

Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley
Synod of Living Waters
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Stated Meeting
May 21, 2026

GOD CALLS US TOGETHER

The Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley of the Synod of Living Waters of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) met in the Stated Meeting on May 21, 2026, hosted by Southminster Presbyterian Church, Birmingham, AL.

Throughout these minutes, Ministers of the Word and Sacrament are indicated by an asterisk (*).

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Moderator Terry Hamilton-Poore*, who opened the meeting with a prayer.

Organization

On advice of the Stated Clerk, a quorum was declared by the Moderator.

Adoption of the Docket Appendix B-1

The Docket was adopted by unanimous consent.

Recognition of First Time Commissioners and Visitors

Ministers of the Word and Sacrament

Ministers Present (37) Excused (43) Absent (28)

Atkerson, Rick, HR	P	Chang, Cecelia	P
Bae, In Chan	A	Cheong, Tae Ho	A
Bailey, Michael	P	Chinula, Donald	E
Bang, Yoo Chang	P	Cho, Timothy	E
Bird, Shelaine	A	Choomack, Jim, HR	E
Broyles, Vernon, HR	E	Clark, Molly, HR	E
Bryson, Tom	P	Clayton, Susan	P
Bruchey, Wayne, HR	E	Coker, Jeff, HR	E
Burgess, Sid, HR	P	Davis, Becky, HR	E
Butler, Heather Jones	A	Davis, Lant, HR	P
Carleton, Rhon, HR	E	Dippenaer, Vic	A
Carter, Clyde, HR	E	Durham, Charles, HR	E
Chaney, Patsy, HR	P	Durham, Erica	E
		Edwards, Robert	E

Ephraim, James, HR	P	Oh, Jyung, Ho	A
Feagin, Debbie, HR	P	Oliver, Catherine, HR	E
Frandsen, Emily	P	Park, Daekeun	A
Free, Zana	A	Patton, Roger, HR	E
Gatliff, Abby	A	Ponder, Luke	A
Gatliff, Cort	A	Porter, Mary, HR	E
Genau, Joe	P	Price, Sandra, HR	E
Goodrich, Elizabeth	A	Pyburn, Richard, HR	E
Hamilton-Poore, Sam	P	Reed, Kathy	E
Hamilton-Poore, Terry	P	Reed, Leanne	P
Hanna, Richard, HR	P	Reed, Nick	P
Harmon, Dawson, HR	E	Roberts, Madison	E
Hay, Robert, HR	E	Scarbrough, Leeann	P
Hayes, Jeff	A	Schuler, Sharon, HR	E
Hurley, Ed, HR	P	Scrivner, Joe	P
Hurst, Clyce HR	E	Seamon, David	P
Inman, Robert F, HR	E	Seitz, Craig, HR	E
Jeong, Junmo	A	Sellers, Lou Ann	P
Jo, Jae Seon	A	Shelton, Jack, HR	E
Kelly, Caroline	P	Sims, Charles, HR	E
Kim, Samuel	A	Son, Junqkyun	A
Kim, Sun Jae	P	Speaker, Cary, HR	P
Kim, Sung Eun	A	Sprik, Petra	A
Kim, Sung Woong	A	Stephens, Gerald, HR	E
Kim, Young	A	Thurman, Michael	A
Kukal, Chuck, HR	E	Tingle, Terry, HR	E
Laney, Susan, HR	E	Tucker-Marek, McKelvey Marilyn	P
Long, Kevin	A	Turner, Lucy, HR	E
McCarter, Neil, HR	P	Turpen, Sam	A
McClendon, Bruce, HR	E	Vanek, Daniel	P
McClure, John	A	Wade, Lindsey	A
McCormick, Mark	P	Waters, Dana, HR	P
McElrath, Pete, HR	E	Watson, Cody, HR	P
McLaughlin, Wayne, HR	E	Wells, Jim, HR	E
Mathews, Rachel	E	Westfall, Sue	P
Mjumbe, Lukata	A	Wilkins, Jay, HR	P
Mylalsingh, Emerson, HR	E	Wills, Bill HR	E
Newton, Nicole	A	Winter, Rachel	P
Newland, Terry, HR	E	Winton, Carlton, HR	E
Northen, Margaret, HR	E	Yarboro, Jonathan	P
O'Neill, Elizabeth	P		

Commissioned Pastors with Vote
Present (4) Excused (3) Absent (11)

Allison, Banyon	A	Kirkpatrick, deNay	P
Bonner, Jeff	E	Lyons, David	P
Dodson, Beverly	E	Martin, Carl	A
Eich, Sharon	A	McCrackin, Olympia	P
Emerick, Robert	A	Sauser, Bill	A
Fancher, Cherie	A	Schuler, John	A
Haynes, Ernie	E	Tatum, Frankie	A
Holt, Cal	A	Thomas, Roger	A
Hughes, Carl	A	Veasey, Lin	P

Executive Council Members/Presbytery Officers w/Vote
Present (5) Excused (2) Absent (1)

Linda Burrowes	P	Wendy Tucker	A
Jothany James	P	Jean Russell	P
Terri Jones	P	Donna Winn	E
Debra Love	P	John Schuler	E

Christian Educators, Presbyterian Women, Commission on and Anti-Racism Moderators w/Vote

Jenny Thagard	P	Kathy Tracey	P	Deborah Thomas	P
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Elders

Number in parentheses by church name indicates the number of commissioners authorized. "NR" indicates that the church did not have elder representation. There are fifty-six (56) churches in the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley. Thirty-three (33) Commissioners were present.

Alexander City	First (1)	NR
Annemanie	Arlington (1)	NR
Anniston	Church of the Covenant	Tara Bunn
Anniston	First United (1)	NR
Anniston	Korean (1)	NR
Auburn	First (3)	Julie Price
		NR
		NR
Bessemer	Good Hope (1)	NR
Birmingham	Bold Springs (1)	NR

Birmingham	Edgewood (2)	Don Hagan Richard Galbraith
Birmingham	First (2)	NR Brenda Toomey
Birmingham Birmingham	First United of Forestdale (1) Independent (4)	Gloria Lee Georgia Miller Paul Romjue Doc Feagin Susan Haskell
Birmingham Birmingham	Korean (1) Mountain Brook (2)	NR NR NR
Birmingham	Oakmont Chapel (2)	Tom Adamson JR Barnes
Birmingham Birmingham	Riverchase (1) South Highland (3)	NR John Gleysteen Suzanne Cornett NR
Birmingham	Southminster (2)	Mark Ezekiel
Birmingham	Westminster (1)	Mike Wade Darryl Love
Cuba	Cuba (1)	NR
Camden	New Trinity (1)	NR
Carbon Hill	First (1)	NR
Dadeville	First (1)	NR
Dadeville	Woods (1)	NR
Eufaula	First (1)	NR
Gardendale	Gardendale (1)	Cherie Fancher
Goodwater	First (1)	NR
Green Pond	Green Pond (1)	NR
Jacksonville	First (1)	Carolyn Padgett
Lafayette	Lebanon (1)	NR
Leeds	Leeds (1)	NR
Livingston	First (1)	NR
Magnolia	Rock Springs (1)	NR
Marion Junction	Marion Junction (1)	NR
Montevallo	Montevallo (1)	Mary Blakely
Montgomery	Calvary	NR
Montgomery	Immanuel (1)	Pam Tidwell
Montgomery	Korean (1)	NR
Montgomery	Providence (1)	NR
Northport	Bethel (1)	Kathryn Strayer

Opelika	Korean (2)	NR NR
Oxford	Dodson Memorial (1)	NR
Piedmont	First (1)	NR
Selma	Pisgah (1)	NR
Selma	Valley Creek (1)	NR
Sylacauga	First (1)	NR
Talladega	First (1)	NR
Troy	Williams Memorial (1)	NR
Trussville	Cahaba Springs (1)	Jennifer Smith
Tuscaloosa	Brown Memorial (1)	Angela Wright
Tuscaloosa	First (3)	Jill Cilimberg James Tucker Susan Campbell
Tuscaloosa	Grace (2)	April Lane Susan Donovan
Tuscaloosa	Korean	NR
Tuskegee Institute	Westminster (1)	Judith Baldwin
Union Springs	Union Springs (1)	Holly Russell
Wetumpka	First (1)	Nancy Borders

Call to Order and Opening Prayer

Moderator Terry Hamilton-Poore*

Organization – Declaration of Quorum, Adoption of Docket, Seating of Corresponding Members, Welcome of First Time Commissioners, Welcome of Visitors, Requests for New Business to the Stated Clerk in writing by 11:00 AM

Omnibus Motion:

- 1. To approve the minutes of the February 19, 2026, stated meeting;**
 - 2. To approve the requests for absences from today's meeting;**
 - 3. To adopt an "Electronic Meetings Rule" for this meeting so that virtual attendees seeking recognition from the Chair be allowed to unmute themselves and call for the attention of the Moderator for recognition and obtaining the floor;**
 - 4. To give voice to all ministers from other denominations currently serving a Member congregation or ministry in a pastoral capacity;**
 - 5. To accept the invitation of First Presbyterian Church of Tuscaloosa to host the meeting of the Presbytery on August 20; and to accept the invitation of Independent Presbyterian Church to host the meeting of the Presbytery on November 19th;**
 - 6. To approve the honorable retirement of The Rev. Sam Hamilton-Poore.**
- Approved**

Welcome from Host Church

Tom Bryson* and Leanne Pearce Reed*

Tom shared it has been over 20 years since they hosted Presbytery due to holding day school. We were warmly welcomed by Tom and Leanne.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

See Appendix B-1

Thanksgiving for the Life and Ministry of Rev. Monty Clendenin and Commissioned Pastor Ben Arellano

Rev. Monty Clendenin Appendix B-2

Commissioned Pastor Ben Arellano Appendix B-3

Rachel Winter*

Richard Hanna*

MINISTRY WITHIN OUR PRESBYTERY

Executive Council

Jonathan Yarboro

	Members of Executive Council	
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Debra Love	Tom Bryson*	Leanne Scarbrough*
Neil McCarter*	Terry Hamilton-Poore*	Joe Scrivner*
Wendy Tucker	Terri Moon Jones	John Schuler CP
Jonathan Yarboro*	Donna Winn	Jothany James

The Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley is a Matthew 25 Presbytery. We pledge to encourage our mid council and congregational ministries to embrace the following areas of focus:

- Building congregational vitality; Dismantling structural racism; Eradicating systemic poverty.*
- We further pledge to keep track of the impact of these ministries and share our stories with one another and throughout the denomination.*

Action Items: None

Information Items:

The Executive Council of PSL held regular, monthly meetings in March and April 2026. The Bridge Team established by EC to work alongside our new Stated Clerk and General Presbyter has begun its work. Michael Bailey, Deborah Thomas, Jothany James, and Jonathan Yarboro will serve for approximately six months as collegial support and resource.

EC is pleased to include installation of General Presbyter Mark McCormick in worship at the May meeting. We will also be celebrating ministries of retiring Ministers of Word and Sacrament and those who have passed recently, as well as the legacy and continued

witness of Providence Presbyterian Church. We will also share charge and blessing with our General Assembly delegates.

