



## MEETING PACKET

162<sup>nd</sup> Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas  
Saturday, June 13, 2026

First Presbyterian Church  
Conway, Arkansas



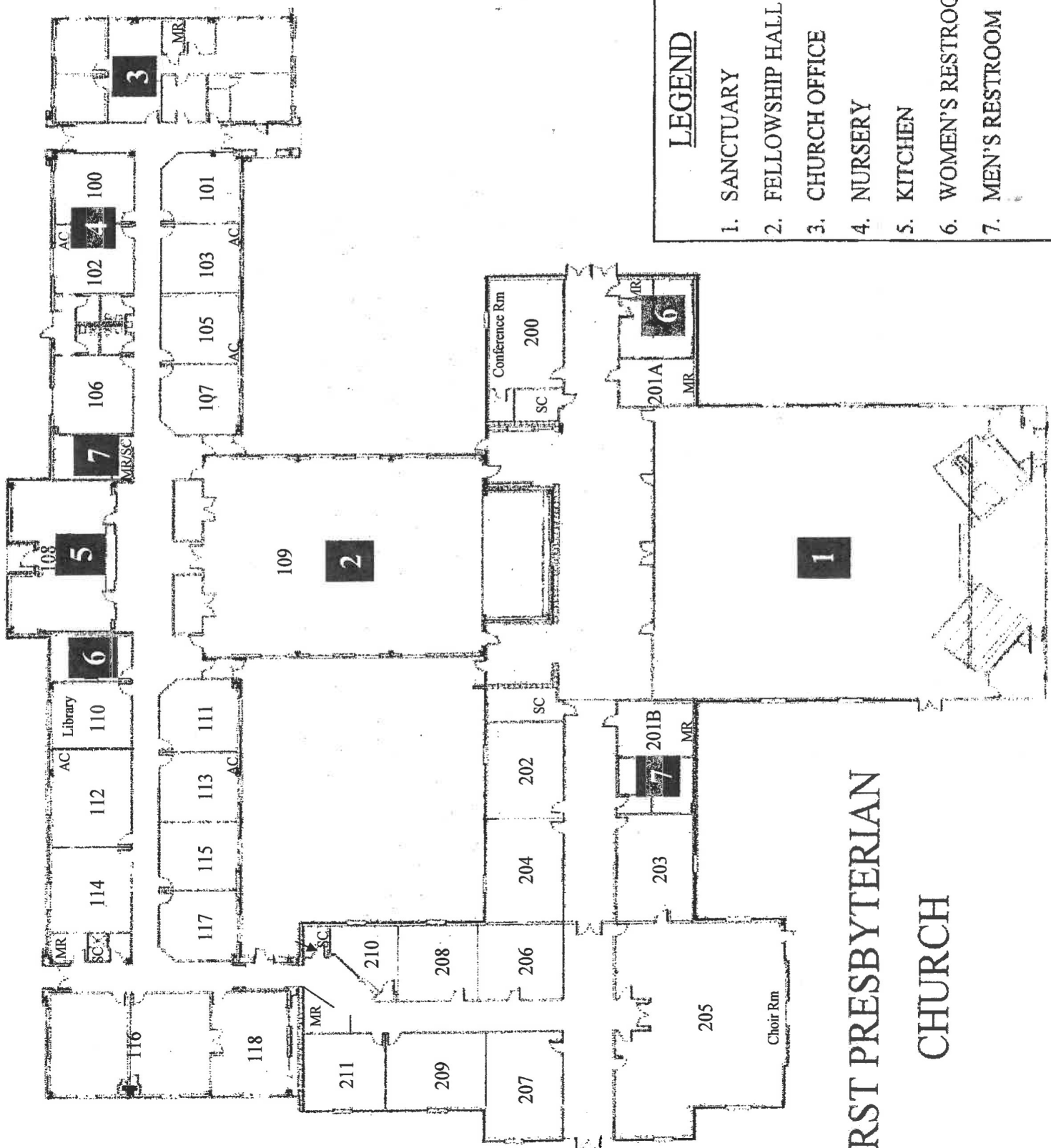
Siblings in Christ,

We look forward to hosting the 162<sup>nd</sup> Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas on June 13. What a blessing to welcome you all to Conway and to First Presbyterian Church. We trust your visit to Conway will be a good one. We anticipate a day of blessed worship, fruitful conversation, Spirit-led decisions, and meaningful fellowship. May God be glorified in all we do that day and every day.

We at FPC will do all we can to provide the space and environment necessary for a successful meeting. In the rest of this packet, you'll find info on food, lodging, and a map of the church. If you have special needs or questions this packet does not answer, please see any of our church volunteers on the day of the meeting, or reach out to us in advance via phone (501-329-6483) or email ([office@fpccconway.org](mailto:office@fpccconway.org)).

It is a joy to be a connectional church--thank you for your service to it. Safe travels, and we'll see you in June.

In Christ,  
Rev. Mike Ulasewich



- LEGEND**
- 1. SANCTUARY
  - 2. FELLOWSHIP HALL
  - 3. CHURCH OFFICE
  - 4. NURSERY
  - 5. KITCHEN
  - 6. WOMEN'S RESTROOM
  - 7. MEN'S RESTROOM

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH



# Presbytery of Arkansas

## 162<sup>nd</sup> Stated Meeting

Presbytery Website: [Click Here](#)

Presbytery Facebook Group **PresbyArkConnect**: [Click Here](#)

Presbytery Database: [Click Here for the Directory](#)

Passphrase: **presbyarkconnect**

Presbytery Online Resources: [Click Here for Resources](#)

[Click Here to Sign Up for the "Update", the Presbytery Newsletter](#)

### What You'll Find in This Packet:

Meeting Schedule .....	Page	5
Docket .....	Page	6
Board of Pensions 2027 Benefit Plan Subsidies .....	Page	7
Consent Agenda .....	Page	8
Report of the Stated Clerk .....	Page	9
Report of the Innovation and Incubation Committee .....	Page	12
Child Protection Policy.....	Page	19
Report of the Treasurer .....	Page	39
Report of the Nominations Committee .....	Page	41
Report of the Committee on Ministry .....	Page	42
Report of the Mission of the Church Committee .....	Page	46
Report of the Resource Team .....	Page	47
Report of the Coordinating Team .....	Page	48
Financial Statements for April 30, 2026 .....	Page	49
2025 Independent Auditor's Report .....	Page	55
2026 Insurance Package for the Presbytery .....	Page	70
Presbyterian Helps (Acronyms & Parliamentary Procedure) .....	Page	82
Provide feedback on meeting by completing online survey .....	Page	86



## 2026 Meetings\*

163<sup>rd</sup> Stated Meeting  
 October 2-3, 2026  
 First Presbyterian Church  
 Springdale, Arkansas

## 2027 Meetings\*

164<sup>th</sup> Lyon College  
 Batesville, AR Spring TBA

\*All dates are tentative and subject to change

## Meeting Schedule

Saturday, June 13, 2026      First Presbyterian Church Conway

9:00 am	Registration and Check-In (Narthex)
9:15 am	Commissioner Training
9:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary) Offering to benefit Youth Summer Trip Scholarships at the Presbytery of Arkansas
10:30 am	161st Stated Meeting Welcome Business of the Presbytery
12:00 pm	Lunch in Cafeteria (Fellowship Hall)
1:00 pm	Business of the Presbytery Continues
3:00 pm	Adjournment

### Presbytery Leadership

Moderator RE Jane Webb  
 Vice-Moderator MWS Maggie Alsup  
 Moderator of CT MWS Judi McMillan  
 Interim General Presbyter MWS Jim Poinsett  
 Stated Clerk MWS Blake Brinegar  
 Youth and Young Adult Developer Dr. Sarah Leer  
 Presbytery Administrator Kimberly Palmer

Moderator of Administration RE Hank Breshears  
 Moderator of COM MWS Leslie Roper  
 Moderator of CPM MWS Elizabeth Brinegar  
 Moderator of Subcommittee on Disaster Preparedness and Response MWS David Schaller  
 Co-Moderators of the Subcommittee on Honduran Ministry  
 RE Leigh Woodruff & MWS Jesse Gonzalez  
 Moderator of Mission of the Church  
 CRE Peg Falls-Corbitt  
 Co-Moderators of the Subcommittee Resource Team  
 CCE Kristi Button and Katie McKenzie  
 Moderator of Nominations MWS Robert Lowry  
 Moderator of Presbyterian Women RE Cathy Rogers  
 Moderator of Youth, Young Adults, and Campus Ministry MWS Maggie Alsup



**162<sup>nd</sup> Stated Meeting**  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
**Conway, Arkansas**  
**Docket**

**Saturday June 13**

---

9:00 am	Registration	
9:15 am	First Time Commissioners Training	
9:30 am	Worship	MWS John Arnold, preaching
10:30 am	Welcome, Lighting of the Christ Candle, Opening Prayer Welcome from the host Congregation	RE Dr. Jane Webb  MWS Mike Ulasewich
10:35 am	Consent Agenda Report of the Stated Clerk	MWS Blake Brinegar
10:40 am	Greetings from Synod of the Sun Leader & Stated Clerk	MWS Mitch Miller
10:50 am	Report from the Board of Pensions	MWS Kevin Keaton
11:00 am	Report of the Innovation and Incubation Committee	TBA
11:25 am	Child Protection Policy	MWS Blake Brinegar
11:45 am	Report of the Treasurer	RE Tom Verdery
12:00 pm	Lunch	
1:00 pm	Reconvene Minute Announcements	
1:05 pm	Commissioning of the Commissioners to GA	MWS Blake Brinegar
1:15 pm	Report of the Executive Presbyter Nominating Committee	MWS Robert Lowry
1:20 pm	Report from the Nominations Committee	MWS Robert Lowry
1:25 pm	Report of the Committee on Ministry	MWS Leslie Roper
1:40 pm	Report of the Mission of the Church	RE Allison Richardson
1:55 pm	Report of the Coordinating Team	RE Dr. Jane Webb
3:00 pm	Closing Prayer and Adjournment	



THE BOARD OF PENSIONS  
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

## 2027 Benefits Plan Subsidies and Updates

### Support for congregations and ministers with dependent children

To help congregations care for their pastoral leaders, and to promote wholeness for ministers and their families, the 2027 Benefits Plan introduces expanded support.

- **An additional dues subsidy** will be available to congregational pastoral leaders enrolled in the Congregational Pastors Package to help alleviate the cost of dependent child medical coverage. Effective Jan. 1, 2027, the subsidy will be 50% of the national, community-rated coverage cost for dependent children. This subsidy will reduce the flat rates for both Child(ren) and Family coverage levels.
- **Transitional Pastor's Participation** and its inherent subsidies will be extended through 2029, giving congregations and ministers already enrolled in this package two more years to transition to the Congregational Pastors Package.

2027 dues for the Congregational Pastors Package and Transitional Pastor's Participation will be available in July.



#### New Child Care Support grant

Effective April 1, 2026, this new grant through the Assistance Program helps offset the cost of child care for children ages 0-6 years. Child Care Support provides \$500 per child per month (up to \$1,500 per family per month) to eligible PC(USA) ministers of the Word and Sacrament and commissioned pastors during the initial pilot phase of this grant.

#### Additional Medical Plan options

For staff not enrolled in benefits through the Congregational Pastors Package or Transitional Pastor's Participation, three additional Medical Plan options have been introduced: a second PPO, EPO, and HDHP. These options will be available in addition to the three options currently offered, for a total of six options, effective Jan. 1, 2027. More details will be shared this summer.

Ministers and dependents enrolled in the Congregational Pastors Package or Transitional Pastor's Participation will continue to be offered the current PPO plan.



For more information about these benefits and Assistance Program updates, visit [pensions.org/2027resources](https://pensions.org/2027resources) or scan this QR code.

This is not a full description of benefits and limitations of the plan. If there is any difference between the information presented here and the provisions of the Benefits Plan of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the plan terms will govern.

2000 Market Street | Philadelphia, PA 19103-3298 | 800-PRESPLAN (800-773-7752) (TTY: 711) | [pensions.org](https://pensions.org)

PLN26-014-FL-CH

## **Section A**

### **Consent Agenda** MWS Blake Brinegar Stated Clerk

#### **For Action:**

- 1. Motion to Adopt the Docket**
- 2. Motion to approve the minutes of the 161<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas, March 12-13, 2026, held at the University of the Ozarks, with outgoing Moderator, Rev. Judi McMillan preaching, and the A-Team assisting.**
- 3. Motion to enroll corresponding members with voice but no vote.**
- 4. Motion to grant privilege of the floor (voice) to those registered, but without vote.**
- 5. Motion for the Stated clerk to record those absent and those present and include those names and numbers in the minutes, serving as what the Presbytery of Arkansas has historically termed the “Leaves of Absence Committee.”**

**Section B**  
**Report of the Stated Clerk**  
MWS Blake Brinegar

1. Attended a Webinar on Church Closings and Creative uses of Property.
2. Led Clerk of Session Training
3. Work with Committees, taskforces, and ad hoc committees
4. Represented the Presbytery at Patty Minga's Memorial Service.
5. Assisted several congregations with questions about polity.
6. Presbytery Planning meeting
7. Met with a taskforce to review the grant proposal from the Queer Collective
8. Worked with Nominations on evaluating committee structures
9. Assisted the Thriving in Ministry group with some data.
10. Attended gathering of Stated Clerks in the Synod of the Sun
11. Attested Personal Discernment Profile (PDP) in the Church Leadership Connection (CLC)

## Section B, Exhibit 1 Report of the Stated Clerk

### Individuals who need to do Boundary Training

Alsup	Maggie		Mainard O'Connell	Marie
Anderson	Barry		McDonald	Amanda
Arnold	Susan		McMillan	Judi
Berger	Sara Anne		Powers	Emmett
Blackburn	Tasha		Reed	David
Brinegar	Blake		Reeves	Leslie
Brinegar	Elizabeth		Roper	Leslie
Brock	Brian		Seitz	Bill
Button	Kristi		Smith	Stewart
Chan	Moises		Thomas	Isaac
Danehower	Kim		Ulasewich	Mike
Davis	Fern		Wildwright	Jocelyn
Enke	Jan		Wilkinson	Ed
Falls-Corbitt	Peg		Wooley	Dan
McKenzie	Katie			
Gray	Susan			
Harris	Don			
Harris	LaWanda			
King	John			
Kwak	Jai			
Lizarraga	Liz			
Lowry	Robert			

To take the safe gatherings training go to:

<https://safegatherings.com/app/get-started-clergy-course>

The cost for the course is \$29. Once you have completed the course please send a copy of your certificate of completion to the Stated Clerk, Blake Brinegar, revbrinegar@gmail.com.

**Section B, Exhibit 2**  
**Member of the Presbytery of Arkansas\***  
**2026 Compensation Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Employer\*\* \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Are you employed part-time? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, how many hours per week? \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Effective Salary</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
Cash Salary	_____	_____
Housing (or 30% of salary for manse)	_____	_____
Utilities Allowance	_____	_____
Deferred Compensation	_____	_____
Other Allowances	_____	_____
<b>Total</b>	_____	_____

**Reimbursable Expenses**

Automobile (_____ per mile)	_____	_____
Business/Professional Expenses	_____	_____
SECA Supplement (up to 50%)	_____	_____
Continuing Education	_____	_____
Board of Pensions/Medical _____	_____	_____
Other Reimbursable Expenses	_____	_____
Total Allowances	_____	_____

**Total Effective Salary, Benefits & Allowances** \_\_\_\_\_

Vacation Time \_\_\_\_\_ Study Leave \_\_\_\_\_ Sabbatical? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_

\* All ordained MWS members of the Presbytery of Arkansas and CREs serving congregations are asked to fill out this form. **MWS members also have 12 weeks paid family medical leave per the Book of Order (G-2.0804)** Please return this form by March 31, 2026 to Rev. Blake Brinegar, [revbrinegar@gmail.com](mailto:revbrinegar@gmail.com) or 9221 N. Rodney Parham Rd., Little Rock, AR 72227.

\*\* The Presbytery of Arkansas, through its COM, acts to concur with all changes in terms of call of MWS in pastoral positions. This report constitutes a request to do so if you are in a pastoral position and there are any changes.

## **Section C**

### **Report from the Innovation and Incubation Committee**

**For Action:**

**Proposed Motion 1 – University of the Ozarks Coordination Team**  
Submitted by the Innovation & Incubation Committee

**Motion:**

That the Presbytery of Arkansas rescind the June 1, 2024, motion establishing the University of the Ozarks Coordination Team and assign responsibility for serving as the Presbytery’s liaison and coordinating body with the Town Square Collaborative, as it relates to the Thriving in Ministry program, to the Innovation & Incubation (I&I) Committee.

That the I&I Committee include, at minimum, one representative from the Committee on Ministry (COM) and one representative from the Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) in this work to ensure appropriate coordination regarding CRE development, pastoral leadership needs, and related discernment processes.

That this role be understood as a collaborative liaison function intended to strengthen communication, alignment, and mutual support, and not as governance or oversight authority over the Thriving in Ministry program, which remains under the auspices of the Town Square Collaborative at the University of the Ozarks.

**Rationale / Background:**

On June 1, 2024, the Presbytery approved the creation of a coordination team intended to foster communication and collaboration between the Presbytery and the Thriving in Ministry initiative at the University of the Ozarks. While the intent of that action remains valuable, the coordination team was never formally constituted or operationalized.

Since that time, the Innovation & Incubation Committee has emerged as the most appropriate body to maintain this relationship, particularly as it relates to leadership development, innovation, CRE cultivation, and collaborative ministry support within the Presbytery.

This motion preserves the original intent of fostering communication and partnership while providing a clearer and more functional structure moving forward.

## **Proposed Motion 2 – New Worshiping Community Grant Matching Policy**

Submitted by the Innovation & Incubation Committee

### **Motion:**

That the Presbytery of Arkansas establish a policy of matching awarded Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) New Worshiping Community (NWC) grants at each approved phase level, subject to available designated funds and presbytery approval of the corresponding grant proposal.

That the primary funding source for such matching grants be the Presbytery's *New Church Development Fund*, with additional funding recommendations to be brought separately to the Presbytery if needed.

That the Innovation & Incubation (I&I) Committee serves as the Presbytery's coordinating body for New Worshiping Community initiatives and grant processes, including:

1. Supporting emerging New Worshiping Community leaders and initiatives;
2. Reviewing and endorsing grant applications prior to submission;
3. Coordinating with relevant presbytery committees and staff as appropriate; and
4. Bringing recommendations for matching funds to the Presbytery when required.

### **Rationale / Background:**

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) supports the development of New Worshiping Communities through the 1001 New Worshiping Communities initiative and related grant opportunities. These grants provide important resources for cultivating innovative forms of Christian community, discipleship, outreach, and leadership development.

