

**MINUTES OF THE STATED MEETING OF CHEROKEE PRESBYTERY**  
**Tuesday, May 25, 2016, 5:30 p.m., Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church**  
**Cumming, Georgia**

**Roll of Presbytery**

ACTIVE TEACHING ELDERS:

Baker, Arch	Unex
Beltzner, Denise	Ex
Bogar, Fritz	P
Braga, Reginaldo	Unex
<i>Bridges, Sam</i>	Ex
<i>Dunn, Tim</i>	Ex
Coile Estes	P
Ferguson, Julie	P
Fuller, Julie	Unex
Gonzalez-Gertz, Edwin	P
Gray, Joan	Ex
Grove, David	P
Henderson, Sam	Unex
Hittel, Maryellen	P
Jensen, Julie	Unex
<i>Jones, Ray</i>	Ex
Jordan, David	P
Josey, Camille	P
Lamberson, Zeta	P
Lee, Jennifer	Ex
Lund, Greg	P
MacMillan, Nikki	P
Martin, John	P
Mendes, Paulo	P
Meyer, Cathy	P
Moore, Greg	Unex
Moore-Keish, Chris	Ex
Parr, Cyndi	P
<i>Pezini, Jose</i>	Ex
Renken, Catherine	P
Scott, Carol	P
Scott, William	P
Scott, Katie	Unex
Simpson, Jim	P
Waddell, Bridget	Unex
Waddell, Kenneth	P
<i>Yoo, William</i>	Unex
(37)	

Corresponding Teaching Elders:

Jack Westlund (Gr. Atlanta)	P
Pete Paulsen(RCA)	p
Jerry Cannon (Charlotte)	P
Larry Owens (Gr. Atlanta)	P

37+ 51 = 88

*[Excuses not required from Retired]*

*Italics = Laboring in mission field or out of bounds of presbytery 5*

RETIRED TEACHING ELDERS:

Allen, Herschel	
Ballesteros, Tino	
Blackwell, Rebecca	
Brice, Joe	P
Bunkley, Jack	
Carmichael, Bert	
Cooley, Pem	P
Craft, Ed	
Edwards, Maxine	
Esa, Donald	
Feast, Charles	
Gantz, Robin	P
Garrett, Eleana	
Glauner, David	
Gonzalez, Catherine	
Guder, Darrell	
Gunter, Sid	
Hammett, Jenny	
Hunter, Rodney	
Jones, Walter	
Kim, Jin Hoon	
Kimmons, Homer	
Looby, Janet	
Martin, Roger	
McAliley, Elizabeth	
McDonald, David	
Neelly, Dick	P
Nesbit, Van	
Ottaviano, Dan	
Reggin, Susan	
Rhodes, Jan	
Rogers, Tom	
Sapp, Frank	
Sapp, Mary Kay	
Smith, Cuyler	
Smith, Ted	
Spangler, John	P
Speed, James	
Stroup, George	
Tarrant, John	
Terrell, Ken	P
Wade, Carol	P
Ward, Gil	
Waskey, Jack	
Weathersby, Frank	
Weaver, Charles	
Wells, Debbie	P
Wells, John	P
Wilson, Thurston	
Wood, Tom	P
Wright, Donn	
(51)	

Acworth  
 Beersheba  
 Brazilian Christian  
 Calhoun                    Connie Connell  
 Cartersville (3)        Mary Gilreath  
                                   Jo Clark  
                                   Trey Gaines  
  
 Cedartown  
 Chickamauga  
 Christ Fellowship  
 Cohutta  
 Covenant                Linda Streeter  
 Dalton                    Jeffrey Granillo  
 Deer Creek              Robert Bouffard  
 Faith Canton            Frank Cleveland  
 Faith Blue Ridge       Jim Reich  
 Grace                    Carol Watkins  
 Heritage (2)            Merry Willis  
                                   Jordan Hofmeisler  
 John Knox                Shelby Roberet  
 Kirkwood  
 LaFayette  
 Light of Hope            Connie Swain  
 Macland (2)            Bonnie Little  
  
 Marietta (4)            Andrew Tatnall  
                                   Trisa Cain

Morton Memorial  
 Ray-Thomas  
 Rockmart  
 Silver Creek            Lloyd Farr  
 Trinity                    Keith Vansaul  
 Westminster            Gloria Eberhart  
 Woodstock  
*Total Allocated Ruling Elder Commissioners: 36*

OTHER RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS:

Anita Errickson  
 Coy Temples

Possible Ruling Elder total - 38

**In attendance:**  
 Teaching Elders            20  
 HR Teaching Elders        10  
 Ruling Elders                20  
 Corresponding Members    4  
 Visitors                        43  
 Presbytery Lay Staff        1

**Total attendance            98**

**Absent:**  
 Excused Teaching Elders    8  
 Unexcused Teaching Elders 9  
 Excused Ruling Elders       0  
 Unexcused Ruling Elders    16

## Call to Order

Following the opening ritual, welcome and opening prayer by Moderator TE Greg Lund from Westminster, the stated meeting of Cherokee Presbytery was called to order. The Stated Clerk confirmed that a quorum was present to do business.

## Worship

TE Jerry Cannon (Charlotte Presbytery) led the council in worship and preached the word to us. We also celebrated the Sacrament of Communion. An offering for Family Promise was received in the amount of \$1,037.44.

