

**MINUTES OF THE STATED MEETING OF CHEROKEE PRESBYTERY**  
**Saturday, June 17, 2017, 10:00 a.m., First Presbyterian Church**  
**Dalton, Georgia**

**Roll of Presbytery**

**ACTIVE MINISTERS:**

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

(39)

Corresponding Ministers:

Jack Westlund (Gr. Atlanta)  
Pete Paulsen(RCA) P

39+ 49 = 88

*[Excuses not required from Retired]*

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

**RETIRED MINISTERS:**

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

(49)

CHURCH – RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS

Acworth  
Beersheba  
Brazilian Christian  
Calhoun  
Cartersville (3) Jo Clark  
Jean Gilliland  
Mike Ball  
Cedartown  
Chickamauga Sandi Townley  
Christ Fellowship Isaac Craft  
Cohutta Jerry Oill  
Covenant Linda Streeter  
Dalton Annelle Scott  
Deer Creek Mel Smith  
Faith Canton Frank Cleveland  
Faith Blue Ridge Sylvia Goodyear  
Grace  
Heritage (2) Hellene Darby  
Kaye Nerd  
John Knox LaVert Jones  
Kirkwood Susan Miles  
LaFayette Laura Wilson  
Light of Hope Jennifer Whitehead  
Macland (2) Bonnie Little  
Marietta (4) Karen Molohon  
Linda Bush  
James Power  
Buck Buchanan  
Morton Memorial Charles Clark  
Ray-Thomas  
Rockmart Linda Waits  
Silver Creek LaDonna Scheppe  
Trinity Keith Vasant  
Westminster Drew Tate  
Woodstock

*Total Allocated Ruling Elder Commissioners: 36*

OTHER RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS:

Anita Errickson  
Coy Temples  
Robert Smalley P  
Possible Ruling Elder total - 39

**In attendance:**

Ministers 20  
HR Ministers 10  
Ruling Elders 29  
Corresponding Members 1  
Visitors 50  
Presbytery Lay Staff 1

**Total attendance 111**

**Absent:**

Excused Ministers 10  
Unexcused Ministers 9  
Excused Ruling Elders 0  
Unexcused Ruling Elders 8



*galleries feature art on walls. He is the author of Wake Up: Hip Hop Christianity and the Black Church.*

A time of conversation around tables will follow the viewing of a short film in the sanctuary. Feel free to make notes during the film. Questions for conversation will be on your tables and members of Cherokee Presbytery's Coordinating Team and Vision Team will be at each table to facilitate discussion.

### **Seat Corresponding Members**

Pete Paulsen was recognized as a corresponding member, and, after a motion by the Stated Clerk and a second, was given the privilege of the floor. **APPROVED**

### **Introduction of First Time Commissioners and Others**

Various Ministers introduced Ruling elders attending Presbytery for the first time. A number of visitors were also welcomed.

### **Greetings from the Host Church**

Will Scott, pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Dalton, brought greetings from the host church.

### **Moderator Appointments**

Moderator Smalley appointed Cyndi Parr and RE Jo Clark (Cartersville, First) to the Minutes Review Committee.

### **Stated Clerk and Mission Coordinator Report Nikki Collins MacMillan**

#### **Items for Action by Cherokee Presbytery (with discussion)**

1. Approve the minutes of February 4, 2017 Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery at Trinity Presbyterian Church Atlanta, GA as prepared and circulated. **APPROVED**

#### **Items for Action by Cherokee Presbytery (consent agenda) APPROVED**

1. Transfer Arch Baker to the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta
2. Dissolve the Administrative Commission for FPC Marietta at the request of the commission
3. Receive report of the Providence Administrative Commission and act upon their request for dissolution. See Attachment D
4. Elect Maryellen Hittel to serve on the Cherokee Presbytery Vision Team as an at-large member