The Presbytery of Arkansas has historically supported New Worshiping Community initiatives through informal matching practices, but no formal policy currently exists establishing a consistent process for endorsement and matching support.

This motion creates a clearer framework for supporting emerging ministries while aligning the work of New Worshiping Communities with the Presbytery's broader strategic vision and innovation priorities.

## **Proposed Motion 3 – Approval of the Fresh Faith Expression Grant Policy** Submitted by the Innovation & Incubation Committee

### **Motion:**

That the Presbytery of Arkansas approve and adopt the Fresh Faith Expression (FFE) Grant Policy as presented by the Innovation & Incubation Committee.

That the Fresh Faith Expression Grant Program provide phased grant support for emerging ministries and communities of faith through Exploration, Incubation, and Sustainability grant categories as outlined in the policy.

That the Innovation & Incubation (I&I) Committee administer the Fresh Faith Expression Grant Program, including:

1. Reviewing applications;
2. Approving Exploration Grants;
3. Recommending larger grants requiring presbytery approval; and
4. Providing oversight for accountability and reporting processes established within the policy.

That all Fresh Faith Expression grants be administered in accordance with the fiduciary, reporting, coaching, and oversight requirements outlined in the approved policy.

### **Rationale / Background:**

As part of the Presbytery's strategic commitment to innovation, incubation, and the development of new expressions of Christian community, the Innovation & Incubation Committee has developed a Fresh Faith Expression Grant Policy to support emerging ministries as they move from discernment to sustainable ministry.

The policy establishes phased grant categories, eligibility standards, application procedures, fiduciary safeguards, coaching expectations, and accountability measures designed to encourage entrepreneurial ministry while ensuring responsible stewardship and sustainability planning.

The Fresh Faith Expression Grant Program is intended to cultivate emerging Christian communities and support innovative ministry development throughout the Presbytery of Arkansas.

**Proposed Motion 4 – Designation of Church Development Funds for the  
Fresh Faith Expression Grant Program**

Submitted by the Innovation & Incubation Committee

**Motion:**

That the Presbytery of Arkansas authorize the use of monies from the Church Development Fund to support the Fresh Faith Expression (FFE) Grant Program (see Section C, Exhibit 1).

That up to \$100,000 annually may be made available from the Church Development Fund for grants awarded through the Fresh Faith Expression Grant Program, subject to fund availability and appropriate financial oversight procedures of the Presbytery of Arkansas.

That the Innovation & Incubation (I&I) Committee administer these funds in accordance with the approved Fresh Faith Expression Grant Policy and provide regular reports to the Presbytery regarding grants awarded, funds distributed, and ministry outcomes.

**Rationale / Background:**

The Presbytery of Arkansas has adopted the Fresh Faith Expression (FFE) Grant Policy to support the development of innovative and emerging Christian communities throughout the Presbytery.

The Church Development Fund exists to support the formation, growth, and strengthening of new ministry initiatives. This motion designates a portion of those funds to provide catalytic support for Fresh Faith Expressions through a structured and accountable grant process.

This funding is intended to encourage entrepreneurial ministry, cultivate emerging Christian communities, and advance the mission and strategic vision of the Presbytery of Arkansas.

## **Report and Recommendation Regarding the Queer Collective Phase III New Worshiping Community Grant Application**

On May 20, 2026, a small advisory group convened to review and discuss the Queer Collective's application for Phase III Growth Grant funding through the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) New Worshiping Communities initiative. Participants included representatives from the Innovation & Incubation Committee, Committee on Ministry, Administrative Committee, the Stated Clerk, Presbytery leadership, and the Queer Collective leadership team.

The group reviewed the Queer Collective's ministry development, leadership structure, financial oversight, sustainability planning, relationship with Westover Hills Presbyterian Church, and long-term vision for ministry within the Presbytery of Arkansas. Particular attention was given to accountability, fiduciary oversight, sustainability, and an appropriate ongoing presbytery relationship and support structure.

The advisory group affirmed that the Queer Collective has demonstrated meaningful growth and impact over its first three years of ministry, including support groups, community programming, pastoral care, advocacy efforts, and expansion into additional communities within Arkansas.

The group further affirmed:

- that Westover Hills Presbyterian Church currently provides appropriate fiduciary and institutional partnership support;
- that the Queer Collective leadership team has demonstrated organizational capacity and commitment to continued development;
- that the Innovation & Incubation Committee is the appropriate presbytery body to maintain an ongoing liaison and support relationship with the ministry moving forward, in coordination with COM, the Administrative Committee, the Stated Clerk, and other presbytery leaders as needed; and
- that continued coaching, communication, and relationship with the Presbytery will strengthen the long-term sustainability of the ministry.

Following the discussion, the advisory group expressed consensus support for endorsing the Queer Collective's application for Phase III New Worshiping Community Growth Grant funding through the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Accordingly, the Innovation & Incubation Committee recommends that, should the Queer Collective receive a Phase III New Worshiping Community grant award from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the Presbytery of Arkansas provide matching support consistent with the Presbytery's emerging policies and commitments regarding New Worshiping Communities.

## Section C, Exhibit 1



### Fresh Faith Expression Grant Policy

#### 1. Purpose of the FFE Grant Fund

The Fresh Faith Expression (FFE) Grant Fund exists to provide catalytic financial support to new expressions of Christian community within the Presbytery of Arkansas. Because starting a new ministry requires strategic risk-taking, these grants are designed to share that financial risk while ensuring high levels of accountability, sustainability planning, and alignment with the presbytery's missional goals.

#### 2. Grant Categories and Funding Phases

Funding is structured to correspond with the developmental phases of the FFE. Funding is not guaranteed from one phase to the next; each phase requires a distinct application and approval.

- **Phase 1: Exploration & Seed Grant (Up to \$5,000)**
  - *Purpose:* To fund the initial discernment, demographic research, community networking, and the gathering of a core team.
  - *Eligibility:* Open to individuals or partner congregations actively working with the Innovation & Incubation (I&I) Committee.
  
- **Phase 2: Incubation & Development Grant (Up to \$15,000)**
  - *Purpose:* To fund the transition from a core team to a developing community, including securing meeting space, liability insurance, marketing, and part-time leadership stipends.
  - *Eligibility:* FFEs that have completed Phase 1 requirements, submitted a comprehensive Ministry Plan, and established an oversight team.
  
- **Phase 3: Sustainability & Launch Grant (Up to \$25,000)**
  - *Purpose:* To support the public launch and operational scaling of the community as it moves toward long-term financial independence.
  - *Eligibility:* FFEs demonstrating consistent gatherings, a growing participant base, and a clear path to self-sustainability within 3–5 years.

#### 3. Application and Approval Process

1. **Submission:** Grant applications must be submitted to the Innovation & Incubation (I&I) Committee at least 30 days prior to a scheduled committee meeting.

2. **Review:** The I&I Committee will review the application, interview the FFE leadership team, and assess the viability of the financial plan.
3. **Approval:** The I&I Committee holds the authority to approve Exploration Grants. Incubation and Sustainability Grants must be recommended by the I&I Committee and subsequently approved by the Presbytery (or equivalent finance/mission body).

#### 4. Disbursement and Financial Management

- **Fiduciary Oversight:** Funds will not be disbursed to individual leaders. Grant funds must be held and managed by the Session of a partner congregation or managed directly by the Presbytery of Arkansas's financial office in a designated FFE account.
- **Disbursement Schedule:** Incubation and Sustainability grants will be disbursed in bi-annual installments, contingent upon the receipt of satisfactory progress reports.
- **Permitted Uses:** Funds may be used for leadership stipends, program materials, space rental, marketing, and community events.

#### 5. Accountability and Reporting

To maintain grant eligibility and receive scheduled disbursements, FFE leaders must fulfill the following:

- **Bi-Annual Reporting:** Submit a combined narrative and financial report every six months detailing how funds were spent, progress toward benchmarks, and current financial health.
- **Coaching:** Active and consistent participation in a presbytery-approved coaching relationship is a mandatory condition of receiving FFE grant funds.
- **Dissolution Clause:** If a Fresh Faith Expression ceases operations or is dissolved, any remaining unspent grant funds must be returned to the Presbytery of Arkansas FFE Grant Fund. Any assets purchased with grant funds will revert to the presbytery or the partner congregation, as determined by the original oversight covenant.

**Section D**  
**Stated Clerk MWS Blake Brinegar**  
**Presbytery of Arkansas**  
**Safe Church Policies & Procedures**  
**for the Protection of Children, Youth, and Vulnerable Adults**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

POLICY RATIONALE

SCREENING, TRAINING, AND BACKGROUND CHECKS

Volunteers

Training

Background Checks

Review of Sex Offender Registry

Confidentiality of Records

GUIDELINES FOR WORKING WITH CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

Respect and Consideration

Prohibited Conduct

Two or More Adults

Ratios

Age Requirements

Open Door Policy

Restroom Supervision

Privacy

Healthy Discipline

Transportation

Misuse of Technology

Social Media

Virtual Meetings

Injuries to Children and Youth During Church Activities

Other Requirements

REPORTING AND RESPONSE REQUIREMENTS

Mandated Reporting

Child/Youth/Vulnerable Adult Protection Response Team

Procedures for Reporting and Responding to Suspected Abuse or Neglect

1. Minister/CRE Has Reasonable Cause of Abuse or Neglect

2. Employee, Volunteer, or Independent Contractor Has Reasonable Cause of Abuse or Neglect

3. Minister, CRE, Employee, Volunteer, or Independent Contractor is Subject of Allegation of Abuse or Neglect

Other Procedures Relating to Reports of Suspected Abuse or Neglect

(a) Documentation of Oral Report.

(b) No Interference with Investigation.

(c) Full Cooperation with Outside Authorities.

(d) Removal of Accused from Activities.

(e) Spokesperson for the Presbytery.

Reports to Insurance Company

[Appendix A:](#)

[Appendix B:](#)

[Appendix C:](#)

## POLICY RATIONALE

**This policy applies to all Presbytery-sponsored functions for children, youth, and vulnerable adults**, but does not apply to functions of each member congregation of the Presbytery of Arkansas. The implementation and documentation of a Child/Youth/ Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy strives to reduce the risk of abuse and neglect for the following reasons:

- Children, youth, and vulnerable adults are a gift from God and the Church has a divine mandate to provide for their safety and nurturing. The Church is called to be a place that reflects the open arms of Jesus. In Matthew 19:14, Jesus says, “Let the little children come to me.” The Church is to be, at all levels of council and in all entities, a place of safety and nurture reflective of the arms of Christ.
- Any type of abuse involving children, youth, or vulnerable adults has lasting and devastating effects on the life of the victim/survivor. It is the call of the Church to be a life-giving entity of Christ’s healing and hope for community and individuals, not an entity that brings harm and hurt.
- The larger Church suffers with the victim/survivor and his or her family when abuse and neglect occurs. The Church is unable to do the full work of Christ, due to the hurt, pain, and distrust that accompanies abuse. Not only does the Church lose its credibility at all levels, it also suffers considerable financial loss and loss of integrity. More importantly, in instances of child, youth, or vulnerable adult abuse within the Church, there is immeasurable spiritual, psychological, emotional, and physical harm that can be perpetrated that woefully hinders God’s call on the Church.
- The *Book of Order* states, “The congregation as a whole, on behalf of the Church universal, assumes responsibility for nurturing the baptized person in the Christian life,” and Presbyterians believe this baptismal commitment to be a serious one, understanding it to apply to all in the church’s care, including children, youth, and vulnerable adults (*Book of Order* W-2.3013).
- Children, youth, and vulnerable adults are not only persons of care and service in the church, but they are also co-recipients of the graces and love of God. Jesus exemplified this in the Gospel of Mark 10:15–16 when he urged his followers to receive the kingdom of God as a little child. And he specifically takes up the children into his arms and blesses them. So also the Church, as the body of Christ, is to be the presence of Christ’s love, in the same way taking up all children, youth, and vulnerable adults into its arms and blessing them; providing for them a safe, thriving, and nurturing environment in which to grow in every way.

## SCREENING, TRAINING, AND BACKGROUND CHECKS

### Volunteers

All volunteers who work with children and youth (including, but not limited to, youth advisors and sponsors, trip chaperones, presbytery meeting childcare workers, and confirmation mentors) who work with children and youth will satisfy the following:

1. Be at least eighteen years-old
2. Be an attendee of a Presbytery of Arkansas congregation for at least 6 months unless otherwise approved by the Presbytery staff
3. Complete “Children and Youth Ministry Information and Disclosure Form” (see Appendix A)
4. Agree to any background checks deemed necessary by the Presbytery
5. Attend child protection training approved by the Presbytery (must be renewed every 3 years)
6. *If driving or transporting children or youth off church property:* Provide a copy of a valid driver’s license and insurance and agree to a check of a current Motor Vehicle Report

### Training

All Child/Youth Workers, paid, contracted, or volunteer, **must participate in training** sometime within the year prior to working with children/youth. The training is to be provided by the Presbytery and shall cover the Child/Youth protection policy thoroughly as well as methods of abuse prevention and a detailed plan of reporting. These trainings shall further cover:

- What constitutes Child/Youth/Vulnerable Adult Abuse and neglect.
- How to recognize signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect.
- State laws concerning definitions of abuse.
- Mandated Reporting and the Presbytery’s Response Team.
- Mandatory criminal background checks and the security of those files.
- Explanation of the importance of the application and screening processes.
- Appropriate boundaries with Minors, especially regarding adult/Child/Youth ratios, transportation, and use of technology.
- If an overnight event is planned, discussions of boundaries involving appropriate sleeping arrangements and restroom/shower facilities use shall be discussed.
- Other related topics.

### Background Checks

The Child/Youth Worker must **consent to a comprehensive background check, including a criminal background check**. Presbytery of Arkansas will cover the costs of the background checks for all Child/Youth Workers. Child/Youth Workers who participate annually in events may only be required to have one (1) background check per 24 month period, unless otherwise deemed necessary. The Presbytery Administrator will receive the results of any criminal background check on applicants,

employees, volunteers, or independent contractors. The Presbytery Administrator will maintain a record of the dates of when training was completed.

No person may serve as a Child/Youth Worker who has been adjudicated guilty of an offense in local, state or federal court or in an ecclesiastical proceeding that includes actions that constitute Sexual Abuse, Child/Youth Abuse, or Vulnerable Adult Abuse as defined in this Policy or that may call into question the person's ability to work safely with Children and Youth. Under no circumstances shall any person serve as a Child/Youth Worker who has been adjudicated guilty of an offense involving sexual activity or conduct involving a Minor (including offenses related to child sexual abuse material).

### **Review of Sex Offender Registry**

The Presbytery Administrator will be responsible for annually checking official Sex Offender Registries to determine if any employees or volunteers are listed on such Registries. If an employee or volunteer is a registered sex offender, the General Presbyter and Stated Clerk will review the matter and meet with the individual to: 1) let the individual know that the Presbytery of Arkansas is aware of their status on the Sex Offender Registry; 2) explain the Presbytery of Arkansas' Child/Youth/Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy; 3) remove the individual from the Volunteer list. The Presbytery Executive will be responsible for the checking the Sex Offender Registries to determine if the Presbytery Administrator is on the registries.

### **Confidentiality of Records**

Presbytery of Arkansas shall maintain all Child/Youth Worker applications, results of background checks, and related information in confidential, secured files.

## **GUIDELINES FOR WORKING WITH CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND VULNERABLE ADULTS**

Employees, volunteers, and independent contractors who work with children, youth, and vulnerable adults in connection with Presbytery of Arkansas activities will comply with the following guidelines:

### **Respect and Consideration**

Child/Youth Workers shall respond to Minors and Vulnerable Adults with **respect and consideration and treat all of them equally**, regardless of race/ethnicity, color, national origin, gender, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, creed, protected disability status, citizenship status, genetic information, uniformed service or veteran status or religious affiliation. Child/Youth Workers will act as a positive role model for Minors and Vulnerable Adults by maintaining an attitude of respect, patience, and maturity. They will maintain appropriate boundaries when in positions of power with Minors or Vulnerable Adults.

### **Prohibited Conduct**

Employees, volunteers, and independent contractors will not engage in the following activities:

- Verbal, emotional, physical, or sexual abuse of children and youth
- Discipline of children or youth by use or threat of physical punishment or by failing to provide the necessities of care
- Use, possession, or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs or being impaired by legally prescribed drugs during presbytery-sponsored programs
- Smoking or use of tobacco during presbytery-sponsored programs
- Profanity, inappropriate language or jokes, or any kind of harassment in the presence of children or youth
- Possession of obscene or pornographic materials in the presence of children or youth
- Carrying any type of firearms or knives with blades over 3 inches
- Sharing inappropriate details of their personal lives or asking children or youth to share inappropriate details through any form of communication: written, verbal, or electronic
- Dating or having a romantic relationship with youth participants
- Giving gifts or money to individual children or youth without the knowledge and permission of parents/guardians, except within the context of a group gift given to all participants in the celebration of special events or recognitions
- Misuse of technology in the ways listed below, including sending suggestive messages or viewing pornography

## Two or More Adults

At least **two (preferably unrelated) adults over the age of 18** will supervise all presbytery sponsored programs and activities involving children and youth. Adults must remain in sight or sound of one another at all times except in extenuating circumstances. Adults in leadership roles are expected to avoid situations where they are alone with children and youth. The presence of two or more adults prevents awkward circumstances where abuse could occur or be alleged, allows shared leadership, and facilitates appropriate discipline. This policy also extends to all overnight events. Under no circumstances can one adult alone take or accompany children or youth on an overnight outing.

Adults are to **avoid one-adult, one-child** situations unless a parent has given prior written permission. If it is necessary for a child to be transported home after an event, an effort should be made to contact the family and inform them of the situation before transporting the child. If it is necessary for an adult to drive alone with a child, the adult should notify another adult before and after the period during which he/she is alone with the child. It is permissible for one adult driver to transport several children and youth in a single vehicle or in a convoy of vehicles traveling to or from an event.

When one-on-one interactions between children and youth and employees, volunteers, or independent contractors are necessary (e.g., in emergency situations or occasions of pastoral care), care must be taken to conduct the meeting in an environment that **provides visibility** by other adults or in which other adults are in and out of an area where an employee or volunteer is working with a child or youth. Another adult must have knowledge of the whereabouts of the employee, volunteer, or independent contractor and with whom he or she is meeting.

## Ratios

The adult to Child ratio for all **Child-related events/activities is 2:10** for both in person and online gatherings. The adult to Youth ratio for all **Youth-related events/activities is 2:16** for both in person and online gatherings. There shall also be one adult of each gender when there is one or more Minors of each gender in a group. Only in emergency situations may the ratios and gender diversity be compromised.