In January, priorities for EC 2026 were solidified. They are:

1. EC will facilitate Opportunities for Enrichment at each Presbytery meeting in 2026.
2. Emphasizing and enhancing connectional nature with smaller congregations.
3. Encourage congregations to designate Pentecost Offering 2026 to the Congo Partnership Scholarship program.
4. Follow and empower redevelopment of UKirk B'ham.
5. Future connection for some congregations with Rooted Good and Project Regeneration.
6. Continued advocacy and support for Matthew 25 Initiative

Commission on Ministry

deNay Kirkpatrick

Co-Moderators: deNay Kirkpatrick and Nick Reed

Class of 2026

Baldwin, Judith
Feagin, Debie
Hanna, Richard
Kirkpatrick, deNay
Miller, Georgia
Winter, Rachel

Class of 2027

Cleveland, Lee
Gatliff, Abby
Haynes, Ernie
Kim, Young
Sellers, Lou Ann
Shaw, Stephen
Watson, Rush

Class of 2028

Fritsma, Margaret
James, Frank
Love, Darryl
Mathews, Rachel Vankirk
Reed, Nick
Roberts, Madison

Meeting date(s) since last stated Presbytery Meeting: March 10 and April 14.

Summary of Subjects discussed and/or Actions Taken:

The Reverend Leigh Anne Armstrong was examined and approved to serve as Supply Pastor for First Eufaula.

Commissioned Pastor Program Update—Approved a motion to accept the resignation of John and Sharon Schuler as co-Directors of the CP Program with regret and also thanksgiving for their leadership of and passion for this program. The motion also includes Sharon's resignation from the COM. COM co-moderators will reach out to current CPs to assure them that the COM will continue to support them in their work. Additionally, they will reach out to those who have expressed an interest in pursuing commissioning as a CP and to those who have agreed to assist with CP training.

Approved a revised Separation Ethics document.

Rachel Mathews and Bruce McClendon were added to the Supply Pastor list.

Action Items to be presented for Presbytery Approval:

With grateful acknowledgement for his service to our presbytery and prayers for a fruitful retirement, approve the designation Honorably Retired for: The Reverend Sam Hamilton-Poore. See Omnibus Motion

Other Items about which you wish to make a verbal presentation at the next Stated Presbytery Meeting: Not Applicable

Commission on Preparation for Ministry

Leeann Scarbrough*

Commission on Preparation for Ministry Members:

Leeann Scarbrough, moderator, (2028), Kathy Wolf Reed (2026), Lee Walthall (2026), Luke Ponder (2026), Harvey Kline (2026), Cort Gatliff (2027), Emily Frandsen (2027), Clay Price (2027), Angela Wright (2027), Jeff Johnson, (2028), Nicole Newton (2028), Brenda Toomey (2028).

The CPM met February 23rd and March 27th.

Item for Information:

Annabelle Beavers is certified ready to receive a call.

Item for Action:

Presentation of Inquirer Abby Bunn for examination for move to candidacy.

Approved

Appendix B-4

The Moderator asked Abby the constitutional questions

Charge to Abby

Prayer for Abby

Lin Veasy
Jenny Thagard

Please continue to pray for those preparing for ministry:

Inquirers:

Abby Bunn, Church of the Covenant, Anniston (Columbia)

Dallas Knight, South Highland, Birmingham (Beeson graduate)

Emily Knight, South Highland, Birmingham (Beeson graduate)

Theodore Longlois, Independent, Birmingham

Barbara Tomek-White, First, Auburn (Austin graduate)

Candidates:

Annabelle Beavers, First, Tuscaloosa (Union)

Peyton Chandler, Independent, Birmingham (Vanderbilt graduate)

Daniel Killilea, South Highland, Birmingham (Louisville)

Teddy Vaughn, Grace, Tuscaloosa (Columbia graduate)

Committee on Nominating and Representation

Caroline Kelly*

For action:

The Committee nominates the following to fill a new term as indicated:

Anti-Racism Committee

Class of 2028

RE Judith Baldwin (Westminster, Tuskegee)

Approved

Trustees

Class of 2028

CRE Lin Veasey (Church of the Covenant, Anniston) Approved

For information:

We are still seeking ruling elders to serve in each of the following positions:

1 for the Class of 2028, Commission on Ministry

1 for the Class of 2027, Anti-Racism Committee

If you are interested in any position, or wish to recommend someone, please contact any member on the Committee on Nominating and Representation.

Class of 2026

Madison Roberts*

Kathy Tracey

Lee Walthall

Class of 2027

Caroline Kelly*

Jim Holland

Ron Parsons

Class of 2028

Judith Baldwin

Caryl Privett

Jonathan Yarboro*

Synod Reports Appendix B-5, 6

Synod Year-End Financial Reports **Appendix B-7**

Synod 2026 Approved Budget **Appendix B-8**

April Lane and Madison Roberts*

Lunch

Blessing by Tom Bryson*

Enrichment Options:

Option 1 (available in the hybrid meeting format):

A Presentation about Rooted Good

Angela Johnson

We specialize in helping congregations, and institutions that support congregations, with:

- *Generating new forms of income through social enterprise*
- *Using and developing buildings and land for revenue and ministry*
- *Aligning money and mission; and measuring impact*

AND

A Presentation on Project Regeneration

Dana Waters, Presbyterian Foundation

Project Regeneration is a consultative service provided by the Presbyterian Foundation for churches and ministries. Our Ministry Relations Officers guide congregations through a process of prayerful discernment through a series of meetings, held on site or virtually, to help churches consider a strategic approach for the future. Our approach includes a financial analysis to assess the viability of ministry, followed by a collaborative, innovative process that invites everyone to fully participate. We will provide reading materials, serve as speakers, guide discussions and share stories with you that will help you decide what's best for your church.

Option 2 (available in-person only):

Newly Installed General Presbyter, Mark McCormick will hold a workshop on sermon preparation, with a particular focus on the upcoming lectionary texts.

Trustees Appendix B-9

Lant Davis*

Action Items:

1. **Church of the Good Shepherd**--The Trustees voted unanimously to accept this offer, contingent on Presbytery approval, and to recommend that the Presbytery accept this offer. **Approved**

RESOLVED, that the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley, Incorporated (the "Presbytery"), hereby ratifies the Trustees' approval and execution of the Contract of Sale for a purchase price of \$350,000, less closing expenses;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Presbytery authorizes and directs the officers of the Presbytery, and any of them, to execute and deliver such closing documents as shall be necessary to effectuate the transaction contemplated by the Contract of Sale, including, but not limited to, a Statutory Warranty Deed for the real property formerly owned by Church of the Good Shepherd and situated at 461 Choccolocco Road, Anniston, Calhoun County, Alabama, and any property contiguous thereto owned by the Presbytery, all in form acceptable to the Trustees of the Presbytery or their designee.

2. **Center Point**--The Trustees voted unanimously to accept this offer, contingent on Presbytery approval, and to recommend that the Presbytery accept this offer. **Approved**

RESOLVED, that the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley, Incorporated (the "Presbytery"), hereby ratifies the Trustees' approval of the Commercial Sales Agreement for a purchase price of \$300,000, less closing expenses;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Presbytery approves the execution of the Commercial Sales Agreement when the Trustees or their designee have received satisfactory evidence that the purchasers are likely to obtain commercial financing;

FURTHER RESOLVED, assuming that the Commercial Sales Agreement is fully executed, that the Presbytery authorizes and directs the officers of the Presbytery, and any of them, to execute and deliver such closing documents as shall be necessary to effectuate the transaction contemplated by the Contract of Sale, including, but not limited to, a Statutory Warranty Deed for the real property formerly owned by Center Point Presbyterian Church and situated at 2650 Center Point Parkway,

Center Point, Jefferson County, Alabama, and any property contiguous thereto owned by the Presbytery, and a termination of the existing lease and tenancy of Rev. Bruce Carpenter, all in form acceptable to the Trustees of the Presbytery or their designee.

Commission for Legacy Fund for Enduring Witness

Joe Genau*

Members: Lee Cleveland, Joe Genau*, Leanne Pearce Reed*, Adrienne Royster, Jonathan Yarboro*

For Information:

We voted to fund a proposal from Cahaba Springs Presbyterian Church for \$33,988 from our Church Development/Revitalization Fund to help fund several building projects aimed at encouraging and enhancing vitality and growth of congregations.

We have a couple of other projects in process for funding from the above fund, as well as the First Fruit Benevolence Fund.

The Committee is sending \$41,489 to Northeast Community YMCA in Roebuck for financial assistance for childcare, for youth and teen development and leadership, and to help fund senior programming.

Dear church leaders:

We want to hear from you! If you have projects or ideas that connect to:

1. new church development opportunities or new worshipping communities;
2. plans designed to encourage and enhance vitality and growth of your ministry or congregation

Come have a conversation with the LFEW.

We have intentionally chosen not to have a formal written grant process, preferring to take proposals on a case-by-case basis.

Requests will be evaluated according to their relevance to the above criteria and the availability of funds.

Contact LFEW Moderator Joe Genau with inquiries:

pastor@edgewoodpc.org, 205.718.9832

General Presbyter's "Good News" Moment Appendix B-10 Mark McCormick*
Mark spoke about the bridge team which supports him and the new Stated Clerk.

"Good News" Moment Mission Coordinator Appendix B-11 Ralls Coston

"Good News" on the Wilcox County Initiative Appendix B-12 James Ephraim*
James said they need transportation for the youth and want to begin a youth choir. Next month they are beginning a program to bring the whole county together around education. While reading the report, look at the names of the persons mentioned and it shows the commitment of the Presbytery and the life of the church

**Presbyterian Home for Children “Good News” Moment
Appendix B-13**

Suzanne Cornett

They dedicated a newly refurbished playground. They’ve just started a capital campaign trying to raise \$1.7 million. Half of that amount has been raised due to the closing of the Providence Church.

Living River “Good News” Moment Appendix B-14

Jenny Thagard

Stated Clerk Report

Appendix B-15

Marilyn McKelvey Tucker-Marek*

Marilyn spoke about the minutes reading and how well it went. More meetings will be scheduled.

Administrative Commission on Providence Presbyterian Appendix B-16

Jonathan Yarboro* will give the final report, offer a celebration and thanksgiving for the ministry of Providence and its predecessors, and ask for the dissolution of the A/C.

Motion: The Providence AC requests final dissolution of Providence Presbyterian Church, which was approved “when the way was clear” by PSL at its meeting November 20, 2025, effective May 21, 2026. The AC asks to be dismissed of its service to Presbytery. Approved

Terry led the body in prayer for the sale of the closed churches.

Sam Hamilton-Poore-Montevallo—Prism Initiative: it was possible for them to get equipment online and be able to project in the Sanctuary. They’ve been having a Thanksgiving dinner for the LGBTQ.

Terry Hamilton-Poore will be on a three-month sabbatical.