## Approval of the Docket

Stated Clerk Nikki MacMillan moved the approval of the docket. Seconded and **APPROVED**

4:30 pm	Registration and Dinner	
5:30 pm	Opening Ritual	Debbie Wells
	Declare Quorum and Open With Prayer	
	Worship, Dr. Jerry Cannon preaching	
6:15 pm	Approval of Docket	Greg Lund
	Seat Corresponding Members	
	Welcome New Commissioners	
	Welcome from the Hosts	John Martin
	Good News from the Pews	
6:30 pm	Business Meeting	
	Stated Clerk/Mission Coordinator Report	Nikki MacMillan
	Clark Simmons, Board of Pensions	
	Ministry Support Team Report	John Martin
	Clare Lewis, PILP	
	Nominating Committee Report	Maryellen Hittel
	Committee on Ministry Report	Camille Josey
	Examination of Elizabeth Milford	
	Examination of Chris Jones	
	Committee on Preparation for Ministry	Julie Ferguson
	Examination of Katie Orth	
	Coordinating Team Report	
	Celebration of Sheri Grove and the Berry Campus Ministry	Janet Farr
	Farewell to John and Debbie Wells	
	Commissioning our Commissioners to General Assembly	Zeta Lamberson

## Seat Corresponding Members

Pete Paulsen, Jack Westlund, Larry Owens and Jerry Cannon were recognized as corresponding members, and, after a motion by the Stated Clerk and a second, they were given the privilege of the floor. **APPROVED**

## Introduction of First Time Commissioners and Others

Various Teaching elders introduced Ruling elders attending Presbytery for the first time. A number of visitors were also welcomed, including RE Clark Simmons from the Board of Pensions.

## **Greetings from the Host Church**

TE John Martin, pastor of Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church, brought greetings from the host church.

## **Good News from the Pew**

Good news was shared by several Teaching Elders and Ruling Elders about ministry in their churches.

## **Scripture for the day**

Discernmentarian RE Erma Jones read the scripture for the day...Jeremiah 31:31.

## **Moderator Appointments**

Moderator Lund appointed TE Dave Grove and RE Frank Cleveland (Faith-Canton) to the Minutes Review Committee.

## **Stated Clerk and Mission Coordinator's Report TE Nikki McMillan**

Items for Action (with discussion)

1. Approve minutes of the February 27, 2015 Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery at Cedartown Presbyterian Church as prepared and circulated. **APPROVED**
2. Approve minutes of the April 6, 2016 Called Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery at First Presbyterian Church of Marietta as prepared and circulated. **APPROVED**

Actions of the Stated Clerk/Mission Coordinator

1. Wrote letters of dismissal to ECO: A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians for the Cloudland and Menlo Presbyterian Churches following the actions of the Presbytery on February 27, 2016.
2. Wrote a letter of dismissal to ECO: A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians for Rev. Roger Kvam following the actions of the Committee on Ministry on March 3, 2016.
3. Signed deeds for transmission of property to the Cloudland and Menlo churches to the individual congregations following the actions of the Presbytery on February 26, 2016.
4. Completed required statistical reports for the General Assembly
5. Together with Assistant Stated Clerk Ken Terrell, prepared and circulated minutes of the February 27 and April 6 meetings of Cherokee Presbytery. The minutes were reviewed for accuracy and completeness by the Moderator and a committee appointed by the Moderator and then were posted on the presbytery website with print copies available today at the Stated Clerk's table

6. Attended GA training for New Stated Clerks in Louisville March 6-9 and attended orientation and residency programs for the Presbytery Leader Formation Program in Louisville and Seattle, WA May 1-6, 2016.
7. Attended the celebration of the mission and ministry of Providence Presbyterian Church on Sunday, March 20, 2016
8. Attended the sanctuary dedication of First Presbyterian Church of Dalton, Georgia on Sunday, April 10, 2016.
9. At the request of MST, communicated with all congregations with outstanding loan balances requesting an update on remaining balance.

Nikki presented Zeta Lamberson, Marlene Michalky, and Peggy Rollins her Super Hero Award for their work as the Providence Administrative Commission. Zeta reported that a contract should be finalized soon for the sale of the Providence property.

Clerk Simmons from the Board of Pensions reported the good news from the money people at the board.

### **Ministry Support Team Report** **TE John Martin, Moderator**

Meeting Dates since Last Presbytery Meeting  
February 27, 2016  
April 5, 2016

Clare Lewis from PILP talked about the kind of loans they offer to churches and the sources of money they have for loans.

Items for Action with Discussion:

1. Motion to authorize Faith (Blue Ridge) to proceed with financing all or part of a \$135,000 land purchase of 9 acres if the congregation elects to do so. **APPROVED**

Attachments

1. Financial statements – Attachment A

### **Nominating Committee Report** **TE Maryellen Hittel, Moderator**

Items for Action with Discussion:

1. Motion to approve TE Carrie Scott as Presbytery Moderator 2018. **APPROVED**
2. Motion to approve TE Will Scott as Moderator of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry. **APPROVED**
3. Motion to approve TE Sid Gunter to MST Class of 2018. **APPROVED**

## Attachments

1. Nominating Committee Report – Attachment B

## **Committee on Ministry Report**

### **TE Camille Josey, Moderator**

Dates Committee met since last Presbytery meeting:

March 3, 2016, April 7, 2016, May 5, 2016

## Items for Action (with discussion)

1. Motion to approve Elizabeth Milford (Baltimore Presbytery) for membership in Cherokee Presbytery as Teaching Elder for Heritage Presbyterian Church, effective date: June 6, 2016. **APPROVED**  
The COM chair led the council in prayer for Elizabeth and her ministry at Heritage.
2. Motion to approve Chris Jones (Arkansas Presbytery) for membership in Cherokee Presbytery as Teaching Elder for First Cartersville effective July 1, 2016. **APPROVED**  
The moderator led the presbytery in prayer for Chris and his ministry at Cartersville.
3. Motion to approve First Marietta's request to establish a relationship with Rev. Pem Cooley to serve as Parish Associate for a period of one year. This relationship would begin upon First Marietta's receipt of the approval of this proposal by Presbytery. It will continue for one year as per the Book of Order provisions for temporary pastoral relationships. The relationship is renewable yearly with Presbytery approval. **APPROVED**
4. That Presbytery empower COM (in particular regard to Macland) – following a thorough examination of candidate, approval by COM and extension of a call by the congregation – to grant permission to candidate to labor within the bounds of Cherokee until such time as Presbytery meets in August to receive said candidate. **APPROVED**
5. Motion to approve terms of call for Elizabeth Milford at Heritage. **APPROVED**
6. Motion to approve terms of call for Chris Jones at Cartersville. **APPROVED**

