

MINUTES  
109th Stated Meeting  
PRESBYTERY OF THE SOUTHEAST  
Brainerd Presbyterian Church  
Chattanooga, Tennessee  
January 31 – February 1, 2020

Moderator	TE Bryant Harris	Stated Clerk	TE Bill Dudley
Moderator-Elect	RE Bruce Novkov	Asst to the Stated Clerk	RE Diane Mizell
Parliamentarian	RE Palmer Griffin	Past Moderator/Moderator of Council	RE Palmer Griffin

FRIDAY, January 31, 2020

109-01           CALL TO ORDER by Moderator TE Bryant Harris at 3:00 PM

109-02           WELCOME & WORSHIP – The Moderator welcomed commissioners to Presbytery and called the meeting to order and prayed.

Worship in Praise was led by Margaret Turner, Minister of Music at West Rome United Methodist Church in Rome, Georgia and wife of TE Walter Turner. The Stated Clerk introduced to the court Teaching Elder Matt Christian who was to be examined as the new Associate Pastor at ChristChurch Presbyterian in Dalton, Georgia; the Stated Clerk prayed for TE Christian as he came to lead the Presbytery in a devotional and prayer.

109-03           DECLARATION OF QUORUM – Moderator Harris declared, after consultation with the Stated Clerk, that a quorum was present. The enrollment of commissioners was one of the largest numbers the Presbytery has had.

The attendance record for this meeting was given by the Stated Clerk and is as follows:

<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>TEACHING ELDER</u>	<u>RULING ELDERS PRESENT</u>	
All Souls Fellowship Decatur, GA	Mike St. Denis	Present	Rick Clark Ricky Busby
Bethany Church Kingsport, TN			
Brainerd Church Chattanooga, TN	Dane Deatherage	Present	Bob McEuen Ben Miller Mike Pierce
Buck Hill Church Newland, NC	Jim Hoilman	Present	
Cedar Springs Church Knoxville, TN	Alan Edick Clay Harrington Andrew Keasling Mark Steimer	Present Present Present Excused	Daryl Armentrout Tom Reesor Steve Sayers
Central Church Hyden, KY			Merle Caudill CP William Johnson
ChristChurch Dalton, GA	Eric Geil	Present	Sean Coleman Ruth Lee Hair Jack McPhillips
Church of Redeemer Maryville, TN	David Strunk Ben Ruyack	Present Present	Wm Kenneth Bell
Community Evangelistic Knoxville, TN	Buddy Sexton	Present	Reginald Strong CP Thomas Goode Cora Hill
Community United Wooten Wooten, KY			Greg Whitaker CP
Cornerstone Church Franklin, NC	Tommy Jordan	Present	
Covenant Church Rome, GA	Walter Turner	Present	Jim Arp Gary Cassidy
Crosswalk Church Knoxville, TN	Tim Rogers, Interim	Present	John Carson Courtney Scollard
Eastminster Church Knoxville, TN	Sean White	Present	David Ayliffe
Faith Church McDonough, GA	Jason Minter	Present	
Farner Church Farner, TN	Matthew Atteberry	Present	Kathleen Hearl Rebecca Stone Keith Williamson

First Church Rome, GA	Jeff Chadwick Bill Pardue Jonathan Schwartz	Present Present Present	Bill Brewster Frank Brown Greg Davidson Tony Pemerton Alan Storey
First Church Stanton, KY	Lucas Waters	Present	Troy Brooks Laura Cockrell Dee Robbins
First Church Thomasville, GA	Tim Filston Skylar Adams	Absent Present	Frank Beverly Cullin Hamm Jerry Pionessa Jeanne Thompson Mike B. Jones
Grace Church Franklin, NC	Toby Pope	Present	Chad Boniface David Dennis Don Dewhurst
Greenbriar Church Manchester, KY			
Hope Fellowship Chickamauga, GA	Mark Gregory	Present	
Lookout Valley Church Chattanooga, TN	Grady Davidson	Present	Jeanne Crawford Susan Fryar
Mars Hill Church Acworth, GA	Bryant Harris	Present	Denise Benson Jan Lauer Michelle Marshall
Murphy Church Murphy, NC	Christopher Flick	Present	
New Beginning Spring City, TN	Keith Gallaher, Interim		Harold Knechtal Ron McCabe Linda Richards
New Hope Church Kingsport, TN			Henry Bowman Scott Glover
New Life Gathering Knoxville, TN	Scott Jackson	Present	Bob Bird
Parkway Church Cumming, GA			John Burkhalter Tom Harrell Charles Kicker
Plumtree Church Plumtree, NC			Ryan Bridgeo, CP
Providence Church Hazelwood, NC	Edward Brouwer	Present	Phil Inglis Sam Mitchell

Resurrection Church Chattanooga, TN	Ryan Van Horn	Present	
Signal Mountain Church Signal Mountain, TN	Scott Bowen Margaret Ferguson Andy Cornett Joey Sherrard	Present Excused Present Present	Glenn Baird David Barker Andre Dantzler TW Francescon Marc Funk Jeff Hollingsworth Diane Mizell John Wilson
Trinity Grace Church Loganville, GA	Tully Hunter	Present	Cathy Cutts Steve Rowe Kathy Traylor
Trion Church Trion, GA	Bill Flannagan	Excused	Charles Frady
Valleybrook Church Chattanooga, TN	Tracy Edwards	Present	Gary Buchanan Ben Brychta Ron Bunger
Wilson Station Church Englewood, TN			Jarrod Johnson CP Carolyn Rider
Wooten Presbyterian EPC Wooten, KY			Greg Whitaker CP

OTHER ACTIVES

Bill Dudley	Presbytery Stated Clerk	Present
Will Johnson	Evangelist	Present

ACTIVE – WITHOUT CALL

ARAUJO, Aparecido	Absent
AUSTIN, Michael	Absent
BUSH, Daniel	Absent
HODGE, Robert	Absent
HOLMES, Rick	Absent
LOONEY, Charles	Absent
THALOS, Adel	Present
THOMAS, Michael	Absent
WILSON, Kevin	Absent

ACTIVE -- OUTSIDE BOUNDS

Call approved for a definite period of time. After the expiration of that time, the Minister must receive further approval to continue. If the nature of this call impedes or prevents regular and/or required attendance at Presbytery meetings, the Teaching Elder may be granted the status of Associate Member.