Congo Pentecost Offering Appendix B-17

Revenue and Expenses Summary Appendix B-18

Adjournment with Prayer

Terry Hamilton-Poore*

Marilyn McKelvey Tucker-Marek, Stated Clerk

Linda Burrowes, Recording Clerk

PRESBYTERY OF SHEPPARDS AND LAPSLEY

*partner with and equip present and emerging
PC(USA) faith communities in central Alabama
to serve Christ and our neighbors*



**Spring Stated Meeting
May 21, 2026**

**Southminster Presbyterian Church
Birmingham, AL**

THE PRESBYTERY OF SHEPPARDS AND LAPSLEY
PROPOSED DOCKET / MAY 21, 2026
SOUTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BIRMINGHAM, AL

Please silence all cell phones and electronic devices

9:00 AM Registration

9:30 AM Call to Order and Opening Prayer Moderator Terry Hamilton-Poore
Organization – Declaration of Quorum, Adoption of Docket, Seating of Corresponding
Members, Welcome of First Time Commissioners, Welcome of Visitors, Requests for
New Business to the Stated Clerk in writing by 11:00 AM

Omnibus Motion:

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5. To accept the invitation of First Presbyterian Church of Tuscaloosa to host the meeting of the Presbytery on August 20; and to accept the invitation of Independent Presbyterian Church to host the meeting of the Presbytery on November 19th;
6. To approve the honorable retirement of The Rev. Sam Hamilton-Poore.

9:45 AM Welcome from Host Church The Rev. Tom Bryson and The Rev. Leanne Pearce Reed

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Introit "Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me" arr. K. Lee Scott

Call to Worship Host church co-pastors, or Ruling elders
Beloved of God, our Presbyterian way of being church teaches us that since the earliest days of the Reformation, Reformed Christians have marked the presence of the true Church wherever:
The Word of God is truly preached and heard, the Sacraments are rightly administered, and Ecclesiastical discipline is uprightly ministered.
Today we gather,
Brothers, sisters, and siblings in Christ,
To make an offering of worship to the Lord our God, to discern the will of the Holy Spirit, and to make manifest the notes of the true church.

Prayer of Invocation
Come to this place, we pray. Speak in our worship, that we may truly hear your word.
Lift us up, through the sacrament we share, that we may taste the Kingdom of God.
Sway our discernment, that our decisions may reflect your will. Instruct us in our enrichment, that through it we may be conformed to the image of your Son. Amen.

†Opening hymn: GtG 401, Here in This Place

Prayer of Confession and Thanksgiving for Baptism

Marilyn Tucker-Marek

Glorious God, through the waters of the womb you bring us into this life. Through the waters of the Nile you delivered Moses from the death sentence of Pharaoh, into the safety of the household of his own daughter. Through the waters of the Red Sea you led your people from enslavement into freedom. Through the waters of the Jordan you made clean Naaman, a commander of armies who had defeated Israel. Through the waters and blood of our Lord, which poured out from his side at his death on the cross, you showed the power of the way of peace. Through the waters of baptism on the roadside, you brought into your covenant people the Ethiopian eunuch, a man excluded because his body did not fit the binary expectations of his culture.

So, we give you thanks, Holy and Sovereign God.

We give you thanks that in the waters of baptism you show us how you are always folding more people into your covenant community. We give you thanks that even when we try to draw lines of exclusion, you wash those lines away. We give you thanks that even when we shrink from your call to "follow me," you love us with a love that will not let us go. We give you thanks that you keep the promises made at our baptism, even when we stray from, deny, and try to destroy your claim on us. Renew us with the waters of life this day, and renew us for the work of your church today. Amen.

Installation of General Presbyter of the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley Statement on Baptism

James Ephraim

As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer males and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. Lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as we were called to the one hope of our calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Call to Discipleship

Terry Hamilton-Poore

We are called by God to be the church of Jesus Christ, a sign in the world today of what God intends for all humankind. The call of Christ is to willing, dedicated discipleship. Our discipleship is a manifestation of the new life we enter through baptism. Discipleship is a gift and a commitment, an offering and a responsibility. Mark, the grace bestowed on you in baptism is sufficient for your calling because it is God's grace. By God's grace we are saved, and enabled to grow in the faith and to commit our lives in ways which serve Christ. God called you to a particular service. Show your purpose by answering these questions.

Installation Questions to Mark

Terry Hamilton-Poore

Do you trust in the Lord Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

I do

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?

I do

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

I do and I will

Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our Confessions?

I will

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

I will

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

I will

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

I do

Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

I will

Will you be a faithful minister of Word and Sacrament, proclaiming the good news, teaching faith and caring for people? Will you be active in government and discipline, serving in the councils of the church; and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

I will

Installation Questions to the Presbytery

Darryl Love

Do, we the members of the presbytery confirm the call of God to Mark as General Presbyter in the service of Jesus Christ?

We do.

Do we agree to pray for him, support him, and encourage him in this ministry?

We do.

Do we promise to pay him fairly and provide for his welfare as he works among us; to stand by him in trouble and share his joys? Will we listen to the Word he preaches, welcome his pastoral care, and honor his authority as he seeks to honor and obey Jesus Christ our Lord?

We do and we will.

Installation Prayer

Darryl Love

Faithful God, in baptism you claimed us; and by your Holy Spirit you are working in our lives, empowering us to live a life worthy of our calling. We thank you for leading Mark to this time and place. Establish him in your truth, and guide him by your Holy Spirit, that in your service he may grow in faith, hope, and love, and be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen**

Charge and Blessing

Jane Clayton

Mark you are installed to service as General Presbyter in the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley. Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God through Him. May the God of peace make you holy in every way, and keep your whole being, spirit, soul, and body, free from every fault at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen**

†GtG 726 Will You Come and Follow Me v. 1

*"Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"*

Prayer for Illumination

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Spirit of Wisdom and Truth, all scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that the person of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. So, come among us today, make yourself manifest in the reading and hearing of the Word, inspire us, correct us, teach us, equip us, for this our act of worship, and every good work. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading:

Ephesians 4:1-6

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"One Hope"

Rev. Dr. Mark McCormick

†GtG 726 Will You Come and Follow Me v. 2

***"Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?"***

Celebration of the ministry of Rev. Sam Hamilton-Poore

Jane Clayton and Joe Scrivner offer their reflections on the ministry of Rev. Sam Hamilton-Poore.

Jane: We give thanks for the gifts with which you have equipped your servant, Sam Hamilton-Poore, for ministry: strong faith, dedicated discipleship, love of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. By your grace, we trust that his manner of life has been a humble demonstration of the Christian gospel in the church and the world.

Joe: With the approval of God's people, and the concurring judgement of this council, we, the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley, recognize his service in the ordered ministry of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church, USA, and we accord him the status of honorably retired.

All: We pray, holy God, that you will continue to bless his life, equip him for what his next chapter will hold, and continue the sanctifying work which you began at his baptism. Amen.

†GtG 726 Will You Come and Follow Me v. 3

***"Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?"***

Commissioning and Prayer for the Commissioners to the 227th General Assembly

Debra Love and Nick Reed

Rick Atkerson, Joe Genau, Darryl Love, Adrienne Royster and McClain Robinson

Just as God calls us to ordered ministry, and equips us to the same, so some of us are called to serve in councils of the church. This summer, Rick Atkerson, Joe Genau, Darryl Love, Adrienne Royster and McClain Robinson, will serve as the commissioners of the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley to the 227th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church USA.

Rick, Joe, Darryl, Adrienne, and McClain, will you fulfill this ministry in obedience of Jesus Christ, under the authority of scripture, and be guided by our confessions?

We will.

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your fellow commissioners at the 227th General Assembly, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

We will.

In your life, and in your role as a commissioner, will you seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

We will.

Do you promise, through the tools of your discernment, debate, and vote, at this General Assembly, to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

We will.

Will you seek to serve as commissioners with energy, intelligence, imagination, wisdom, and love?

We will.

Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley, do we promise, as their friends in ministry, to pray for Rick, Joe, Darryl, Adrienne, and McClain, and the work of the 227th General Assembly of the PCUSA?

We will.

Prayer of Commissioning

God of the Covenant, you have spoken through the sound of sheer silence to a prophet alone and afraid, and you have spoken in thunder and trumpet blasts to an assembly of thousands. Speak, we pray, in ways which cannot be overlooked or ignored, to all those who gather to make up the council of the 227th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church USA. Through the wisdom, prayer, faith, hope, and love, of those duly elected to serve our denomination as commissioners to this General Assembly, guide the decisions made for our church, and for how our church will make known the good news of Jesus Christ in your world. Godspeed their travels to and from Milwaukee, and may their presence in that city be a blessing. Grant them strength for the long days, the gift of renewing rest for each night, and nourish their bodies through food and kindness, of strangers and of friends. We ask all this for these, your faithful servants, in the sure and strong name of the one who saves, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

†GtG 726 Will You Come and Follow Me v. 4

*"Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"*

Thanksgiving for the Life and Ministry of Rev. Monty Clendenin, and Commissioned Pastor Ben Arellano

Rev. Monty Clendenin
Commissioned Pastor Ben Arellano

Rachel Winter
Richard Hanna

Following the offerings of specific expressions of gratitude for the lives and ministries of these servants of the Lord, the people pray,

God our Comforter, the generations rise and pass away, the grass withers and the flower fades, but the word of the Lord endures forever. Today, even as we grieve the deaths of Monty and Ben, and share in the sorrow of their family and friends, we trust that you have now completed the sanctifying work in each of them, which you began at their baptism. In the divine mystery of Holy Communion, the communion of the Holy Triune God comes to us in taste and touch, And the communion of the saints is present with us as we break bread together with all those in the kingdom of God. So, comfort us with your closeness, and guide us all, until we, too, rest with the saints who have run the race before us. Amen.

†GtG 726 Will You Come and Follow Me v. 5

*Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.*

Invitation to the Table and Words of Institution

The Rev. Leanne Pearce Reed, and Rev. Tom Bryson

Holy Communion

(You are invited to come forward to receive communion as the ushers indicate. All communion elements are gluten-free and alcohol-free. If you prefer to remain seated during communion, an elder will be glad to bring the elements to you.)

Prayer after Communion

The Rev. Leanne Pearce Reed, and Rev. Tom Bryson (or Ruling Elder from Southminster)
Lord, we have tasted your goodness, now, nourished at your table, make us instruments of your will. Amen.

Invitation to Generosity and Prayer of Dedication

The Rev. Leeann Scarbrough

God loves a cheerful giver, so with joy in our hearts, we humbly offer these gifts to the service of God, through the stewardship of the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley.

Lord, Bless and multiply that which we place in your service this day, just as you blessed and multiplied the loaves and fishes in your ministry. Astound us with what you can do with what we offer. Amen.

(50% of the offering goes to CPM for candidates and 50% is used as a Presbytery discretionary fund for pastoral care. Mail checks to the Presbytery office or donate online at: <http://pslpcusa.org/online-giving-paypal>. Please give generously.)