## Age Requirements

Adult leaders must be at least 18 years old. There must be **at least one adult present who is at least four years older** than the young people with whom they are working. In the case of young adult leaders who may not be four years older than the youth, they must work alongside adult leaders who are at least four years older than the young people with whom they are working. Youth volunteers under the age of 18 years old must be at least 14 years old, unless otherwise approved by the Presbytery Staff or Adult Co-Moderators of the A-Team and must be under the supervision of an adult. Children under 14 years old may accompany parents who serve as volunteers.

## Open Door Policy

Doors to rooms in which children and youth are present with one adult or without adults are to remain open. If noise increases to a level that disturbs others, the door may be shut as long as there is a clear glass window in at least part of the door or a swinging half door. Vision through the glass must be unimpaired.

## Restroom Supervision

The exact nature of restroom supervision will depend on the age of the children. The Policy seeks to provide protection and privacy for the children and protection for the adult leaders. General guidelines are as follows:

- Adult leaders will stand in sight of the restroom and in sight of another adult while children are using the restroom.
- If adult leaders are assisting younger children, doors without windows to the restroom facility must remain open.
- Adult leaders will always use proper supervision when children are using public bathrooms to ensure their safety, including making sure suspicious or unknown individuals are not occupying the restroom before allowing children to use the facilities.

## Healthy Discipline

The purpose of discipline is to teach the child appropriate behavior in a loving and nurturing way. It is important to work with each child to determine what they need to fully participate but not to the detriment of other children in the group. Appropriate discipline will vary with the age of the child, but **praise and other forms of positive reinforcement for good work/behavior are appropriate.** Distracting the child from the objectionable behavior, separating the child from the group into a different part of the room, and having a choice of activities available are also appropriate. If objectionable behavior persists, parents and other childcare workers or volunteers should be enlisted to help. Any physical punishment is unacceptable.

## Transportation

All adult drivers during Child/Youth events or trips must have a valid driver's license and insurance on file with Presbytery of Arkansas. All vehicles used must have seat belts for the driver and each passenger. No Minor under eighty-five pounds or under 13 years old may sit in the front seat of any vehicle. All drivers transporting Minors and Vulnerable Adults during events or trips must be **over the age of twenty-four** and must be informed that if their vehicle is used, their insurance would be primary if an accident occurs. If a charter bus is rented, or any outside carrier is contracted, the company hired must ensure criminal background checks on their drivers. Each vehicle must follow the appropriate adult-to-child and adult-to-youth ratio outlined above. Lastly, no minor may be a driver at any event or activity (this includes golf carts at events).

## Misuse of Technology

Adult workers/caregivers should respect the privacy of the Minors and Vulnerable Adults to whom they provide care. Responsible use of digital devices and cell phones is required in all situations (ex. Taking age-appropriate photographs and videos, not taking photographs of Minors who are not fully clothed). Child/Youth Workers are **not permitted to take photographs** of Minors or Vulnerable Adults under their care or at the event and share them in any way, including on the internet, **without the written permission** of a parent or guardian of the Minor or Vulnerable Adult.

No employee, contractor, or volunteer at the Presbytery of Arkansas may misuse technology in the following ways:

- Using technology to send suggestive messages and/or images to a Minor.
- Having contact with a Minor or Vulnerable Adult one-on-one unless pre-approved by parents/guardians. If a youth wishes to engage with an adult for private or pastoral care conversations, care must be taken to conduct the meeting in an environment that **provides visibility** by other adults or arrangements may be made to meet the youth in a public setting.
- To view pornography or sites (ex. dating websites) which include pornography or naked bodies at a Presbytery of Arkansas event, activity or meeting, no matter where it is held.

## Social Media

Before an event, registration materials will include permission for the image of a child or youth to be shared on the internet. Parents or guardians of children and youth under 18 years old must give **written permission before pictures of children and youth are posted** on the Presbytery website, Facebook page or other Presbytery sponsored social media.

- Pictures of children and youth engaged in Presbytery-sponsored activities which are posted on the Presbytery website or Facebook page or other presbytery -sponsored social media will not include any identifying information about the children and youth beyond (e.g., name, school, parents, etc.).

Adults who work with children or youth and who have a Facebook or other social networking site page will grant full access to such page(s) to the Presbytery staff upon request and are urged to set stringent privacy settings on any social networking profile.

- Adults who have a Facebook or other social networking site page and who work with children and youth will not submit “friend” requests to children and youth.
- If a child or youth requests an adult to be a “friend,” the adult should discuss this with the parents/guardians in connection with presbytery staff, giving families the opportunity to disapprove or to participate in a group chat. In general, it is advised that adults who work with children and youth not be connected through social media.

Adults will not engage in video chats, on-line text chats, blogs, or video blogs with children or youth with whom the adult works at the Presbytery level, except as part of official presbytery activities. Adults may correspond with youth via text, email, or other written electronic communication only if they observe the two-adult rule and involve at least one additional adult who has been screened and background checked by the Presbytery, unless given written parental permission.

## Virtual Meetings

Child/Youth workers, ministers, employees, contractors or volunteers (“adults”) must follow these virtual meeting policies or protocols when planning and conducting a virtual meeting on virtual meeting platforms (ex. Zoom, Skype) with one or more Minors:

- Leaders should seek permission of the parent/guardian before inviting the Minor to participate in a virtual meeting. The option to observe the virtual meeting (without visual or verbal participation) should be made available upon request to parent or guardian.
- Adults and meeting organizers should advise a parent or guardian of the following so that the parent or guardian is aware of it when giving permission for the Minor to participate in the meeting: (1) that a meeting will be recorded; and (2) that images, video or audio may be used from the recording on social media or on the Presbytery website.
- There must be at least two (2) adults in any virtual meetings or breakout room or other virtual meeting space.
- Adults, Minors, and other participants in virtual meetings should not carry the phone or device they are using to participate into private areas such as bathrooms, with any camera or microphone on and the meeting is in progress.
- No adults or Minors are permitted to use the chat function, the name section, or any other feature of a virtual platform for inappropriate or offensive purposes during a virtual meeting, including, but not limited to:
  - Displaying inappropriate photographs or images, such as pornography or photographs of anyone who is naked or Inappropriately attired.
  - Displaying offensive or inappropriate messages.
  - Providing links to offensive and inappropriate websites or platforms.
  - Bullying, discriminating against or harassing anyone based upon their race/ethnicity, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, creed, protected disability status, citizenship status, genetic information or religious affiliation.
- No adult is permitted to use the private chat function of a virtual meeting platform to communicate privately with one or more Minors except when the privacy or dignity of the Minor requires it. If a private chat is necessary, it must be recorded and must copy another adult. Otherwise, all chat communications must be done openly so that all participants, including the other Adults, parents or guardians in the virtual meeting can see the chat communications. This should be announced at the start of every virtual meeting.

## Injuries to Children and Youth During Presbytery Activities

For **minor injuries, scrapes, and bruises** while a child is under the care of a volunteer, employee, or independent contractor during a presbytery activity, the child will receive **first aid** (band-aids, etc.) as appropriate, and the volunteer or employee will notify the child’s parent or guardian of the injury at the time the child is picked up.

For injuries requiring medical treatment beyond simple first aid, the parent and/or guardian will immediately be contacted. If warranted by circumstances, an ambulance will be called.

A volunteer or employee will complete an **Incident Report Form** (see **Appendix B**) if, while in the care of the volunteer or employee during a trip, event, or activity, a child or youth becomes ill (i.e. vomiting) or receives an injury that requires medical treatment (i.e. blood beyond the treatment of a band-aid); receives a bump or blow to the head regardless of treatment; is transported by ambulance from the presbytery activity; or experiences any other unusual or unexpected incident that jeopardizes the safety of the child. The Presbytery Administrator will maintain the Incident Reports in confidential, secured files.

## **Other Requirements**

Children and youth experience different levels of comfort with touching and hugging. Employees, volunteers, and independent contractors will respect the rights of children and youth not to be touched in ways that make them feel uncomfortable. To avoid uncomfortable situations, employees, volunteers, and independent contractors should seek to ask the child or youth before hugging or otherwise touching. Additionally, adults will discourage children from touching others in an unwanted or inappropriate manner.

For each child or youth participating in church-sponsored activities, a parent/guardian must complete and sign a registration form. This form grants permission to participate in Presbytery activities, authorizes emergency medical treatment, requests a photo release, and provides contact and medical information.

## **REPORTING AND RESPONSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Mandated Reporting**

Under Arkansas Code Annotated § 12-18-402, the following people, among others, are mandated reporters of child maltreatment: (1) clergy members, (2) childcare workers, and (3) people over eighteen years of age who observe abuse, sexual abuse, or sexual exploitation of a child. Mandatory reporters are required to immediately notify the Child Abuse Hotline if they have reasonable cause to suspect that a child has been subjected to child maltreatment, including abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, sexual exploitation, or abandonment. **EXCEPTION:** Ministers of Word and Sacrament and Commissioned Ruling Elders, who are required to keep confidences, by religious discipline or received knowledge from offenders in context of a statement of admission. (ACA § 12-18-402).

The Book of Order states the following on Confidentiality and Mandatory Reporting:

#### *G-4.0301 Trust and Confidentiality*

*In the exercise of pastoral care, ministers of the Word and Sacrament and ruling elders who have been commissioned by a presbytery to limited pastoral service (G-2.10) work to create communities of trust,*

*accountability, and confidentiality while protecting the vulnerable. Confidentiality creates safe and sacred space for individuals to share concerns, questions, and/or burdens and seek spiritual guidance.*

*Confidentiality should not be an excuse to hold secret the knowledge or risk of harm especially when related to the physical abuse, neglect, sexual abuse of a minor or an adult who lacks mental capacity. Ministers of the Word and Sacrament and commissioned ruling elders shall hold in confidence all information revealed to them in the course of providing care and all information relating to the exercise of such care except:*

*When the person whose confidences are at issue gives express consent to reveal confidential information, then a minister of the Word and Sacrament or a commissioned ruling elder may, but **cannot be compelled to**, reveal confidential information, or when a minister of the Word and Sacrament or commissioned ruling elder reasonably believes there is risk of imminent bodily harm to any person.*

#### *G-4.0302. Mandatory Reporting*

*Any member of this church engaged in ordered ministry and any certified Christian educator employed by this church or its congregations, shall report to ecclesiastical and civil authorities knowledge of harm, or the risk of harm, related to the physical abuse, neglect, and/or sexual molestation or abuse of a minor or an adult who lacks the mental capacity when (1) such information is gained outside of a confidential communication as defined in G-4.0301, (2) she or he is not bound by an obligation of privileged communication under law, or (3) she or he reasonably believes that there is risk of future physical harm or abuse.*

All people who work with children and youth, regardless of whether they are mandated reporters, are **required by this policy to report** child maltreatment to the Child Abuse Hotline, with the exception noted above for Ministers of Word and Sacrament and CREs.. They are strongly encouraged to report it, while also following their conscience. In addition, all people who work with Vulnerable Adults must report maltreatment to the Adult Maltreatment Hotline.

### **Child/Youth/Vulnerable Adult Protection Response Team**

On an annual basis, the Coordinating Team will appoint a Child/Youth/Vulnerable Adult Protection Response Team (the “**Response Team**”), which will consist of the Stated Clerk, the Presbytery staff person for youth and young adults, two Coordinating Team members, and at least two people in the Presbytery with experience or expertise in working with children and youth, in understanding developmentally appropriate behavior of children and youth or vulnerable adults, and/or in the proper handling of claims or suspicions of child abuse and neglect. The Response Team will have the responsibilities set forth below and will serve as a resource to the presbytery on policy and procedural matters relating to this policy, including review of the policy at least every two years.

1. Immediately provide for the safety of the alleged victim(s) involved to the extent possible, permitted, or appropriate.

2. If the report alleges and reasonable cause of abuse or neglect has been determined, the Response Team will:
  - a. immediately ensure that any allegation involving abuse, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, or abandonment of a child is reported to the civil authorities under state law;
  - b. immediately notify the parents or guardian of the Minor if appropriate;
  - c. notify the insurance company of the allegation and that no investigation has yet occurred.
3. Make decisions concerning the temporary removal of the individual accused from any contact with Minors pending an investigation and/or removal of the accused from the event until a resolution of the allegations has occurred.
4. Provide for pastoral counseling for the principal parties involved (accuser(s), possible victim(s), accused, family members). Provide victims and their families resources that may aid in the particular spiritual, psychological, or emotional needs and trauma that arise from the devastation of abuse.
5. Ensure that any person bringing a report of abuse or assisting in investigating will not be adversely affected in terms and conditions of employment, church membership or affiliation, or otherwise discriminated against or discharged. If the report is found to be untrue or unwarranted, provide support for the accused and ensure they will not be adversely affected in terms and conditions of employment, church membership or affiliation, or otherwise discriminated against or discharged

## **Procedures for Reporting and Responding to Suspected Abuse or Neglect**

All matters of reporting and responding to reports of sexual abuse or exploitation, physical or mental abuse, or neglect will be handled with respect in accordance with the procedures set forth below and applicable law, as well as the polity of the PC(USA).

If you have reasonable cause to believe that a minor has been abused, you must make a report, immediately but no later than 24 hours, to the local Department of Human Services office or law enforcement and are subject to criminal penalty for failing to do so.

Call: 844-SAVEACHILD or 800-482-5964 at any time, 24/7

Online Report: <https://mandatedreporter.arkansas.gov/>

If you have reasonable cause to believe that a vulnerable adult has been abused, you must make a report. Call: 1-800-482-8049 for any reports, including urgent situations that must be investigated within 24 hours.

Online Report: (for reports that do not need to be investigated within 24 hours)

[https://arkansas.leapsportal.net/LEAPSINTAKE/VerifyIntakeEmergency\\_501.aspx](https://arkansas.leapsportal.net/LEAPSINTAKE/VerifyIntakeEmergency_501.aspx)

### **1. Minister/CRE Has Reasonable Belief of Abuse or Neglect**

If a Minister of Word & Sacrament (Minister) or Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE) has reasonable cause to believe that a Child/Youth/Vulnerable Adult is the victim of sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, physical or mental abuse, or neglect, regardless of the source of the information, unless gained in confidence or through a statement of admission, the Pastor must, within 24 hours of receipt of such report, notify

Department of Human Services. Church professionals are mandated to report in accordance with the most recent published edition of the *Book of Order* (Part II of the PC(USA) Constitution), The Minister or CRE must also contact the Response Team.

## **2. Employee, Volunteer, or Independent Contractor Has Reasonable Belief of Abuse or Neglect**

If an employee, volunteer, or independent contractor has reasonable cause to believe that a Child/Youth/Vulnerable Adult is the victim of sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, physical or mental abuse, or neglect, such employee, volunteer, or independent contractor must, within 24 hours of such belief, notify Department of Human Services. Church members and educators are mandated to report in accordance with the most recent published edition of the *Book of Order* (Part II of the PC(USA) Constitution), which notes, “Any member of this church engaged in ordered ministry (Deacon, Elder, Minister of Word and Sacrament or Commissioned Ruling Elder) and any certified Christian educator employed by this presbytery or its congregations, shall report to ecclesiastical and civil legal authorities knowledge of harm, or the risk of harm, related to the physical abuse, neglect, and/or sexual molestation or abuse of a minor or an adult who lacks mental capacity *when (1) such information is gained outside of a confidential communication as defined in G-4.0301, (2) she or he is not bound by an obligation of privileged communication under law, or (3) she or he reasonably believes that there is risk of future physical harm or abuse.*” The employee, volunteer, or independent contractor must also contact a Presbytery staff member or the Response Team.

## **3. Minister, CRE, Employee, Volunteer, or Independent Contractor is Subject of Allegation of Abuse or Neglect**

If any individual has reasonable cause to believe a Minister, CRE, employee, volunteer, or independent contractor has committed sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, physical or mental abuse, or neglect involving a Child/Youth/Vulnerable Adult, the individual must within 24 hours of such belief, notify Department of Human Services. The individual must also contact a member of the Response Team within 24 hours of such belief.

If the accused is a staff member at a Presbyterian Church, the Response Team will contact the Moderator of the Session of that staff person’s church. If the accused is a Minister or CRE, the Response Team will ensure that a written statement of allegation is submitted to the Stated Clerk..

If any individual suspects but does not have reasonable cause to believe that a Minister/CRE has committed sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, physical or mental abuse, or neglect involving a Child/Youth/Vulnerable Adult, the individual must notify the Response Team within 24 hours of such suspicion. The Response Team will be responsible for making any reports required by law to the Department of Human Services, as well as beginning any judicial processes required by the *Book of Order*.

If any member of the Response Team is the subject of an allegation of sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, physical or mental abuse, or neglect involving a child, the allegation will be handled in accordance with this Policy, except the member will not participate on the Response Team during any investigation of an allegation.

## Other Procedures Relating to Reports of Suspected Abuse or Neglect

### (a) Documentation of Oral Report.

Following an initial oral report by an employee, volunteer, or independent contractor, such employee, volunteer, or independent contractor will document in writing the date, time, and circumstances of the report on the “**Incident Report Form**” (see **Appendix B**). The Stated Clerk and Presbytery Administrator will maintain the Incident Reports in a secure file.

### (b) No Interference with Investigation.

To avoid compromising, interfering with, or delaying any future investigation, the employee, volunteer, or independent contractor who makes a report will not engage in questioning the parties to the incident or conducting an independent investigation. The employee or volunteer will, however, take reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of the child/youth/vulnerable adult.

### (c) Full Cooperation with Outside Authorities.

Presbytery staff will fully cooperate with any investigation conducted by law enforcement or governmental authorities.

### (d) Removal of Accused from Activities.

If an accused person is an employee, volunteer, or independent contractor, the person will be required to refrain from participating in all activities with children, youth, and vulnerable adults pending the outcome of an investigation by the Presbytery and any investigation by the civil authorities.

### (e) Spokesperson for the Presbytery.

The Executive Presbyter, Stated Clerk, or legal counsel will either serve as or designate the sole spokesperson to communicate with outside authorities or other persons (including congregations and the media) regarding any reported incident.

## Reports to Insurance Company

In addition to the requirements above, Presbytery staff will comply with any requirements to disclose reported incidents of sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, physical or mental abuse, or neglect involving children, youth, or vulnerable adults who participate in Presbytery programs, or involving any Presbytery employee, member, volunteer, or independent contractor, to the Presbytery’s insurer.