KILGORE, Jim	Absent
LAWRY, Scott	Present
MURREY, Edward	Absent

REESE, Julian	Excused
ROBINSON, Chris	Present
ROGERS, Tim	Present
WOODWORTH, Steven	Excused

RETIRED - ASSOCIATE MEMBER – Non-voting Member

Retired or serving in a capacity outside of bounds of presbytery which may impede or prevent regular and/or required attendance at Presbytery meetings. Must be requested within two years of change of call to status of Associate Member. After two years of being retired, Presbytery may place on Associate roll. Voice and vote given on all committees of Presbytery.

Voice but no vote on Commissions.

Not eligible to serve as officers of the court.

BAKER, Carlton		Absent
CALLAHAN, George		Absent
Retired Inactive	2/6/09	
Associate	2/1/14	
ECHOLS, Charles		Absent
FAIRALL, Craig		Absent
FLANNAGAN, Bill		Excused
Retired	5/1/07	
GALLAGHER, Keith		Present
Retired		
HALEY, Pam		Absent
Retired	10/6/12	
HARRIS, Sam		Absent
Retired	5/4/02	
Associate	10/2/15	
HOFFMAN, Dave		Absent
HORTON, Michael		Absent
Retired	2/5/16	
JENNINGS, William		Absent
Retired	10/1/11	
JONES, Steve		Absent
Retired	1/1/06	
KEYSER, David		Absent
Retired	2/03	
RAGON, Ronald		Absent
Retired		
RISER, Steve		Absent
Retired	10/1/11	
SCHUSSLER, Richard		Absent
Retired		
SMITH, H. Andrew		Absent
Retired		
SWAFFORD, Bill	5/19	Absent
WALLACE, Allen		Absent
WARE, Cobb		Absent
Retired	5/7/11	
Kirk Werner		Absent
Retired	5/19	
WILDSMITH, Alan		Absent
Retired	5/17	
WOOD, John		Absent
Retired		
ZINN, Roy		Absent
Retired	9/30/11	

CANDIDATES UNDER CARE

BRIEN, Esme	Signal Mountain Church, TN	Present
BRIERE, Maurice	Crosswalk Church/Knoxville, TN	Absent
BULLARD, Matthew	Parkway Church/Cumming, GA	Present
DAVIS, Rob	First Church/Rome, GA	Absent
GLOVER, Scott	New Hope Church/Kingsport, TN	Present
LATHAM, James	Signal Mountain Church, TN	Absent
MACERE, John	All Souls Church, Decatur, GA	Present
WALKER, Sonny	First Church/Rome, GA	Absent
WHITESCARVER, Adam	Hope Fellowship, Chickamauga, GA	Present

OBSERVERS

Brainerd/Chattanooga	Carole Baker Paul Baker Linda Johnson RE Charles Miller Deborah Miller Katheryne McEuen John Perry Lenora Perry
Central/Hyden ChristChurch/Dalton	Carolyn Johnson Bob Bethel Jim Bethel Rachel Cobb Ryan Cobb Jackie Edwards Terry Edwards Palmer Griffin Elizabeth Nickles Mike O'Neill David Snyder
Community Evangelistic/Knoxville Cornerstone/Franklin	Frank Hill Camille Jordan Karen Jordan Tommy Jordan, Jr
Covenant/Rome	Jan Cassidy Margaret Turner
Eastminster/Knoxville Grace/Franklin	Kathy Hastings Sandra Dennis Caitlin Lambert Jennifer Pope
New Hope/Kingsport	Judy Bowman Tiffany Glover
Parkway Church/Cumming	Janet Barnett Martha Burkhalter Nanette Kicker RE Joe Negley RE Bill Saville

Providence Church/Waynesville	Glenda Brouwer Renee Mitchell
Signal Mountain Church	Jennifer Agan Bruce Novkov, Moderator-Elect Donna Peterson
Trinity Grace/Loganville	Norma Billingsley Ann Hunter
Trion Church Valleybrook/Chattanooga	Kathleen Frady Cindy Edwards Jeff Nalley Mary Nalley

**OTHERS**

Ray Cobb	ECO denomination
Diane Cobb	ECO denomination
Leonce Crump, Jr	Renovation Church/Atlanta
Breanna Crump	Renovation Church/Atlanta
Dan Pinckney	Presbytery of East, EPC
Shawn Stewart	World Outreach EPC
Phil Thrash	World Outreach EPC
Thomas Davis	World Outreach EPC
Nathaniel Davis	World Outreach EPC

109-04

**APPROVAL OF DOCKET – ORDER OF THE DAY**

The Moderator presented the docket noting the Order of the Day for prayer. The Moderator asked for any amendments to the docket; there were none.

MOTION - To adopt the docket

Seconded

**APPROVED**

109-05

**INTRODUCTIONS –** Moderator Harris welcomed on behalf of the Presbytery a number of guests, among them staff from World Outreach EPC. Leonce Crump and his wife, Breanna, were welcomed from Renovation Church in Atlanta. TE Eric Geil introduced to the court guests with ChristChurch, Dalton: TE Ray Cobb and his wife, Diane, from the ECO denomination and parents of Ryan Cobb to be examined as a Candidate. Various pastors introduced Ruling Elder Commissioners who were attending Presbytery for the first time.

Welcome was extended to the Presbytery by TE Dane Deatherage of the Host Church, Brainerd Presbyterian Church.

109-06

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES for 108th Stated Meeting**

Moderator Harris entertained corrections or additions to the printed and distributed minutes. Three ruling elder commissioners failed to register but were present at the 108<sup>th</sup> meeting. This correction was so noted.