†Closing Hymn

GtG523 God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian

†Charge and Benediction

Rev. Dr. Mark McCormick

†Postlude

MINISTRY WITHIN OUR PRESBYTERY

- 11:05 AM Executive Council (page 11) Jonathan Yarboro
The Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley is a Matthew 25 Presbytery. We pledge to encourage our mid council and congregational ministries to embrace the following areas of focus:
- *Building congregational vitality; Dismantling structural racism; Eradicating systemic poverty.*
 - *We further pledge to keep track of the impact of these ministries and share our stories with one another and throughout the denomination.*
- 11:15 AM Commission on Ministry (written, page 12) deNay Kirkpatrick
- 11:25 AM Committee on Preparation for Ministry (pages 13-21) Leeann Scarbrough
Presentation of Inquirer Abby Bunn for examination for move to Candidacy
Should the way be clear, Service of charge and blessing for Candidate Abby Bunn
- 11:35 PM Nominating (page 22) Caroline Kelly
The Committee nominates the following to fill a new term as indicated:
Anti-Racism Committee
Class of 2028; RE Judith Baldwin (Westminster, Tuskegee)
Trustees
Class of 2028; CRE Lin Veasey (Church of the Covenant, Anniston)
- 11:45 PM Synod Reports (pages 23-32) April Lane and Madison Roberts
- 12:00 PM Lunch
- 1:00 PM Enrichment Options
Option1 (available in the hybrid meeting format):
A Presentation about Rooted Good Angela Johnson
We specialize in helping congregations, and institutions that support congregations, with:
- *Generating new forms of income through social enterprise*
 - *Using and developing buildings and land for revenue and ministry*
 - *Aligning money and mission; and measuring impact*

AND

A Presentation on Project Regeneration Dana Waters Presbyterian Foundation
Project Regeneration is a consultative service provided by the Presbyterian Foundation for churches and ministries. Our Ministry Relations Officers guide congregations through a process of prayerful discernment through a series of meetings, held on site or virtually, to help churches consider a strategic approach for the future. Our approach includes a financial analysis to assess the viability of ministry, followed by a collaborative, innovative process that invites everyone to fully participate. We will provide reading materials, serve as speakers, guide discussions and share stories with you that will help you decide what's best for your church.

Option 2 (available in-person only):

Newly Installed General Presbyter, Mark McCormick will hold a workshop on sermon preparation, with a particular focus on the upcoming lectionary texts.

- | | | |
|----------|--|--------------------------------|
| 1:45 PM | Trustees (addendum in the worship folder)
Please see addendum at the end of the worship folder for action items. | Lant Davis |
| 1:55 PM | The Legacy Fund for Enduring Witness (page 33) | Joe Genau |
| 2:05 PM | General Presbyter's "Good News" Moment (page 34) | Mark McCormick |
| 2:25 PM | "Good News" Moment Mission Coordinator (page 35) | Ralls Coston |
| 2:30 PM | Wilcox County Initiative (pages 36-38) | James Ephraim |
| 2:40 PM | Presbyterian Home for Children "Good News" Moment (pages 39-48) | Suzanne Cornett |
| 2: 45 PM | Living River "Good News" Moment (pages 48-52) | Jenny Thagard |
| 2: 55 PM | Stated Clerk (pages 53-54)
1. Reports from Administrative Commissions
a) Providence, Jonathan Yarboro, will give the final report, offer a celebration and thanksgiving for the ministry of Providence and its predecessors, and announce the dissolution of the AC. (pages 55-56)
2. There is no new business from Bills & Overtures.
3. Online Minutes Review Follow-Up
4. Announcements for the Good of the Whole | Marilyn McKelvey Tucker-Marek |
| 3:00 PM | Adjournment with Prayer | Moderator Terry Hamilton-Poore |

†Please stand, if able

After the meeting, please turn in your hanging name badge.

We wish to extend a special thank you to Rev's Tom Bryson and Leanne Pearce Reed, the staff, and the volunteers of Southminster Presbyterian Church, Birmingham for hosting the Presbytery meeting today. We would also like to thank Southminster's ruling elders, David Renaker-Organist, Ty Thornton – Director of Music, James Ephraim, Darryl Love, Jane Clayton, Debra Love, Nick Reed, Rachel Winter, Richard Hanna and Leeann Scarbrough for participating in today's worship service.

**Next Stated Meeting – August 20, 2026
First Presbyterian Church, Tuscaloosa, AL**

Monty Clendenin Memorial May 2026 Presbytery Meeting

Monty Carl Clendenin graduated from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1973 and served the church so well for almost 50 years. Over those years, he served as an associate pastor at First Presbyterian in Anniston, as pastor at Hillcrest Presbyterian in Oklahoma City and Church of the Covenant in Anniston, and as a chaplain at the Juvenile Treatment Center in Tecumseh, Oklahoma. I didn't know about that call until I read his bio, but it doesn't surprise me. Monty always had a heart for teenagers, and he was a good, solid mentor in faith, able to walk with kids in all stages of life, good, bad, troubled, happy, and everywhere in between.

I first met Monty when I was a teenager in the old Birmingham Presbytery, when he was an advisor on our youth council and served as a small group leader at Montreat Youth Conferences. When I read how many people commented on the facebook posts after he died last month, I was amazed—but not surprised—by how many of the folks had grown up with me and were impacted by his ministry. So many more commented that he had inspired them to be small group leaders at Montreat, and there's no telling the number of teenagers that they have now helped simply because Monty helped them first.

In 1900, Theodore Roosevelt paraphrased a West African proverb, saying, "Speak softly and carry a big stick," and that has been paraphrased more into the saying "Walk tall and carry a big stick." Every time I hear that, I think of Monty. First of all, because he was tall and lanky. Secondly, he literally carried a big walking stick from the time I met him. He carried it everywhere, reminding him and all of us that it was important to speak softly, but firmly, to share your opinions and ideas, not out of bluster, or self-glorification, but in civility and love. That is where strength and faith can be found.

Monty believed in the power of community, delivering meals to seniors for many years through Meals on Wheels. He always held a deep connection to the Native American community, holding deep affection for the Snake Effigy at Fort McClellan, the Indian Mount in Oxford, and commemorating the 200th anniversary of the Tallahassee Massacre. He also served as a spiritual advisor for the Red Nations at Alabama. His connection to the Native American community was literally reflected on his big stick as he wrapped mementos of the community around it; he was proud of his service and would talk to anyone about his love for the community.

Monty was part of “The Alabama Gang,” as they call themselves, a gaggle of former youth ministry folks who gather together each year to go to Continuing Ed events or create their own. My mom was part of this group, along with Phyllis Ward and Robert Hay and lots of my other favorite people. They still gather in Montreat each year, now sadly missing my mom and Monty. And, oh, the stories they would and can tell. I will leave you with this one by Cathy George, one of members of the gang (even though she lives in North Carolina). In her facebook post the day after his death, she shares a pic of Monty sitting behind two candles like this one and writes: “So much to miss about our friend. So many stories. One I’ll share...we were in Dallas for an official Con Ed and it happened to be Monty’s birthday. After the evening event, I went to the bar to meet up with my colleagues, there he was, sitting with a group of nuns, and they were singing “Happy Birthday” to him. That’s the kind of guy he was. May you live your life in such a way that nuns want to celebrate you.”

Eventually, Monty’s big walking stick turned into a cane as he needed help to walk because of the Parkinson’s Disease that took his life shortly after he turned 80. May we all live our lives with big sticks, but in service, in such a way that a gaggle of nuns sing “Happy Birthday” to us

in a bar. Monty, I know mom greeted you with the biggest hug ever.
Well done, good and faithful servant.

A Celebration of the Life & Ministry of Benito Arellano

Presbytery of Sheppards & Lapsley Meeting, May 21, 2026 – by Richard B. Hanna

It has been a privilege and a joy for me to have known Ben Benito Arellano in our Presbytery for many years. Remarkably, we connected almost exactly 9 years ago a long way from Alabama. I was on a cruise ship in Alaska and I saw someone who looked familiar. Turned out it was Ben Arellano – and it was great making that Alabama connection in Alaska. And of course I got a picture of us together!

And then in 2021 Ben moved to Kirkwood by the River where I was Chaplain and our relationship and friendship grew.

Ben truly has had a remarkable and productive life.

He was born on November 5, 1941 in San Francisco, California to the late Benny and Dorothy Arellano. Ben and his siblings grew up learning musical instruments, playing sports and being a part of the community. He graduated from High School and went on to graduate from Pepperdine University in Los Angeles. While attending Pepperdine he worked at Sears, and met Barbara Ann Miller beginning a loving marriage that would last 38 years.

After completing a Master of Social Work from the University of Washington, he earned a direct commission into the United States Army and made a 21 year career in the US Army, including one tour in Vietnam, retiring as a Major.

Ben told me once that one day early in his military career he was looking for his military uniform but couldn't find it. But then he found it. His Dad had put it on and was wearing it.

Along the way he and Barbara had two girls, Melissa and Sara, and its sweet to witness the love so evident in that family.

When he signed both Melissa and Sara up for soccer as children in Pennsylvania, he also enrolled in a referee class. and helped to coach their soccer teams. In Yuma, Arizona, he joined the community orchestra. Wherever he lived Ben was deeply committed to his family and got involved in service and leadership in his community. After his 21 years in the US Army, Ben moved to

Montgomery, Alabama and embarked on a second career in higher education. He was a Professor and Chair for the Department of Social Work at Troy University, retiring after 22 years.

He told me once that one of his driving memories was his dad, who only finished the 9th grade, saying, “The most important job you could have is to be a teacher.”

It was after his second retirement, this one from teaching, and the loss of his wife in March 2002, that Ben answered a call to ministry and became a Commissioned Lay Pastor in the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley.

He did ministry in a Nursing home but his primary commitment

was the many years he served as Commissioned Lay Pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Dadeville and Woods Presbyterian Church in Jackson’s Gap. He preached in one church at 10 AM and then would drive down the road to the other for the 11 AM service – and did a wonderful job of ministry in that place.

In our Presbytery Ben was also a longtime member of the Commission on Ministry, where he also served as chair. He also served on the board of the Presbyterian Home for Children in Talladega. One ministry colleague said of Ben, “Ben was always thoughtful, truthful, compassionate and wise.”

In 2021, Ben moved to Kirkwood by the River, and he quickly became a beloved member of our community. He participated in all of the activities, worship services and Bible studies, singing solos at our Kirkwood’s Got Talent nights – and he especially loved Bingo! And he was always honored to carry the American flag into our patriotic events.

In his years at Kirkwood Ben got involved at Leeds Presbyterian Church, preaching, leading Lenten worship services and singing in the choir! As someone described him, “He was a bright light at our church. We loved to hear him preach and sing and smile and tell little jokes.”

The last couple of years Ben slowed down some but he stayed active and engaged up till the end in living the remarkable life he lived.

Proverbs 16:9 tells us that, “A person’s heart plans his way but the Lord directs his steps.” As we look at Ben Arellano’s long and remarkable and faithful life we can see both at work, Ben’s heart and mind and will planning and living the best life he could – but we can also see God’s amazing guidance and direction along the way.

Two more scriptures so fitting for Ben.