## Items for Information and Record

1. COM has validated the ministry of Julie Ferguson for a one year chaplain's residency at Northside and granted her permission to "minister beyond the bounds of Cherokee Presbytery." This act is contingent upon agreement of COM of Greater Atlanta. If Greater Atlanta does not agree, TE Ferguson will need to transfer membership to Greater Atlanta.
2. TE Roger Kvam was dismissed to ECO, effective March 3, 2016.
3. TE George Stroup was granted permission to labor beyond the bounds of Cherokee, effective March 3. George will serve Trinity Presbyterian in Greater Atlanta.

## Attachments

1. Elizabeth Milford statements and Terms of Call – Attachment C
2. Chris Jones statements and Terms of Call – Attachment D

## **Preparation for Ministry TE Julie Ferguson**

Move that Katherine Orth be approved as a candidate for ministry. **APPROVED.**

After answering the constitutional questions in the affirmative, RE Sean Ireland led the presbytery in prayer for Katie, and TE Julie Ferguson gave the new candidate the charge.

### Attachments

1. Katherine Orth statements – Attachment E

## **Coordinating Team Report RE Susan Monk, Moderator**

### Members of Coordinating Team

Susan Monk ( CT Moderator), Robert Smalley (Moderator elect), Edwin Gonzalez-Gertz (CCM), John Martin (MST), Cyndi Parr (Worship), Camille Josey (COM), John Spangler (At Large), Denise Beltzner (At Large), Bob Brown (At Large), Nikki MacMillan (SC/MC) , Greg Lund (Moderator)

### Meetings

March 15, 2016

April 26, 2016

### Items for Information (no action)

As part of our transition work, CT has begun work on a new set of bylaws for Presbytery and discussions of the “moments that matter” to our Presbytery and to our churches to guide us in developing proposals for changes in structure. The plan is to bring bylaws for a “first read” at the August Presbytery meeting.

### Items for Action (Discussion and Vote)

CT has received a letter from the Berry Campus Ministry Board asking that the Presbytery dissolve the current ministry at Berry effective at the end of May 2016 due to insufficient funds to continue the ministry. Therefore, the CT regretfully recommends that this ministry be dissolved effective May 31, 2016 with thanksgiving for the 25 years of Campus Ministry that has taken place on that campus and with particular thanks to Sheri Grove for her 13 years of dedicated service and to the members of the Board: Ruling Elders Janet Farr, Lauren Abrams and Cheryl Jenkins and Teaching Elder Dave Grove. As information, any funds remaining or collected in the future will be held for future campus ministry opportunities in the Presbytery. **APPROVED**

Janet Farr, member of the Board, spoke to the presbytery reflecting on the campus ministry at Berry and Sheri’s ministry. The moderator led the council in prayer for this campus ministry and Sheri Grove.

### Attachment

1. Letter from Berry Campus Ministry Board – Attachment F

## **Cherokee Retreat Center and Camp Report TE Joe Brice, Director of Development TE Ray Jones, Chair Futures Committee**

### Connections With Congregations

- Four congregations have responded to our special offering request.

- Three congregations have invited us to present in worship services.
- Four congregations have given time to work on the grounds and buildings.
- One youth group spent spring break working on the site.
- Several congregations are securing support to provide scholarships to summer camp.

The Pool is available for your congregation or group to reserve on Sunday afternoons. The fee is whatever amount you are able to contribute. Bring a lifeguard, a picnic and get wet. One congregation has already made a reservation as a big VBS Finale. Make reservations at [www.cherokeeretreatcenter.com](http://www.cherokeeretreatcenter.com) click 'Reservations' then complete and submit the form.

We continue to develop the Missional aspect of our ministry with congregations that are making Camp Cherokee possible for children associated with their local community ministries. We continue supporting DOOR Atlanta. We are seeking opportunities for young ones to be involved in local ministries while at summer camp; ideas?

### Camp Cherokee 2016 Summer Camp

Camp Cherokee's Co-Directors, Julie Fuller and Julia Burton, have opened registrations for Camp Cherokee 2016. Our goal is to double last year's number of campers. The registration link is found at <https://form.jotform.com/60825525681156> as well as on the presbytery's website [www.cherokeepresbytery.org](http://www.cherokeepresbytery.org)

Details:

- July 10th-15th: Week 1 of camp; Rising 4th-5th graders; \$300 each
- July 10<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>: Rising 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> graders have an option to stay 2 nights for \$125 each or the whole week for \$300 each.
- July 17th-22nd: Week 2 of camp; Rising 4th-8th graders: \$300 each.
- CIT Program: Rising 9th-12th can be Counselors In Training for one or both of the weeks of camp; \$150 per week

The process for re-accreditation with the American Camp Association has begun. The Accreditation visit to Camp Cherokee is scheduled for July 20<sup>th</sup>.

## **Congregational Care and Mission Team Report** **TE Edwin Gonzalez-Gertz, Moderator**

Members: Edwin Gonzalez-Gertz, Chair, Sue Spivey, John Spangler, Sarita Jones, David Jordan, and Katie Orth.