**I have never terminated my employment, professional credentials, or service in a volunteer position or had my employment, professional credentials, or authorization to hold a volunteer position terminated for reasons relating to allegations of actual or attempted sexual discrimination, harassment, exploitation, or misconduct; physical abuse; child abuse; or financial misconduct.**

**True**                       **Not True**

*If not true, give a short explanation at the end of this form. (Please indicate the date of termination; name, address, and telephone number of employer or volunteer supervisor; and nature of the incident(s) leading to your termination.)*

**With respect to my driving record, I have not had my license suspended or revoked within the last five years due to reckless driving or driving while intoxicated and/or under the influence of a controlled substance.**

**True**                       **Not True**

**Is there any fact or circumstance involving you or your background that would call into question your being entrusted with the responsibilities of the position for which you are applying?**

**Yes**                                       **No**

*If yes, please provide a brief explanation on the back of this form.*

The covenants between persons seeking authorized volunteer positions in the church require honesty, integrity, and truthfulness for the health of the church. To that end, I attest that the information set forth in this application is true and complete. I understand that any misrepresentation or omission may be grounds for rejection of consideration for, or termination of, the position I am seeking to fill. I acknowledge that it is my duty in a timely fashion to amend the responses and information I have provided if I come to know that the response or information was incorrect when given or, though accurate when given, the response or information is no longer accurate.

Beginning such relationships with an open exchange of relevant information builds the foundation for a continuing and healthy covenant between volunteers and the church they seek to serve. To that end, I authorize the Presbytery of Arkansas and/or its agents to make inquiries regarding my character and qualifications, including all statements I have set forth above. I also authorize all entities, persons, former employers, supervisors, courts, law enforcement, and other public agencies to respond to inquiries concerning me, to supply verification of the statements I have made, and to comment on and state opinions regarding my background, character, and qualifications. To encourage such persons and entities to speak openly and responsibly, I hereby release them from all liability arising from their responses, comments, and statements.

Should my application be accepted, I agree to be bound by the bylaws and policies of the Presbytery of Arkansas. I also hereby authorize the Presbytery of Arkansas and/or its agents to make an independent investigation of my background, references, character, past employment, education, credit history, criminal or police records, including those maintained by both public and private organizations and all public records for the purpose of confirming the information contained on my application and/or obtaining

other information which may be material to my qualifications for employment/service now and, if applicable, during the tenure of my employment/service with the Presbytery of Arkansas.

These above-mentioned background information checks may include, but are not limited to, employment and education verifications, social security verification, driving record information, personal references, personal interviews and personal credit history. I further understand that an acceptable credit report and/or background check will allow me to continue the pre-employment/service process and that an unacceptable credit and/or background check may result in the discontinuation of my pre-employment/service process. I understand if I am hired/serving prior to the completion of the background check that an unacceptable background check will result in my termination. I understand that I am entitled to a complete and accurate disclosure of the nature and scope of any criminal background search prepared on me upon written request within a reasonable time after the date of such search.

I further authorize any person, business entity or governmental agency who may have information relevant to the above to disclose the same to the Presbytery of Arkansas including but not limited to any courthouse, any public agency and all law enforcement agencies and any and all credit bureaus regardless of whether such person, business entity or governmental agency compiled the information itself or received it from other sources. I release the Presbytery of Arkansas and/or its agents and any persons, business entities and governmental agencies, whether public or private, from any and all liability, claims and/or demands, of whatever kind, by me, my heirs and others making such claim or demand on my behalf, for procuring, selling, providing, brokering and/or assisting with compilation or preparation of the background information check hereby authorized.

I authorize the Presbytery of Arkansas and its agents to circulate, distribute, and otherwise share information gathered in connection with this application to those persons in a position to recruit, secure, and supervise both the position I am seeking to fill and program I am seeking to participate in. I understand that the Presbytery of Arkansas will share with me information it has gathered about me, if I request it to do so.

I acknowledge my receipt and understanding of the Presbytery of Arkansas Safe Church Covenant.

---

**(PRINT NAME & SIGN)** **DATE**

**For Background Check only:**

Full Legal Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Maiden Name or other names used: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security #: \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ Driver's License State and # \_\_\_\_\_

If you have lived less than 5 years at the address provided above, please list the counties and states of your former residence(s):

**For Office Use Only:**

Sex Offender Registry ([www.nsopr.gov](http://www.nsopr.gov)) review performed on \_\_\_\_\_

Background Check performed on \_\_\_\_\_

Personal interview conducted by staff on \_\_\_\_\_

Church/Faith Community association for 6 mos. confirmed on \_\_\_\_\_

Safe church awareness training and policy orientation performed on \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Disclosures, as applicable:

**Appendix B:**

**Presbytery of Arkansas  
Children and Youth Ministry - Incident Report Form**

Name of Person Involved \_\_\_\_\_

Participant Chaperone Staff

Name of Parent/Guardian (if minor) \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Incident

Behavioral Accident Illness Other (describe \_\_\_\_\_)

Date of Incident/Accident \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_   a.m. p.m.

Place of Incident/Accident \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the sequence of activity in detail including what the (injured) person was doing at the time or what information was given: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name of witnesses: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Describe Actions Taken: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Could this have been avoided? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, then how? \_\_\_\_\_

Who was notified (parent/guardian, staff, etc), when, how: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Person Completing Report Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature & Date

## Appendix C: DEFINITIONS

The following is a list of definitions of terms and their intended use in this particular Policy. For the purpose of this Policy:

- **Child:** A child is defined as a person between the ages of 0–11.
- **Youth:** A youth is defined as a person between the ages of 12–17.
- **Minor:** A minor is defined as any Child or Youth 0–17 years-old.
- **Child/Youth Worker:** Any person, volunteer, paid staff or contractor who participates at any level at events or activities involving Children and/or Youth. This includes chaperones who accompany Minors to and during meetings, events, and activities covered by this Policy.
- **Vulnerable Adult:** Any person eighteen-years-old or older without the developmental or cognitive capacity to consent.
- **Child/Youth Abuse:** Any act or failure to act that results in physical abuse, neglect, and or sexual molestation or abuse, sexual, psychological, or emotional mistreatment, or exploitation of a Child or Youth.
- **Vulnerable Adult Abuse:** Any act or failure to act that results in physical abuse, neglect, and/or sexual molestation or abuse, sexual, psychological, or emotional mistreatment or exploitation of a Vulnerable Adult.
- **Sexual Abuse:**
  - The Book of Order defines sexual abuse as “any offense involving sexual conduct in relation to (1) any person under the age of eighteen years or anyone without the capacity to consent; or (2) any person when the conduct includes force, threat, coercion, intimidation, or misuse of ordered ministry or position” (Book of Order, D-7.091).
  - Under Arkansas Code Annotated § 12-18-103, sexual abuse can involve the following activities directed toward a young person:
    - (i) Sexual intercourse, deviate sexual activity, or sexual contact;
    - (ii) Attempted sexual intercourse, deviate sexual activity, or sexual contact;
    - (iii) Forcing or encouraging the watching of pornography;
    - (iv) Forcing, permitting, or encouraging the watching of live sexual activity;
    - (v) Forcing the listening to a phone sex line;
    - (vi) An act of voyeurism; or
    - (vii) Solicitation of sexual intercourse, deviate sexual activity, or sexual contact;
  - As used in this Policy, Sexual Abuse means any conduct that qualifies as sexual abuse as defined by the Book of Order, regardless of whether such conduct is criminal in nature.

**Section E**  
**Report of the Treasurer**  
**RE Tom Verdery**  
**2026 Year to Date Review & Financial Update**

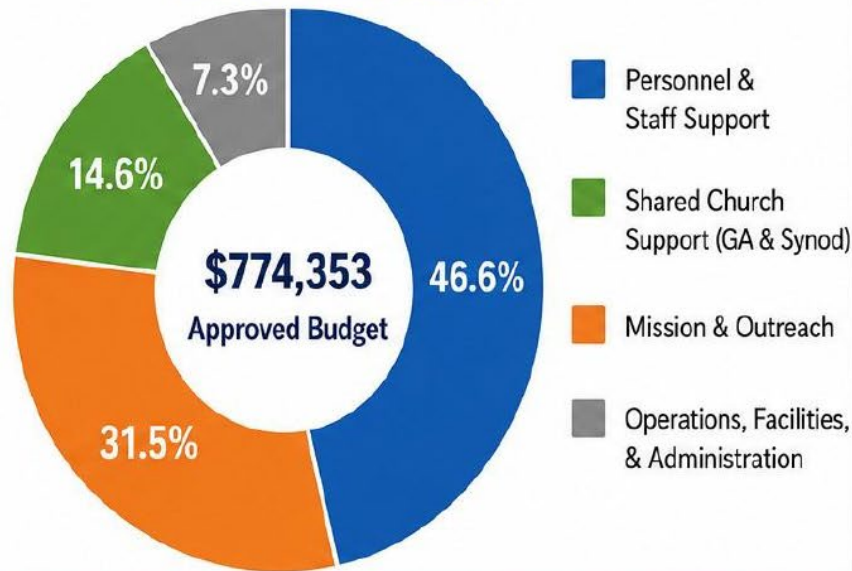
**For Information:**

1. The Presbytery of Arkansas revenues and expenses through April 2026 were below budget resulting in a net income to date of +\$3,093. While revenues were slightly down due to lower Mission Acceptance versus previous period last year (-1.4%), expenses were significantly down versus same period last year (-8.9%). 2026 expenses (year to date) were down mainly due to lower spending across most committees.
2. Through April 2026 the financial markets have been strong and highly volatile. The Texas Presbyterian Foundation performance in their Balanced Pooled Funds is up 5.4% (year to date). Your Presbytery of Arkansas is in a strong cash flow position with significant funds in money market and checking accounts, eliminating the need to take significant withdrawals from the Balanced Pooled funds invested in stocks and fixed income this year.
3. We completed our 2025 independent Financial Review with Landmark CPA. The accounting firm's review came back with a solid review showing no discrepancies or recommendations for modification of any of our financial statements.
4. The Presbytery recently completed a review of all our insurance coverages. The Presbytery of Arkansas has adequate insurance coverage based upon PCUSA standards. A copy of the binder is in the packet for review.
5. All our financial reports are in the packet for your review, including a new "Pie Chart" review on where the Presbytery spends its money. The chart is located on the next page. Please note that the largest amount we plan to spend in 2026 will be focused on Mission & Outreach both inside and outside our Presbytery.
6. Our continued focus for 2026 and beyond will be creating programs and support to aid all churches and organizations associated with our Presbytery. In addition, we are focused on supporting financially all the staff positions approved by the Presbytery both in the short and long term.

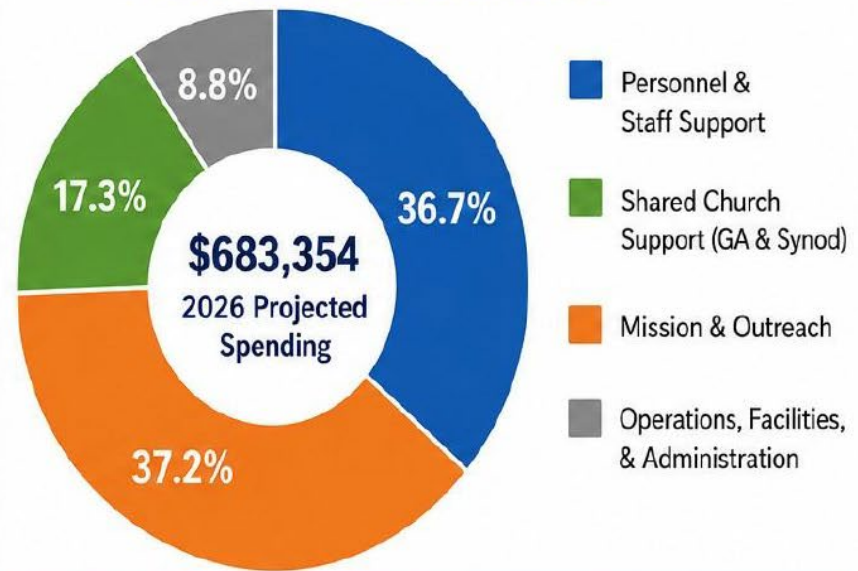
# 2026 Budget Comparison: Approved vs. Projected Spending

*A larger share of resources is directed toward mission and outreach in 2026.*

### APPROVED BUDGET



### 2026 PROJECTED SPENDING



CATEGORY	APPROVED BUDGET	2026 PROJECTED SPENDING	CHANGE (PERCENTAGE POINTS)
● Personnel & Staff Support	46.6%	36.7%	-9.9 pts
● Shared Church Support (GA & Synod)	14.6%	17.3%	+2.7 pts
● Mission & Outreach	31.5%	37.2%	+5.7 pts
● Operations, Facilities, & Administration	7.3%	8.8%	+1.5 pts
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	-

**Section F**  
**Report from the Nominations Committee**  
**Moderator MWS Robert Lowry**  
June 6, 2026

The committee continues its work to recruit for all presbytery committees and ministries. As of June 1, 2026 nominees for 20 of the 42 positions to be filled have been received. On behalf of the committee, thank you to everyone who has volunteered to serve or nominated individuals to serve.

The committee asks that you give prayerful discernment to service in a presbytery ministry. If you have questions about how a ministry works or how often it meets, we will gladly get you in touch with the moderator or staff person who can answer those questions.

Nominations will be received until all positions are filled. The full slate will be presented to the presbytery at the fall 2026 meeting.

All positions are eligible for nomination. The list below represents those for which there are not yet any nominations. In the event there are multiple nominees for a single position, the committee works to ensure that we present the most balanced and diverse slate possible to the presbytery in the fall. All nominees are given full consideration for nomination.

Positions still in need of nominations include:

- Committee on Ministry Class of 2029- One (1) MWS or RE
- Committee Preparation for Ministry Class of 2029- One (1) RE
- Coordinating Team- Class of 2029- One (1) MWS or RE  
Class of 2027- Two (2) MWS or RE
- Youth and Young Adults Class of 2027- One (1)  
Class of 2028- One (1)
- Innovation and Incubation Class of 2028- One (1)
- Readers for Ordination Exams Spring 2027- One (1) each MWS/RE
- Representation All Classes- 2 per class (total 6)
- PJC- 4 MWS/RE
- Moderator of Presbytery 2028 (Vice-Moderator 2027)- MWS/RE

On behalf of the committee, thank you for helping us find the best leaders for our presbytery ministries.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Dr. Robert Wm Lowry, Moderator



**SCAN THE QR TO THE RIGHT FOR 2026 NOMINATIONS FORM**

**Section G**  
**Report from Committee on Ministry**  
**Moderator MWS Leslie Roper**  
**MWS Robert Lowry, Committee Clerk**

**For Information: COM Approved at stated meetings.**

1. Approved the part-time Temporary Pastoral Relationship between Dr. Ronnie Prevost, CRE, and the Presbyterian Church of Bella Vista. Ronnie's contract and his statement of faith are included in this packet in Section G, Exhibits 2 and 3.
  
2. Approved the following Administrative Commission to conduct a service of installation for Rev. Jeff Kane on July 26 at Kirk in the Pines Presbyterian Church of Hot Springs Village at 3 pm.  
RE Ruth Hamilton to moderate  
RE Dawn Cattaneo  
RE Priscilla Hayek  
MWS Ben Kane to preach  
RE Claire Rhodes  
MWS Leslie Roper to charge the congregation  
MWS Bill Seitz  
  
Offering Recipient to be Project Hope Foodbank.
  
3. Approved the following session moderators: MWS Robert Lowry and RE Sally Browder as co-moderators at Grace Presbyterian, Little Rock and MWS Grant Wildwright as moderator at Trinity Presbyterian, Little Rock.
  
4. Granted permission for First United Presbyterian Church, Fayetteville to form and Associate Pastor Nominating Committee.
  
5. Approved committee members to represent the COM on special committees in the Presbytery: MWS Brian Brock to serve on the committee for the 1001 Worshipping Community Grant for the Queer Collective and RE Mike McClure to serve on the temporary personnel committee at the request of Coordinating Team.

**For Presbytery Action:**

1. **Motion to approve updated Minimum Terms of Call for the Presbytery of Arkansas.** The updated recommendation can be found in the addendum packet.
  
2. **Necrology Report (See Section G, Exhibit 1)**

**Section G, Exhibit 1**  
**Necrology Report**  
**Sally Stockley Johnson**  
**Sept. 21, 1937—May 31, 2026**

Reverend Sally Johnson passed away on May 31, 2026. She was born on September 21, 1937, in Memphis, TN. She was the oldest of three children. Sally remained close to her sister, Harriet, and brother, Grif, throughout her life, especially toward the end of their lives. She was an excellent student. Her saved report cards show straight As in every grade. Sally enjoyed roles in school plays, yearbook staff, honor society, and girls' basketball. She attended Southwestern College (Rhodes, College), graduating with honors in three years. Sally married Voris Johnson in 1957 and they had three children: Julie, Charlie, and Voris Jr. (Vo). She was a devoted coach's wife cheering on the Marianna Porcupines and Hot Springs Trojans.

Sally started her career as a high school English and Spanish teacher in Marianna. She also taught in the Hot Springs, and the Lakeside school districts, as well as at Garland County Community College. Former students still cite her positive influence on their lives. In the mid-1970s, Sally changed careers and became the Director of Christian Education at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Hot Springs. She then felt a call to ministry and attended Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. She was ordained by Mission Presbytery in 1989. She served as the Associate Pastor at Northwood Presbyterian Church, and as Senior Pastor at Beacon Hill Presbyterian Church, both in San Antonio, TX.

While in San Antonio, Sally met Carlos Lopez, a retired Presbyterian minister, and they married, sharing 25 years of love and laughter. Sally and Carlos enjoyed spending time with their 13 shared grandchildren. One of Sally's final accomplishments was writing three novels, completing the third during the pandemic. Writing fiction was something she had always wanted to do, since she was in third grade.

Sally is survived by her children, Julie Holt, Charlie, Voris Jr. and their families and Carlos's son Dan Lopez, daughter Alicia Lopez and their families. A service in memory of Sally will be held at Westover Hills Presbyterian Church later this summer.

**Section G, Exhibit 2**  
**A Covenant between**  
**The Presbyterian Church of Bella Vista and Dr. Ronnie Prevost, CRE**

This Covenant governs the relationship between the Session of the Presbyterian Church of Bella Vista, Bella Vista, Arkansas, and Dr. Ronnie Prevost, Certified Ruling Elder, approved by the Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery of Arkansas, to serve as an Interim or Transitional Pastor. This Covenant establishes a temporary pastoral relationship subject to the requirements of G-2.0504(b) of the Book of Order of the PCUSA and commences on May 31, 2026, and will be reviewed, adjusted as needed, and renewed in six (6) month intervals beginning November 30, 2026. This Covenant may be terminated by either party with 30 days' written notice.