1. **“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race and I have kept the faith.” II Timothy 4:7**

Indeed, Ben did that throughout his life and so now has received the crown of righteousness from the Lord.

And one more passage that’s so appropriate for Ben’s life as we say farewell to him – words that Jesus spoke in a parable:

“Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of your Master.”
Matthew 25:23

That’s where Ben is right now. We will miss him but we’re so glad that we had the privilege and joy of knowing him and were able to experience so many of the ways that he enriched our lives and let God’s light shine through him and made our world and our Presbytery a better place!

Thanks be to God for Benito Arellano!!!

Statement of Call

Appendix B-4

In the Reformed tradition, as lived out in the PC(USA), I personally understand Christian vocation as a response to God's gracious action. It is God who calls, forms, and sends, and it is through the life of the church that this call is discerned and then confirmed. Vocation is ultimately not limited to individual fulfillment, but, rather, oriented toward engagement in God's ongoing work of reconciliation and renewal. Within this understanding, I locate my own sense of call as one that has been shaped by Scripture, nurtured in community, and is continuing to be formed for service in ordered ministry.

My sense of vocation began to take shape while serving at Living River, our Presbytery's summer camp. Year after year, I found myself drawn back to that place, not only by the special rhythms of life at camp, but by a growing awareness of God's presence in the ordinary and the small. One of the moments that has stayed with me most vividly is standing with a child in the Cahaba River, picking up a tiny snail, and helping them see in that small piece of creation, something of its Creator. That the same God who loves them, loves that tiny creature in their palm.

In those moments, I began to recognize a deep joy in bearing witness to God's creative and sustaining work, and in helping others see themselves as known and uniquely made by that same God. I see the experiences within my time at Living River as early signs of a call to participate in something larger than myself; as a call to participate in the church's ministry of telling the story of God's love in ways that are tangible, affirming, relational, and rooted in the created world.

In the Reformed tradition, one's call does not begin with one's own aspirations, but rather, with the God who claims us in covenant and sends us into the world to embody the love made known in Christ. Because of witnessing to the grace of a Creator who ultimately shows up in a mere flowing body of water, I have since begun to understand my role within the life of the church.

Over time, the awareness of God made known within the smallest bits of creation has deepened into a sense of call to ordered ministry, particularly in the ministry of Word and Sacrament. I have experienced a growing conviction that I am called to help communities recognize the Creator and the gift of creation that is present in their midst. My call is not just something that feels like what I was called to do, but rather showed up in the ways of how God calls, how my church discerned that call, and ultimately how my life is participating within God's ongoing creation.

As I ebb and flow through my theological education at Columbia, I continue to hold this call with both clarity and humility. The same God who was present in those early moments of wonder continues to form and refine me for ministry. I often return to those first stirrings of call that I felt at Living River when I feel weary or distracted, as a way of grounding myself in why I am here. Ultimately, I trust that this call will continue to be shaped within the life of the church, as I seek to participate faithfully in God's work of love, reconciliation, and renewal in the world.

Statement of Faith

I believe in God the Triune Creator who breathed life into us and called us good. I believe in Jesus Christ, the son of God who lived, suffered under oppressive systems, yet still lived into justice and love, and died because of and for our sins, and was raised again, revealing that God's love is stronger than death and that new life is possible even in the face of suffering. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the one who sustains us all, as they are the one that swirled over the waters of the deep, around Christ at ascension, and now breathes air into us, today.

I believe God's character is constant in the sense that God is all loving, but that our experience of God is dynamic and relational. Rather than being distant or unchanging in every way, God is understood in relationship with the world, present and responsive to it. In this view, perfection is not about being static, but about perfect connection and relationship. Everything exists in relation to everything else, and nothing is truly isolated. So I understand creation itself as grounded in relationship; reflecting a God who is not separate from the world, but intimately involved with it. For even the Triune God's own being is companionship; and so, I trust that my creation, too, was born with God's desire for relationship with God's own creation, not solitude from it.

I believe that God made God's self known in Jesus Christ, as Christ lived, loved, and walked among people. As Christ held compassion for others, so does God. As Christ demanded justice, truth, and faithfulness, so does God demand. Christ's embodiment of rejection, through crucifixion, is also God's embodiment. And, it is especially within the death and resurrection that we most fully come to know who God is: self-giving, suffering with us, and bringing life out of death. Jesus's love for the very people who rejected him are also the people whom God loves. I believe that how Christ lived is meant to empower how we should live. God came down to involve God's self in the human experience, so that we might know complete love in a tangible way and experience it in our own lives. Through Christ's teachings and actions, we see not only who God is, but also the kind of life we are invited to live in response to that love. In this way, Christ reveals both the heart of God and the calling placed before humanity. I believe we are invited into this mystery, not only through our belief, but through the Sacraments. In baptism, we are claimed by God and joined to Christ's death and resurrection, marked as part of the covenantal community. In the Lord's Supper, we are continually nourished by Christ's presence, remembering his self-giving love and participating in the grace that sustains us. I believe that these sacraments are not merely symbolic, but are means through which God actively meets us.

I believe that the Spirit is near at all times as we live, make choices, enjoy friendship, involve ourselves in fellowship, and move through the ordinary moments of life. I believe that the Spirit guides and gently tugs at where we might go next, and offers comfort in the hardships of the human experience. The Spirit reminds us that we are not alone, even in moments of doubt, grief, or uncertainty. It stirs within us a desire toward goodness, reconciliation, and love for others. In both quiet reflection and shared community, the Spirit continues to shape and guide our lives toward deeper faithfulness.

Concept Paper

Relational Trinity; Relational Humanity

The doctrine of the Triune God suggests that God's very being is communion: Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, that exist not as isolated divine persons but as an eternal perichoresis in which the Trinity dances in love, movement, and shared life. God is not first a solitary being who then chooses to relate, but a God whose life is already within God's own self. Simply put, God's very nature is eternal relationship and mutual love inside Godself, not something God only begins doing when God created the world. In this sense, divine perfection is not static self-sufficiency, but the fullness of relational wholeness.

Creation, then, is not out of an act of divine loneliness or necessity, but an overflow of this relational life: the Triune God who speaks, creates, redeems, and sustains in a continual movement outward toward communion. To speak of God as Creator in this framework is to affirm that all life originates in relationship and is continually held within it.

Humanity, made in the image of this Triune God, is therefore fundamentally relational in our design and in our calling. The Imago Dei is not located merely in individual rational capacity or moral agency, but in the capacity, and need, for communion with God, with others, and with creation itself. To be a human being, to me, is to be created for a particular participation within love that is not self-enclosed but rather shared, responsive, and sustaining.

Human relationality is not merely incidental, but rather a reflection, however partial, of the Triune life of God. The way we say hello when we pass someone on the sidewalk, hug our family members when we walk through the door, mourn when a friend is mourning, and giggle when a sibling giggles, is all proof that we were created to commune within community, as reflection of a Creator who dwells within community.

Statement of What it Means to be Presbyterian

Growing up, I wish I had known what a blessing it is to be a PC(USA) Presbyterian. Being a Presbyterian means that I was able to grow up in a covenantal community in which I could ask questions, express doubt, wonder, while also being taught accountability, mutual care, and the importance of shared leadership. Through experiences, relationships, conflict, forgiveness, and service at the Presbytery's camp Living River, my home church, Church of the Covenant, and the church I attended in college, Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, I learned to truly embody covenant rather than just understand it. This helped me approach most relationships with the idea of mutual trust and accountability.

Once I attended General Assembly in Salt Lake City, Utah in 2024, it was not until then that I witnessed the power of a connectional polity as part of my Presbyterian identity. The GA, serving as the broadest expression of the church's collective discernment, embodies the conviction that the whole church, across regions, cultures, and contexts, is called to listen together for the movement of the Spirit. Through this layered participation, I came to understand that being PC(USA) Presbyterian means trusting that God works not just in personal conviction or local agreement, but through a shared, and sometimes challenging, discernment of the whole church. This was a really special revelation to have as a young adult stepping into seminary.

On the topic of seminary, something that has become of great importance to me while in seminary is the Presbyterian idea of Reformed and Always Reforming. Learning of the Reformed tradition's commitment to continual discernment under Scripture and under Spirit is one thing, but witnessing it happen to yourself during theological education is another. In the classroom, long held assumptions and thoughts are not simply discarded, but rather held with care, examined, tested, and oftentimes re-formed in open dialogue. Therefore, holding tradition with humility, as well as always being open to growth and correction, is something that has always meant a great deal to me but has only been further amplified through theological education.

Lastly, something that has meant the very most to me about being Presbyterian is our commitment to justice and mission. My ability to actively engage with and in social justice, peacemaking, and service, has come from the church's ability to witness to, and participate in such things. In other words, I do not pursue justice alongside my faith, but it is because of how my faith has shaped me that I have learned to pursue justice. I deeply appreciate how this is not an add-on to what it means for me to be Presbyterian, but rather how my faith is practiced and understood. Justice living is an essential expression of faithfulness to the gospel, and I will always be grateful for a denomination that affirms the same.

Statement of Self-Understanding

I was born, baptized, and confirmed in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in Alabama, growing up with three siblings under the care of my mother, a lifelong educator. My early family life was shaped by both stability as well as intense disruption; my father's work in the military and later in law enforcement, and my parents' divorce when I was nine years old. After that, I was raised primarily by my mother until leaving home at eleven to attend a fine arts boarding school in Birmingham. These experiences formed in me a strong sense of independence, discipline, and adaptability at a young age. At the same time, they have also shaped how I navigate relationships, often tending toward self-reliance and a reluctance to depend on others. I recognize both the strengths and limitations in this.

While I am organized, driven, and dependable, I am also continuing to grow in vulnerability, trust, and emotional openness. I have seen meaningful growth in these areas through my relationships, but I have also begun to recognize a pattern shaped by my upbringing. Growing up in an emotionally volatile household, I often took on the role of peacemaker; someone who was minimizing conflict and presenting a sense of calm in order to prevent escalation. While this helped me navigate those early environments, I now see how it can lead me to overlook or tolerate harm in my own relationships.

This awareness has been an important part of my ongoing formation, as I learn to engage conflict more honestly, set healthier boundaries, and cultivate relationships marked not just by peacekeeping, but by mutual honesty and care. Reflecting on these dynamics has been an important part of my ongoing spiritual and personal formation, helping me better understand how my background influences the way I relate to others and how I am called to lead and care for people in ministry.

Something else that I have had to learn while stepping into seminary and working within a congregational setting is the importance of taking care of, and standing up for myself. This has helped me recognize that my physical, spiritual, and emotional health is not abstract or secondary, but deeply practical and directly tied to my ability to function faithfully. During my first semester of seminary, I quickly realized I had created the conditions for burnout: I was a full-time student while also working in what was technically a part-time internship at a church that functioned more like full-time ministry, attending classes every day of the week, and maintaining only one day of rest, often not fully restful when considering the mounds of homework seminarians have.