MOTION: That the Minutes of the 108th Presbytery be approved as amended.

Seconded.

**APPROVED**

109-07 SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THANKS  
Moderator Harris appointed TE Walter Turner and RE Jim Arp from Covenant Church, Rome to serve as this special committee.

109-08 REPORT OF PRESBYTERY COUNCIL – RE Palmer Griffin  
RE Griffin opened his report with prayer.

APPOINTMENT – Ruling Elder Griffin appointed TE Tommy Jordan to serve as his replacement as Parliamentarian for the Presbytery Council report.

INFORMATION – Presbytery Council approved the 2020 Committees as presented in the attachment to the docket.

INFORMATION – Presbytery Council agreed with the Stated Clerk on the Parity of each congregation being given one additional Ruling Elder for each meeting.

#### PERSONNEL REVIEW

MOTION – To approve upon recommendation from Presbytery Council a 2% increase in 2020 base pay (over base pay 2019) for the Stated Clerk and Assistant to the Stated Clerk and Treasurer.

This is retroactive to January 1, 2020 and is included in the 2020 operating budget. This recommendation was stated at the 108<sup>th</sup> meeting but was not acted upon with vote. This action will clarify the matter for our payroll company and auditors.

Motion

APPROVED

#### PROJECT 2028

The Project 2028 Partnership for Church Planting was introduced at the 108<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Project 2028 proposal team accepted feedback from presbyters and made points for clarity at the 108<sup>th</sup> meeting. Questions and feedback have been accepted by the Project 2028 proposal team between the 108<sup>th</sup> meeting and today. The revised Standing Rules of Project 2028 Partnership were distributed electronically on January 16, 2020 to all TEs and Clerks of Session.

MOTION – To approve the “Project 2028 Church Planting Partnership Standing Rules” as distributed with the docket packet for the 109<sup>th</sup> meeting. (Attachment)

After discussion by the court the following amendment was made to this original motion.

AMENDMENT was made by TE Tully Hunter as follows:

That the Project 2028 Church Planting Partnership Standing Rules be amended in The following fashion:

1. Section 1.3 Geographical Area:
  - a. Delete sentence 2
2. Section 1.5 Membership and Decision-making Partnership:



- a. Delete paragraphs 2 and 3
  - b. Refer paragraph one (1) to the Church Planning and Receiving Committee for the purpose of removing any financial requirement for full participation in Project 2028 membership and to submit to Presbytery for approval or disapproval a plan for membership in Project 2028 based on the geographical diversity of the presbytery, with equal consideration given to membership in Project 2028 from the urban, suburban, and rural areas of our Presbytery and the four states contained within the borders of our Presbytery.
3. Section 3.4.1 Giving to Project 2028:
- a. Paragraph one (1) delete sentences 1,2, and 4
  - b. Delete paragraphs two (2) and three (3)
4. Section 6.0 Relationship with the Presbytery of the Southeast:
- a. Sentence two (2) will end with the phrase “with the approval of the POSE.”
  - b. Subheading 1 shall read: “Notify the Church Planting and Receiving (CPR) Committee as a new church plant is being seriously contemplated, consult with any sessions of other EPC churches within twenty (20) miles of the proposed target area, and receive permission of the POSE before establishing a church plant.”

AMENDMENT was seconded.

Following extensive discussion on the amendment and its implications,  
MOTION to table the amendment till Saturday morning.

Motion to table was seconded and

APPROVED

109-09

MINISTERIAL CARE COMMITTEE - TE Bill Pardue/TE Grady Davidson  
The chairman, Bill Pardue, led in prayer as he began his report.

CANDIDATE UNDER CARE EXAMINATION – Ryan Cobb

Home Church – ChristChurch, Dalton, GA

Endorsement of Session – Yes

Educational Credentials

King University, Bristol, TN – BA Youth Ministry  
Seminary – Gordon Conwell Seminary/Charlotte

Experience of saving grace of God in Jesus Christ and progress in spiritual growth (G.12-2B)

Motive for seeking Ordination and call to ministry

Ryan shared his personal testimony of faith and his motive and discernment for seeking ordination and his call to ministry.

Questions for Candidate – The Moderator presented the standard questions for Candidacy from the Book of Order. Ryan answered all in the affirmative.

MOTION – To approve the examination of and reception of Ryan Cobb as a Candidate for Ministry in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church

MOTION was seconded and APPROVED

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Moderator invited ChristChurch members and commissioners close to Ryan to come alongside him as prayer was offered by his father, The Reverend Ray Cobb, TE in the ECO denomination.

#### Charge

A charge was given to the candidate by TE Scott Bowen.

- 109-10 Memorial Remembrance of TE Ronald Ragon  
A legend within the EPC and especially within our Presbytery has been TE Ronald Ragon who died on December 10, 2019 after an abundant life of servanthood in the Lord's Church. He served the Brainerd Church for thirty-five years. TE Jonathan Schwartz paid tribute to Ron's life and ministry and led in prayer for Ron's family. Attending the Presbytery meeting for this remembrance was Ron's wife, Judi, and their daughter, Gina.
- 109-11 ORDER OF DAY – Prayer Ministry was led by TE Matthew Atteberry.
- 109-12 RECESS for Supper was declared at 5:45 PM.
- 109-13 EVENING WORSHIP and THE LORD'S SUPPER  
The Presbytery gathered again in the sanctuary of Brainerd Church for evening worship. TE presided Dane Deatherage at the service. TE Steven Good, who is being called to All Souls Fellowship in Decatur, Georgia and was to be examined on Saturday by Presbytery, preached the sermon for the service. Central to the service was the celebration of the Lord's Supper by the host pastor and the ruling elders of Brainerd Church.

#### SATURDAY, February 1, 2020

- 109-14 The meeting was called to order again on Saturday morning at 8:30 AM by Moderator Bryant Harris. He opened with prayer.
- The Moderator presented as our preacher for the morning TE Jay Miller candidate for Pastor at Parkway Church in Cumming, GA and a member of Savannah River Presbytery of the PCA led the devotional from I Corinthians 4:1-5.