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE POSITION:**

1. Prepare for and lead worship, including funerals, memorials or special services; and provide materials to the office staff for production of worship bulletins.
2. Provide one (1) day each week for pastoral care and counseling, including visits with members in crisis and assistance to member families in the event of a death.
3. Moderate monthly Session meetings, which may occasionally include elder training and boundary training, and serve as a resource for Operations (OPS), Spiritual Life (SLC) and Congregational Life (CLC) committees. Attendance at OPS, SLC and CLC meetings would be optional.
4. Attend staff meetings as needed.
5. Except for an emergency, provide a minimum six (6) week notice for Session approval of requested time off, whether for use as vacation time or additional unpaid time off.

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SESSION:**

1. Pay compensation of \$30,000 annually, payable in equal monthly installments.
2. Provide four (4) weeks of paid vacation annually.
3. Pay expenses and mileage reimbursement, at IRS recommended rate, to attend Presbytery of Arkansas meetings; allow extra days off as compensation for time spent traveling to and attending Presbytery meetings.
4. Provide support as requested.

Dr. Ronnie Prevost, CRE \_\_\_\_\_ (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk of Session \_\_\_\_\_ (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

Committee on Ministry \_\_\_\_\_ (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

## **Section G, Exhibit 3**

### **Statement of Faith of Ronnie Prevost**

My faith is in an eternal, immortal and Holy God Who through grace, chose to reveal the infinite Divine Self to us, finite and mortal humankind in terms that we can have at least some understanding and comprehension of and relationship with God.

I believe God to be triune, revealed in and through Scripture as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. All three persons are eternally God and all three have been and are active in all God's work from creation through redemption and sanctification and, ultimately, glorification. All these are acts of grace and out of God's love and care for all creation.

Though beyond human understandings of gender, the first person of the triune God has been revealed and described in Scripture both in terms of Father (as is traditionally understood) as well as with feminine imagery.

God the Son became incarnate in Jesus the Christ. Jesus, fully human yet fully God (one of the greatest mysteries), lived and died sinless that sinful humanity might be redeemed. His resurrection on the third day vindicated Him and gives blessed hope to all His followers. Jesus' sacrifice and atonement is the greatest expression of God's love and God's grace without which humanity is doomed. Jesus' life, sacrifice and teachings serve as patterns by which those who call Him "Lord" are both called and commanded to live. However, this does not mean that humans can earn salvation, redemption, etc. through works -- even if total obedience were possible. Rather, that is the work of God through grace beyond our comprehension.

God the Holy Spirit has been active throughout eternity and specifically mentioned as the agent of creation. Throughout history the Holy Spirit has called and empowered people to do God's work -- despite sinful human nature which impacts all people are and all they do. Through grace the Holy Spirit inspired flawed creatures to write and preserve Scripture. Through grace the Holy Spirit calls people to salvation. Through grace -- and due to Jesus' atoning death -- the Holy Spirit cleanses and redeems sinful people. Through grace the Holy Spirit calls people to join in God's work on earth and entrusts them with gifts to accomplish that work. Through grace the Holy Spirit sheds light on Scripture -- written in vastly different cultures of long ago -- and guides our interpretation of it. God's Holy Spirit also guides and empowers God's people to live lives and service in our world and culture(s) today.

The church is the body of Jesus the Christ and the covenant community through which God works and serves throughout the world. The church exists both as local congregations and as the church universal. The sacraments of and in the church are baptism and communion. They are the "signs and seals" and reminders of Jesus' presence and work. They are symbols of what God has done and promises to do. They call God's covenant people to join in God's work. They reflect our collective and individual spiritual union with God and promote unity within the community of faith. Specifically, baptism is the sign and seal of one's inclusion in both God's grace and the covenant community -- the church. Communion is the table of Jesus the Christ and at which He is spiritually present. Therefore, we invite to Communion all who profess Jesus as Lord. Communion connects Christians of all ages in that we all partake of God's grace. It is a call to unity and genuine communion with each other as -- with God's help -- we bear witness in our daily lives "to the saving death of our risen Lord until He comes."

**Section H**  
**Report of the Committee on the Mission of the Church**  
**Moderator CRE Peg Falls-Corbitt**  
**June 2026**

**2026 Membership**

2026: Peg Falls-Corbitt (moderator); LaWanda Harris; Leigh Woodruff

2027: Carla Taylor, Lindy Vogado, David Gill

2028: Neely Carter, Mary Jane Fisher, Allison Richardson

Presbytery Staff Support: Kim Palmer

**Next Deadline for Mission Initiative Grants: July 15<sup>th</sup>**  
**See application directions and form on Presbytery Website:**

[Click here to see the grant guidelines](#)

**Mission Initiative Grants**

**Grants are acted on three times a year or as long as funds remain. The two remaining deadlines are: July 15<sup>th</sup>, and October 15<sup>th</sup>.**

Grant recipients and mission projects supported from the April 15<sup>th</sup> round of proposals were as follows:

Allison Memorial	Wilson Food Pantry
First Alma	Blessing Box Food Ministry
AR Black Caucus	Youth Summit
Hopewell Presbyterian	Spiritual Formation Camp
First Huntsville	Community Outreach (Distribution of personal hygiene items)
Kirk in the Pines	Helping Hands Meals for Homebound Neighbors
Mountainburg Presbyterian	Food Pantry and Sr. Meals Delivery
Trinity Presbyterian	Church-led activities for Vera Lloyd Residents

The above awards ranged from \$700 to \$1500. Approximately \$10,000 remains in the budget to be distributed in July and/or October.

**International Mission Initiative Grants**

The Honduran Sub-Committee was awarded a \$1000 grant to help cover the cost of Honduran church leaders attending the Honduran Network Retreat. Approximately \$700 remains in this line item. There is no application form. Email proposals to the moderator Peg Falls-Corbitt ([fallscorbitt@hendri.edu](mailto:fallscorbitt@hendri.edu)). Please provide a descriptive subject line to your email, e.g. \_(church)\_ Internation Mission Grant

**Mission Trip Scholarship Grants**

To apply for small grants to cover expenses for mission trips, [click here](#).

**Support for Providence Park**

The MOTC has led the way for our Presbytery to fund TWO houses at Providence Park: The Gault House (funded by proceeds from the Gary Gault Trust) and the "Presby House." Funding of the latter was through a Presbytery Challenge Grant to which there has been a generous response through the offering at the last Presbytery meeting and congregations from across the Presbytery: Second Presbyterian Little Rock, First Morrilton, First Springdale, First Bentonville, and several individual donors.

## **Report of the Resource Team**

### **Moderator CCE Kristi Button**

The resource team, under the Mission of the Church Ministry, has been considering ways to continue to provide resources and connections for Educators, Pastors and Volunteers across the Presbytery.

In mid-April, the team met to consider Faith Formation Grant Applications from churches and ministries within the Presbytery. We awarded five grants totaling \$2,150. The applications were wonderful to read and the projects were all worthy of support. We will report back on projects later in the year as the groups tell us how the events and series they are planning went. Be thinking of programs for which your ministry could put up to \$500 to good use and apply for a grant in our next cycle.

The next cycle of Faith Formation Grants deadline is September 30. [Click here](#) for information.

Please continue to share names of and ways to connect with those planning Christian Education in your contexts and continue to reach out with your needs. We want to plan ways to connect you with resources and speakers.

Kristi Button  
Resource Team Moderator

**Section I**  
**Report of the Coordinating Team**  
**Moderator MWS Judi McMillan**

For Information:

The Coordinating Team met on April 20 took the following actions:

1. Elected MWS Elizabeth Brinegar as the second Teaching Elder Commissioner to the General Assembly.
2. Approved a plan for covering essential functions in the Presbytery office after Julie Price's retirement and Jim Poinsett's end of contract. Duties were divided between the Stated Clerk Blake Brinegar, Administrator Kim Palmer, and Transitional Youth and Young Adult Developer Sarah Leer. On an independent contractor/hourly basis. MWS Judi McMillan and RE Jane Webb were appointed to facilitate a discussion with Kim Palmer regarding making her position full-time with benefits.
3. A team of Susan Morris, Robert Lowry, Elizabeth Brinegar, Judi McMillan, and David Stricklin was appointed to propose a plan for staffing coverage after June 30 and to evaluate the job descriptions for Executive Presbyter and Director of Operations for ways they might be reconfigured to aid in the search process.

The Coordinating Team met on June 1 and took the following actions:

1. Approved a plan for staffing the Presbytery after June 30, which includes hiring an interim half-time Director of Strategic Initiatives, and two quarter-time interim Directors of Rural and Small Church Vitality.
2. Approved making the Administrator/Connector position (Kim Palmer) full-time with benefits.
3. Appointed an Administrative Commission to work with Mountain Home to discern the future of that congregation. CRE Judy Benson (Wynne), MWS Patty Schaller (Horseshoe Bend), MWS Robert Lowry (Westover Hills, LR)
4. Appointed CRE Peg Falls-Corbitt to the Nominating Committee to replace MWS Becky Purcell, who has moved out-of-state.

# Financial Statements

## THE PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS

Balance Sheet  
April 30, 2026

### ASSETS

#### Current Assets

Bank OZK CD	255,578.57	
Simmons Operating Account	107,267.26	
Simmons Restricted Accounts	851,327.11	
TPF Investments	6,534,240.22	
56150 Fin Req Investment Fund	983,972.75	
TPF Mark to Market 52190	1,316,018.50	
N/R Churches	42,077.00	
N/R Ministers	6,000.00	
	<hr/>	
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>10,096,481.41</b>

#### Property and Equipment

Furniture & Fixtures	68,609.89	
Land	128,571.00	
Buildings	611,516.12	
	<hr/>	
	808,697.01	
Accumulated Depreciation	(331,498.31)	
	<hr/>	
<b>Net Property and Equipment</b>		<b>10,573,680.11</b>

**TOTAL ASSETS** **\$ 10,573,680.11**

### LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL

#### Current Liabilities

Payroll & Other Withholdings	0.00	
	<hr/>	
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>0.00</b>

#### Fund Balance

Equity Beginning Balance	\$ 4,343,422.31	
Fund Balance	4,199,067.27	
Unrealized Gains/Losses	2,115,107.03	
Net Income	(83,916.50)	
	<hr/>	
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>		<b>10,573,680.11</b>

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & CAPITAL** **\$ 10,573,680.11**

Unaudited - For Management Purposes Only

The Presbytery of Arkansas					
Mission Acceptance as of April 30, 2026					
LOCATION	2022 Mission Acceptance	2023 Mission Acceptance	2024 Mission Acceptance	2025 Mission Acceptance	2026 Mission Acceptance
Alma	-	-	-	-	-
Amity	-	-	-	-	-
Arkadelphia, First	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.01	1,500.00	1,500.00
Arkadelphia, West End	1,110.00	1,110.00	1,200.00	1,315.25	-
Atkins	-	150.00	-	-	-
Batesville	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	2,500.00
Beebe	900.00	900.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	300.00
Bella Vista	20,000.44	11,250.00	1,963.10	1,736.10	
Benton	9,000.00	6,300.00	4,500.00	6,000.00	1,500.00
Bentonville, First	32,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	-
Bentonville, Vaughn	-	-	-	-	-
Bull Shoals	116.74	116.74	127.40	120.00	107.80
Cane Hill	-	-	-	-	-
Clarksville, First	-	-	-	-	-
Clarksville, Harmony	-	-	-	-	-
Conway	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	2,500.00
Dardanelle	3,500.00	3,000.00	-	4,000.00	-
Elkins	1,000.00	500.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Fairfield Bay	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00
Fayetteville, First United	41,000.00	41,000.00	41,000.00	41,700.04	13,666.68
Fayetteville, Mt. Comfort	900.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	-	1,000.00
Forrest City	8,250.00	9,625.00	7,500.00	10,751.66	2,250.00
Ft. Smith, Central	16,000.00	-	125.00	-	371.58
Ft. Smith, First	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Greenwood	1,000.00	-	-	-	-
Gurdon	-	-	-	-	-
Hardy	-	-	-	-	-
Harrison	-	-	-	-	-
Heber Springs	-	450.00	-	-	-
Helena	-	-	-	-	-
Holiday Island	6,200.00	6,200.00	6,200.00	7,425.00	1,550.00
Holly Grove	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	600.00
Horseshoe Bend	2,300.00	1,600.00	1,300.00	1,700.00	400.00
HSV, Kirk	27,270.00	22,000.44	22,000.00	10,561.50	1,250.00
H. Springs, First	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	16,000.00	4,000.00
H. Springs, Westminster	8,012.04	8,212.04	8,012.04	8,012.04	2,670.68
Huntsville	2,400.00	2,200.00	2,400.00	1,200.00	811.00
Jacksonville	3,000.00	3,224.95	3,605.00	2,600.00	1,000.00
Jonesboro	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	8,050.00	1,550.00
LR, Allison	-	-	-	-	-
LR, First	-	-	-	-	-

The Presbytery of Arkansas					
Mission Acceptance as of April 30, 2026					
LOCATION	2022 Mission Acceptance	2023 Mission Acceptance	2024 Mission Acceptance	2025 Mission Acceptance	2026 Mission Acceptance
LR, Grace	7,900.00	3,900.00	3,500.00	5,375.63	-
LR, Pulaski Heights	3,618.00	3,606.00	3,628.00	2,100.00	591.60
Little Rock, Second	200,000.00	190,000.00	190,000.00	170,000.00	-
LR, Trinity	8,000.00	8,000.00	7,999.99	8,000.00	1,999.98
LR, Westover Hills	2,500.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	-	-
Malvern	5,241.60	-	-	-	-
McGehee	2,520.00	2,520.00	2,520.00	2,310.00	840.00
Mena	5,000.00	5,500.00	4,125.00	7,375.00	750.00
Morrilton, First	1,100.00	1,300.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	400.00
Morrilton, Hopewell	-	-	-	428.40	-
Mountain Home	500.00	-	1,187.96	-	-
Mountainburg	-	-	-	-	-
Newport	2,700.00	2,700.00	2,700.00	2,700.00	900.00
Norman	-	-	-	-	-
NLR, Park Hill	13,000.00	8,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	-
Paragould, First	-	-	-	-	-
Pea Ridge	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,412.56	1,000.00
Pine Bluff, Central	115.80	-	-	-	-
Pine Bluff, Faith	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Bluff, First	6,996.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	-
Prairie Grove	4,730.00	6,022.00	1,959.00	1,200.00	200.00
Rogers	7,000.01	7,611.96	6,999.96	6,416.67	2,333.32
Russellville	-	-	-	-	-
Searcy	-	2,000.00	-	-	-
Springdale	30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	10,000.00
Van Buren	-	-	-	-	-
Walnut Ridge	-	7,350.48	-	-	-
Wynne	9,999.96	5,000.00	3,750.00	5,000.00	2,500.00
Yellville	6,000.00	3,000.00	6,000.00	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>551,730.59</b>	<b>480,949.61</b>	<b>440,552.46</b>	<b>410,739.85</b>	<b>66,392.64</b>

THE PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS								
Operating Income Statement								
For the Four Months Ending April 30, 2026								
		Current Month	Current Month Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget	2026 Asking Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
6000-01	Mission Acceptance	23,913.13	33,333.33	(9,420.20)	66,392.64	133,333.33	400,000.00	(333,607.36)
6015-04-1-000	TPF Investment Spend Rate	29,558.23	29,112.75	445.48	118,488.29	116,451.00	349,352.99	(230,864.70)
6015-01-1-000	Simmons Bank Interest	1,330.69	1,250.00	80.69	4,908.20	5,000.00	15,000.00	(10,091.80)
6015-01-2-000	Bank OZK CD Interest	-	-	-	-	1,666.67	5,000.00	(5,000.00)
6001-00-1-000	Miscellaneous Revenue	818.69	416.67	402.02	1,648.57	1,666.67	5,000.00	(3,351.43)
	Total Revenues	55,620.74	64,112.75	(8,492.01)	191,437.70	258,117.66	774,352.99	(582,915.29)
<b>Expenses</b>								
7000-01-1-000	Coordinating Team--Meeting Exp, Meals, Worship	1,224.04	100.00	1,124.04	1,356.75	400.00	1,200.00	156.75
7000-06-1-000	Coordinating Team--Gifts	-	4.17	(4.17)	44.79	16.67	50.00	(5.21)
7000-09-1-000	Coordinating Team--Moderator's Expense	-	37.50	(37.50)	351.67	150.00	450.00	(98.33)
7000-10-1-000	Coordinating Team--Vice moderator's Expense	-	95.83	(95.83)	-	383.33	1,150.00	(1,150.00)
7000-11-1-000	Coordinating Team-General Presbyter Search Committee Exp	-	333.33	(333.33)	364.38	1,333.33	4,000.00	(3,635.62)
7000-20-1-000	Coordinating Team--Presbytery Workshop/Speaker	-	125.00	(125.00)	295.00	500.00	1,500.00	(1,205.00)
7000-31-1-000	Coordinating Team--Background Checks	20.00	41.67	-	80.00	166.67	500.00	(420.00)
		1,244.04	737.50	528.21	2,492.59	2,950.00	8,850.00	(6,357.41)
7100-01-1-000	Administration--Meeting Expense, Financial Review	5,386.21	666.67	4,719.54	7,893.84	2,666.67	8,000.00	(106.16)
7100-05-1-000	Administration--Fencliff General Site Support	-	2,000.00	(2,000.00)	-	8,000.00	24,000.00	(24,000.00)
7500-21-1-000	West End Operation Support	3,375.00	1,125.00	2,250.00	3,375.00	4,500.00	13,500.00	(10,125.00)
7500-53-1-000	Laotian Ministry support	900.00	300.00	600.00	900.00	1,200.00	3,600.00	(2,700.00)
7500-98-1-000	Faith Presbyterian Operation Support	1,782.00	594.00	1,188.00	1,782.00	2,376.00	7,128.00	(5,346.00)
		11,443.21	4,685.67	6,757.54	13,950.84	18,742.67	56,228.00	(42,277.16)
7700-01-1-000	Committee on Ministry--travel,food,meeting support	-	208.33	(208.33)	-	833.33	2,500.00	(2,500.00)
8000-01-1-000	Committee on Preparation for Ministry--Meeting Expenses, etc.	-	41.67	(41.67)	-	166.67	500.00	(500.00)
8000-09-1-000	Committee on Preparation for Ministry--Eval, Retreat, Support, Bkg Checks	-	125.00	(125.00)	-	500.00	1,500.00	(1,500.00)
8400-08-1-000	Committee on Ministry--Wellspring Contract	-	870.00	(870.00)	-	3,480.00	10,440.00	(10,440.00)
		-	1,245.00	(1,245.00)	-	4,980.00	14,940.00	(14,940.00)
7300-29-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--Campus Ministry/Program Support	2,398.46	2,583.33	(184.87)	9,600.84	10,333.33	31,000.00	(21,399.16)
7300-71-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT--Planning Retreats & Materials	-	83.33	(83.33)	452.75	333.33	1,000.00	(547.25)
7300-73-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT Scholarships	-	41.67	(41.67)	-	166.67	500.00	(500.00)
7300-74-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT Denomination Trips	-	83.33	(83.33)	-	333.33	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
7300-75-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT--Youth @ Presbytery	-	41.67	(41.67)	185.32	166.67	500.00	(314.68)
7300-76-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT YouthQuake	325.69	750.00	(424.31)	(2,174.31)	3,000.00	9,000.00	(11,174.31)
7300-78-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT Montreat	(1,495.18)	750.00	(2,245.18)	6,254.31	3,000.00	9,000.00	(2,745.69)
7300-79-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT--JR High Summer Trip	2,880.00	250.00	2,630.00	2,254.87	1,000.00	3,000.00	(745.13)
7300-80-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT--Matthew 25 Account	-	41.67	(41.67)	-	166.67	500.00	(500.00)
7300-84-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--Young Adult Ministries	-	166.67	(166.67)	306.77	666.67	2,000.00	(1,693.23)
7300-86-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--YAT--Leadership Admin	-	41.67	(41.67)	-	166.67	500.00	(500.00)
7300-99-1-000	Youth, Collegiate, and Young Adults--Campus Ministry-Special Event Support	-	666.67	(666.67)	306.78	2,666.67	8,000.00	(7,693.22)
		4,108.97	5,500.01	(1,391.04)	17,187.33	22,000.00	66,000.00	(48,812.67)