In that rhythm, I noticed how easily I defaulted into overfunctioning and pushed through exhaustion rather than attending to my own limits. I began to find a rhythm of functioning on over drive and accepted my fate of just "always being busy." Over my time in seminary, I have had to learn how to say no, how to manage my time better, how to treat rest like a full-time job, and how to prioritize my church experience. I know, the last part sounds funny...but, while working in a congregational setting on the backside of the pulpit, I quickly found that church was no longer fulfilling in ways it had been, but rather felt more like a job. (This also had to do with

the congregational context I was serving under) Once I recognized this, I prioritized attending chapel at Columbia twice a week as much as I could, and I prioritized silent reflection and prayer meditative time outside so that I could get that “God is near” feeling without sitting in the pews. Once I made this change, I began to notice that my personal sense of call became more sustainable and less driven by urgency or depletion. I am learning that spiritual vitality is not something that happens only in designated ministry spaces, but something that requires intentional rhythms of rest, worship, and grounding that I am responsible for protecting. This ongoing process has helped me understand that caring for myself is not separate from caring for others, but a necessary part of faithful presence in ministry.

I have also learned the importance of movement! (post-dance degree funny enough) I am a frequent hiker and paddler and seriously enjoy yoga, ballet class, and going on long walks with my dog. Alongside physical movement, I have taken the CPM’s advice from our previous meeting and have become more serious in attending therapy. I have made a wonderful match with a therapist whom I am seeing once a week for now.

Statement of the Tasks of Ministers of Word and Sacrament

In my understanding, a Minister of Word and Sacrament is someone who proclaims and interprets the Scriptures through preaching, teaching and theological reflection, as well as someone who presides at and administers the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper/Communion. Alongside the ordained ways in which a PC(USA) clergy person ministers, there is also the important aspect of pastoral care. An ordained minister, alongside other leaders within the congregation such as deacons, elders, and lay-clergy, is someone who leads worship and shapes the church's liturgical life, exercises care in forms of visitation, counseling and presence in both sufferings and in joys, equips and supports the ministry of the whole congregation by being someone who does not try to do everything themselves. And lastly, someone who engages deeply within awareness of their community in forms of mission, justice and public witness.

In my particular spiritual gifts, I see a strength in guidance and stewardship. I have seen this gift take shape in a variety of contexts, including my work at Living River, Dunkin' Donuts in New York City, Saint Luke's in Atlanta, and in multiple part-time on-campus positions at Columbia. Across these settings, I have often found myself in roles that require organization, discernment, and the ability to help move groups toward clarity in complex or ambiguous situations. In particular, within congregational contexts, I have been able to contribute to discerning the direction of ministry by helping to name priorities, organize tasks, and hold steady focus amid uncertainty.

Alongside remaining driven, organized, on-time, and clear, I often have found that I best function as a friend. By this, I do not simply mean a social familiarity, but a capacity for relational presence that is grounded, attentive, and genuinely invested in the lives of others. In congregational life, I have found that this kind of presence is often what allows trust to develop. It is through relationships that I have been able to listen well, notice needs that are not always spoken, and participate in the shared life of a community in a way that is both approachable and steady.

I have also gained increasing awareness of areas in need of continued growth. One of those areas is a long-standing tendency toward people-pleasing, which has shaped how I navigate relationships and conflict. In recent years, and particularly through more difficult life experiences, I have begun to recognize how this pattern can lead me to prioritize others' comfort over honesty or to take on responsibility for managing others' reactions, while mis-managing my own. While this has often come from a good place and desire to care well for people and maintain peace, I am learning that it can also prevent me from engaging more directly and truthfully in relationships. I am a strong believer that we must also pastorally care for ourselves, and developing greater clarity around boundaries is one way to do that within my ongoing formation.

Alongside this, I have come to learn that I am terrible at time management. While that sounds a bit harsh, I truly mean it. I have learned that what I consider ten minutes often turns into

five minutes and that I cannot take out the dog, make a coffee, and walk to class all within that time period. I have had to learn through experience that I cannot consistently fit multiple tasks into the same short window of time without becoming rushed or disorganized. In a ministry context, I am beginning to understand why this matters more deeply. Ministry work is often relational and unpredictable, requiring presence with people, attentiveness in pastoral situations, and the ability to move between tasks without losing focus or becoming overwhelmed. Without intentional time management, I can risk either overcommitting or moving through responsibilities too quickly to be fully present. Because of this, I am learning to slow down my planning, build in realistic margins, and approach my schedule with greater intentionality.

I also have a tendency to hold things internally rather than sharing them with others. While I recognize that this can come from a desire to process thoughtfully and not burden others unnecessarily, I am learning that it can also limit connection and prevent me from receiving support when I need it. When I am overwhelmed or anxious, I can default to managing things on my own, rather than reaching out or naming what I am experiencing in real time. Over time, and actually through the help of my partner Wil, I have begun to see how this pattern can contribute to emotional isolation and make it more difficult for others to offer meaningful support or accountability. In the context of ministry, I am learning that this is an important area for growth. Healthy pastoral leadership requires openness, collaboration, and the willingness to be known within trusted relationships, not just to care for others but also to receive care in return.

Notes: The Synod of Living Waters is one of 16 Synods and is comprised of 12 presbyteries from Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Kentucky and parts of Arkansas and Missouri. Membership in these presbyteries is 62,221. The largest presbytery is Middle Tennessee with 14,756 members, followed by East Tennessee with 8,644 members. The Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley is the third largest presbytery with 6,704 members.

The meeting was attended by 41 persons including commissioners, and representatives of some of the Synod's 13 mission partners and representatives from the General Assembly (Rev. CeCe Armstrong), the Interim Unified Agency (Rachel Anderson) and the Board of Pensions (Keenan Rogers).

The meeting opened at 9 a.m. CST with a call to order and opening prayer from Elder Carol Copeland, Moderator. The worship service with communion was conducted at Independent Presbyterian Church. Rev. Dr. CeCe Armstrong preached from Montreat. Her sermon, based on John 11, focused on the theme of doing ministry together.

The Rev. Greg Goodwiller presented the Stated Clerk report. The only item for action was to approve the peer reviews of 2024 minutes of the synod's presbyteries. It was noted that there were no disciplinary actions in 2025.

The financial report was given by Financial Administrator, Elder Vicki Schramm. The Synod of Living Waters has \$1,846,129.65 in total assets with a cash balance of \$188,017.14. Expenses exceeded income in 2025 by \$10,948.55.

Representatives from the following Covenant Partners made reports: Columbia Theological Seminary, Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Maryville College, Presbyterian Home for Children, Rhodes College, Tusculum College and PCUSA related institution, University of Dubuque Theological Seminary.

Elder Barbara Allen spoke about the work of Presbyterian Women.

The report of the Administrative Board was presented by Board Moderator, Rev. Dr. Ann Laird. Jones. All five of the action items were approved unanimously as presented.

1. The 2026 Proposed Budget was approved. This included \$365,269 in income and \$379,390 in expenses, for a \$14,140 deficit. The budget includes a 2 ½ % increase in staff salaries.
2. The Synod of Living Waters per capita rate will increase by \$.40 in 2027 (from \$3.98 to \$4.38).
3. Rev. Dr. Gregory Goodwiller was elected for a one year term to the office of Synod Treasurer.
4. That both "campus ministry" distributions to presbyteries and prior distributions being held by presbyteries for future use be available for use by presbyteries for any of the original uses of mission partnership funds: namely campus ministry, racial ethnic ministry, small church ministry, and governing body (council) support, at each presbytery's discretion, and further that campus ministry include but not be limited to support of UKirk or other existing or contemplated ministries on college or university campuses, but rather be available for other ministries focused specifically on young adults.
5. That the next stated meeting of the Synod of Living Waters be set for January 25, 2027 to be held in person at a time and location to be determined by the Administrative Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Elder April Lane
Commissioner for the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley

SYNOD OF LIVING WATERS

2026 ANNUAL MEETING

March 16, 2026 – Held Electronically via Zoom

The Synod of Living Waters held its 44th Stated Meeting on March 16, 2026, via Zoom, with Ruling Elder Carol Copeland moderating. Worship opened the meeting, including the Lord's Supper and a sermon by Rev. CeCe Armstrong, Co-Moderator of the 226th General Assembly. A quorum was present, and the docket and rules were adopted without objection.

I. Key Reports and Actions

A. Stated Clerk's Report

- No disciplinary cases were reported for 2025.
- The Synod's 2024 and 2025 minutes were approved.
- Administrative Board actions in 2025 included support for leadership development initiatives, grants for participation in the National Black Presbyterian Caucus, and planning for a General Assembly orientation event.

B. Presbytery Minutes Review

- All presbyteries' minutes were reviewed.
- Sheppards & Lapsley was approved *without exception*.

C. Financial and Administrative Matters

- The Synod's Financial Reports for 2025 Year End are attached as Appendix A.
- The Synod's per capita remains **\$3.98 for 2026**, with a **\$0.40 increase (to \$4.38) approved beginning in 2027**. This reflects ongoing membership decline and reduced unified giving.
- The **2026 budget was approved**, including a modest 2.5% increase in staff salaries.
 - A copy of the approved budget is attached as Appendix B.
- Rev. Dr. Gregory Goodwiller was elected to serve a **one-year term as Treasurer** while a longer-term structure is evaluated.

D. Campus Ministry / Mission Funding Changes

- The Synod approved a significant change in how campus ministry funds may be used.
- Presbyteries may now use these funds more broadly for:
 - campus ministry
 - racial ethnic ministry
 - small church ministry
 - governing body support
- The definition of "campus ministry" was expanded to include **young adult ministry more broadly**, not only traditional campus-based programs.

II. Ministry Highlights

A. Living Waters for the World (LWW)

- Continued strong work in clean water ministries.
- New partnership with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance in Haiti.
- Ongoing transition to **solar-powered water systems in Cuba**, with 38 of 78 systems already converted or in process.

B. Denominational and Institutional Updates

- The Synod welcomed a new Global Ecumenical Liaison from the Interim Unified Agency.
- The Board of Pensions reported several developments, including:
 - Extension of the Transitional Pastor's Package
 - A new subsidy reducing dependent child coverage costs beginning in 2027
 - A childcare assistance pilot program launching in 2026
 - A 7.2% Experience Apportionment effective July 2026
- Covenant partners (seminaries, colleges, and ministries) shared updates and opportunities for engagement across the Synod.

III. Other Notes

- A. The Synod continues its work through six Administrative Board committees and maintains liability insurance for its ministries.
- B. The next stated meeting of the Synod is scheduled for January 25, 2027, to be held in person.