109-15

Ministerial Care Committee – TE Bill Pardue  
The chairman led in prayer as he began his report.

EXAMINATION – TE from ANOTHER REFORMED BODY

TE Matthew S. (Matt) Christian from Metro Atlanta Presbytery (PCA – Presbyterian Church in America) was presented by the Committee to be examined and received as Associate Pastor at ChristChurch in Dalton, GA.

Present Ministry is at All Souls Fellowship, Decatur, GA

Educational Credentials:

University of South Carolina  
Covenant College – BA in Psychology

Seminary – MDiv - Covenant Theological Seminary (PCA) St.Louis

Experience of saving grace of God in Jesus Christ and progress in Spiritual growth (G.12-2B) Matt shared his personal testimony of faith in Jesus Christ as his Savior and Lord and his divine call to ministry.

Examination (oral) was presented by Chairman Pardue. He reminded the court with transfers from other reformed bodies the examination may be on both Views and Knowledge. TE Christian was examined on the following categories:

Theology and Sacraments  
English Bible  
Book of Order  
Reformed Tradition  
Nature of the office of Teaching Elder (G.3.A; 12-2C)

Acceptance of Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms (G.12-4) was affirmed by Matt with one exception

Acceptance of *The Essentials of the EPC* was affirmed.

Installation Questions from the Book of Order were presented by the Moderator and all were answered in the affirmative.

MOTION – To sustain the examination as a whole and receive TE Matt Christian as a member of the Presbytery of the Southeast pending his installation.

Motion seconded and

APPROVED

Primary Assigned Responsibilities of Calling Church (G-10-5) were presented to the Ministerial Committee.

Terms of Call were presented to the Ministerial Committee by ChristChurch.

MOTION – To approve the terms of call as presented and agreed upon by ChristChurch Presbyterian, Dalton, GA and the ministry description as presented to the Ministerial Committee.

Motion seconded and

APPROVED

#### Commission to Install

MOTION – To approve the following Commission to Install TE Matt Christian as Associate Pastor of ChristChurch Presbyterian, Dalton, GA on Sunday, February 23, 2020 with the following members of Presbytery serving:

1. TE William Dudley, Chairman
2. TE Eric Geil
3. TE Bill Pardue
4. RE Glenn Baird
5. RE Celeste Creswell
6. RE Tom Johnson
7. RE Joe Negley
8. RE Phyllis Spahn

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Moderator invited ChristChurch members and commissioners close to Matt to come alongside him as prayer was offered by TE Chris Flick.

#### EXAMINATION – TE from ANOTHER REFORMED BODY

TE Steven M. Good from Presbytery of Southern California (ECO denomination) was presented by the Committee to be examined and received as Pastor of All Souls Fellowship in Decatur, GA.

Present Ministry is at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church (ECO) in Newport Beach, CA as Associate Pastor for Discipleship

#### Educational Credentials:

BA degree - California State University at Bakersfield, CA

Seminary – MDiv – Princeton Theological Seminary  
DMin – Fuller Theological Seminary

Experience of saving grace of God in Jesus Christ and progress in spiritual growth (G.12-2B) Steven shared his personal testimony of faith in Jesus Christ as his Savior and Lord and his divine call to ministry.

Examination (oral) was presented by Chairman Pardue. He reminded the court with transfers from other reformed bodies the examination may be on both Views and Knowledge. TE Good was examined on the following categories:

Theology and Sacraments  
English Bible  
Book of Order  
Reformed Tradition  
Nature of the office of Teaching Elder (G.3.A; 12-2C)

Acceptance of Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms (G.12-4) was affirmed by Steven

Acceptance of *The Essentials of the EPC* was affirmed.

Installation Questions from the Book of Order were presented by the Moderator and all were answered in the affirmative.

MOTION – To sustain the examination as a whole and receive TE Steven Good as a member of the Presbytery of the Southeast pending his installation. Motion seconded and APPROVED

Terms of Call were presented to the Ministerial Committee by All Souls.

MOTION – To approve the terms of call as presented and agreed upon by All Souls Fellowship, Decatur GA and presented to the Ministerial Committee. Motion seconded and APPROVED

Commission to Install

MOTION – To approve the following Commission to Install TE Steven M. Good as Pastor of All Souls Fellowship, Decatur, GA on Sunday, April 26, 2020 with the following members of Presbytery serving:

- |                                |                      |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. TE William Dudley, Chairman | 3. RE Rick Clark     |
| 2. TE Matt Christian           | 4. RE Palmer Griffin |
|                                | 5. RE Amrah Johnson  |
|                                | 6. RE Diane Mizell   |
|                                | 7. RE Steve Rowe     |

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Moderator invited All Souls members and commissioners close to Steven to come along him as prayer was offered by TE Will Johnson.

EXAMINATION – TE from ANOTHER REFORMED BODY

TE John W. (Jay) Miller from Savannah Presbytery (PCA – Presbyterian Church In America) was presented by the Committee to be examined and received as Pastor of Parkway Church in Cumming, GA.

Present Ministry is at Redeemer Church (PCA) in Evans, GA.

Educational Credentials:

BS degree – Florida State University

Seminary – MDiv - Erskine Theological Seminary (ARP) Due West, SC

Acceptance of Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms (G.12-4) was affirmed by Jay.

Acceptance of *The Essentials of the EPC* was affirmed.

Experience of saving grace of God in Jesus Christ and progress in spiritual growth (G.12-2B) Jay shared his personal testimony of faith in Jesus Christ as his Savior and Lord and his divine call to ministry.

Examination (oral) was presented by Chairman Pardue. He reminded the court with transfers from other reformed bodies the examination may be on both Views and Knowledge. TE Miller was examined on the following categories:

- Theology and Sacraments
- English Bible
- Book of Order
- Reformed Tradition
- Nature of the office of Teaching Elder (G.3.A; 12-2C)

Installation Questions from the Book of Order were presented by the Moderator and all were answered in the affirmative.