*"I am creating something new. There it is! Do you see it? I have put roads in deserts, streams in thirsty lands."*  
Isaiah 43:19 (CEV)

At Cherokee Presbytery we have seen the new things God is doing and we can imagine greater things for our reformed family of congregations. At the Congregational Care and Mission Ministry Team we have embraced the idea of re-imagining ministry that is relational, inspiring, and missional. To that effect we have had two meetings where we have explored history, we have embraced our new reality and now we are discerning where God may wish to take CCM in terms of ministry.

We feel initially that God may be sharing with us the importance of a ministry of presence, a ministry of inspiration, and a ministry of building connections with and amongst the congregations. Pray with us as we discern and re-imagining how these may look like, how they may function and how they may become a reality.



We celebrate the model used in this presbytery meeting called “Beside Still Waters,” a moment for refreshing. We wonder if this is something that may be repeated. We also celebrate the new Cherokee Presbytery Facebook Idea Exchange page allowing for the sharing of ministry ideas. We see these two tools to bring us together and enriching our ministry.

Join us in prayer as we move forward with a new reality and great opportunities; we are Cherokee Presbytery.

“

...There it is! Do you see it?”

## **Providence Administrative Commission Report**

### **TE Zeta Lamberson, Moderator**

Members: Zeta Lamberson , Moderator, Marlene Michalke and Peggy Rollins

We are in conversation with a potential buyer (a church) for the property. They have made an offer and we have countered that offer. We are awaiting some inspections and for them to work through their appropriate bodies before we receive a final offer. We have had several other potential buyers who have viewed the property. We are hopeful that we will sell the property soon for an amount that will cover the remaining mortgage and provide a little additional income. We have also retrieved all the records from the building and they are housed at Presbytery offices. Final bills are being paid through the presbytery offices. Thank you Sarita!

### **Farewell to John and Debbie Wells**

The Moderator called forward long time Cherokee Presbytery Teaching Elders, John and Debbie Wells. They are in the process of moving to SC to be near family. After listening to them talk about their time in Cherokee, the moderator prayed to the Almighty asking for God’s blessing on their new adventure.

### **GA Commissioners Commissioning Service**

Former Moderator TE Zeta Lamberson led the presbytery in the commissioning service for those who will be attending the General Assembly this summer. They are TE Greg Lund, RE Bob Foster (Covenant) and Katie Orth, who is TSAD. After vows were affirmed, the former moderator led the group in prayer.

### **Adjournment**

Following a motion to adjourn by TE John Wells and a second, the vote was taken to adjourn the meeting. Not surprisingly, the vote was **unanimous**, whereupon the moderator adjourned the meeting with the benediction at 8:37pm.

TE *Kenneth J. Terrell*

Assistant to the Stated Clerk

Cherokee Presbytery

## 2016 Unified and Per Capita Pledges Received/Paid

Church	Membership/ Attendance	Unified Pledged	Per Capita Pledged	Unified Received	Per Capita Received
Acworth	69/42	600.00			
Beersheba	60/-			1,200.00	145.00
Bethany				1,920.00	
Brazilian Christian	77/			200.00	200.00
Calhoun	159/66	100.00		400.00	509.84
Cartersville First	615/210				
Cedartown	90/-	1,000.00		499.99	287.00
Chickamauga	62/41	930.00		930.00	569.46
Christ Fellowship	31/28				
Cloudland	45/-				
Cohutta	33/25				
Covenant	205/111	15,000.00	2,191.53	5,000.00	657.36
Dalton First	116/69	8,000.00		2,000.01	
Deer Creek Shores	103/67			1,500.00	503.68
Faith Canton	75/40	3,000.00			
Faith North Georgia	90/68	3,000.00		1,500.00	432.90
Grace	127/87	6,262.80		4,622.43	
Heritage	382/200				918.71
John Knox	114/-				
Kirkwood	171/83			2,000.00	549.02
LaFayette	22/21	4,200.00		750.00	211.64
Light of Hope	142/	14,155.00		3,872.00	454.00
Macland	331/128				1,592.10
Marietta First	2226/625			12,499.99	
Menlo	12/-				
Morton Memorial	32/-			300.00	307.84
Providence	123/45				
Ray-Thomas Memorial	159/37				382.40
Rockmart	82/50	6,500.00		3,250.00	383.50
Silver Creek	47/31	2,000.00		500.00	108.00
Trinity	37/				
Westminster	238/123	5,000.00		1,330.00	
Woodstock	28/31				269.36
	6103/2228				
Miscellaneous Receipts				13.50	
<b>Totals 4/28/16</b>		<b>69,747.80</b>	<b>2,191.53</b>	<b>44,287.92</b>	<b>8,481.81</b>

Marietta 1<sup>st</sup> paid \$4,166.66 in 2016 for 2015



Presbytery Profit & Loss	<u>Jan - Apr 16</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
44009 · Budgeted Receipts	45,577.92
47000 · CRC Income	28,908.44
48000 · Berry College Ministry Income	<u>4,420.38</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>78,906.74</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	78,906.74
<b>Expense</b>	
51300 · Misc. Presbytery Expense	4,250.00
51216 · Pby Office Operating Expense	7,769.76
52201 · Desig/ Cap/ Debt	684.35
48300 · Berry Campus Operation Expense	4,420.38
51000 · Salaries & Benefits	35,804.49
54505 · Committee on Prep for Ministry	28.00
55199 · Campus Ministry Support	1,000.00
55109 · Mission (Synod & CCM)	250.00
56500 · Cherokee Retreat Ctr Support	2,500.00
57000 · CRC Expense	29,925.30
60001 · Payroll Expenses	<u>28.00</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>86,660.28</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<u>-7,753.54</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>-7,753.54</u></u>