This report has been respectfully submitted by:

Rev. Madison Roberts

Pastor & Head of Staff, Mountain Brook Presbyterian Church

Synod of Living Waters
Balance Sheet
December 31, 2025

Appendix B-7

ASSETS

Current Assets

1-1011	Regions Bank - Synod General	\$	188,017.74
1-1103	SLW Gen Inv Unrealized G/L		6,519.87
1-1603	Loan #2 - Westminster		3,392.98
2-1102	McDowell Assets		798,449.12
2-1103	Synod General Investments		111,393.03
2-1104	Mildred Stock/OG Henry Asset		435,823.74
3-1101	Pres. Invest./Loan Prog-Ch Ln		302,533.17
<u>Total Assets</u>			<u>1,846,129.65</u>

LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL

Current Liabilities

1-2021	Board Designated/Pass Thru Fds		34,087.71
<u>Total Liabilities</u>			<u>34,087.71</u>

Fund Balances

1-3000	Retained Earnings		175,039.73
2-3000	Fund Balance - 1104 MS&OGH		435,823.74
2-3001	Fund Balance -1102 - McDowell		798,449.12
2-3003	Fund Balance - 1103 - Syn Gen		111,393.03
3-3000	Fund Balance - 1101 -PILP		298,683.17
9999	Retained Earnings		3,601.70
	Net Income		(10,948.55)
<u>Total Fund Balances</u>			<u>1,812,041.94</u>

<u>Total Liabilities & Fund Balances</u>			<u>1,846,129.65</u>
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Synod of Living Waters
Statement of Activities
Compared with Budget
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2025

		<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u> <u>2025</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>2025</u>	<u>Remaining</u> <u>Balance</u>
REVENUES					
4100	Per Capita Giving	\$ 27,249.95	\$ 238,782.50	\$ 247,640.00	(8,857.50)
4105	Unified Giving	7,835.98	51,721.09	53,000.00	(1,278.91)
4110	Prior Yr Per Capita & Unified	0.00	16,177.57	25,000.00	(8,822.43)
	Sub Total	35,085.93	306,681.16	325,640.00	(18,958.84)
4161	Annual Endowment Transfer	0.00	50,123.08	50,000.00	123.08
	Sub Total	0.00	50,123.08	50,000.00	123.08
	Total Revenues	35,085.93	356,804.24	375,640.00	(18,835.76)
EXPENSES					
Council Expenses					
5001	Synod Meeting	0.00	8,158.42	3,800.00	4,358.42
5003	Permanent Judicial Commission	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
5004	Corporation Renewal	0.00	0.00	23.00	(23.00)
5011	Executive Hosting & Gatherings	0.00	9,074.59	7,000.00	2,074.59
5012	Permanent Administrative Com	0.00	0.00	500.00	(500.00)
5020	Leadership Formation -Presb Ex	(1,050.00)	(1,050.00)	2,500.00	(3,550.00)
5099	Contingency	1,250.00	1,250.00	3,500.00	(2,250.00)
	Total Governing Body	200.00	17,433.01	18,323.00	(889.99)
Office Operations & Technology					
5107	Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
5108	Office Operations	172.38	5,068.42	4,500.00	568.42
5110	Technology & Services	106.99	1,952.16	2,000.00	(47.84)
	Total Office Expense	279.37	7,020.58	7,500.00	(479.42)
Synod Ministries					
5210	Presbyterian Women	0.00	4,500.00	4,500.00	0.00
5301	East TN Campus Ministry	1,460.73	17,528.76	17,529.00	(0.24)
5302	Holston Campus Ministry	695.80	8,349.60	8,350.00	(0.40)
5303	Mid-South Campus Ministry	1,197.00	14,364.00	14,364.00	0.00
5304	Mid-KY Campus Ministry	1,316.70	15,800.40	15,800.00	0.40
5305	Mid-TN Campus Ministry	2,201.41	26,416.92	26,417.00	(0.08)
5306	Mississippi Campus Ministry	718.20	8,618.40	8,618.00	0.40
5307	North Alabama Campus Ministry	77.35	928.23	928.00	0.23
5308	S&L Campus Ministry	3,472.44	41,669.28	41,670.00	(0.72)
5309	South Alabama Campus Ministry	976.33	11,715.96	11,716.00	(0.04)
5310	St. Andrew Campus Ministry	1,791.74	21,500.88	21,504.00	(3.12)
5311	Transylvania Campus Ministry	1,316.70	15,800.40	15,800.00	0.40
5312	West KY Campus Ministry	1,316.70	15,800.40	15,800.00	0.40
	Total Synod Ministries	16,541.10	202,993.23	202,996.00	(2.77)

Synod of Living Waters
Statement of Activities
Compared with Budget
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2025

	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u> <u>2025</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>2025</u>	<u>Remaining</u> <u>Balance</u>
<u>Advocacy Groups</u>				
5317 Cultural Affinity Group	0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	0.00
<u>Total Advocacy Groups</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>3,000.00</u>	<u>3,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<u>Presbytery Partnerships</u>				
5397 Gen. Pres. Partnership Funding	0.00	0.00	6,000.00	(6,000.00)
<u>Total Presbytery Partnerships</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>6,000.00</u>	<u>(6,000.00)</u>
<u>Personnel</u>				
5401 Synod Executive Salary	3,780.81	45,212.75	45,198.40	14.35
5403 Synod Executive FICA Salary	409.69	3,457.68	3,457.68	0.00
5404 Synod Executive BOP	376.67	4,520.02	4,520.00	0.02
5406 Synod Executive Travel	(19.95)	10,384.80	12,000.00	(1,615.20)
5409 Synod Executive Continuing Ed	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
5441 Administrative Contract Serv.	2,916.67	35,000.04	35,000.00	0.04
5461 Financial Administrator Salary	2,693.43	32,321.16	32,321.12	0.04
5463 Financial Administrator FICA	206.04	2,472.48	2,472.57	(0.09)
5495 Medical Reimbursement Plan	328.09	3,937.04	3,937.00	0.04
<u>Total Personnel</u>	<u>10,691.45</u>	<u>137,305.97</u>	<u>139,906.77</u>	<u>(2,600.80)</u>
<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>	<u>27,711.92</u>	<u>367,752.79</u>	<u>377,725.77</u>	<u>(9,972.98)</u>
<u>NET INCOME</u>	<u>\$ 7,374.01</u>	<u>\$ (10,948.55)</u>	<u>\$ (2,085.77)</u>	<u>(8,862.78)</u>

Synod of Living Waters 2026 Budget - Proposed

		2023 Year End	2024 Year End	2025 Budget	2026 Proposed
Income					
Giving					
1-4100	Per Capita Giving	\$235,709.00	\$234,475.00	\$247,640.00	\$240,269.00
1-4105	Unified Giving	\$44,492.00	\$40,064.00	\$53,000.00	\$50,000.00
1-4110	Prior Yr Per Capita & Unified	\$22,088.00	\$42,853.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
1.4150-61	Interest, Dividends, Unrealized, Transfers	\$49,375.00	\$49,481.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
Total Giving		\$351,664.00	\$366,873.00	\$375,640.00	\$365,269.00
Expense					
Council Expenses					
1-5001	Synod Meeting	\$3,759.00	\$200.00	\$3,800.00	\$2,000.00
1-5003	Permanent Judicial Commission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
1-5004	Corporation Renewal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$23.00	\$23.00
1-5010	Minutes Printing	\$380.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-5011	Executive Hosting and Gathering	\$6,566.00	\$3,666.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
1-5012	Administrative Board	\$1,073.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
1-5020	Presbytery Leadership Formation	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$4,000.00
1-5099	Contingency	\$1,500.00	\$4,000.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
Total Governing Body		\$13,528.00	\$7,866.00	\$18,323.00	\$17,523.00
Office					
1-5107	Miscellaneous	\$380.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
1-5108	Office Operations	\$3,951.00	\$4,960.00	\$4,500.00	\$5,500.00
1-5110	Technology and Services	\$1,877.00	\$2,091.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00
Total Office		\$6,208.00	\$7,051.00	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
Synod Ministries					
1-5210	Presbyterian Women	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
1-5301	East TN. Campus Ministry	\$17,529.00	\$17,529.00	\$17,529.00	\$17,529.00
1-5302	Holston Campus Ministry	\$8,350.00	\$8,350.00	\$8,350.00	\$8,350.00
1-5303	Mid-South Campus Ministry	\$14,364.00	\$14,364.00	\$14,364.00	\$14,364.00
1-5304	Mid-KY Campus Ministry	\$15,800.00	\$15,800.00	\$15,800.00	\$15,800.00
1-5305	Mid-TN Campus Ministry	\$26,417.00	\$26,417.00	\$26,417.00	\$26,417.00
1-5306	Mississippi Campus Ministry	\$8,618.00	\$8,618.00	\$8,618.00	\$8,618.00
1-5307	N. Alabama Campus Ministry	\$928.00	\$928.00	\$928.00	\$928.00
1-5308	S&L Campus Ministry	\$41,670.00	\$41,670.00	\$41,670.00	\$41,670.00
1-5309	S. Alabama Campus Ministry	\$11,716.00	\$11,716.00	\$11,716.00	\$11,716.00
1-5310	St. Andrew Campus Ministry	\$21,501.00	\$21,504.00	\$21,504.00	\$21,504.00
1-5311	Transylvania Campus Ministry	\$15,800.00	\$15,800.00	\$15,800.00	\$15,800.00
1-5312	W. KY Campus Ministry	\$15,800.00	\$15,800.00	\$15,800.00	\$15,800.00
Total Synod Ministries		\$202,993.00	\$202,996.00	\$202,996.00	\$202,996.00
Advocacy Groups					
1-5317	Cultural Affinity Group	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00

Total Advocacy Groups	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Presbytery Partnerships				
1-5397 General Presbytery Partnership Funding	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Total Presbytery Partnerships	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Personnel				
1-5401 Synod Executive Salary	\$42,408.00	\$44,104.00	\$45,198.00	\$46,328.00
1-5403 Synod Executive FICA Salary	\$3,244.00	\$3,244.00	\$3,457.00	\$3,544.00
1-5404 Synod Executive BOP	\$16,570.00	\$18,064.00	\$4,520.00	\$4,633.00
1-5406 Synod Executive Travel	\$7,677.00	\$10,062.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
1-5409 Synod Executive Continuing Education	\$0.00	\$545.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
1-5421 Stated Clerk Services	\$3,180.00	\$265.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-5441 Administrative Contract Services	\$25,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00
1-5461 Financial Administrator Salary	\$30,324.00	\$31,537.00	\$32,321.00	\$33,129.00
1-5463 Financial Administrator FICA	\$2,320.00	\$2,412.00	\$2,473.00	\$2,534.00
1-5495 Medical Reimbursement Plan	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,937.00	\$4,222.00
Total Personnel	\$130,723.00	\$145,233.00	\$139,906.00	\$142,390.00
Total General Budgeted Expenses	\$359,452.00	\$363,146.00	\$377,725.00	\$379,409.00
1-5499 Non Budgeted Misc. Exp.				
Net Surplus (Deficit)	(\$7,788.00)	\$3,727.00	(\$2,085.00)	(\$14,140.00)

Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley
Report of Trustees to Presbytery Assembly
May 21, 2026

- Trustees: Tom Adams (2028), Tom Bryson (2028), Lant Davis (2027) [Moderator], Steve Deal (2027), Krysten Holloway (2026), Katherine Michael (2026), Terry Newland (2026), and Allen Sydnor (2027).
- Meetings: The Trustees have not met since the last Presbytery Assembly but, rather, have taken actions by email as actions by unanimous written consent.