#### **Actions of the Stated Clerk/Mission Coordinator**

1. Together with Assistant Stated Clerk Ken Terrell, prepared and circulated minutes of the February 4<sup>th</sup> meeting 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's website with print copies available today at the Stated Clerk's table.
2. Reported results of Cherokee Presbytery's vote on proposed constitutional amendments to General Assembly Office of the Stated Clerk
  3. Work with PJC Moderator Robert Smalley to appoint and train Investigating Committee 2017-01. IC 2017-01 completed its work on March 10, 2017 and determined no charges were to be filed.
  4. Preached and led worship at Ebenezer Ghanaian Fellowship, Heritage Presbyterian Church, Faith Blue Ridge, Grace Dawsonville, FPC Cartersville, John Knox, and Chickamauga
  5. Executed an interim Operational Agreement with Bartow County for the management of CRCC during the lease transfer process
  6. Served as a resource to the Administrative Commission appointed by the Coordinating Team to assist FPC Cartersville
  7. Attended the Board of Pensions Regional Benefits Conference at Columbia Seminary on April 24, 2017
  8. Attended the Presbytery Leader Formation Residency program sponsored by the PC(USA) and the Synod of the South Atlantic in Richmond, VA May 7-12, 2017
  9. Moderated the Session of FPC Cartersville on May 16, 2017
  10. Served as a resource for Cherokee Presbytery Ministry Teams in their work
  11. Represented Cherokee Presbytery at a meeting of the FPC Marietta Gift Trust Fund Committee to seek funding for a new recreational ministry and outreach of Cherokee Presbytery

## **Coordinating Team**

### **Greg Lund**

#### **Items for Information:**

1. Acting on behalf of Cherokee Presbytery, the Coordinating Team appointed an Administrative Commission to inquire into the difficulties of FPC Cartersville. The Administrative Commission includes:

Rev. Zeta Lamberson  
Rev. Jim Simpson  
Bill Byars (Ruling Elder, Westminster)

The charge of the Administrative Commission is as follows:

1. Inquire into the difficulties of the FPC of Cartersville, Georgia and determine if there is any possibility of reconciliation between the pastor and the Session
2. Should it be determined that the pastor and session cannot be reconciled, work with both parties to negotiate a separation agreement which would be presented to the congregation with the motion to dissolve the call. The time allowed for the parties to reach an agreed upon settlement should be no more than 3 weeks.
3. Should the parties not be able to reach an agreed upon separation

agreement, the AC shall have the power to establish the terms of separation to be presented to the congregation with the motion to dissolve the call.

4. Approve the terms of the separation agreement on behalf of Cherokee Presbytery.
  5. Approve the outcome of the congregational meeting on behalf of Cherokee Presbytery should the congregation vote to dissolve the call.
  6. Should either party not concur with the dissolution request, the Administrative Commission should refer the matter to the entire presbytery for consideration at its next stated meeting.
  7. Should the pastoral relationship be dissolved; the AC shall assist the congregation in work of healing and repairing relationships as well as reengaging in the mission of the congregation.
2. Approved allocation of matching funds for new recreational ministry initiative to come from Cherokee Retreat Center funds. This opportunity has been made possible through a special gift from First Presbyterian Church of Marietta.
  3. Approved allocation of funds to share the cost of a congregational health consultant for FPC Cartersville according to the separation agreement negotiated by the Administrative Commission.
  4. The Coordinating Team is studying the position descriptions and staff design for the presbytery in light of the end of Stated Clerk and Mission Coordinator contract position in December 2018. The CT will have recommendations for staff design and personnel for consideration by the presbytery at the October meeting.

#### **Recommendation to the Presbytery for Action (consent agenda):**

1. Coordinating Team nominates Maryellen Hittel to serve on the Cherokee Presbytery Vision Team as an at large member. **APPROVED**

#### **Ministry Transitions Team Camille Josey**

#### **Recommendation to the presbytery for Action:**

1. That Cherokee Presbytery receive into membership Reverend Joseph Evans (Middle TN Presbytery) to serve as Pastor and Head of Staff for First Presbyterian Church, Marietta. **APPROVED** See Attachment B
2. That Cherokee Presbytery approve the terms of call for Rev. Joe Evans as printed in Attachment C. **APPROVED**
3. That Cherokee Presbytery elect the following to serve as an Administrative Commission to install Rev. Joseph Evans as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Marietta on Sunday, August 27, 2017 at 4pm. Ministers: Fritz Bogar, Nikki Collins MacMillan, Joan Gray and James Speed; REs: Mary Margaret Doyle (Marietta First), Jim Goodlet (Marietta First), Robert Smalley (Dalton First); Guests: Rev. Jo Ewing

Anderson, James Fleming, Brandom Gengelbach, Vivian Guthrie, Rev. Dana Hughes, and George Kesler. **APPROVED**

Fritz Bogar led the presbytery in prayer for Joe and his ministry at First Marietta.

