of each Ministry Unit's responsibilities follows in this Manual.

Coordinating Team

The Coordinating Team is composed of the Moderators, or Co-Moderators, of each of the Ministry Teams, the Moderator of the Committee on Representation, the immediate Past Presbytery Moderator, the current Presbytery Moderator, and three at-large members. Ministry Teams will designate one voting member for Coordinating Team meetings.

Cherokee Presbytery's Ministry Units are:

- The Coordinating Team
- Ministry Transitions Team
- Congregational Health Team
- Building Leaders Team
- Ministry Support Team
- Committee on Representation
- Permanent Judicial Commission

Officers and Staff

The Moderator of the Presbytery

1. Candidates for Moderator shall be nominated by the Committee on Representation and shall alternate by Minister of Word and Sacrament and Ruling Elder, and by gender.
2. The Moderator, Moderator-Elect, and Past Moderator shall serve without compensation, but the expenses of their offices shall be included in the budget of the presbytery.
3. Ordinarily, the Moderator presides at services of ordination and/or installation of Ministers of Word and Sacrament and commissioning services for Certified Christian Educators and Commissioned Ruling Elders and the Annual Meeting of the Presbytery.

The Immediate Past Moderator of the Presbytery

1. The Immediate Past Moderator shall be the Moderator of the Coordinating Team for the year following their Moderatorial term.
2. The Immediate Past Moderator shall be available to preside at services of ordination and/or installation of Ministers of Word and Sacrament and commissioning services for Certified Christian Educators and Commissioned Ruling Elders, and at the Annual Meeting of the Presbytery, should the current Moderator be unavailable.

The Stated Clerk of the Presbytery

1. A Stated Clerk shall be elected by the Presbytery upon nomination by the Coordinating Team, in consultation with the Committee on Representation.
2. The Stated Clerk may be the General Presbyter, a Minister Member, or Ruling Elder elected by the Presbytery.
3. The Stated Clerk shall perform the duties designated in G-3.0104 and G-3.0110, and as specified by the Presbytery.
4. As an officer of the presbytery, the Stated Clerk is accountable to the Presbytery through the Coordinating Team, which shall annually review the work of the Stated Clerk and the adequacy of the Terms of Call.
5. Ordinarily, the Stated Clerk shall participate in Synod and General Assembly functions representing Cherokee Presbytery.

The General Presbyter

1. The General Presbyter shall be elected by the Presbytery to fulfill the responsibilities that are required by the mission of the body in accordance with G-3.0110.
2. The General Presbyter shall perform the duties specified in the Position Description as established by the Coordinating Team.
3. The General Presbyter serves ex officio, with voice but no vote in all meetings of Ministry Teams and the Committee on Representation.
4. As an elected staff member, the General Presbyter is accountable to the Presbytery through the Presbytery's Coordinating Team, which shall annually review the work of the General Presbyter and adequacy of the Terms of Call.
5. The General Presbyter shall participate in Synod and General Assembly functions representing Cherokee Presbytery.

Other Staff Positions

1. Ordinarily, other staff positions may be created and filled by the Coordinating Team, in consultation with Committee on Representation.
2. These staff members shall perform duties specified in their position descriptions as established by the Coordinating Team.
3. Staff members are accountable to the Presbytery through the Coordinating Team, which shall annually review the work of the staff members and adequacy of compensation.

The Ministry Teams

Coordinating Team

The Coordinating Team is composed of the Moderators, or Co-Moderators, of each of the Ministry Teams, the Moderator of the Committee on Representation, the immediate Past Presbytery Moderator, the current Presbytery Moderator, and three at-large members. Ministry Teams will designate one voting member for Coordinating Team meetings. The Team will meet as needed to focus on the specific issues of calendaring, resource sharing, and communication within the Presbytery. The Team is responsible for those duties outlined below and other such duties identified by *The Book of Order*, G-3.0106.