MOTION – To sustain the examination as a whole and receive TE John (Jay) Miller as a member of the Presbytery of the Southeast pending his installation.  
Motion seconded and APPROVED

Terms of Call were presented to the Ministerial Committee by Parkway Church.

MOTION – To approve the terms of call as presented and agreed upon by Parkway Presbyterian Church in Cumming, GA as presented to the Ministerial Committee.  
Motion seconded and APPROVED

#### Commission to Install

MOTION – To approve the following Commission to Install TE John (Jay) Miller as Pastor of Parkway Presbyterian Church in Cumming, GA on Sunday, March 22, 2020 with the following members of Presbytery serving:

- |                                 |                    |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. TE Andrew Keasling, Chairman | 4. RE Karen Bryant |
| 2. TE Jonathan Schwartz         | 5. RE Mike Jones   |
| 3. TE Bill Pardue               | 6. RE Joe Negley   |
|                                 | 7. RE Bill Saville |

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Moderator invited Parkway Church members and commissioners close to Jay to come alongside him as prayer was offered by TE Bryant Harris.

#### EXCUSED ABSENCES

MOTION – To approve the following Teaching Elders as Excused for this Presbytery meeting: Margaret Ferguson, Bill Flannagan, Julian Reese, Mark Steimer, and Steven Woodworth.

109-16

REPORT OF PRESBYTERY COUNCIL – RE Palmer Griffin

MOTION – To remove from the table the matters related to Project 2028 previously tabled from the Friday afternoon docket.

Motion to remove, seconded and  
The chairman led in prayer.

APPROVED

The original motion and the amendment noted in section 109-08 from Friday's docket was in consideration again.

After additional discussion, the following action was taken:

MOTION – To call the question on the amendment to the Project 2028 Standing Rules

Motion was seconded and by voice vote was

APPROVED

MOTION to Amend the Project 2028 Standing Rules, as recorded in section 109-08 of these minutes, was by standing vote of the court.

DEFEATED

ORIGINAL MOTION as noted in section 109-08 by standing vote of the court was

APPROVED

MOTION – To approve creating Project 2028 as an Administrative Commission of the Presbytery of the Southeast for the purpose of carrying out the work of church planting on behalf of the Presbytery and its mandate to establish local churches.

This commission will have the powers to:

Invite POSE churches and develop partnership with them;

Seek and raise funds from churches and prepare budgets for and disbursement of those funds from the Church Development Fund (Project 2028 Fund) of Presbytery;

Establish a residency training program in local churches;

Hire church planting residents as employees of the Presbytery;

Recruit Church Planters and develop Church Plant projects;

Oversee the work of Presbytery-called Church Planters;

Revise the Standing Rules of Project 2028 under guidelines in Standing Rule 7.0.

This commission is not permanent (subject to Presbytery By-Laws Article VIII-A.2) And is initially established to run for eight (8) years through December 31, 2028 (or earlier if the Presbytery deems the task complete). It is subject to annual Review by the Presbytery, and its formal membership will be approved annually

by the Presbytery. This Commission will make an annual written report of its actions which then shall be inserted in the minutes of the Presbytery and be regarded as the actions of the court itself.

Motion was followed by a voice vote to

APPROVED

MOTION – To name the members of the Project 2028 Commission.

TE Andy Cornett – Signal Mountain Church

TE Will Johnson – Mercy Underground

TE Dave Strunk – Church of the Redeemer

TE Ryan Van Horn – Resurrection

RE Ken Bell – Church of the Redeemer

RE Bob Bethel – ChristChurch

RE Piers van der Merwe – Cedar Springs

And to appoint the Presbytery Treasurer as an Ex Officio and non-voting Member of the Commission.

Members will be approved for Project 2028 annually per Standing Rule 6.0. Additional elders will be presented for approval at future presbytery meetings (BO 21-1-C.2)

Motion by a voice vote was

APPROVED

109-17

REPORT OF STATED CLERK – TE Bill Dudley

The Clerk opened his report with prayer.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY DESCENDING OVERTURES 19-A and 19-B were presented by the Clerk. Copies of this overture have been sent to all TEs and has been available on the EPC website. First reading was at the 108<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting. According to Presbytery By-Laws the overtures of General Assembly are to be presented by the Past Moderator/ Chairman of Presbytery Council. That is RE Palmer Griffin.

Mr. Griffin presented the overtures to the court and capsuled their Intent.

The Presbytery vote was called for and tellers counted and reported the following results:

Overture 19-A which addresses the examination of candidates for ordination the vote was 75 in favor and 0 opposed; and

Overture 19-B which makes the Book of Order explicit that the office of “co-pastor” is not constitutional, the vote was 75 in favor and 1 opposed.

These votes will be recorded and sent to the General Assembly office.

CHURCH NAME CHANGE



The Clerk reported that Community United Wooten Church in Wooten, KY has filed with the state of Kentucky for a change of their name to: Wooten Presbyterian Church EPC of Wooten, KY.

**PRESBYTERY HOSTS**

The 110<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting (May 1-2, 2020) originally scheduled for First Church In Thomasville, GA will now meet at Faith Presbyterian in McDonough, GA.

The 111<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting (October 2-3, 2020) will be hosted by Signal Mountain Church in Signal Mountain, TN, and

The 112<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting (February 5-6, 2021) will be hosted by First Presbyterian in Thomasville, GA.

109-18 REPORT OF ASSISTANT/STATED CLERK – RE Diane Mizell  
No report

109-19 REPORT OF TREASURER – RE Diane Mizell  
RE Mizell opened her report with prayer.

**2019 FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Presbytery began the new year in healthy financial condition, but Faith Commitments have been slow to arrive. Churches were encouraged to submit those since the Presbytery budget is faith-based only.