Presbytery Bal. Sheet    Apr 30, 16

**ASSETS**

**Current Assets**

        Checking/Savings                    276,361.09

**Total Current Assets**                276,361.09

**Fixed Assets**                            3,243,714.07

**Other Assets**                            477,571.82

**TOTAL ASSETS**                            3,997,646.98

**LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

**Liabilities**

**Current Liabilities**

            Other Current  
Liabilities                                    599.03

**Total Current Liabilities**        599.03

**Long Term Liabilities**            247,068.36

**Total Liabilities**                    247,667.39

**Equity**                                    3,749,979.59

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY**        3,997,646.98

## Moderator of Presbytery

2016	2017	2018
TE Greg Lund (Westminster)	RE Robert Smalley (Dalton)	<b>TE Carrie Scott (RTM)</b>

**SYNOD**COMMISSIONERS (FOUR-YEAR TERMS, **BI-ANNUAL MEETINGS, MARCH & SEPTEMBER**)

<b>2014-2017</b>
TE Pem Cooley
RE Susan Spivey (Dalton)
Alternate TE: _____
Alternate RE <u>Bill Byars (Westminster)</u>

## SYNOD PJC

<b>2014-2017</b>
RE Robert Smalley (Dalton)

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE, (6) Maryellen Hittel, Moderator**

<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
TE Zeta Lamberson (Covenant)	RE	RE Erma Jones (John Knox)
RE Marx Borges (RTM)	TE Maryellen Hittel (Rcmt)	TE:

**PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION: (6) MODERATOR, TODD JOHNSON**

<b>2016</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2020</b>
RE Cary Nelson (Cartersville)	TE Denise Beltzner (Marietta)	RE Todd Johnson (Cohutta)
TE Zeta Lamberson	RE <u>Bill Byars (Westminster)</u>	TE Fritz Bogar (JK)

**COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION: (9) **WILL SCOTT** MODERATOR**

2016	2017	2018
TE Greg Moore (Acworth)	TE Catherine Renken (KInd)	TE
RE Sean Ireland (Cartersville)	TE Julie Ferguson (AL)	RE Erma Jones (JK)
TE Will Scott (Dalton)	RE Annie Trimmer (RTM)	TE Jennifer Lee (AL –Hospice)

**COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY: (12) CAMILLE JOSEY, MODERATOR**

<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
TE David McDonald	TE Fritz Bogar (JK)	RE Bill Byars (Westminster)
TE Jack Waskey	TE Robin Gantz	TE Camille Josey
<b>RE</b>	RE Paul Phillips (Marietta)	RE Marlene Michalke (Macland)
RE LaVert Jones (John Knox)	RE Nancy Bertrand (Beersheba)	TE Jim Simpson (Faith BR)

**COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION: (3-6) , MODERATOR**

<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
TE Jennifer Lee	TE Paulo Mendes	RE Todd Johnson (Cohutta)

**MINISTRY SUPPORT TEAM: (6) JOHN MARTIN, MODERATOR**

<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
TE John Martin (DCS)	TE Arch Baker (Heritage)	<b>TE</b>
RE	RE Mike Elliot	RE Eva Whitaker (Covenant)

**WORSHIP TEAM: (3-6) CYNDI PARR, MODERATOR**

<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
RE Linda Streeter (Covenant)	TE Cyndi Parr (Faith/Canton)	TE Pete Paulson (Providence)
TE Julie Jensen (AL)	LL Pam Radford (Cartersville)	TE Edwin Gonzales-Gertz

**CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND MISSION: ( 9) EDWIN GONZALEZ-GERTZ, MODERATOR**

<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
TE John Spangler (HR)	<b>TE</b>	TE David Jordan (Grace)
TE	LL Katie Orth (Cartersville)	TE Edwin Gonzalez-Gertz
RE Sue Spivey (Dalton)	RE Sarita Jones (JK)	<b>RE</b>

TE John Spangler (At Large, class of 2016) TE Denise Beltzner (At Large, class of 2016)		
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Coordinating Team, At Large Members

Class of 2016	Class of 2017	Class of 2018
TE John Spangler (At Large, class of 2016) TE Denise Beltzner (At Large, class of 2016)	<b>RE</b>	RE Bob Brown (Marietta)

## Rev. Elizabeth Lovell Milford

### Statement of Faith

I believe in one true and living God who creates, loves, and connects. The church has known this Triune God through three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, joined together in a joyful and harmonious dance, united in one indivisible substance.

I believe God is the source of all things and yearns for a deeper relationship with God's creation. In the beginning, human beings were created in God's image and proclaimed good. Even today, God continues to move in the world, creating diverse and beautifully unique beings and calling us into intimate, personal relationships with the Divine. Even though humankind has and continues to fall short of God's commands in both intentional and unintentional ways, God is faithful still, reaching out to us in covenantal love. God continues to promise to be our God and assures us that we will always be God's people.

I believe God's love is made manifest in Jesus Christ, truly human and truly God, who came into the world in humble and unexpected ways. Jesus lived among us as Immanuel, healing the sick, befriending the lonely and outcast, teaching those who would hear him, and calling all to seek the kingdom of God and live as his disciples. In redeeming love, Christ gave his life as a sacrifice for the sins of the world. But death would not be the final answer. Our Savior rose, conquering sin and death forever and giving us hope for eternal life. Because of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we enter into a new covenant, saved by God's grace alone. Through Christ, we know that *nothing* can separate us from God. Our faith is an embodied response of praise and thanksgiving for this gift of grace.