The duties shall consist of:

1. Prayerfully discern the future of Cherokee Presbytery - the churches and communities within its bounds.
2. Coordinate and communicate the plans and needs of the Ministry Units.
3. Facilitate communication throughout the Presbytery.
4. Assist the Stated Clerk with logistics of presbytery meetings, including planning worship and setting an annual theme for reflection.
5. Provide a forum, in coordination with Building Leaders Team and Congregational Health Team, for sharing the needs in congregations and initiatives that will strengthen the ministries of congregations.
6. Serve as the Presbytery Personnel Committee by providing oversight, review, and evaluation of Presbytery staff, as well as termination and employment when needed.
7. Maintain the Presbytery's Manual of Administrative Operations.
8. Serve as a forum for interim decision making between Stated Presbytery meetings, as needed, and reported to the Presbytery for its affirmation.
9. Appoint Recording Clerk and Minute Readers for all Presbytery Meetings.

Ministry Transitions Team

The Ministry Transitions Team shall have no fewer than six (6) members including the Moderator. The Moderator will not ordinarily have liaison responsibilities and will oversee the work of the Team. The Team is composed of an equal number of ministers and elders in equal classes.

The Team is responsible for those duties outlined below and other such duties identified by *The Book of Order*, G-2.05, 2.07-2.11 and G-3.0306-3.0307 and not assigned to other Ministry Teams. In exercising these duties, the Ministry Transitions Team acts on behalf of the Presbytery and will report its actions to the next Stated Meeting of Presbytery.

The duties shall consist of:

1. Review and approve initial Terms of Call for Ministers of Word and Sacrament.
2. Receive annual reports on ministerial Terms of Call from each congregation.
3. Dissolve pastoral relations when the Minister of Word and Sacrament and congregation concur.
4. Dismiss Ministers of Word and Sacrament to other presbyteries.
5. Approve and review temporary pastoral contracts, including Interim positions.
6. Grant requests from Ministers of Word and Sacrament for release from exercise of ordered ministry with the reasons for such release recorded in the minutes of the Presbytery.
7. Approve calls of Ministers of Word and Sacrament moving within the Presbytery.
8. Grant status of Honorably Retired to Ministers of Word and Sacrament.

9. Review, and renew commissions of Commissioned Ruling Elders, pending approval of the Presbytery.
10. Perform the initial in-depth examination of Ministers of Word and Sacrament seeking membership in the Presbytery in conjunction with the Congregational Health Team.
 - a. At least two members from each Team must be present, including one Minister of Word and Sacrament and one Ruling Elder from each Team.
 - b. Upon the satisfactory completion of this in-depth examination, a Minister of Word and Sacrament may be granted permission to labor within the bounds of the Presbytery pending reception by the Presbytery at the next Stated Meeting.
11. Designate Administrative Commissions to install Ministers of Word and Sacrament and Certified Christian Educators, and to commission Commissioned Ruling Elders.
12. Appoint moderators of sessions for congregations without an installed pastor.
13. Designate persons to moderate session and congregational meetings when requested to do so by the Moderator of Record.
14. Maintain a Pulpit Supply List.
15. Develop and recommend policies that meet the emerging needs of the Presbytery, within the areas of responsibility of the Team.
16. Annually review the status and Terms of Call of members at-large (G-2.0503b) with a report to Presbytery.
17. Establish minimum compensation standards for pastoral calls and Certified Christian Educators within the presbytery. (G-3.0303).
18. Annually review the work of all Ministers of Word and Sacrament engaged in validated ministries outside the congregation (G-2.0503a).
19. Annually review the status and Terms of Call of members at-large (G-2.0503b) and send a report to Presbytery.

Congregational Health Team

The Congregational Health Team shall have no fewer than six (6) members including the Moderator. The Team is composed of an equal number of ministers and elders in equal classes. The Team is responsible for those duties outlined below and other such duties identified by *The Book of Order*, G-2.1103 b, G-3.0303, G-3.0106 and not assigned to other Ministry Teams.