**Items to enter into the Presbytery Record:**

1. Received the recommendation of the Administrative Commission for FPC Cartersville regarding the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between Rev. Dr. Chris Jones and FPC Cartersville
2. Approved Dr. Joel Snider for the consulting work to be done at FPCC and for him to preach as his schedule permits during the summer
3. Approved Dr. Pete Paulsen to serve as session moderator at FPCC as well as to preach and provide pastoral care in this interim period
4. Approved Carol Wade to minister beyond the bounds of Cherokee Presbytery to serve as Interim Pastor of FPC Paris, Tennessee
5. Approved extension of interim contract for Rev. Dr. Joan Gray at FPC Marietta
6. Approved concept/job description and contract for a part-time interim associate pastor at FPC Marietta
7. Approved Rev. Lisa Majoros to minister within the bounds of Cherokee Presbytery to serve as Interim Associate Pastor at FPC Marietta
8. Approved renewal of contract for Rev. Cyndi Parr at Faith Canton
9. Authorized a RE at Grace Dawsonville to moderate the portion of the annual meeting where terms of call for the pastor are discussed
10. Added to pulpit supply list: Dr. Iain Ingliss, Ashley Piper, and Rev. Coile Estes.

**What does the Ministry Transitions Team do?**

We work to provide congregational support from the dissolution of a call to the installation of a new pastor and through the first year of a new ministry

**Building Leaders Team  
Will Scott and Chris Moore-Kisch**

**Recommendation to the presbytery for Action:**

1. Enroll Kwasi Aye-Addo as a Candidate in Cherokee Presbytery. **APPROVED**  
Will Scott prayed for Kwasi. See Attachment E

**Items for Information:**

1. Building Leaders Team will sponsor a sexual misconduct prevention education opportunity for all minister members of Cherokee Presbytery in the second half of 2017. All minister members in active service must participate either in our event or in one of two approved events offered by Greater Atlanta Presbytery.

2. Today's workshop offerings are a result of the work of the Building Leaders Team. The team is looking for suggestions from members of Cherokee Presbytery so that we can plan additional learning opportunities for future gatherings.
3. BLT is currently working to establish requirements for a final assessment for all candidates seeking to be certified ready to receive a call.
4. Dr. William Yoo, Assistant Professor of American Religious and Cultural History, will preach and offer a talk on the Reformation at the October 21, 2017 Leadership Summit.

### **What does the Building Leaders Team do?**

We create learning opportunities for pastors and other leaders in Cherokee Presbytery congregations and oversee the preparation of inquirers and candidates for ministry. We are the people to call when you are seeking help for officer training and other leadership development needs. We are eager to know how we can serve your congregation.

### **Community Connections Team David Jordan**

#### **Items for Information:**

1. The Community Connections Team is seeking additional members to help us help Cherokee Presbyterians build bridges in our local communities and beyond. If you or someone you know is interested in working with us, please speak to David Jordan.
2. Joe Brice recommended a day of ministry and recreation at Camp Cherokee with residents of Action Ministries in Atlanta on June 24. Sarita Jones agreed to be the point person on this project. From the newsletter: *“On Saturday, June 24, Cherokee Presbytery will host a group of women and their children who are experiencing homelessness at the Cherokee Retreat Center for a day of health screenings, manicures, fun, games, and prayer. Our partner in this project is Atlanta Action Ministries. WE NEED YOU! Come spend time getting to know your neighbors and serving new friends. We are looking for people to cook lunch, paint fingernails, play games, create art, listen, hike, lifeguard, paddle, and just be a friend. If you are able to spend the day or part of it with us, contact Sarita Jones to volunteer.”*
3. CCT voted to postpone organizing and recruiting staff and campers for a two-week summer camp allotment at Camp Cherokee until 2018, due to schedule and personnel restraints. From the newsletter: *“After prayerful work to identify leadership for Camp Cherokee 2017, our Community Connections Team has determined the best plan for our camping ministry is to focus our energy on planning Camp Cherokee 2018. However, we still have the Cherokee Retreat Center available for use by congregations in the presbytery June 18 - July 1. If your congregation would like to host a picnic, pool party, lake day, or retreat at the Retreat Center during this time, please contact the presbytery office to inquire about available dates and requirements.”*
4. CCT voted to approve the recruitment of a part-time employee for recreational ministry in Cherokee, utilizing available restricted CRC funds and FPC Marietta grant money.