The December 31, 2019 account balances for two bank accounts were:

Operating Fund	207,962.63	
Designated Funds	- 9,324.64	Church Courts Attendance Scholarships
	<hr/>	
	198,637.99	
Church Development Fund	120,993.74	
Designated Funds	- 7,675.57	Church Health & Growth
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>311,956.06</b>	

Church Receipts and Financial Summary report are attached for review of committee balances and church receipts as of December 31,2019.

A number of 2019 pledges arrived in January, 2020, so those received at that time are not reflected in the financial report dated December 31,2019. With those included, receipts came within \$800 of pledged amounts.

Each church should have received their 2019 Faith Giving Statement. This statement should be used to fill out the EPC Annual Church Report.

With approval of Project 2028, going forward, any designated funds not directly related to church planting will be listed under the Operating account.

The 2020 Budget was presented for second reading and was found as an

Attachment to the docket. One amended line was noted for Church Health and Growth Committee to increase Sustentation to \$10,000.

MOTION – To approve the 2020 budget with one change as presented.

Motion seconded and

APPROVED

The Friday Evening Worship Service offering totaled \$862.

109-20

REVIEW/SESSION MINUTES COMMITTEE – RE Tom Harrell

RE Harrell opened his report with prayer.

#### CHURCHES NOT RESPONDING

The following churches have not provided Session minutes for review at this meeting: Hope Fellowship, New Hope, Cornerstone, Central, Crosswalk Community, and Eastminster.

The committee has sent correspondence to these churches.

109-21

EVANGELISM/OUTREACH COMMITTEE – TE Jeff Chadwick

The chairman opened his report with prayer.

#### WORLD OUTREACH HOME TEAM

TE Chadwick introduced guest speaker, Thomas Davis, the newest member of the World Outreach Home Team. Thomas reported that after serving on the field in Indonesia and serving as Executive Pastor of an EPC church in North Carolina, he has been called to be the World Outreach liaison with Presbyteries and churches, primarily in the area of resourcing and mobilizing the presbyteries through Engage 2025 home teams, to participate with World Outreach in the goal of planting the Church among an unreached people group. His work also will involve resourcing local churches in their cross-cultural mission and vision, while also returning periodically to Indonesia to continue the work he and his family were, and continue to be, engaged in there.

The chairman also recognized that World Outreach was partnering with us at the Presbytery meeting to run a parallel “Encounter World Outreach” track, the first one held in our Presbytery. Helping to lead that were guests: Jason Dunn, Assistant Director of World Outreach; Shawn Steward, World Outreach Mobilization Coordinator; Phil Thrash, WO Eastern Region Missions Associate; and Sean McKelvey, World Outreach missionary to Indonesia, who is now living in Chattanooga for a time. Each of these folks was introduced to the Presbytery as we convened.

The chairman also drew out attention to the fact that TE Edward Brouwer who serves on this committee is prayerfully considering being the point person in our Presbytery with World Outreach’s Engage 2025 efforts, and to help our Presbytery mobilize toward the goal of adopting a people group and sending and supporting a team to plant the Church among them.

This committee will report at the next meeting about some local outreach initiatives, as well as plans for partnership with our WO missionary, TE Steve Woodworth with ITEN.

109-22

#### CHURCH HEALTH/GROWTH COMMITTEE – RE Palmer Griffin

The chairman opened his report with prayer.

#### PASTORAL CALLS

Quarterly a member of this committee will contact the pastor or key leader in each church for a conversation. The committee member will have a script to lead them through a conversation on the health of the church, to be a listening ear, to pray as a fellow presbyter for the church, and to pray for specific needs of/for the church, as well as joys and celebrations.

#### “DID YOU KNOW?”

This committee is initiating a quarterly publication called “Did You Know?” with news from the Presbytery. The lead-in will be an update from each presbytery or General Assembly meeting, plus “Did You Know?” information provided by churches. This could include from each church: church news, adult baptisms, confirmation classes, births, deaths, marriages, installations, retirements, advanced degrees earned, as well as personal joys and sorrows of TEs and Res. The publication will be distributed electronically after each presbytery meeting and the General Assembly.

#### CHURCH SUPPORT

Our committee offers resources and support for churches.

Financial grants will be available for short-term growth needs – materials, personnel, ways to help in growth and/or vitality. Contact Palmer Griffin for information or an application form.

Conversations with church Sessions and Moderators will be facilitated on the following matters in a less threatening manner: brainstorming church growth, succession discussions, or conflict resolution with fellow elders. Such meetings could occur Saturday mornings, Sunday afternoons, weekdays or evenings. The only requirement for a church is the meeting space with set-up of tables, chairs, and whiteboard, and a meal perhaps.

#### REACHING CHURCH VISITORS

In 2019 Moderator Palmer Griffin visited each of our 37 churches. He has developed a list of observations and suggestions for reaching visitors. This document is not research-based but is simply observations from a fellow elder. Hopefully these nuggets of information would be helpful as churches prepare to receive and reach out to visitors and guests. If anyone would like a copy of this list of suggestions, please contact Palmer Griffin.

109-23

#### CHURCH PLANTING/RECEIVING COMMITTEE – TE Mark Gregory

No REPORT

109-24 OLD BUSINESS  
No items were submitted.

109-25 NEW BUSINESS  
No items were submitted.

109-26 REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON THANKS  
TE Walter Turner and RE Jim Arp presented their recommendation of thanks in a creative, antiphonal prayer in which they expressed appreciation for our host, Brainerd Church, and for Presbytery leaders and pastors received and for the many churches of the Presbytery.  
MOTION – To adopt this expression of thanks. APPROVED

109-27 ADJOURNMENT  
MOTION to adjourn. Seconded APPROVED

Closing prayer was given by RE Bruce Novkov, Moderator-Elect at 11:35 AM.