The duties shall consist of:

1. Identify, support, and guide congregations in times of missional discernment and congregational conflict with appropriate resources.
2. Work in close coordination with the Ministry Transitions Team to perform the initial in-depth examination of Ministers of Word and Sacrament seeking Presbytery membership. At least two members from each Team must be present, including one Minister of Word and Sacrament and one Ruling Elder from each Team.
3. Identify and coordinate resources of best practices for congregational health.
4. Develop and promote policies that protect the health and welfare of Presbytery's

- leaders and the children within Presbytery congregations and ministries.
- a. Annually review a Sexual Misconduct Policy and a Child Safety Policy.
 - b. Provide interpretation and training for Minister members and congregational leaders for these policies.
5. Provide support for pastors in crisis through available resources and referrals.
 6. Coordinate Session Records Review policy and process, in cooperation with the Stated Clerk.

Buildings Leaders Team

The Building Leaders Team shall have no fewer than six (6) members including the Moderator. The Moderator(s) will not ordinarily have liaison responsibilities with those under care of Presbytery and will oversee the work of the Team. The Team is composed of an equal number of ministers and elders in equal classes.

The Team is responsible for those duties outlined below and other such duties identified by *The Book of Order*, G-2.06; G-20503a; sections of G-3.0302; and duties not assigned to other Ministry Teams. In exercising these duties, the Team acts on behalf of the Presbytery and will report its actions to the next Stated Meeting of Presbytery.

The duties shall consist of:

1. Direct those under care of Presbytery seeking to be ordained as Ministers of Word and Sacrament in preparation for ministry (G-2.06).
 - a. Counsel with pastors and sessions regarding Inquirers and Candidates from particular churches.
 - b. Enroll Inquirers.
 - c. Dismiss Candidates.
 - d. Administer financial assistance to persons under care in Presbytery's specifically designated funds.
2. Provide opportunities for Minister members of Presbytery to receive ministry boundary training
 - a. Work with those entering Presbytery to receive appropriate boundary training.
 - b. Develop opportunities for continued training for Ministers of Word and Sacrament, Certified Christian Educators, Commissioned Ruling Elders serving within the Presbytery.
3. Develop programming for Presbytery leadership summits to the benefit of local congregations (c.f. G-3.03C "nurture the covenant community of disciples of Christ").
4. Propose Ruling Elders and Ministers of Word and Sacrament to be readers of standard ordination examinations (G-3.0302)

Ministry Support Team

The Ministry Support Team shall have no fewer than six (6) members including the Moderator. The Team is composed of an equal number of ministers and elders in equal classes.

The focus of the team's work will be supporting the Presbytery in the development of the graces of generosity and stewardship both in our shared ministry and in individual congregations. The Team shall function in accordance with *The Book of Order* as outlined in the polity of G-3.0106 and G.30113.

The duties shall consist of:

1. Build, monitor and manage an annual budget and stewardship plan for the Presbytery's shared work.
2. Assist congregations with matters of property and in the development of sound financial practices, including the review of proposed congregational loans for recommendation to the Presbytery for its consideration.
3. Document financial best practices to share and provide training for congregational Treasures.
4. Assist Administrative Commissions in matters of finances and property.

Other Ministry Units

Committee on Representation

The Committee on Representation shall have no fewer than six (6) members including the Moderator. The Team is composed of an equal number of ministers and elders in equal classes.

The Committee shall function in accordance with *The Book of Order* as outlined in the polity of G-3.0103 and the principles of F-1.0403 and F-1.0404 and is responsible for the following duties. In exercising these duties, the Committee acts on behalf of the Presbytery and will report its actions to the next Stated Meeting of Presbytery.

The duties shall consist of:

1. Advise the Presbytery regarding implementation of principles of unity and diversity.
2. Advocate for inclusion and diversity in the presbytery's leadership, including:
 - a. Plan and promote cooperative efforts among Presbytery Ministry Units to enhance full participation, fair representation, connections, and communication among all of people, congregations, and communities.
 - b. Identify and implement efforts to enable a broader, deeper, and more diverse cadre of leaders in all Ministry Units, including those from racial, ethnic, and immigrant communities, younger adults with new perspectives, and older adults with experience and wisdom.
3. Direct the process for nominating persons to serve in Presbytery elected positions, in

consultation with Presbytery membership, the Coordinating Team and Ministry Units, to ensure that nominations are broadly representative of Presbytery constituency and are in conformity with the church's commitment to unity in diversity.