### **What does the Community Connections Team do?**

We are working to help congregations in Cherokee Presbytery understand the changing context of our ministry and build capacity for connecting to the world beyond us. We have our eyes on the world beyond our congregations are thinking about outreach opportunities, the possibilities of new church development and campus ministry, and how we might cooperate for youth ministry within the presbytery.

### **Congregational Health Team RE LaVert Jones**

The Congregational Health Team does not have items for action for Cherokee Presbytery today. Members of the team are working to establish connections with leaders from each congregation to better understand the mission and ministry of our local congregations and how this team can help support you in your work. Pastors should anticipate a phone call from a member of our team. Please take them up on the opportunity to build a stronger connection with you. If you have not received a call from a CHT member, find LaVert Jones at today's meeting or contact him by phone or email.

### **What does the Congregational Health Team do?**

The mission of CHT is to assist congregations of Cherokee Presbytery in their witness and wellness. We want to help you develop your sense of mission in your community and build best practices for ministry. We will walk with you and assist you in times of conflict and crisis and are a resource for you in the development of policies that protect the health and welfare of our leaders and children in our communities.

The Congregational Health Team has vacancies. If you would like to be a part of your work, please speak to LaVert Jones.

### **Ministry Support Team Greg Moore**

The ministry support team does not have action items for Cherokee Presbytery today. The financial reports through May 31, 2017 are included in this handbook. See Attachment A.

Members of the Ministry Support Team would like to visit with your Session or Stewardship or Finance teams to share with you the collaborative mission of Cherokee Presbytery and to talk with you about how your congregation can be a part of our mission in Northwest Georgia in 2018. Please respond to our request and grant us a few minutes at an upcoming meeting.

### **What does the Ministry Support Team do?**

MST supports the stewardship and finances of Cherokee Presbytery by building, monitoring, and managing our annual budget. In addition, the team is available to assist congregations with matters of property and the development of sound financial practices and in the training and support of church treasurers.

## Committee on Representation John Spangler

The presbytery's newly revived COR has met twice recently, including an 03-23-2017 initial meeting, and a second meeting on 05-11-2017 which featured over an hour of conversations with three Ruling Elders from the presbytery's Brazilian Christian Church.

Among COR's roles and responsibilities are to advise the presbytery regarding the implementation of principles of unity and diversity and to advocate for diversity in leadership. *Implied is for COR to be the conscience-keeper, assisting the presbytery in all of its mission and ministries, including with all of its churches and leaders and in connection with the whole PC(USA), to be steadfast to their promises in spirit and truth in every context of being the church.* To those ends, COR highlights the following issues and makes related recommendations:

1. Renewed presbytery wide efforts should be made to enhance connections and communications among all of our churches and leaders.
2. Renewed presbytery wide efforts should be made to enhance unity and diversity, as well as full inclusive participation and fair representation, among all our churches and leaders.
3. Particular emphasis should be given to a diversity of connection, communication, and inclusiveness with all our racial/ethnic and immigrant people, churches, and communities.
- 4. Therefore, COR respectfully requests the Coordinating Team to affirm the recommendation that the October 21, 2017 and/or the winter-spring 2018 stated meeting(s)/Leadership Summit(s) focus on multi-racial/ethnic/cultural diversity and inclusiveness within the presbytery, and that the COR be enabled to work cooperatively with all appropriate teams and persons (Co-ordinating Team, Vision Team, Mission Coordinator/Stated Clerk, etc.) to plan and implement such focused emphases for those presbytery gatherings.**

*P.S. It also is respectfully requested that the appropriate presbytery process be implemented whereby, as soon as possible, the membership of COR is brought up to its full complement of 6 persons. Appropriately for the sake of diversity and inclusiveness, the additional two persons should be women Ruling Elders from racial/ethnic constituencies of the presbytery.*

**PPS: COR's best guesstimate is that only 8-9% of all Ruling Elders in active service on all the Sessions of presbytery's churches are currently in leadership roles in the presbytery. COR proposes to work with the Coordinating Team in expanding that base of involved Ruling Elders to at least 25%. Plans and processes should be put in place to encourage, enlist, and elect, or other-wise involve, a broader base of leadership folk, which will enrich our presbytery wide communication and connections, and which will enhance our commitments to diversity, inclusion, and fair representation.**

Respectfully reported and submitted by the current COR members:

TE Jennifer Lee, RE Todd Johnson, TE Paulo Mendes, and TE John J. Spangler

### **Good News from the Pew**

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

### **Adjournment**

Following a motion by Ken Terrell and a second, the presbytery adjourned its business meeting and went to lunch, which was to be followed by two workshops during the afternoon. Moderator Smalley closed the Stated Meeting with prayer.