I believe we are connected to God and to one another by the power of the Holy Spirit. This breath of God, who hovered over the waters of creation, inspired God's covenant people throughout the ages, proclaimed Jesus as God's Son at his baptism, and gave life to the church at Pentecost continues to move in our lives today and joins us together in a living tapestry of faith. We are sustained by the Spirit and encouraged to deepen our relationship with and understanding of God as we study Scripture and live in community together. Through the Spirit we are called and equipped to live faithfully, pursuing peace, justice and reconciliation. Though these calls may look different from one another, it is the Spirit which unites us all in ministry.

I believe the Church is God's covenant people united in Jesus Christ by faith. Called by Christ, who is the head of the church, we come together as a community guided by Scripture and the movement of the Holy Spirit. I believe the Bible is the inspired Word of God, and reveals a glimpse of the incredible story of who God is and how God has related to the world throughout time. Scripture is central to our life together as a community of faith, guiding our worship, education, and service. God gives us the gifts of two sacraments to strengthen and nourish our faith – Baptism and the Lord's Supper. These sacraments are signs and seals of God's covenant with us. But the Church is more than just about what happens within walls of a building. Above all else, we are called to be the church in the world and participate in what God is already doing, sharing love and compassion with all.

I believe that the Triune God is bigger than words can possibly contain, and can and will do things beyond anything we can imagine. I rejoice at the blessing of being in relationship with God and trust in the Spirit's leading as I continue to grow in faith with brothers and sisters in Christ as we eagerly anticipate the coming of the kingdom of God.

### Faith Journey

I am a child of the church. I was born a few months before my parents graduated from (then) Union Theological Seminary and the Presbyterian School of Christian Education. As a "pk," I have always known the church as home. It is a place I have found love and welcome, encouragement and fun. God called my family to a variety of places: North Carolina,

Virginia, Alabama, and Tennessee. Moving allowed me to see and experience that God truly is in all places, and acts in different ways through unique individuals, but that all are united by Christ.

The summer after high school, I felt nudged by a sermon I heard at Montreat during a youth conference. I began to see my story in a different light. Was God calling me to ministry? My mother gave sage advice that "if God is calling you, you'll know – this won't be the only time you hear it." I continued on to a pre-law track of study at UT, where I was also quite active in the Presbyterian campus ministry. After a summer interning with a senator in DC, I realized that while I was passionate about issues of justice, at the end of a day, a legal career would be "just a job." I knew I wanted something more. Those nudges bubbled back to the surface, and applied to seminary.

The Dual Degree (MACE/MDiv) program at Union-PSCE was a great fit for my understanding of ministry as a combination of Word and Sacrament and Christian Education. The most meaningful experiences for me occurred in non-traditional settings, with travel seminars to Central America and the Middle East. Both of these experiences heightened my awareness of God in the world. In Guatemala, I was inspired by the way faith was woven into the fabric of everyday life. This trip sparked a passion, and I returned as a volunteer with CEDEPCA the following summer. In the Middle East, I was thrilled to literally walk where so many of our sacred stories happened, and have well known Scriptures come to life for me in a new way.

As I finished seminary, I began ordained ministry in Philadelphia through the Lily funded Pastoral Residency program at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church. These two years ended up being quite different than I expected, as the church experienced a tremendous time of transition and conflict. I learned a lot about who I was, and even in the midst of difficult circumstances, still felt God's call to serve as a pastor. I especially loved preaching and administering communion. I traveled with a small group to the US/Mexico border to explore issues surrounding immigration on a mission trip and loved the connections made between public and faith life. The church was the place for me.

I have served as an Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Mission for almost five years. In this time, I have enjoyed a broad range of responsibilities, and have gotten to know members of all ages as we have learned, worshipped, and served together. We have rebuilt our CE program and refocused our mission partnerships, and I have learned a lot about discernment and how God brings people together for both new initiatives and continuing traditions. While I enjoy many aspects of this position, my favorite moment each week is almost always leading chapel for our preschoolers as we "wonder" about God together using simple wooden figures.

While much of this is biographical, I see my life journey and faith journey as intertwined. I am grateful for those who have shown Christ to me, and hope that I have shown Christ to others. Attentive to the Spirit's nudgings, I am confident that God is the one leading this journey. I am guided by the reminder of St. Patrick's Breastplate Prayer, that Christ is indeed surrounding me, and know I will find God wherever I go, and that God will find me, too.



# Elizabeth Lovell Milford

## Terms of Call

SALARY PACKAGE			
Salary: cash	\$34,000.00		
Housing	\$28,000.00		
EE SECA Match (7.65%)	\$4,743.00		
<b>Total Effective Salary</b>	<b>\$66,743.00</b>	<b>\$66,743.00</b>	
BOP: Medical Family (24.5%)	\$16,352.04		
Dental Family	\$1,200.00		
BOP: Pensions Benefits (11%)	\$7,341.73		
Death and Disability (1%)	\$667.43		
Allowable Dues Share (1.5%)	\$1,001.15	\$26,562.34	
Continuing Education / Professional Expenses	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	
<b>Total Expense To Church</b>	<b>\$96,305.34</b>	<b>\$96,305.34</b>	
<b>Other Business Expense</b>			
Cell Phone	\$0.00		
Mileage Reimbursement per IRS	\$1,000.00		
<b>Total Expense To Church</b>	<b>\$97,305.34</b>		
<b>Additional Terms</b>			
Moving Expenses	\$8,000.00	** Approx	
Travel Expense Re-imbursement for Home Search	\$2,000.00	** Approx	
Maternity: 8 weeks full time and 4 weeks ½ time.			
Vacation: 4 weeks per year.			
Continuing Ed: 2 weeks per year.			