4. Consult with Presbytery, especially with and through its Coordinating Team as needed, on the employment and termination of Presbytery staff and personnel.

Permanent Judicial Commission

The purpose of the Permanent Judicial Commission is to consider and decide judicial matters presented to the Presbytery in accordance with the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), as set forth in *The Book of Order* under "The Rules of Discipline". (D-1.0000-D-14.0000)

The Permanent Judicial Commission shall:

1. Have a membership nominated and approved by Presbytery,
 - a. Composed of at least seven (7) members, with at least three Ministers of the Word and Sacrament, and three Ruling Elders,
 - b. Elected to serve for six years in three classes, with no more than one half of the members to be in one class, (D-5.0102, 5.0103)
 - c. Having no more than one member elected from any one congregation,
 - d. Understanding that no person who has served on the Permanent Judicial Commission for a full term of six years shall be eligible for reelection until four years have elapsed after the expired six-year term. (D-5.0105)
2. Meet at least annually.
3. Elect from its members a Moderator and a Clerk (D-5.0201).

Standing Rules Cherokee Presbytery of The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

These Standing Rules are composed by Cherokee Presbytery to promote the effective and efficient ministry of the congregations, ministers, and related entities of Cherokee Presbytery.¹ These Rules may be amended by action of Cherokee Presbytery at its next meeting after the amendment has been circulated for a minimum of two weeks throughout the Presbytery. Each Ministry Team shall create the necessary forms, procedures and plans to implement actions approved by the Presbytery and assigned to that Ministry Team. These shall be available to the churches and members of the Presbytery through the office and/or website.

Terms of Service for Presbytery Ministry Teams and Units (Presbytery Bylaws: IV.B).

1. Ordinarily, service on a Ministry Team and the Committee on Representation of the Presbytery will be for a term of two-years. Two additional terms may be served as well. No one shall serve more than three successive two-year terms. Members of the Permanent Judicial Commission shall serve initially for 6 years as described in *The Book of Order* and then as found in D-5.0102, 5.0103 and D-5.0105.
2. Ordinarily, each Ministry Unit (except the Permanent Judicial Commission), in consultation with the Committee on Representation, will nominate a Moderator or Co-Moderators from its elected members to the presbytery for consideration.
3. Ruling Elders who serve as a Moderator or Co-Moderator of a Ministry Unit will be enrolled as a member of the Presbytery for the duration of their leadership tenure. (G-3.0301).

Coordinating Team

The Coordinating Team will approve the budget of the Presbytery developed and presented by the Ministry Support Team. The Ministry Support Team will present and interpret the budget to the Presbytery.

Ministry Transition Team

Services of Ordination, Installation or Commissioning

1. Commissions to ordain and/or install a Minister of Word and Sacrament as an installed pastor shall conduct a service according to the Book of Order (G-2.0805 and W-4.04).
2. Commissions to commission a Ruling Elder (2.1000) or a Certified Christian Educator (G-2.1100) shall conduct a service according to the Book of Order, (W-4.04)
3. A Commission for these purposes will be composed of at least four members of the Presbytery with equal numbers of Ministers of the Word and Sacrament and Ruling Elders. The service shall be set at a convenient time for all. Minutes of the Commission shall be completed and submitted to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery by a member of the Commission elected to serve as Clerk.

Congregational Health Team

Minutes of the Sessions and their Rolls and Registers (G.30104) shall be reviewed annually (G-3.0108). The Presbytery Office will provide the forms and coordinate the review with the Clerks of Session.

Permanent Judicial Commission

1. The Permanent Judicial Commission shall follow the procedures of the Rules of Discipline in the most current *The Book of Order*.
2. When the Stated Clerk receives an allegation that requires the appointment of an Investigating Committee, the Stated Clerk and Moderator of the Presbytery shall consult and make this appointment. (D-10.0201b)

Robert's Rules of Order, 12th edition (2020), 2: 23-24.
Approved by Cherokee Presbytery on October 9, 2021