*Kenneth J. Terrell*

Assistant to the Stated Clerk  
Cherokee Presbytery

## Cherokee Presbytery Loan Worksheet

Attachment A

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	89,000	7/19/06			NW	6.75	1582		x	2/16
Bethany 10244706	300,000	186,700	3/18/08	3/25/28		PCUSA	3.80	2022	x	x	3/17
Braz. Christian	?										
Calhoun 1026807	920,000	548,430	1/16/08	5/1/30		PCUSA	3.89	5,052	x	x	3/17
Cartersville	478,000	478,000				?				x	3/16
Deer Creek	175,000	115,000				Citizens	4.50			x	3/16
Grace 1022405	400,000	226,597	2/3/06	3/1/26		PILP	4.25	2,548		x	3/17
Heritage 1038211	2,000,000	1,618,186	2/21/12	2/1/2032		PILP	4.25	12,493		x	3/17
John Knox	250,000	104,522				Bk N. Ga.	4.75	1,617		X	5/17
Macland	1,600,000	1,330,268	12/16/13	1/1/2034		PCUSA	4.25	9,289		x	3/17
Providence 1038812	0 Building	0 Pd. In Full								X	6/16
Ray-Thomas 33042206	350,000	64,399	12/6/99	12/25/19		PCUSA	3.50	2557	x	Pd. by Bethany	3/17
Ray-Thomas 1004298	425,000	59,639	1/15/99	2/1/19		PCUSA	4.25	2823	x	Pd. by Bethany	3/17
Westminster	1,577,422	1,123,724	5/1/2009	1/25/2033	1/25/2013	Sun Trust	5.00	9765		X	3/16
Woodstock 6093804	300,000	47,959	3/6/96	3/25/21		PCUSA	3.50	1550	x	x	3/17
<b>Totals</b>	<b>8,976,138</b>	<b>5,992,425</b>									
3/31/17											
<b>Churches</b>	<b>No Loans</b>										
Beersheba											
Cedartown											
Chickamauga											
Christ Fellowship											
Cohutta											
Covenant											
Dalton											
Faith/BR											
Faith/Canton											
Kirkwood											
LaFayette											
Light of Hope											
Marietta 1st											
Morton Mem.											
Rockmart											
Silver Creek											
Trinity											

Updated 6/1/17

## 2017 Unified and Per Capita Pledges Received/Paid

Church	Membership/ Attendance	Unified Pledged	Per Capita Pledged	Unified Received	Per Capita Received
Acworth	69/-			610.00	690.00
Beersheba	47/28			600.00	470.00
Bethany				2,400.00	.00
Brazilian Christian	77/			250.00	250.00
Calhoun	159/-	100.00		400.00	530.00
Cartersville First	611/177			13,666.65	8,000.00
Cedartown	90/-			416.73	358.75
Chickamauga	60/-	900.00	600.00	900.00	600.00
Christ Fellowship	27/25			200.00	.00
Cohutta	28/18			600.00	280.00
Covenant	205/106	10,000.00	2,050.00	4,166.65	854.15
Dalton First	114/63			2,666.68	.00
Deer Creek Shores	96/62	3,000.00	960.00	2,250.00	735.56
Faith Canton	75/-			.00	.00
Faith North Georgia	108/78			1,500.00	540.00
Grace	116/74			3,548.14	
Heritage	375/170			200.00	625.00
John Knox	111/-			.00	.00
Kirkwood	159/90	6,000.00		2,500.00	662.50
LaFayette	21/21			3,000.00	.00
Light of Hope	110/81	12,314.00		5,132.00	466.00
Macland	243/117			.00	1,215.00
Marietta First	1843/602			7,482.09	.00
Morton Memorial	32/-			.00	320.00
Ray-Thomas Memorial	148/35			.00	702.40
Rockmart	89/50	6,500.00		3,250.00	383.50
Silver Creek	48/26	2,200.00		.00	.00
Trinity	37/			.00	725.94
Westminster	231/109	5,000.00		2,081.00	.00
Woodstock	25/26			.00	.00
Miscellaneous Receipts				235.00	
<b>Totals 5/31/17</b>		<b>46,014.00</b>	<b>3,610.00</b>	<b>58,054.94</b>	<b>18,408.80</b>