THE PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS								
Operating Income Statement								
For the Four Months Ending April 30, 2026								
		Current Month	Current Month Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget	2026 Asking Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
7500-01-1-000	Innovation & Incubation--Admin., Listening	-	83.33	(83.33)	-	333.33	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
7500-25-1-000	Innovation & Incubation--Presbytery Technology Needs	-	625.00	(625.00)	-	2,500.00	7,500.00	(7,500.00)
7500-51-1-000	Innovation & Incubation--New Ministries' Development	-	2,208.33	(2,208.33)	-	8,833.33	26,500.00	(26,500.00)
		-	2,916.66	(2,916.66)	-	11,666.67	35,000.00	(35,000.00)
7300-01-1-000	Christian Education--Education Events	-	200.00	(200.00)	150.00	800.00	2,400.00	(2,250.00)
7300-21-1-000	Christian Education--Ferncliff. Prog/Supt. Summer Camp		1,916.67	(1,916.67)	-	7,666.67	23,000.00	(23,000.00)
7300-24-1-000	Mission of the Church--Ferncliff--Block Grant	-	416.67	(416.67)	-	1,666.67	5,000.00	(5,000.00)
7300-30-1-000	Christian Education--Presbyterian Pilgrimage	-	166.67	(166.67)	-	666.67	2,000.00	(2,000.00)
7300-91-1-000	Christian Education--Ministry Resourcing	2,150.00	416.67	1,733.33	2,478.12	1,666.67	5,000.00	(2,521.88)
7600-03-1-000	Mission of the Church--Scholarship for Mission Trip	-	83.33	(83.33)	-	333.33	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
7600-05-1-000	Mission of the Church--International Mission Initiative	-	166.67	(166.67)	300.00	666.67	2,000.00	(1,700.00)
7600-42-1-000	Mission of the Church--Stewpot	-	62.50	(62.50)	-	250.00	750.00	(750.00)
7600-44-1-000	Mission of the Church--Lyon College	250.00	83.33	166.67	250.00	333.33	1,000.00	(750.00)
7600-45-1-000	Mission of the Church--Presbyterian Village Support	125.00	41.67	83.33	125.00	166.67	500.00	(375.00)
7600-49-1-000	Mission of the Church--University of Ozarks	250.00	83.33	166.67	250.00	333.33	1,000.00	(750.00)
7600-51-1-000	Mission of the Church--Vera Lloyd Mission	625.00	208.33	416.67	625.00	833.33	2,500.00	(1,875.00)
7600-62-1-000	Mission of the Church--Mission Initiative Grants	187.50	1,666.67	(1,479.17)	187.50	6,666.67	20,000.00	(19,812.50)
7600-96-1-000	Mission of the Church--Solar Under the Sun	250.00	83.33	166.67	250.00	333.33	1,000.00	(750.00)
8300-01-1-000	Mission of the Church--PW Exp., travel, postage, etc.	225.56	33.33	192.23	225.56	133.33	400.00	(174.44)
8300-07-1-000	Mission of the Church--PW--Spring & Fall Retreats, Synod Gathering	1,451.90	291.67	1,160.23	1,601.90	1,166.67	3,500.00	(1,898.10)
9400-01-1-000	Mission of the Church--Disaster Preparedness	-	8.33	(8.33)	-	33.33	100.00	(100.00)
		5,514.96	5,929.17	(414.21)	6,443.08	23,716.67	71,150.00	(64,706.92)
7800-01-1-000	Nominations--travel, food	-	8.33	(8.33)	-	33.33	100.00	(100.00)
8100-01-1-000	Representation--Meeting Expenses	-	4.17	(4.17)	-	16.67	50.00	(50.00)

THE PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS								
Operating Income Statement								
For the Four Months Ending April 30, 2026								
		Current Month	Current Month Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget	2026 Asking Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
8400-01-1-000	POA/Supplies & Office Exp.	77.92	125.00	(47.08)	179.36	500.00	1,500.00	(1,320.64)
8400-02-1-000	Utilities/Telephone	507.85	833.33	(325.48)	2,814.61	3,333.33	10,000.00	(7,185.39)
8400-03-1-000	Copy Machine	45.30	41.67	3.63	181.20	166.67	500.00	(318.80)
8400-05-1-000	Technology	958.97	1,333.33	(374.36)	4,300.87	5,333.33	16,000.00	(11,699.13)
8400-07-1-000	Replace Equipment	-	83.33	(83.33)	-	333.33	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
8400-09-1-000	Insurance	-	794.50	(794.50)	5,168.00	3,178.00	9,534.00	(4,366.00)
8400-10-1-000	Miscellaneous Expenses	-	25.00	(25.00)	-	100.00	300.00	(300.00)
8400-12-1-000	Maintenance(Grounds, Building Upkeep)	903.72	791.67	112.05	4,753.38	3,166.67	9,500.00	(4,746.62)
		2,493.76	4,027.83	(1,534.07)	17,397.42	16,111.33	48,334.00	(30,936.58)
8400-11-1-000	Executive Presbyter Moving Expenses	-	583.33	(583.33)	-	2,333.33	7,000.00	(7,000.00)
8400-13-1-000	Stated Clerk Professional Expenses	293.65	250.00	43.65	682.53	1,000.00	3,000.00	(2,317.47)
8400-22-1-000	Administrator/Professional Expenses	37.70	100.00	(62.30)	424.41	400.00	1,200.00	(775.59)
8400-26-1-000	Interim GP Professional Expenses	1,329.11	1,250.00	79.11	6,043.54	5,000.00	15,000.00	(8,956.46)
8400-27-1-000	Director of Operations Professional Expenses	-	416.67	(416.67)	-	1,666.67	5,000.00	(5,000.00)
8400-29-1-000	Salaries	14,227.34	19,871.86	(5,644.52)	64,643.25	79,487.45	238,462.35	(173,819.10)
8400-30-1-000	Pension/Major Medical Interim GP	1,685.49	1,646.16	39.33	6,741.96	6,584.64	19,753.92	(13,011.96)
8400-30-2-000	Pension/Major Medical DOO	-	616.50	(616.50)	-	2,466.00	7,398.00	(7,398.00)
8400-32-1-000	Interim GP Continuing Ed	857.22	125.00	732.22	1,500.00	500.00	1,500.00	-
8400-36-1-000	Director Of Operations Continuing Ed	-	125.00	(125.00)	-	500.00	1,500.00	(1,500.00)
8400-33-1-000	Payroll Taxes	457.01	786.23	(329.22)	2,771.24	3,144.91	9,434.72	(6,663.48)
8400-35-1-000	Interim GP Housing	3,966.67	2,966.67	1,000.00	12,866.68	11,866.67	35,600.00	(22,733.32)
8400-39-1-000	Interim GP FICA	561.00	561.00	-	2,244.00	2,244.00	6,732.00	(4,488.00)
8400-51-1-000	Director of Operations FICA	-	108.33	(108.33)	-	433.33	1,300.00	(1,300.00)
8400-41-1-000	Connector Professional Expenses	-	416.67	(416.67)	1,982.55	1,666.67	5,000.00	(3,017.45)
8400-49-1-000	Youth Developer Professional Expenses	-	250.00	(250.00)	451.99	1,000.00	3,000.00	(2,548.01)
		23,415.19	30,073.42	(6,658.23)	100,352.15	120,293.66	360,880.99	(260,528.84)
8600-01-1-000	General Assembly	724.38	1,625.00	(900.62)	2,123.97	6,500.00	19,500.00	(17,376.03)
8700-01-1-000	GA Per Capita	6,568.33	6,568.33	-	26,273.32	26,273.33	78,820.00	(52,546.68)
8800-01-1-000	Synod Mission	724.38	1,208.33	(483.95)	2,123.97	4,833.33	14,500.00	(12,376.03)
		8,017.09	9,401.66	(1,384.57)	30,521.26	37,606.67	112,820.00	(82,298.74)
	Total Expenses	56,237.22	64,529.42	(8,270.53)	188,344.67	258,117.66	774,352.99	(586,008.32)
	Net Income	\$ (616.48)	\$ (416.67)	\$ (221.48)	\$ 3,093.03	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,093.03



# Presbytery of Arkansas

Financial Statements  
and  
Supplementary Schedule  
For the Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

(With Independent Accountant's Review Report Thereon)

# Presbytery of Arkansas

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
<b>INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT’S REVIEW REPORT</b>	1
<b>FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</b>	
Statements of Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets – Modified Cash Basis	4
Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets – Modified Cash Basis	5
Notes to Financial Statements	6
<b>SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULE</b>	
Schedule of Designated Revenues and Expenses – Modified Cash Basis – 2025	13



## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REVIEW REPORT

Committee on Administration  
Presbytery of Arkansas  
Little Rock, Arkansas

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of **Presbytery of Arkansas** (the Presbytery), which comprise the statements of assets, liabilities, and net assets – modified cash basis as of December 31, 2025, and the related statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net assets – modified cash basis for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of company management. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting; this includes determining that the modified cash basis of accounting the company uses is an acceptable basis for the preparation of financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement whether due to fraud or error.

### **Accountant's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to conduct the review engagement in accordance with *Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services* promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance as a basis for reporting whether we are aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial statements for them to be in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting. We believe that the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our conclusion.

We are required to be independent of the Presbytery and to meet our ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our reviews.

### **Accountant's Conclusion**

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting.

**Supplementary Information**

We have reviewed the financial statements of the Presbytery for the year ended December 31, 2025, and have issued our report thereon dated April 10, 2026. The review was made primarily for the purpose of expressing a conclusion about whether any material modifications should be made to the financial statements in order for them to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The accompanying schedule of designated revenues and expenses – modified cash basis is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from, and relates directly to, the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The supplementary information has been subjected to the review procedures applied in our review of the basic financial statements. We are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the supplementary information. We have not audited the supplementary information and do not express an opinion on such information.

**Basis of Accounting**

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our conclusion is not modified with respect to this matter.

**Other Matter**

The financial statements of the Presbytery for the year ended December 31, 2024 were audited by us, and we expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements in our report dated September 12, 2025. We have not performed an audit of any financial statements of the Presbytery for any period subsequent to that date. The financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2025, presented herein for comparative purposes, have been reviewed by us in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services, and our review does not provide a basis for expressing an audit opinion or any form of assurance other than the limited assurance expressed in our review report.



Little Rock, Arkansas  
April 10, 2026

## Financial Statements

## Presbytery of Arkansas

### Statements of Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets – Modified Cash Basis December 31, 2025 and 2024

	2025	2024
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents - unrestricted	\$ 236,000	\$ 597,991
Cash and cash equivalents - designated	706,501	891,874
Certificate of deposit	255,579	-
Investments - unrestricted	5,016,743	4,089,411
Investments - designated	3,547,916	3,673,943
Notes receivable	49,745	54,749
Property held for sale	124,891	549,191
Property and equipment, net	304,845	323,523
Other	2,985	7,234
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 10,245,205</b>	<b>\$ 10,187,916</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Without donor restrictions	\$ 10,053,526	\$ 10,028,024
With donor restrictions	191,679	159,892
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 10,245,205</b>	<b>\$ 10,187,916</b>

See Independent Accountant's Review Report.

## Presbytery of Arkansas

Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets –  
Modified Cash Basis  
Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

	2025			2024		
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
<b>SUPPORT, REVENUES, AND GAINS AND LOSSES</b>						
Undesignated contributions	\$ 517,114	\$ -	\$ 517,114	\$ 441,702	\$ -	\$ 441,702
Designated contributions	83,369	19,902	103,271	55,313	-	55,313
Donated property	-	-	-	388,645	-	388,645
Miscellaneous income	5,248	-	5,248	17,039	-	17,039
Gain (loss) on sale of property	(395,349)	-	(395,349)	57,964	-	57,964
Investment return	1,175,280	11,885	1,187,165	783,171	9,697	792,868
<b>Total Support, Revenues and Gains and Losses</b>	1,385,662	31,787	1,417,449	1,743,834	9,697	1,753,531
<b>PROGRAM EXPENSES</b>						
Administration	35,580	-	35,580	33,564	-	33,564
Christian education	92,399	-	92,399	79,245	-	79,245
Congregational care and development	40,273	-	40,273	76,828	-	76,828
Designated payments	697,089	-	697,089	196,457	-	196,457
General council	3,150	-	3,150	1,730	-	1,730
Mission	141,615	-	141,615	142,285	-	142,285
Presbyterian women	2,231	-	2,231	3,732	-	3,732
Other ministry	4,035	-	4,035	2,601	-	2,601
Presbytery office	343,788	-	343,788	344,851	-	344,851
<b>Total Expenses</b>	1,360,160	-	1,360,160	881,293	-	881,293
<b>INCREASE IN NET ASSETS</b>	25,502	31,787	57,289	862,541	9,697	872,238
<b>NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	10,028,024	159,892	10,187,916	9,165,483	150,195	9,315,678
<b>NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR</b>	\$ 10,053,526	\$ 191,679	\$ 10,245,205	\$ 10,028,024	\$ 159,892	\$ 10,187,916

See Independent Accountant's Review Report.

# Presbytery of Arkansas

Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2025 and 2024

## **NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

### **Organization and Operations**

The Presbytery of Arkansas (the Presbytery) exists as a religious entity under the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). As such, their mission is to inspire, challenge and help the congregation, agencies, ministers, and leaders to fulfill the call to service as faithful followers of Jesus Christ.

The Presbytery is made up of 76 Presbyterian churches located throughout Arkansas. The membership of the Presbytery includes all Ministers of member churches and ruling elders elected by member congregations. The Committee on Administration oversees the budget and financial operations of the Presbytery and may designate certain assets to be used first as support for certain programs and activities and, if not needed, then for general operations. Principal revenues of the Presbytery are primarily from benevolence received from the member churches. All of the Presbytery's expenditures are for the programs which benefit these churches and members.

### **Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation**

The financial statements are prepared using the modified cash basis of accounting. Under this basis, certain revenues and related assets are recognized when cash is received rather than when earned and certain expenses are recognized when they are paid rather than when the obligation is incurred. This basis differs from generally accepted accounting principles primarily because these financial statements do not include promises to give from church members or amounts due to vendors and employees for goods and services received prior to year-end for which payment had not been made as of year-end.

### **Basis of Presentation**

The Presbytery presents information regarding financial position and activities according to the following two classes of net assets:

Net Assets without Donor Restrictions—Net assets that are not subject to or are no longer subject to donor-imposed stipulations.

Net Assets with Donor Restrictions—Net assets whose use is limited by donor-imposed time and/ or purpose restrictions.

### **Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents consist of demand deposit accounts maintained with financial institutions and cash and highly liquid investments with maturities of three months or less held by the Texas Presbyterian Foundation (TPF).

### **Certificates of Deposit**

Certificates of deposit (CD) are recorded at purchase price on the statements of assets, liabilities, and net assets. Interest income is recognized monthly as earned and is reflected as an increase in the carrying amount of the CD.

# Presbytery of Arkansas

Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2025 and 2024

## **NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

### **Investments**

The Presbytery's investments are reported at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly fashion between market participants at the measurement date. Investment return includes realized and unrealized gains and losses and interest income received. Investment income and gains restricted by donors are reported as increases in net assets without donor restrictions if the restrictions are met (either a stipulated time period ends or a purpose restriction is accomplished) during the reporting period in which the income and gains are recognized and are appropriated for expenditure. Otherwise, income and gains are reported as increases in net assets with donor restrictions.

### **Notes Receivable**

Notes receivable consists of unsecured emergency loans to churches and pastors within the region governed by the Presbytery. Notes receivable bear zero percent interest and are generally due within one to three years. Management has determined that all amounts are fully collectible and no allowance for credit losses is necessary.

### **Property and Equipment**

Property and equipment are stated at historical cost or, if donated, at the approximate fair value at the date of donation. Major renewals and betterments in excess of \$1,000 are capitalized, while normal repairs and maintenance are expensed in the period incurred. Depreciation of these assets is calculated using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets, ranging from five to forty years. Property donated and held for sale is not depreciated.

### **Revenue Recognition**

Contributions received are recorded as with donor restrictions or without donor restrictions depending on the existence and nature of the donor-imposed stipulations.

Contributions that are restricted by the donor are reported as increases in net assets without donor restrictions if the restriction expires in the reporting period in which the support is received. All other donor-restricted contributions are recorded as increases in donor restricted net assets. When a restriction expires (that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished), net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net assets as net assets released from restrictions.

### **Donated Services and In-Kind Contributions**

Donated services are recognized as contributions only if the services (a) create or enhance non-financial assets or (b) require specialized skills, are performed by people with those skills, and would otherwise be purchased by the Presbytery. Although a substantial number of uncompensated volunteers have donated significant amounts of their time to the Presbytery, the value of such donated services has not been recognized as contributions in the financial statements as the recognition criteria was not met.

# Presbytery of Arkansas

## Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2025 and 2024

### NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### Functional Expenses

The Presbytery considers all disbursements to be related to its programs and therefore does not allocate disbursements between program, general and administration and fundraising for financial statement presentation.

#### Income Taxes

The Presbytery is exempt from income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code (the Code). The Presbytery has been classified as a publicly supported organization which is not a private foundation under Section 509(a) of the Code.