## Rev. Dr. Chris H. Jones

### Statement of Faith

I believe that God is about beginnings and endings; that God created the world and began a story that continues to unfold around us today. In God's work of creation, humanity began a relationship between one of God's created and God. The relationship we share with our Creator has been one of turmoil because of humanity's constant desire to become the God who created and loves us. Humanity's desire to be God has alienated us from God and impedes our ability to be in relationship with God and others.

God's desire is that we be in relationship, even when we fail to live as God calls us to. That desire is so strong that God sent his Son Jesus Christ into the world as a human being so that we could learn to experience what it is to be in relationship with the One who loves each of us unconditionally. Jesus lived life as God intended all of humanity to live, thus providing an example of how all of creation is to be in relationship with God. Humanity was unwilling to accept Christ, or his example of life in union with God, because it pointed out how far removed people have wandered from God. Instead, humanity killed Jesus in order that they could continue to live as they wanted. God's love for Jesus, and for humanity, was so great that God raised Jesus from the dead, reaffirming the plan of creation that God would be in relationship with humanity. And in so doing, God defeated the power of sin and death in the world.

God continues to be part of the story that was started in creation by being present in this world through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit helps us to discern God's way in the world and provides us the grace and comfort that God has promised to those who believe in the Christ. The Holy Spirit also urges us to live in response to the many blessing we experience in both our joy and suffering. The Spirit calls us as followers of Christ to meet the people of God where they are and to help them to see how God is present, loving us still.

### Journey of Faith

One of my earliest and favorite memories of being Presbyterian happened in the Lakeside Presbyterian Church in Phenix City, Alabama, when I was about ten years old. My dad worked for Southern Company, and we moved about every two years. So I was baptized as a part of my confirmation in a remarkably small Presbyterian Church.

Not long after my confirmation and baptism, we moved to Birmingham and connected with Southminster Presbyterian, and it was there that confirmation took root. I became very active in the

youth program, went on to serve on the presbytery's youth council. There I found a group of people that didn't always agree, but always knew that the love of God was there in the community of faith that surrounded us and took our faith questions seriously.

I soon made my way to Tuscaloosa and joined a fraternity, began figuring out college life, and in a providential accident, found my way to First Presbyterian Church. At FPC I discovered a deep longing to serve the people of God. I became the director of youth ministry, and again found myself working with the youth council. I met my soon to be wife working at FPC, and discerned a calling to the ministry there. The years in Tuscaloosa were formative years, and it is why Joan and I still refer to it as our home church.

After graduating from Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Virginia, we made our way to Spring Hill Presbyterian Church in Mobile, Alabama. There we worked with one of the most phenomenal groups of church professional ever. It was there that I began to really learn how to be a pastor.

After Spring Hill, we made our way to a fourteen year call to the Huffman Presbyterian Church (later Grace Presbyterian) and it was there that I learned all about church conflict. It was a great opportunity to see how the Spirit can transform, and lead the people of God, and also a great chance to learn how to respond to people who hate change. In the fourteen years we were there our daughters grew up there, and we experienced a church that took risks, grew, had fights, and struggled, and repeated that cycle. After a lot of years learning about congregational systems, God called me to Arkansas.

In the last five years we used a lifetime of learning to help FPC of Jonesboro to rebuild a vibrant ministry after a fifteen-year conflict. It has been a great opportunity to watch a congregation get excited about being the church of Jesus Christ again, and too see how the engage their community to share the love of God they have found in healing old wounds.

And now, we look forward to the next leg of the journey in Cartersville...

Terms of Call  
TE Chris Jones

Cash Compensation	\$ 44,000.00	
Housing Allowance	\$ 34,000.00	
SECA	\$ 6,000.00	
Fidelity 403(b) Contribution	\$ 6,000.00	Deferred Income (nontaxable)
Medical Flexible Spending Account	\$ 3,000.00	Reimbursable expense (nontaxable)
<b>Total Compensation</b>		<b>\$ 93,000.00</b>

Board of Pension Dues	\$ 29,000.00	36.5% of \$78000.00
Professional Reimbursable Expense	\$ 1,200.00	
Reimbursable Mileage Allowance	\$ 2,400.00	Actual mileage at .54¢ / mile
Continuing Education Allowance*	\$ 2,500.00	
<b>Total Benefit Package</b>		<b>\$ 35,100.00</b>

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**Total Cost** **\$ 128,100.00**

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NOTES:

FPC will provide five weeks' Vacation annually and two weeks Continuing Education annually.

FPC will pay Family Coverage Board of Pensions Dues which include optional Family Dental Coverage, and Optional Term Life Policy (approximately \$29,000.00/year) FPC pays 1/2 FICA/SECA

FPC will reimburse actually business mileage at 54¢ / mile, and reasonable business expenses associated with pastoral call. FPC will provide a continuing education allowance of \$3000 per year, which can accrue to be used during a sabbatical.

FPC will cover the professional moving cost from Jonesboro, Arkansas to Cartersville, Georgia.

A three month sabbatical will be awarded at the completion of five years of service to First Presbyterian Church.(awarded in 2022)

If Dr. Jones were to accept a new call within twelve calendar months of his sabbatical, he agrees to reimburse the church for the cost of the sabbatical.

## Katherine B. Orth

### Statement of Faith

God, creator of life, breathed life into all existence. Just as potter molds and shapes clay, God has created all of creation into God's image. God exists in three unified persons, existing in the same substance. I believe we exhibit our faith by seeking a relationship with God through prayer and study of Scripture. Scripture comes to us in the form of the Bible with great authority.

God the father is love. God created humanity as a divine expression of that love and we are given the charge to seek to intimately love God. Humanity is called to seek God with our entire lives just as a deer pants for streams of water. Although God is omnipotent and all-present, God only desires for our hearts to be fruitful of love and servitude towards each other. Living in a fallen world, God remains present with us in a hurt and broken reality.