Christ Fellowship 200.00, Rockmart 1,625.00, Westminster 417.00 received in 2017 for 2016, Deer Creek 1500.00, Grace 1626.89 for 2016 rec in 2017  
 Cartersville 9000.00 for 2016 rec. in 2017

P&L 05/31/17	<u>Jan - May 17</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
44009 · Budgeted Receipts	60,328.45
47000 · CRC Income	<u>4,900.00</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>65,228.45</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	65,228.45
<b>Expense</b>	
51300 · Misc. Presbytery Expense	3,898.40
56217 · Consult Fee/Expense Contingency	1,963.60
51216 · Pby Office Operating Expense	10,314.09
56900 · Permanent Judicial Commission	37.94
52201 · Desig/ Cap/ Debt	843.56
51000 · Salaries & Benefits	41,119.82
54105 · Committee on Ministry	142.77
54505 · Committee on Prep for Ministry	47.78
57000 · CRC Expense	14,041.95
60001 · Payroll Expenses	<u>36.75</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>72,446.66</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<u>-7,218.21</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>-7,218.21</u></u>

Balance Sheet	<u>May 31, 17</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Checking/Savings	<u>282,764.38</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	282,764.38
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	2,746,820.89
<b>Other Assets</b>	<u>971,376.61</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><u>4,000,961.88</u></u>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
Other Current Liabilities	<u>29.03</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	29.03
<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>	<u>226,597.19</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	226,626.22
<b>Equity</b>	<u>3,774,335.66</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<u><u>4,000,961.88</u></u>

## Joe Evans

Biographical Sketch: The Rev. Joe Evans is a native of Georgia, baptized at Morningside Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, confirmed and nurtured by First Presbyterian Church of Marietta, graduate of Presbyterian College where he earned a B.A. in religion, and Columbia Theological Seminary where he was nominated for the “David HC Reed preacher/scholar award.” He was ordained into the office of Minister of Word and Sacrament at First Presbyterian Church, Marietta GA in March of 2007. From ordination to 2010 Rev. Evans served Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church in Lilburn, GA as Associate Pastor of Mission and Outreach and as Interim Pastor. Beginning in 2011, he has served First Presbyterian Church in Columbia, TN as Senior Pastor.

At Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church Rev. Evans assumed Head of Staff responsibilities in September of 2009 at a time when the church faced a budget deficit of \$200,000. After significant changes in staffing and a dramatic increase in revenue, the deficit was reduced, during the 2009 calendar year 54 new members joined the church, and the fiscal year closed with an \$85,000 surplus.

At First Presbyterian Church in Columbia, TN he served faithfully, following in the footsteps of his predecessor, Dr. Bill Williamson, who served the church for 22 years. From 2011 to 2017, First Presbyterian received over 150 new members, and from 2016 to 2017, tithes jumped by \$70,000.

Rev. Evans served as editor of *Lectionary Homiletics*, contributed to the *Atlanta Journal Constitution*, the *Journal for Preachers*, *The Daily Herald*, as well as *Lectionary Homiletics*, and is a six-time preacher on *Day 1*.

Sense of Call: I first felt the nudge towards ministry as a member of the Youth Group at First Presbyterian Church, Marietta. It was in service, building houses in Mexico, that I felt most alive and most purposeful. As a high school student at the Montreat Youth Conference I heard the Word proclaimed, and it felt like it was directed at me.

All of this I reported to Dr. Jim Speed in 1998. It was his practice to meet with graduating High School Seniors on their way out in to the world. I also told him that I would be attending Presbyterian College where I would major in Religion in preparation for ordained ministry. Dr. Speed looked me in the eye and he said, “Joe, take this decision very seriously. You’re talking about being a part of every person’s most important relationship, between them and their God.” This description of ordained ministry so terrified me I decided to major in History instead. I knew then that there was no way I would ever measure up to such a calling.

However, I felt the call still. The next time was on a subway in New York City, but still I wrestled with the ministry wondering, “Could God really want me?”

This current call to First Marietta means so much to me, mostly because I can’t hide behind a resume. This PNC knows much more about me than what’s printed on my PIF or what they’ve heard in recorded sermons. This church knows who I truly am. They knew me as a confirmand who spent more meetings behind the church at the railroad tracks than in the actual building. They knew me as a high school student who wandered from the fold. They have watched me grow, and yet they call me anyway.