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TE Bryant Harris, Moderator

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TE William Dudley, Stated Clerk

# ATTACHMENT 1

## PRESBYTERY COMMITTEES – 2020

### MINISTERIAL CARE

(12 members: 6 RE/6 TE in 3 classes)

#### CLASS/2020

#### CLASS/2021

#### CLASS/2022

TE Adel Thalos (2)  
Minister W/O Call

TE Bill Pardue (1) \*\*  
First, Rome, GA

TE Grady Davidson (2)  
Lookout Valley, Chattanooga, TN

TE Buddy Sexton (1)  
Community Evangelistic, Knoxville, TN

TE Andrew Keasling (1)  
Cedar Springs, Knoxville, TN

TE Tim Rogers (1)  
Crosswalk Community, Knoxville, TN

RE Ben Brychta (2)  
Valleybrook, Hixson, TN

RE David Dennis (1)  
Grace, Franklin, NC

RE Celeste Creswell (2)  
ChristChurch, Dalton, GA

RE Phil Inglis (2)  
Providence, Hazelwood, NC

RE Tony Pemerton (1)  
First, Rome, GA

RE Bruce Novkov (2)  
Signal Mountain, TN

### EVANGELISM & OUTREACH

(9 members in 3 classes with 6 RE and 3TE)

#### CLASS/2020

#### CLASS/2021

#### CLASS/2022

TE Jeff Chadwick (1)\*\*  
First, Rome, GA

TE Chris Flick (1)  
Murphy, NC

TE Edward Brouwer (2)  
Providence, Hazelwood, NC

RE Nelray Lilly (1)  
First, Thomasville, GA

RE Cora Hill (1)  
Community Evangelistic, Knoxville, TN

RE Kathleen Hearl (2)  
Farner, NC

RE

RE Harvey Wages (2)  
ChristChurch, Dalton, GA

RE

### CHURCH HEALTH & GROWTH

(9 members in 3 classes)

#### CLASS/2020

#### CLASS/2021

#### CLASS/2022

TE Mark Steimer (1)  
Cedar Springs, Knoxville, TN

TE Alan Edick (1)  
Cedar Springs, Knoxville, TN

TE

RE Tom Reesor (1)  
Cedar Springs, Knoxville, TN

RE Allen Hawkins (1)  
Faith, Loganville, GA

RE Bob McEuen (2)  
Brainerd, Chattanooga, TN

RE Mike Jones (1)  
First, Thomasville, GA

RE Ryan Bridgeo (2)  
Plumtree, NC

RE Palmer Griffin (1)  
ChristChurch, Dalton, GA

**CHURCH PLANTING-RECEIVING**  
**CLASS/2020**

TE Joey Sherrard (1)  
Signal Mountain, TN

RE Craig Fowler (1)  
Hope Fellowship, Chickamauga, GA

RE

(9 members in 3 classes)  
**CLASS/2021**

TE Eric Geil (1)  
ChristChurch, Dalton, GA

RE Thomas Goode (2)  
Community Evangelistic, Knoxville, TN

RE

**CLASS/2022**

TE Mark Gregory (2)  
Hope Fellowship, Chickamauga, GA

RE Doug Gregory (1)  
Signal Mountain, TN

RE

**RECORDS & SESSION MINUTES**  
**CLASS/2020**

TE Keith Gallagher (1)  
Retired

RE David Snyder (1)  
ChristChurch, Dalton, GA

RE Alan Storey (2)  
First, Rome, GA

(6 members in 2 classes – no term restriction)  
**CLASS/2021**

TE Tommy Jordan  
Cornerstone, Franklin, NC

RE Tom Harrell (3)  
Parkway, Cumming, GA

RE Susan Fryar (1)  
Lookout Valley, Chattanooga, TN

**TRUSTEES**

**CLASS/2020**  
RE John Graham  
First, Rome, GA

(with Moderator, Stated Clerk, and Treasurer)  
**CLASS/2021**

RE Jim Bethel  
ChristChurch, Dalton, GA

**CLASS/2022**  
RE Powell Jones  
First, Thomasville, GA

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION – Project 2028**

TE Andy Cornett  
TE Will Johnson  
TE Dave Strunk  
TE Ryan Van Horn

Signal Mountain Church, Signal Mountain  
Mercy Underground Fellowship, Atlanta  
Church of the Redeemer, Maryville  
Resurrection Church, Chattanooga

RE Ken Bell  
RE Bob Bethel  
RE Piers van der Merwe

Church of the Redeemer, Maryville  
ChristChurch, Dalton  
Cedar Springs Church, Knoxville

RE Diane Mizell

Presbytery Treasurer, Ex Officio

**MODERATOR**

TE Bryant Harris

**MODERATOR-ELECT**

RE Bruce Novkov

**PAST MODERATOR**

RE Palmer Griffin

ATTACHMENT 2 & 3

Proposed 2020 Budget		2019	2020
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		174,000.00	160,000.00
Church & transfer of Ch. Dev. Receipts		31,000.00	N/A
		205,000.00	160,000.00
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
Benevolences	EPC Gen Assembly	10,000.00	10,000.00
	Special Projects	TBD	TBD
	Ch.Dev. distributions	6,000.00	designated
Officers	St. Clerk Travel	6,000.00	6,000.00
	Asst. Stated Clerk travel	3,000.00	3,000.00
	Moderator Travel	3,000.00	3,000.00
	Commisssions	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Gen Oper	5,000.00	5,000.00
	Webmaster	2,500.00	2,500.00
	Web Maint.	500.00	500.00
	Leadershp	2,500.00	2,500.00
	St Clerk Salary	46,200.00	47,124.00
	Asst. SC /Tres. salary	22,856.40	23,313.55
	PSE Tax Liability	5,500.00	6,288.00
	Other (Audit etc.)	3,500.00	3,500.00
Ministerial Care	Travel	3,000.00	3,000.00
	Backgr cks	300.00	300.00
	Administrator	TBD	6,000.00
	Scholarships	designated	designated
Church Planting/Receiving	Travel	6,000.00	4,000.00
	Misc	300.00	300.00
	Ch.Dev. distributions	25,000.00	
Evangelism/ Outreach	Travel & meals	200.00	500.00
	Youth Partner	8,640.00	10,000.00
	Miscellaneous	100.00	100.00
Church Health & Growth	Travel	1,500.00	1,500.00
	Misc.	800.00	800.00
	Sustentation	8,000.00	10,000.00
Records and Minutes Review	Office	75.00	75.00
	Travel	250.00	250.00
		171,721.40	150,550.55