Accounting standards require the Presbytery to evaluate tax positions and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the Presbytery has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the Internal Revenue Service. The Presbytery has analyzed the tax positions taken and has concluded that as of December 31, 2025, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken that would require the recognition of a liability (or asset) or disclosure in the modified cash basis financial statements. The Presbytery may be subject to audit by the Internal Revenue Service; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

#### Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

### NOTE 2: DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

At December 31, cash and cash equivalents consist of the following:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Demand deposit accounts at financial institutions	\$ 236,000	\$ 597,991
Cash and cash equivalents held by TPF	706,501	891,874
	<u>\$ 942,501</u>	<u>\$ 1,489,865</u>

The Presbytery maintains cash balances in accounts with several financial institutions. The balances in these accounts may exceed applicable insured limits. Management believes that such accounts are maintained with reputable financial institutions and the Presbytery has not experienced any losses in these accounts to date. Cash balances held by TPF are not insured, however, the Presbytery does not believe that it is subject to any unusual risk beyond the normal credit risk associated with other commercial banking relationships. Also, it is the opinion of management that solvency of the TPF is not of particular concern at this time.

# Presbytery of Arkansas

## Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2025 and 2024

### NOTE 2: DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (Continued)

#### Certificate of Deposit

The Presbytery maintains a CD at a financial institution totaling \$255,579 at December 31, 2025. The CD has an original maturity of 7 months. CDs are issued by financial institutions for a fixed term and interest rate and are subject to significant penalties for early withdrawal.

#### Investments

The Presbytery invests its funds in the Balanced Pooled Fund administered by the TPF. The TPF manages the assets and maintains separate accounts for each participating entity. The Fund is a balanced fund and assets may be invested in equities, fixed income and cash equivalent securities. Investments are available to be withdrawn upon written notice to TPF and may be restricted to withdrawal on the first business day of the calendar month following ten days written notice.

Investments held at TPF have been valued based on the Presbytery's interest in the pooled funds managed by the TPF, which are evidenced by a unit. The value of a unit is calculated based on the fair value of the underlying assets, adjusted for the effects of such transactions as administrative fees and investment income that has not been reinvested in the underlying assets, as reported by TPF, because there is no ready market for the assets. Valuation based on net asset value used as a practical expedient is permitted and the pooled investments held at TPF are not required to be reported under the investment classification hierarchy.

### NOTE 3: PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET

Property and equipment, net consists of the following at December 31:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Land and improvements	\$ 3,680	\$ 3,680
Buildings and improvements	611,516	611,516
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	58,296	58,296
	<u>673,492</u>	<u>673,492</u>
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	<u>(368,647)</u>	<u>(349,969)</u>
	<u>\$ 304,845</u>	<u>\$ 323,523</u>

Depreciation expense totaled approximately \$19,000 and \$21,000 during the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024, respectively, and is included in Presbytery office expense.

The Presbytery had property held for sale totaling approximately \$125,000 and \$549,000, as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, respectively.

# Presbytery of Arkansas

Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2025 and 2024

## NOTE 4: RETIREMENT ARRANGEMENT WITH STAFF EMPLOYEES

The full-time employees of the Presbytery participate in the benefit plans of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Contributions are based on percentage of salary and totaled approximately \$7,500 and \$6,100 during the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024, respectively.

## NOTE 5: NET ASSETS

Net assets with donor restrictions consist of the following funds. Donor restricted contributions and income earned on these donor restricted contributions are available to be used for specific program activities. At December 31, net assets with donor restrictions are as follows:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Irene W. Meredith Trust	\$ 104,579	\$ 101,069
Highland Scholarship	5,956	5,735
Toney McMillan Fund	61,242	53,088
Gary H. Gault Trust	19,902	-
	<u>\$ 191,679</u>	<u>\$ 159,892</u>

## NOTE 6: FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES BY NATURAL CLASSIFICATION

The Presbytery's functional expenses by natural classification for program activities are as follows for the years ended December 31:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Committees	\$ 3,620	\$ 3,482
Congregational care	24,953	59,228
Education	96,530	82,719
Facilities	73,421	82,022
Missions	141,615	142,285
Professional fees	10,874	7,688
Other programs	3,150	1,730
Pass through gifts	697,089	196,457
Salaries and benefits	301,158	296,111
Travel	7,750	9,571
	<u>\$ 1,360,160</u>	<u>\$ 881,293</u>

# Presbytery of Arkansas

## Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2025 and 2024

### ***NOTE 7: COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES***

The Presbytery is a guarantor of a loan totaling \$350,000 from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to a church. The loan is secured by a first mortgage on the real estate owned by the church. This guarantee would require the Presbytery to make the required loan payments in the event the church is unable to do so. Upon default, the real estate would revert to the Presbytery, who could sell the property to pay off the outstanding loan balance. As of December 31, 2025 and 2024, the total outstanding balance was approximately \$32,000 and \$52,000, respectively. The church was current with the required payments at December 31, 2025.

During the year ended December 31, 2024, the Presbytery pledged \$760,000 to Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center's capital campaign. This pledge will be paid out in annual installments of \$190,000 over four years. The first payment was made during the year ended December 31, 2025.

### ***NOTE 8: LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY OF FINANCIAL ASSETS***

The Presbytery monitors its liquidity so that it is able to meet its operating needs and other contractual commitments while maximizing the investment of its excess operating cash. The Presbytery has unrestricted cash and cash equivalents and investments of approximately \$5,500,000 and \$4,700,000 at December 31, 2025 and 2024, respectively, that could readily be made available within one year of the statement of assets, liabilities and net assets – modified cash basis to fund expenses without limitations.

### ***NOTE 9: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS***

The Presbytery has evaluated events that occurred after December 31, 2025, but prior to April 10, 2026, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

## Supplementary Schedule

## Presbytery of Arkansas

### Schedule of Designated Revenues and Expenses – Modified Cash Basis Year Ended December 31, 2025

	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
<b>Special Designated</b>		
One Great Hour	\$ 13,334	\$ 13,482
Joy Offering	8,873	10,371
Theological Education	7,525	12,167
Witness	2,242	2,341
Peacemaking	3,089	3,015
Disaster Relief	43,385	2,270
Two Cents a Meal	478	-
Other	4,443	653,443
	<u>83,369</u>	<u>697,089</u>
<b>Other Designated</b>		
Irene W. Meredith Trust	\$ 3,510	-
Highland Scholarship	221	-
Toney McMillan Fund	8,154	-
Gary H. Gault Trust	19,902	-
	<u>31,787</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>\$ 115,156</u>	<u>\$ 697,089</u>

See Independent Accountant's Review Report.

12/10/2025

Presbytery of Arkansas  
9221 N Rodney Parham Rd  
Little Rock, AR 72227

Dear Ministry Partner,

We are pleased to provide your renewal package for the policy period that will begin January 1, 2026. Enclosed are the Coverage Summary and the Memorandum of Insurance (MOI) that detail your insured locations, coverage, limits, and deductibles for the upcoming program year. Additionally, a Renewal Toolkit is included that contains information and resources on offerings within our program. Your first invoice for the 2026 program year will be sent separately and will be due 1/1/2026.

The Coverage Summary indicates the coverage you have selected through the Insurance Board program. You may see "Not Included" beside certain coverage areas. If you are interested in adding coverage in these areas, please contact your agent, James Greene & Associates at (501) 834-4001.


The MOI lists the insured property values and type of construction for each building you have covered through the program. Property limits have been increased by 5% to keep pace with increased construction costs and building materials inflation. Please review the schedule of locations and the insured values. If you notice anything that needs to be corrected or changed, or can substantiate an adjustment to your property values, please advise your agent as soon as possible.

**WC and Automobile:** Participants with Workers' Compensation (WC) and Automobile Coverage will receive their invoices directly from the insurance provider. If you carry either WC or Automobile through the Insurance Board program, you should have already received this renewal information.

Continuing for 2026, only package participants are eligible for Excess Owned Auto, Excess Hired and Non-owned auto liability. Coverage provides excess limits for Employers Liability (Stop Gap) for participants in North Dakota, Ohio, Washington State, and Wyoming; and for Employers Liability insured under a standard Workers' Compensation policy in all other states, and D.C., subject to minimum primary limits of \$1M Each Accident; \$1M per Employee for Disease; and \$1M Aggregate Limit for Disease. The primary limit may be satisfied for participants insured under the Insurance Board Workers' Compensation insurance program; or with any other carriers, subject to the minimum required primary limits.

We appreciate that you have chosen us for your property and casualty insurance, and for being in partnership with thousands of churches and ministries within the denominations we serve. If you've not done so recently, we encourage you to visit our website at [www.InsuranceBoard.org](http://www.InsuranceBoard.org). In addition to numerous resources and links, you may sign up for our quarterly newsletters.

Faithfully,



Timothy S. Harris, CPCU  
President and CEO



1468 W. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 350  
 Cleveland, OH 44113  
 (800)437-8830 Fax (216)736-3239  
 www.InsuranceBoard.org

**PACKAGE POLICY COVERAGE SUMMARY**

**NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF INSURED**

Presbytery of Arkansas  
 9221 N Rodney Parham Rd  
 Little Rock, AR 72227

**Your Agent:** James Greene & Associates  
**Telephone:** (501) 834-4001  
**Paperless:** No

**PARTICIPANT NO./IB NO.** PKP008485102 / P000400024

**POLICY PERIOD** From: 1/1/2026 To: 1/1/2027 12:01 AM Standard Time at your address shown above.

This document is to evidence that the organization named above is or will be an insured under master policies issued to United Church Insurance Association (aka Insurance Board), Churches and affiliated entities and organizations of Protestant denominations covenantally aligned with the United Church of Christ are eligible to participate in this insurance program administered by Insurance Board, Coverage is for the stated time period and the coverages shown below. A detailed Memorandum of Insurance is attached. This document is for informational purposes only and does not amend or alter the terms, exclusions and conditions of the master policies. Any restatement below of limits of insurance shown elsewhere in the policy does not increase your limits of insurance.

<b>COVERAGE PART DESCRIPTION</b>		
<b>PROPERTY</b>	.....	Included
	<i>Property Limit – Total Value</i>	\$1,034,843
	<i>Deductible</i>	\$10,000
		5%
	<i>Hail Deductible</i>	5%
	<i>Wind Deductible</i>	5%
<b>INLAND MARINE</b>	.....	Not Included
	<i>Scheduled Fine Arts:</i>	
	<i>Scheduled Commercial Articles &amp; Miscellaneous Equipment:</i>	
<b>CRIME</b>	.....	Included
<b>GENERAL LIABILITY</b>	.....	Included
<b>UMBRELLA</b>	.....	Included
<b>ABUSIVE ACTS &amp; PASTORAL LIABILITY</b>	.....	Included
<b>DIRECTORS &amp; OFFICERS LIABILITY</b>	.....	Included
<b>OWNED AND LEASED AUTOMOBILE</b>	.....	Not Included
<b>HIRED &amp; NON-OWNED AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY</b>	.....	Included
	<b>TOTAL PACKAGE POLICY PREMIUM:</b>	\$8,732
	<i>(see separate invoice for payment instructions)</i>	

\* Coverage for Owned or Leased Vehicles, if insured through the IB Program, is on a separate Memorandum of Insurance or IB Program related Insurance Summary.

Date Issued: 12/10/2025



1468 W. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 350  
Cleveland, OH 44113  
(800)437-8830 Fax (216)736-3239  
[www.InsuranceBoard.org](http://www.InsuranceBoard.org)

**PROPERTY PROGRAM  
CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE  
STARR SURPLUS INSURANCE COMPANY**

**NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF INSURED**

Presbytery of Arkansas  
9221 N Rodney Parham Rd  
Little Rock, AR 72227

**Your Agent:** James Greene & Associates  
**Telephone:** (501) 834-4001

**PARTICIPANT NO./IB NO.** PKP008485102 / P000400024

**OTHER NAMED INSURED(S)**

**Presbytery of Arkansas**

---

This document is to evidence that the organization named above is or will be an insured under a master policy issued to United Church Insurance Association (aka Insurance Board), Churches and affiliated entities and organizations of Protestant denominations covenantally aligned with the United Church of Christ are eligible to participate in this insurance program administered by Insurance Board. The organization named above is or will be an insured as of the beginning of the stated policy period and for the coverages shown below. A copy of the master policy is available for your review. This document is for informational purposes only and does not amend or alter the terms, exclusions and conditions of the policy.

**POLICY PERIOD**      **From: 1/1/2026 To: 1/1/2027**      12:01 AM Standard Time at your address shown above.

*Any restatement below of limits of insurance shown elsewhere in the policy does not increase your limits of insurance.*

---

---

**To report a claim, call your agent or <https://www.insuranceboard.org/claims/report-a-claim/>**

Date Issued: 12/10/2025

PKP008485102 / P000400024

**COMMERCIAL PROPERTY  
(EQUIPMENT BREAKDOWN INCLUDED)**

**Limit - Total Values:**  
**Deductible:**

\$1,034,843  
\$10,000

*Hail Deductible* 5%  
*Wind Deductible* 5%

---



---

**PROPERTY SCHEDULE**

---



---

Loc #/Bldg #	Address	Description of Premises	Applicable Coverages	Construction Type	Building Value	Contents Value
001-001	9221 N Rodney Parham Rd Little Rock, AR 72227	Presbytery Office - Office/Admin	GS	Frame	\$940,766	\$94,077
004-001	Parcel #7765- 13209-005 Fayetteville, AR 72764	Vacant Land Only	GS	Frame		\$00

---

*To report a claim, call your agent or <https://www.insuranceboard.org/claims/report-a-claim/>*

Date Issued: 12/10/2025

PKP008485102 / P000400024

## SPECIAL COVERAGES – DEDUCTIBLES AND RESTRICTIONS

Note: In the preceding schedule under 'Applicable Coverage', the following endorsements and coverage options may apply as indicated: FL means Flood; EQ means Earth Movement; FV means Functional Building Value; RL means Roof Surfacing (ACV) Endorsement; GS means Gold Seal.

### Flood

Election of the "Flood" coverage option must be indicated on the Participant's Memorandum of Insurance for coverage to apply  
As scheduled in individual Memorandum of Insurance, coverage not to exceed \$1,000,000 per occurrence and annual aggregate during any policy year.

See Schedule

Deductible is the same as for all other perils except Earth Movement, Hurricane & Named Storm.  
Deductible is as shown on page 1 of this Memorandum of Insurance.

Note: Coverage is unavailable for locations in Federal Flood Zones starting with A or V.

### Earth Movement (EQ)

Election of the "Earth Movement" coverage option must be indicated on the Participant's Memorandum of Insurance for coverage to apply.

See Schedule

Deductible is 3% of stated values at each location, and for each occurrence in all states, except for locations in CA, the deductible is 5%.

### Hail

Hail means precipitation consisting of concentric layers of clear ice and compacted snow. However, direct physical loss, damage or destruction arising from fire, explosion and Sprinkler Leakage not otherwise excluded caused by such Hail shall not be considered Hail within the terms and conditions of this definition.

See Schedule

See Schedule

### Water Damage

- a. Leakage, escape or discharge of any substance from a fire extinguishing system or equipment, caused by freezing or any other Covered Cause of Loss, except for discharge in response to a fire;
- b. Leakage, escape, discharge, back-up or overflow of water or steam from a plumbing, heating, air conditioning or other system or appliance, caused by freezing or any other Covered Cause of Loss;
- c. Accidental discharge or leakage from roof drains, gutters, downspouts or similar fixtures or equipment;
- d. Incursion, leakage or seepage of water caused by or resulting from thawing of snow, sleet or ice on a building or structure; or
- e. But water damage does not include loss or damage otherwise excluded under the terms of the Water Exclusion and/or Exclusion 2(f) and 2(g), or C. Limitations.

---

**To report a claim, call your agent or <https://www.insuranceboard.org/claims/report-a-claim/>**

Date Issued: 12/10/2025

PKP008485102 / P000400024

**Hurricane & Named Storm**

Deductible is a percentage of the stated values for each location and for each occurrence in the following localities: Included for All Locations

1. **5 percent deductible for entire state of Florida, and the following counties/cities/parishes by state:**

- Alabama: Baldwin, Mobile;
- Georgia: Bryan, Camden, Chatham, Glynn, Liberty, McIntosh;
- Louisiana: Calcasieu, Cameron, Iberia, Jefferson, Lafourche, Livingston, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Mary, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany, Terrebonne, Vermilion;
- Mississippi: Hancock, Harrison, Jackson;
- North Carolina: Beaufort, Bertie, Brunswick, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Hyde, Jones, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Tyrrell, Washington;
- South Carolina: Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Georgetown, Horry, Jasper;
- Texas: Aransas, Brazoria, Calhoun, Cameron, Chambers, Galveston, Jefferson, Kenedy, Kleberg, Liberty, Matagorda, Newton, Nueces, Orange, Refugio, San Patricio, Victoria, Willacy.

2. **2 percent deductible for entire state of Hawaii, and the following counties/cities/parishes by state:**

- Georgia: Brantley, Charlton, Effingham, Long, Wayne;
- Louisiana: Acadia, Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Iberville, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, Tangipahoa, Washington, West Baton Rouge;
- Mississippi: George, Pearl River, Stone;
- North Carolina: Bladen, Columbus, Duplin, Hertford, Lenoir, Martin, Pitt;
- South Carolina: Colleton, Dorchester, Williamsburg;
- Texas: Bee, Brooks, Fort Bend, Goliad, Hardin, Harris, Hildalgo, Jackson, Jim Wells, Wharton;
- Virginia: Accomack, Chesapeake City, Gloucester, Hampton City, Isle of Wight, James City, Lancaster, Mathews, Middlesex, Newport News, Norfolk City, Northampton, Northumberland, Poquoson City, Portsmouth City, Suffolk City, Surry, Virginia Beach City, Westmoreland, Williamsburg City, York;

Business Income, including	Actual Loss Sustained - Up to \$500,000
Extra Expense	Included
Tuition & Fees (one year from date of restoration)	Included
Upgrade to Green Coverage	Up to \$50,000
Terrorism Coverage	Included
Unscheduled Fine Arts	\$25,000
Valuable Papers and Records	\$25,000
Accounts Receivable	\$25,000
Electronic Data & Media	\$25,000
Ordinance or Law	\$500,000

---

**To report a claim, call your agent or <https://www.insuranceboard.org/claims/report-a-claim/>**

Date Issued: 12/10/2025

PKP008485102 / P000400024

**COMMERCIAL CRIME  
MEMORANDUM OF INSURANCE  
LEXINGTON INSURANCE COMPANY**

---

**NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF INSURED**

Presbytery of Arkansas  
9221 N Rodney Parham Rd  
Little Rock, AR 72227

**Your Agent:** James Greene & Associates  
**Telephone:** (501) 834-4001

**PARTICIPANT NO./IB NO.** PKP008485102 / P000400024

**OTHER NAMED INSURED(S)**  
**Presbytery of Arkansas**

---

This document is to evidence that the organization named above is or will be an insured under a master policy issued to United Church Insurance Association (aka Insurance Board), Churches and affiliated entities and organizations of Protestant denominations covenantally aligned with the United Church of Christ are eligible to participate in this insurance program administered by Insurance Board. The organization named above is or will be an insured as of the beginning of the stated policy period and for the coverages shown below. A copy of the master policy is available for your review. This document is for informational purposes only and does not amend or alter the terms, exclusions and conditions of the policy.