I feel so affirmed in my ministry because this church has called me. And, knowing this church’s history, I hope and pray that I can be a steady leader, bridging divides, and representing the love of God to them as they have to me.

### Statement of Faith

I believe that the Triune God who created this earth has been and is still present in the workings of this earth today. I believe that God's desire to be present in this earth and for God's created people is best evidenced in the fully human, fully God, Jesus Christ who died for my sins and for the sins of all people. To use the words of John Calvin: by the power of the Holy Spirit, we have been "effectually united" to Jesus Christ, and we may therefore look forward to the glory of life eternal.

I believe that the Bible testifies to the truth of our God, the one who delivered the Hebrew people from slavery in Egypt, made them a covenant people and brought them into the land. We are heirs to this covenant, and when we turned away our God called us back by speaking through the prophets. This same God fulfilled the covenant through the incarnation of Christ, his death and resurrection. He is the sure sign that the God of creation has redeemed us and sustains us still by the mighty workings of the Holy Spirit.

As a member of the Reformed Tradition, I believe that it is God, present to us by the power of the Holy Spirit, who is working towards the Kingdom. It is only God who can make the promise of the Kingdom a reality.

It has become a tradition among Reformed theologians to offer two essential characteristics of God. James Cone offers "freedom and righteousness," and Shirley Guthrie offers "freedom and love." The claim that God is always free and always loving is especially important for my personal faith. I have always heard that "God so loved the world that he gave his only son," but to interpret that claim in the light of Guthrie's two essential characteristics helps me to understand that the mighty work of salvation made real through the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ is a gift freely given out of love. This sacrifice was not an obligation, but, above all else, an act of love. Because God is free God was able to live among us in the person of Jesus Christ, and because God is love, I can know that God wanted to live among us in the person of Jesus Christ. This truth is the most powerful piece of knowledge that is in my head and in my heart, and while this radical freedom and radical love still defies my understanding and remains to some degree a mystery, the truth that Jesus Christ lived and died among us shows God's free love for us and deepest desire that we be reconciled and saved.

I believe that we, the Church, created in the image of God, redeemed by Jesus Christ, and sustained by the Holy Spirit, are called to model this kind of freedom and love through our words and deeds. We testify to the truth of the Gospel when we live the life God has called us to, serving each other, lifting each other up, forgiving each other, seeing each other as blessed children of God, and by modeling our lives, not according to the standards of the world, but by the standards of the Kingdom of God.



**First Presbyterian Church of Marietta – Employment At Will Agreement**  
**Church Pastor – Senior Pastor**  
**Rev. Joseph Belton Evans**

**Organizational Placement:**

- Reporting Sequence: Session
- Member of Executive Staff (Head of Staff) and Ad Hoc member of all Councils and Committees
- Immediate Report Supervisor for Pastoral Staff and Executive Staff Directors; indirect reporting of all church employees as Head of Staff

**Compensation and Benefits:**

- **Pension Benefits:** PCUSA Benefits Board retirement
- **Paid Time Away** (annual, non-accruing): Four weeks vacation and three weeks study leave for continuing education, conferences, seminars, etc.
- **Medical/Dental Benefits:** Pastors Participation (family) and Dental PPO (family) provided
- **Reimbursable Expenses:** Annual Maximum, non-accruing of \$10,000 to cover the following areas
  - **Cell Phone:** reimbursement for 1 line voice and data, up to \$1,500 annually
  - **Vehicle:** mileage reimbursement at current IRS rate with documentation
  - **Continuing Education:** Tuition reimbursement for DMin program at Columbia Theological Seminary – 4-year total of \$13,734, plus other appropriate programs, seminars, certifications, subscriptions, publications
  - **Travel Expenses:** travel expenses associated with ministry function
- **Base Salary Compensation:** \$125,000 (Effective Salary)
- **SECA ‘Employer Equivalent’ Match:** 100% Funded for OADSI to annual cap, Medicare on all income
- **Sabbatical:** 3 month sabbatical after 7 years service in call

**“One Time” Compensation at Initial Hiring**

- **Housing:**
  - Reimbursement of Closing Costs on house purchase: up to \$2,500
- **Moving and Interim Expenses:**
  - Moving costs – Columbia to Marietta: actual cost for professional moving services, up to \$10,000
  - Interim Living Expenses during housing transition: up to \$200/day for up to 2 weeks
- **Income Tax Implications:**
  - Increased personal income tax and FICA tax obligations for payment of Closing Cost and Moving/Interim Expenses will be paid by FPC Marietta

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2017

**To: Coordinating Team of Cherokee Presbytery**

**From: Administrative Commission for Providence Presbyterian Church  
Zeta T. Lamberson, Moderator; RE Marlene Michalke;  
RE Peggy Rollins**

The Administrative Commission is pleased to inform the Coordinating Team of Cherokee Presbytery that all matter related to the closing of Providence Presbyterian Church have been finalized.