As an expression of God's love for us in a broken world, we were sent Jesus Christ, the redeemer. Jesus Christ was born into humanity from humble beginnings in the frailty of an infant. In his life he grew to share God's love with all people. These teachings changed the status quo and in that he fulfilled the teachings and prophecies of the Old Testament. Jesus Christ was crucified, he died, and was buried. After appearing on the third day to further his teachings, he ascended into heaven, joining God the Father.

The Holy Spirit is the breath of God, breathed into every millimeter of existence. The Holy Spirit is the substance of God that is inescapable and is purely God's loving embrace. This life force, present from the very beginning of creation, is the source of all growth and nourishment in our world.

As a sign of God's love we are gifted with two sacraments: Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Baptism is the reminder of our existence as a child of God. We are cleansed of our sin, and embraced into a community of believers. We were given this example by Christ in his own baptism.

The Lord's Supper is given by example of Jesus Christ as the last supper he shared with his disciples in the upper room. By partaking in the Lord's Supper we recognize the presence of Christ in the moment and the sacrifice of God. We proclaim that Christ will return again.

I believe that as creatures created in the image of God we live in a broken world. I believe that because we live in a world of brokenness, we have become separated from God. Through the love of God, Christ joined us on earth to know our pain and to save us from sin. It is through Christ's death and resurrection that we receive mercy and grace

I believe in God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. I believe that is love. I believe that I live out a life as a disciple of Christ by proclaiming that love to all through making myself into a humble servant of God. I believe that the mission of the church should be to be a place of communal worship where disciples are equipped to go out to serve others in love, reflecting the love we receive from Christ.

## **Katherine B. Orth**

### **Autobiographical Sketch**

I was the first born child of Randy and Sandy Bennett. We lived in Anderson, South Carolina. While I never missed out on anything, my parents worked very hard to provide a good living for us.

I have one sister and brother that are four and five years, respectively, younger than me. Mainly I was a third parent to my siblings – not just an older sister. My dad travelled a lot for his job with Michelin Tire and my mom worked long hours. I was left to get my brother and sister to school, to keep up with the house work, prepare meals for the family, and really provide care for whatever was needed.

My family was not regular attendees at church, and prayers were just the kind of thing we did and meals. My Mom worked for a wonderful church with a very caring pastor, but she felt that if she worked Monday through Friday she couldn't bring herself to go back on Sunday.

But my desire to learn more about God and church grew, and when I was old enough, I began driving myself to church. The pastor was so gracious and patient with me and all of my questions on faith and religion. I remember being so inspired by how diligent he was at studying, and how excited he got at sharing something new he was reading. And so early on I decided that seminary seemed like a really neat thing to do.

My parents thought that I needed to go to college to be a teacher. I began Erskine College in the fall of 2002. Being dutiful and only slightly rebellious, I obliged but quickly realized that this was not the call for me. In the meantime, I joined a volunteer fire department and quickly jumped the ranks to officer. I loved working in crisis situations, and the feeling of a family within a fire station was very powerful to me. I loved the small town atmosphere and the idea of neighbor caring for neighbor. Additionally, the pastor from my home church asked me to return as a youth leader and so I commuted on Sundays to fill the position.

After three years at Erskine I realized that I was simply not in a position to afford college tuition any more. I knew that I was in a major I did not want to be in, and all seemed a little loss. During that time, a distant relative called and asked me to spend the summer in Cape San Blas, Florida starting a fire department. I thought it was a great idea, and only new that this was my next step.

I later moved to Decatur, Georgia and started volunteering with the youth at Decatur Presbyterian Church. My twin boys would later be baptized there. While at Decatur I realized that I wanted to go back to working in the ministry field and that seminary was in my future. I started back to school for my Bachelor's in Psychology and started working at the Church of St. Andrew in Sandy Springs, Georgia.

About three years after the birth of my third son, I moved to working at First Presbyterian Church of Cartersville and finished my Bachelor's degree. I also applied to the University of Dubuque and started the program about two weeks after applying. Currently I am finishing my third of four years of study at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary.

**Attachment F**

## **Letter to the Coordinating Team From the Berry Campus Ministry Board**

April 19, 2016

Dear Susan Monk and the Cherokee Presbytery Coordinating Committee,

The Berry Campus Ministry Board (BCMB) met on Sunday, April 17, 2016, and regretfully decided to end "The Fellowship" as it has been known for the past 25 years, dissolve the Berry Campus Ministry

Board, accept the resignation of Sheri Grove, the Berry Campus Minister as of May 31, 2016, and turn this vital ministry over to Cherokee Presbytery.

The BCMB has prayed vehemently and made numerous whole-hearted attempts over the past three years to generate interest and funding for this ministry to very little avail. Since 2013, the board has approved a yearly reduction in the budget, which included a significant decrease in the Campus Minister's salary who has served compassionately for the past ten years, in hopes that the "The Fellowship" could continue. In 2013 the approved budget was \$23,045. Since then, the yearly budget has been drastically reduced to \$10,850 for 2015-16. Many student events have been omitted or greatly minimized because of limited or uncertainty of funding. The Campus Minister, Sheri Grove, even volunteered a two-month summer sabbatical to assure sufficient funds would be available for an August 2015 start up.

The BCMB would like to strongly encourage Cherokee Presbytery to set aside any remaining Berry Campus Ministry funds for future campus ministry in the Presbytery in hopes and faith that God will call someone to carry on this essential ministry that has made a difference in so many Berry College Student lives in the past.

With genuine optimism for the future of "The Fellowship",

The Berry Campus Ministry Board

Janet Farr

Rev. Dave Grove

Cheryl Jenkins

Lauren Abrams