POSE Statement of Activity 2019			
		<b>Total</b>	<b>Budget2019</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
<b>Benevolences</b>			
	EPC Gen Assembly	10,000.00	10,000.00
	Special Projects		TBD
	Ch.Dev. distributions	-	6,000.00
<b>Officers</b>			
	St. Clerk Travel	5,649.07	6,000.00
	Asst. Stated Clerk tra	2,392.51	3,000.00
	Moderator Travel	6,487.74	6,500.00
	Commissions	-	1,000.00
	Gen Oper	6,009.10	5,000.00
	Webmaster	1,338.75	2,500.00
	Web Maint.	1,021.15	500.00
	Leadershp	1,872.89	2,500.00
	St Clerk Salary	46,199.99	46,200.00
	Asst. SC /Tres. salary	22,856.40	22,856.40
	PSE Tax Liability	5,539.89	5,500.00
	Other (Audit etc.)	2,930.00	3,500.00
<b>Ministerial Care</b>			
	Travel & Misc	1,236.20	3,000.00
	Backgr cks	29.00	300.00
	Scholarships	2,229.43	designated
<b>Church Planting/Receiving</b>			
	Travel	2,564.42	6,000.00
	Misc	226.48	300.00
	Ch.Dev. distributions	22,000.00	25,000.00
<b>Evangelism/ Outreach</b>			
	Travel	-	500.00
	Youth Partner	10,000.00	10,000.00
	Miscellaneous	-	100.00
<b>Church Health &amp; Growth</b>			
	Travel	1,560.54	1,500.00
	Misc.	568.25	800.00
	Sustentation	2,000.00	8,000.00
<b>Records and Minutes Review</b>			
	Office	-	75.00
	Travel	-	250.00
		<b>154,711.81</b>	<b>176,881.40</b>
<b>Net Operating Fund Balance</b>			
	Operating Fund	205,512.65	202,208.54
	Com United Wooten	(21,323.68)	
	Scholarship Fund	(9,482.60)	(9,324.64)
	Church Dev. Fund	115,031.85	120,993.74
	<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>289,738.22</b>	<b>313,877.64</b>
<b>Church Dev Fund Received</b>			
	from POSE	115,032.84	
	interest	30,547.13	
	Other	11.70	
		-	
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>145,591.67</b>	
	<b>Distributed to Op. Fund</b>	<b>24,597.93</b>	
	<b>Church Dev. Balance</b>	<b>120,993.74</b>	
<b>Desig. Funds within Ch. Dev. Acct. Balance</b>			
	2019 Church Planti	25000	3,600.00
	Go Center Fund & C	5055	7,675.57
	<b>Engage 2025</b>		<b>11,275.57</b>



Church	2019 Received	Ch. Dev. Received	2019 Faith Commit
All Souls	6,000.00		6,000.00
Ch. Dev.		-	
Bethany Pres	500.00		500.00
Ch. Dev.		-	
Brainerd Pres	2,720.33		4,000.00
Ch. Dev.		-	
Buck Hill Pres	700.00		
Ch. Dev.		-	
Cedar Springs	20,000.04		20,000.00
Ch. Dev.		-	
Central Pres, Hyden KY	-		
Ch. Dev.		-	
ChristChurch (CCP)	9,219.96		9,220.00
Ch. Dev.		18,000.00	
Church of the Redeemer	1,650.00		1,800.00
Ch. Dev.		-	
Community Evangelistic	-		500.00
Ch. Dev.		-	
Community United, Wooton, I	-		
Ch. Dev.		-	
Cornerstone	200.00		
Ch. Dev.		-	
CrossWalk Community	-		
Ch. Dev.		-	
Covenant Pres, Rome	800.00		800.00
Ch. Dev.		8,237.00	
Eastminster	2,500.00		2,500.00
Ch. Dev.		-	
Faith Pres, McDonough GA	2,000.00		
Ch. Dev.		1,800.00	
Farner	920.00		
Ch. Dev.		-	
First Pres (Rome)	17,240.08		17,000.00
Ch. Dev.		-	
First Pres (Thomasville)	13,200.00		13,200.00
Ch. Dev.		22,000.00	
First Pres (Stanton)			
Ch. Dev.		-	
Grace Pres (Franklin)	833.29		1,000.00
Ch. Dev.		-	
Greenbriar	2,300.00		
Ch. Dev.		-	
Hope Fellowship	1,250.00		
Ch. Dev.		-	
Lookout Valley	2,400.00		
Ch. Dev.		-	
Mars Hill	7,980.96		7,980.00
Ch. Dev.		2,775.96	2,775.00
Murphy	2,000.00		1,100.00
Ch. Dev.		-	
New Beginning, Spring City TN	560.00		
Ch. Dev.		-	
New Hope	1,920.00		1,920.00
Ch. Dev.		-	
New Life Gathering	1,000.00		2,000.00
Ch. Dev.		1,000.00	
Parkway	2,750.00		
Ch. Dev.		-	
Plumtree	1,200.00		
Ch. Dev.		-	
Providence	-		100.00
Ch. Dev.		-	
Resurrection Chattanooga	-		
Ch. Dev.		-	
Signal Mountain	36,000.00		36,000.00
Ch. Dev.		-	
Trinity	525.00		700.00
Ch. Dev.		2,000.00	
Trion	800.00		
Ch. Dev.		-	
Valleybrook	1,008.00		1,008.00
Ch. Dev.		-	
Wilson Station	640.00		
Ch. Dev.		-	
Woodland	-		
Ch. Dev.		-	
Other receipts (offerings)	2,071.47		
Individual Offerings	100.00		
Other receipts or refunds	6,661.43		
	149,650.56	33,812.96	152,103.00