On February 22, 2017 we received notice from the Secretary of State's office of the State of Georgia that the Corporation had been dissolved.

All minutes and official records have been sent to the Historical society.

All property has been sold, disbursed or disposed of.

All debts have been paid, insurance policies canceled and financial obligations satisfied.

Membership records have been finalized and a final listing of members resides at the presbytery office pending their transfers of membership to other churches.

Therefore the Administrative Commission for Providence Presbyterian Church respectfully requests that Cherokee Presbytery dissolve the Providence Presbytery Administrative Commission.

Respectfully submitted,  
Zeta T. Lamberson

**My Sense of Call**  
Kwasi (Benjamin K. Aye-Addo)

On a beautiful Sunday morning in a town called Obosomase in Ghana, I was told my mother gave birth to a boy named him Kwasi (Benjamin K. Aye-Addo). A few months later, I was baptized in the sanctuary of Obosomase Ebenezer Presbyterian Church. This is where my life and faith journey began and it continues today in the United States of America with Ebenezer Ghanaian Presbyterian Church, a new church development of Cherokee Presbytery of PCUSA, Light of Hope Presbyterian Church and wherever the Lord commissions me to go and make disciples for the church and kingdom. My sense of call, it is my belief is firmly grounded in Matthew 28: 18 – 20.

I was born into a Christian family. The name of my town, Obosomase, literally translates as “under a god.” This is a god that the tribal people of Akuapim in Ghana consulted for strength and protection each time they engaged in war, especially when the Akwamu’s led by their wicked chief subdued all tribes and people in the area in the 1600’s. This suggests that the people of my town cherished this god called kyenku. In this same town is a beautiful stone-faced structure of more than 150 years old built by Presbyterians including my grandparents, and used to worship the Lord our God.

Wherever I have been to school and work, I have always been called to lead; in the church, as well as school, and also among my peers. I often accepted to lead whenever the responsibility fell on me, but I would also sometimes reject to lead when it is about ministry. This is because I felt it was not time for me to be called by the Lord for ministerial assignment and that the appropriate time would come. As Moses, I continuously rejected the call of the Lord to His faithful service.

This inner rejection continued for many years. During those years, attend church services and participated in ministry activities yet, I believed that the Lord had plans for me that would manifest someday in the future.

I moved to the USA in the fall of 2001, soon my wife and children joined me. We worshipped with at a Presbyterian church near where we live. In 2007, my wife discovered a new Ghanaian Presbyterian church in Mableton, GA quite a distance from where we lived. She was full of praise to the Lord that we could finally worship in the Ghanaian way in a faraway land. The distance to this newly discovered church, we agreed to worship at this new church once in a month. Then it became twice in a month and soon, we moved our membership to this new Presbyterian Church in Mableton, GA.

As always, my leadership abilities started manifesting here too. In October of 2009, I was elected to join the leadership/session of this church. At the first meeting of the session, I was elected to be the Clerk of Session. The next day, the husband of the Pastor whom I had replaced as the clerk, was taken ill and was called home to be with the Lord. A few days later, the Pastor decided to return home to Ghana, leaving the church in the hands of the newly elected lay leaders, including me.

This is when it dawned on me that the time had come for me to serve the Lord. I said to myself that this is the call. Since then, I have served the Lord in many ways: administratively, teaching, preaching, and leading. This time I accepted the call of God to ministry. This sense of call, and all the work I have done in ministry this far points to a calling with the responsibility of providing pastoral care, guidance and leadership to the people of God through teaching and

preaching. It is upon this that I desired to seek the Lord, acquire in-depth biblical and theological understanding and spiritual nourishment. I share that my calling is also in the direction of Jeremiah 3: 15 – “Then I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you on knowledge and understanding.” I want to be one such shepherd who will feed the flock with knowledge and understanding.