**POLICY PERIOD**                      **From: 1/1/2026 To: 1/1/2027**                      12:01 AM Standard Time at your address shown above.

*Any restatement below of limits of insurance shown elsewhere in the policy does not increase your limits of insurance.*

---

**COMMERCIAL CRIME COVERAGE PART**

Employee Theft	\$250,000
Forgery or Alteration	\$250,000
Inside the Premises – Theft of Money and Securities	\$250,000
Inside the Premises – Robbery or Safe Burglary of Other Property	\$250,000
Outside the Premises	\$250,000
Computer Fraud	\$250,000
Funds Transfer Fraud	\$250,000
Money Orders and Counterfeit Currency	\$250,000
Clients' Property	\$250,000
Impersonation Fraud (Social Engineering)	\$250,000
Investigative Costs	\$25,000
Telephone Fraud	\$250,000

---

Deductible: \$1,000

---

**To report a claim, call your agent or <https://www.insuranceboard.org/claims/report-a-claim/>**

Date Issued: 12/10/2025

PKP008485102 / P000400024

**LIABILITY PROGRAM  
MEMORANDUM OF INSURANCE  
LEXINGTON INSURANCE COMPANY**

---

**NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF INSURED**

Presbytery of Arkansas  
9221 N Rodney Parham Rd  
Little Rock, AR 72227

**Your Agent:** James Greene & Associates  
**Telephone:** (501) 834-4001

**PARTICIPANT NO./IB NO.** PKP008485102 / P000400024

**OTHER NAMED INSURED(S)**

Presbytery of Arkansas

This document is to evidence that the organization named above is or will be an insured under a master policy issued to United Church Insurance Association (aka Insurance Board), Churches and affiliated entities and organizations of Protestant denominations covenantally aligned with the United Church of Christ are eligible to participate in this insurance program administered by Insurance Board. The organization named above is or will be an insured as of the beginning of the stated policy period and for the coverages shown below. A copy of the master policy is available for your review. This document is for informational purposes only and does not amend or alter the terms, exclusions and conditions of the policy.

**POLICY PERIOD**

**From: 1/1/2026 To: 1/1/2027**

12:01 AM Standard Time at your address shown above.

**COMMERCIAL LIABILITY COVERAGE PART**

**Commercial General Liability\***

Each Occurrence Limit	\$2,000,000
Damage to Premises Rented to You	\$1,000,000 any one premises
Medical Expense Limit	\$10,000 any one person
Personal & Advertising Injury Limit	\$2,000,000
Products/Completed Operations Aggregate Limit	\$5,000,000
General Aggregate Limit	\$5,000,000
Included in General Aggregate Limit:	
Nurses Professional Liability*	Included
Cemetery Professional Liability*	Included
Employee Benefit Liability (Claims Made)*	
Retroactive Date: 4/7/2024	Included
Privacy Breach Protection*	\$100,000 each occurrence
	\$100,000 aggregate
	\$500 Deductible

*To report a claim, call your agent or <https://www.insuranceboard.org/claims/report-a-claim/>*

Date Issued: 12/10/2025

PKP008485102 / P000400024

**CRISIS RESPONSE & CRISIS MANAGEMENT**

Crisis Response Limit of Insurance	\$50,000 per participant
Crisis Management Limit of Insurance	\$50,000 per participant
Crisis Response and Crisis Management Combined	\$50,000 aggregate per participant

**PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY**

Pastoral Counseling Liability and Sexual Misconduct Liability are covered unless indicated as "Not Covered".

<b>Pastoral Counseling Liability (Claims Made)*</b>	\$2,000,000 each claim
Retroactive Date: 4/7/2024	
<b>Sexual Misconduct Liability (Claims Made)</b>	\$300,000 each victim
Retroactive Date: 4/7/2024	

**DIRECTORS & OFFICERS LIABILITY**

<b>Directors &amp; Officers Liability (Claims Made)*</b>	\$3,000,000 each loss
Including Employment Practices Liability	\$4,500,000 annual limit (subject to agg.)
Including Educators Professional Liability	
Retroactive Date: 4/7/2024	

**COMMERCIAL AUTOMOBILE (NON-OWNED)**

<b>Hired and Non-Owned Automobile Liability*</b>	\$2,000,000 any one accident
<b>Hired Automobile Physical Damage*</b>	\$100,000 per vehicle
	\$1,000 ded. per occurrence
<b>Owned, Licensed Trailers Absent a Power Unit-Liability*</b>	\$2,000,000 any one accident
<b>Physical Damage</b>	\$50,000 each trailer
	\$1,000 ded. per occurrence
<b>Garagekeepers*</b>	\$35,000 each occurrence
<b>Comprehensive &amp; Collision</b>	\$1,000 ded. per occurrence

**These automobile coverages apply excess of any other valid and collectible insurance and are included in the CGL General Aggregate Limit.**

\*Indicates which coverages are included in the CGL General Aggregate Limit (per participant).

**To report a claim, call your agent or <https://www.insuranceboard.org/claims/report-a-claim/>**

Date Issued: 12/10/2025

PKP008485102 / P000400024

**EXCESS and/or UMBRELLA PROGRAM  
MEMORANDUM OF INSURANCE**

---

**NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF INSURED**

Presbytery of Arkansas  
9221 N Rodney Parham Rd  
Little Rock, AR 72227

**Your Agent:** James Greene & Associates  
**Telephone:** (501) 834-4001

**MEMORANDUM NO./IB NO.** PKP008485102 / P000400024  
**OTHER NAMED INSURED(S)**  
Presbytery of Arkansas

---

This document is to evidence that the organization named above is or will be an insured under a master policy issued to United Church Insurance Association (aka Insurance Board). Churches and affiliated entities and organizations of Protestant denominations covenantally aligned with the United Church of Christ are eligible to participate in this insurance program administered by Insurance Board. The organization named above is or will be an insured as of the beginning of the stated policy period and for the coverages shown below. A copy of the master policy is available for your review. This document is for informational purposes only and does not amend or alter the terms, exclusions and conditions of the policy.

**POLICY PERIOD**                      **From: 1/1/2026 To: 1/1/2027**                      12:01 AM Standard Time at your address shown above.

---

**COMMERCIAL EXCESS LIABILITY COVERAGE PART**

There are **Distinct Excess Liability Parts** within the Insurance Board Program.

**\$5,000,000 Each Occurrence/ \$5,000,000 general aggregate per participant**

**Coverage provides excess limits for Commercial General Liability; Employee Benefits Liability; Cemetery Professional Liability; Automobile Liability for Owned Autos insured under the Insurance Board Program; and for Commercial Hired and Non-Owned Automobile Liability.**

---

*To report a claim, call your agent or <https://www.insuranceboard.org/claims/report-a-claim/>*

Date Issued: 12/10/2025

PKP008485102 / P000400024

Coverage provides excess limits for Pastoral Counseling Liability. **(See note below regarding exceptions.)**

Stop Gap coverages are provided to participants in North Dakota, Ohio, Washington State, and Wyoming. For all other states, Excess Employers Liability is available to package participants subject to minimum primary limits of \$1M Each Accident; \$1M per Employee for Disease; and \$1M Aggregate Limit for Disease.

Coverage provides excess limits for Owned Automobile Liability for Automobiles insured under the Insurance Board Program for Owned Automobiles. Coverage for excess limits is not provided for Owned Automobiles insured elsewhere.

**\$0 Per Participant Annual Limit for Sexual Misconduct Liability. (See note below regarding exceptions.)**

If any one or more "Memoranda of Insurance" applies to the same occurrence, incident, claim or accident, the limit will not exceed the highest limit available under any one "Memorandum of Insurance."

**Note:** The limits provided above for Pastoral Counseling Liability and Sexual Misconduct Liability apply excess of coverage carried in the Primary Liability Programs. If the Primary Liability Memorandum of Insurance indicates "Not Covered", the limits provided above do not apply.

---

---

*To report a claim, call your agent or <https://www.insuranceboard.org/claims/report-a-claim/>*

Date Issued: 12/10/2025

PKP008485102 / P000400024

# 2026-2027 Workers' Compensation Memorandum of Insurance



**HYLANT**

**NAMED INSURED:** Presbytery of Arkansas-P000400024  
**IB ID #:** P000400024  
**FEIN #:** 71-6074671  
**INSURANCE COMPANY:** Cincinnati Insurance Co  
**AM BEST RATING:** A+ : XV  
**POLICY NUMBER:** EWC0596739-P000400024  
**POLICY TERM:** 1/1/2026 to 1/1/2027  
**MAILING ADDRESS:** 9221 N Rodney Parham Rd, Little Rock, AR 72227

## LIMITS OF LIABILITY

PART 1. Workers' Compensation

Statutory

PART 11. Employers' Liability Insurance

Bodily Injury by Accident – Each Accident

\$1,000,000

Bodily Injury by Disease – Policy Limit

\$1,000,000

Bodily Limit by Disease – Each Employee

\$1,000,000

PART 111. Other States Insurance

All States Except ND, OH, WA and WY

DEDUCTIBLES

N/A

## LOCATION & EXPOSURE- BASED ON ANNUAL PAYROLL

LOCATION ADDRESS	CLASS CODE	DESCRIPTION	ESTIMATED PAYROLL
9221 N Rodney Parham Rd, Little Rock AR	8868	Religious Organization Professional Employees & Clerical	\$234,778.00

## COVERAGE INCLUDES

Cancellation - 90 Days except 10 Days for Nonpayment

Yes

Employers' Liability Endorsement (Stop-Gap Coverage)

Yes

Waiver of Our Rights to Recover for Others

Yes, where required by written contract

MAJOR EXCLUSIONS

Per Policy Form

ANNUAL PREMIUM

\$802.00

## Agent Contact Information:

James Greene & Associates  
 customerservice@jamesgreeneins.com  
 khetherington@jamesgreeneins.com  
 (800) 442-3384 x142

Disclaimer: The information provided in this document serves as confirmation of coverage and does not alter the policy terms, conditions, or exclusions of the Insurance Board master policy. Please contact the Insurance Board for actual policy documents. P000400024 WCOM

## Presbyterian to English Cheat Sheet

From time to time abbreviations and acronyms will be peppered through the meeting. The following is a quick primer on Presby-speak. If you have questions about any of these terms or the way they fit into the larger picture of the life of the church, feel free to ask the Stated Clerk!

- **AC-** An Administrative Commission is a group of Ministers of the Word and Sacrament and Ruling Elders given specific responsibilities and authority to act on behalf of the presbytery between meetings. They are typically formed to ordain and/or install pastors, perform the tasks associated with dismissing, closing, or merging congregations, deal with difficulties in a particular church, or assist a church in times of transition.
- **Board of Pensions-** The General Assembly agency charged with overseeing the benefits plans for pastors and some other church employees.
- **Candidate-** A person in the latter portion of the ordination process for the ministry of Minister of the Word and Sacrament.
- **CRE-** A Commissioned Ruling Elder is an ordained elder in good standing in his/her member church and is commissioned to serve in a congregation or validated ministry of the presbytery.
- **COM-** The Committee on Ministry provides oversight and advocacy for congregations and Ministers of the Word and Sacrament. It receives Ministers of the Word and Sacrament from other presbyteries, approves calls for pastoral services, oversees congregations without pastors, dissolves pastoral relationships, dismisses Ministers of the Word and Sacrament to other presbyteries, determines of the criteria for validating ministries of non-parish clergy, and oversees Commissioned Ruling Elders serving congregations.
- **CPM-** The Committee on Preparation for Ministry oversees the process of preparation for the ministry of Ministers of Word and Sacrament, training of Commissioned Ruling Elders, and the process of certification for Christian Educators.
- **Council-** In the context of Presbyterian polity and governance, a council is a governing body of the church. The councils of the PC(USA) are the session, the presbytery, the synod and the General Assembly.
- **CT-** The Coordinating Team of the presbytery acts on the presbytery's behalf on routine matters between stated meetings, coordinates the ministries of the presbytery, and plans for presbytery meetings.
- **GA-** The General Assembly of the PC(USA) is the highest council of the church. It meets in even numbered years for a week. The 2020 meeting will be held June 16-23 in Baltimore, Maryland.
- **HR-** Honorably Retired is a designation for Ministers of the Word and Sacrament retired from active service to the church who remain in good standing with the PC(USA).
- **Inquirer-** A person in the initial phase of the process of preparation for ministry as a Minister of Word and Sacrament.
- **MIF-** A Ministry Information Form is the standardized format for advertising certain church professional positions through the PC(USA) Church Leadership Connection.
- **MWS -** Minister of the Word and Sacrament is an ordained Presbyterian minister member of the clergy, formerly called a Teaching Elder.
- **Moderator-** The Moderator is the person elected to keep order and chair the meetings of the presbytery. The pastor or CRE of a local congregation serves as the moderator of the local session.
- **NCD-** New Church Developments are new ministries of the presbytery engaged in a formal process to work toward establishing a new congregation.
- **PDA-** Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is an agency of the Presbyterian Church (USA) Mission Agency. PDA assists communities coping with natural and human-caused disasters.

- **PJC- Permanent Judicial Commission** implements the disciplinary procedures required by the *Book of Order*. There is a Judicial Process Manual which gives details on these duties.
- **PMA- The Presbyterian Mission Agency** is part of the larger PC(USA) and is located at national church headquarters in Louisville, KY.
- **PNC- Pastor Nominating Committee** is a search committee elected by a congregation to seek, interview, and recommend a new pastor.
- **RE/Ruling Elder- Ruling Elder** is a lay member of a congregation who has been elected, ordained and installed to serve on the session of a church. Ruling elders are eligible for election as commissioners to presbytery, synod and General Assembly. Once ordained as a ruling elder one maintains that office whether serving on a session or not.
- **Stated Clerk-** Stated Clerk is the officer elected by the presbytery to maintain the official records, provide extracts when asked, prepare the docket for presbytery meetings, and answer questions about the records, Presbyterian polity, policies, procedures and history. The Stated Clerk is authorized to certify ministers and congregations are in good standing and qualify under the tax exemption of the PC(USA).
- **Synod of the Sun-** The governing body council which includes all the presbyteries in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Louisiana. It coordinates the work of the PC(USA) in this region.
- **TPF- Texas Presbyterian Foundation** is a financial service organization for Presbyterian members, councils and institutions. It invests funds and provides bookkeeping services for Arkansas Presbytery.
- **Validated Ministries-** Positions served by chaplains, professors and other Ministers of the Word and Sacrament who are not currently serving a congregation. Sometimes they are referred to as non-parish clergy.

## Tips for Commissioners on Procedure and Parliamentary Practice

Parliamentary procedure enables the presbytery to become a deliberative assembly, to seek the will of God and to witness to our faith in Jesus Christ. It is never an end in itself. Parliamentary gamesmanship is never appropriate. The will of the majority shall prevail, but the rights of the minority shall always be protected. Parliamentary principles balance individual conscience with the will of the majority. It takes seriously the following rights of individual members:

- (1) the right to know (due notice)
- (2) the right to speak (rules of debate)
- (3) the right to vote (membership)
- (4) the right to hold office (fair representation)

The Moderator represents the unity of the body. The Moderator preserves decorum and protects the rights listed above.

Parliamentary procedure allows discussion of a subject only when a motion about that subject has been made. To speak during the meeting, first go to a microphone. When recognized by the Moderator, state your name, church, city and status – such as Minister of the Word and Sacrament, Ruling Elder, or Honorably Retired. You may speak to a pending motion or ask a question. The person making the motion will have the first opportunity to speak to the motion. Only motions coming from individuals need a second. A motion made on behalf of a ministry area or a committee already has a second because it is the majority vote of the committee.

Ordinarily, only commissioners may speak and vote on motions (Minister of Word and Sacrament members of the Presbytery; Ruling Elders elected by their Session; Ruling Elders elected as General Presbyter, Stated Clerk, Assistant Stated Clerk, Treasurer, Moderator, or Moderator-in-Waiting (Vice Moderator); Commissioned Ruling Elders in current service; members of the Coordinating Team; current commissioners to General Assembly; and Ruling Elders who are Certified Christian Educators).

At the Spring meeting of the Presbytery Youth Advisory Delegates and Young Adult Advisory Delegates have “privilege of the floor,” meaning that they have permission to speak to motions, and they take an advisory vote prior to the vote by commissioners. At any meeting someone in attendance may be given privilege of the floor, allowing that person to speak to the body, which is ordinarily given near the beginning of the meeting. Privilege of the floor does not mean that person may vote.

It is advisable to speak only once on a subject, but you may seek to speak a second time only after everyone who wishes to speak has spoken. All remarks during debate shall be addressed to the Moderator. Questions seeking information from a person who has the floor shall be addressed to the Moderator. Speeches to an individual or the whole presbytery are not permitted during debate. Reading reports or documents out loud requires the permission of the body. In debate, remarks shall be confined to the pending motion. Remarks shall not impugn another commissioner or that person’s motives. Commissioners’ names shall not be used.

To end debate, a commissioner must go to a microphone and, when recognized by the Moderator, state: "I move the previous question." It is not appropriate to call the question without going to a microphone. If you offer a substitute motion or a new item of business, you should give the Moderator and Stated Clerk advance notice and written copy. An electronic copy is preferred – using Microsoft Word on a memory stick or thumb drive. Not only will this help these officers facilitate the work of presbytery, they may also be able to help you with suggestions as to how and when it would be appropriate to make the motion. The Stated Clerk and the Moderator are available to advise commissioners on the wording of any motion so that it can clearly express the concerns of the commissioner. When in doubt, ask. The Moderator and the Stated Clerk are eager to help you understand and use the process.

Commissioners should always read all information provided in the packets and subsequent information provided at the registration table. Whenever possible questions concerning reports or motions should be directed to the Moderator of a ministry area or committee making the report or motion prior to the meeting. Contact info on moderators may be obtained through the presbytery office. Often concerns may be cleared up prior to a meeting rather than on the floor of presbytery.

Thank you for attending the 162<sup>nd</sup> Stated Meeting your feedback will help us improve future meetings.  
Please complete this brief survey by clicking [here](#) or scan the QR Code.



FPC CONWAY  
JUNE 13, 2026



**SCAN TO  
COMPLETE THE SURVEY**