For information:

- The gift of the property formerly owned by **Fairfield Highlands Presbyterian Church**, authorized by the Presbytery assembly in a called meeting held on October 3, 2025, was closed on April 9, 2026. Faith Church at Midfield is now the owner of the property, which they plan to use in their food ministry and other outreach to the neighborhood. Their pastor, Rev. Aubrey Miller, expressed the sincere gratitude of their congregation for the donation of the property. At the closing we gave thanks to God for the faithful ministry of the former members of Fairfield Highlands Presbyterian Church and prayed for the continuing and expanded ministries of Faith Church at Midfield in the name of Jesus Christ.

For action:

- Property formerly owned by **Church of the Good Shepherd (Anniston)**
 - As reported to the Presbytery Assembly on November 20, 2026, a previous contract for sale of this property, entered into as of September 28, 2020, expired by its terms on October 1, 2025, due to the purchaser's failure to close. The property was also subject to a lease (to the same party) dated September 28, 2020, which by its terms expired on November 17, 2025. The Trustees did not renew the lease, and the tenant vacated the premises.
 - On February 4, 2026, the Trustees listed the property for sale with Foundry Commercial, LLC, a national commercial real estate brokerage that has been vetted and recommended by the Presbyterian Foundation. Foundry Commercial associated ERA King Real Estate to serve as a local agent. Based on Foundry Commercial's Broker's Price Opinion dated November 25, 2025 (a copy of which is attached to this report), the property was listed for sale at a price of \$450,000.
 - In March 2026 we received a cash offer from New Hope Ministries, Inc., who first offered \$175K. We did not counter because the offer was so low. They then revised their offer to \$275K. We countered for \$415K, and over the course of additional bargaining, they increased their offer to \$325K, which they said was the most they could pay considering the condition of the property (roof and HVAC need a lot of work). We turned that offer down and did not hear from them for a week or so. Then they offered \$350K, which is in the range (\$350K to \$450K) of the property value as estimated by our real estate professionals. No

other comparable offers have been received. **The Trustees voted unanimously to accept this offer, contingent on Presbytery approval, and to recommend that the Presbytery accept this offer.**

- The offer is contained in the following documents (a copy of which are attached to this report and which, collectively, are sometimes referred to in this report as the “Contract of Sale”):

- Commercial Sale Agreement between the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley and New Hope Ministries, Inc.
- Addendum to Sales Contract
- Lead Base Paint Disclosure
- Estimated Closing Statement

- Based on the foregoing, the Trustees move the Presbytery to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley, Incorporated (the “Presbytery”), hereby ratifies the Trustees’ approval and execution of the Contract of Sale for a purchase price of \$350,000, less closing expenses;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Presbytery authorizes and directs the officers of the Presbytery, and any of them, to execute and deliver such closing documents as shall be necessary to effectuate the transaction contemplated by the Contract of Sale, including, but not limited to, a Statutory Warranty Deed for the real property formerly owned by Church of the Good Shepherd and situated at 461 Choccolocco Road, Anniston, Calhoun County, Alabama, and any property contiguous thereto owned by the Presbytery, all in form acceptable to the Trustees of the Presbytery or their designee.

- Property formerly owned by **Center Point Presbyterian Church (Birmingham)**
 - As reported by the Trustees to the Presbytery Assembly on November 20, 2025, the sale of this property to Rev. Bruce Carpenter, which was authorized by the Presbytery Assembly in a meeting held on November 21, 2024, has not been closed due to the purchaser’s inability to obtain funding; and that contract now has been terminated. That contract of sale was for a purchase price of \$350,000. (However, the Presbytery Assembly approved the sale, which was still being negotiated at the time, for a minimum of \$300,000, less closing expenses.) Rev. Carpenter continues to occupy the property under a month-to-month lease.
 - Commercial Realty Partners LLC, the real estate agent for the Presbytery, continued to market the property. An offer in the form of a Commercial Sales Agreement for a purchase price of \$300,000 cash has been received from Minerva Hernandez and Pedro Valeriano. (A copy of that Commercial Sales Agreement is attached to this report.) **The Trustees voted unanimously to accept this offer, contingent on Presbytery approval, and to recommend that the Presbytery accept this offer.**

- Following the advice of our agent, Commercial Realty Partners LLC, we have not executed the Commercial Sales Agreement, until the proposed purchasers can provide evidence that they are likely to obtain commercial financing for the purchase. We are informed that the proposed purchasers will be meeting with their banker on May 21, 2026.
- Based on the foregoing, the Trustees move the Presbytery to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley, Incorporated (the “Presbytery”), hereby ratifies the Trustees’ approval of the Commercial Sales Agreement for a purchase price of \$300,000, less closing expenses;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Presbytery approves the execution of the Commercial Sales Agreement when the Trustees or their designee have received satisfactory evidence that the purchasers are likely to obtain commercial financing;

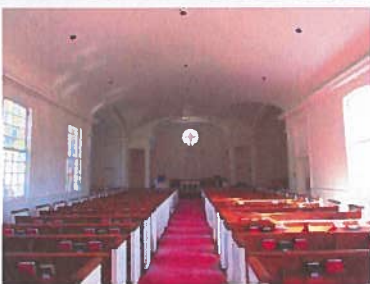
FURTHER RESOLVED, assuming that the Commercial Sales Agreement is fully executed, that the Presbytery authorizes and directs the officers of the Presbytery, and any of them, to execute and deliver such closing documents as shall be necessary to effectuate the transaction contemplated by the Contract of Sale, including, but not limited to, a Statutory Warranty Deed for the real property formerly owned by Center Point Presbyterian Church and situated at 2650 Center Point Parkway, Center Point, Jefferson County, Alabama, and any property contiguous thereto owned by the Presbytery, and a termination of the existing lease and tenancy of Rev. Bruce Carpenter, all in form acceptable to the Trustees of the Presbytery or their designee.

Broker Price Opinion

461 Choccolocco Road
Anniston, AL 36207

Date: 11/25/2025

PHOTOS OF SUBJECT PROPERTY



PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

PROPERTY	SPECIFICATIONS
Parcel ID 21-02-10-0-004-071.000, 21-02-10-0-004-072.000, 21-05-15-0-001-001.000	Number of Buildings 2
County Calhoun	Total Building SF 12,449 ± SF
Use Religious	Acreage 4.45 ± AC
Zoning SN2 Suburban Neighborhood 2	Parking Paved Lot
	Year Built 1964

DEMOGRAPHICS - (estimated data 2025)	1 Mile	3 Mile	5 Mile
Population	1,623	14,415	36,280
Population Change (2030 projection)	-0.20%	-	-0.20%
Average Household Income	\$110,787	\$99,972	\$84,401
Median Home Value	\$211,914	\$208,032	\$181,717

LOCATION OF PROPERTY



PROPERTY COMMENTS

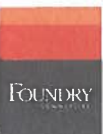
The subject property is located at 461 Choccolocco Rd within the City of Anniston in Calhoun County. The immediate area features a mix of residential uses and light commercial activity along Choccolocco Road, providing access to the wider Anniston/Oxford region via nearby arterial routes. The property benefits from visibility and connectivity along Choccolocco Rd, which links into the city's collector roadway network.

The economic demographics show the immediate area has household incomes above the national averages and median home values below the national averages. The area is projected for negative growth in population between now and 2030.

The subject property consists of 2 main structures: a 1-story, brick, church building (c. 1964) totaling 7,719 +/- SF and a 1-story, brick addition (c. 1991) totaling 4,730 +/- SF, a total of 12,449 +/- SF on 4.45 +/- acres, per Calhoun County and an MAI appraisal completed in 2019. The building(s) contain a sanctuary (seating capacity unknown), sacristy, offices, several classrooms and a kitchen.

According to the local property manager (Anna King) the building shows well, but the roof is in need of replacement, and the tenant says the HVAC systems are nearing the end of their functional life.

Matt Messier, CCIM, SIOR
Principal
407.540.7718
matt.messier@foundrycommercial.com



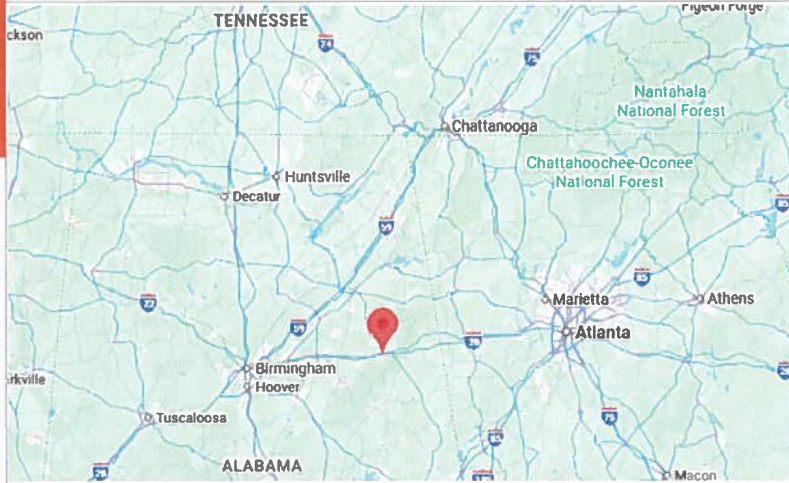
Broker Price Opinion

461 Choccolocco Road
Anniston, AL 36207

Date: 11/25/2025



LOCATION OF PROPERTY



PROPERTY COMPARABLES

Property Address	City	Status	Sale Date	Sale List Price	Property Type	Total SF	Price/SF	Acres	DOM
201 S 8th St	Gadsden AL	Active	N/A	\$ 700,000	Religious	32,000	\$ 22	2.00	218
771 Whites Chapel Rd	Gadsden AL	Active	N/A	\$ 1,399,000	Religious	31,682	\$ 44	10.00	192
16 Morton Rd	Anniston AL	Active	N/A	\$1,500,000	Religious	57,200	\$ 26	22.82	1066
3224 Oakridge Ave	Anniston AL	Active	N/A	\$ 169,900	Religious	4,850	\$ 35	1.86	
155 Caroliton St	Waco GA	UC	N/A	\$ 195,000	Religious	3,186	\$ 61	0.88	233
45713 US Hwy 231	Oneonta AL	Sold	5/1/2025	\$ 215,000	Religious	7,275	\$ 30	1.00	240
2608 Sansom Ave	Gadsden AL	Sold	3/26/2025	\$295,000	Religious	11,160	\$ 26	1.02	
1024 Quintard Ave	Anniston AL	Sold	3/18/2025	\$ 205,000	Religious	3,488	\$ 59	0.39	
223 Parkway Pl	Gadsden AL	Sold	2/5/2024	\$ 245,000	Religious	10,088	\$ 24	0.32	696
206 N Ave	Villa Rica GA	Sold	11/22/2023	\$ 1,000,000	Religious	24,505	\$ 41	2.79	655
Average							\$ 36		

PROPERTY COMMENTS

We researched religious property sales within a 50-mile radius of the subject property to find comparable properties within similar demographic and economic markets that are for sale or have sold within the last two plus years.

BROKER PRICE CONCLUSION

Taking into account the characteristics of the subject property, its demographic environment and current market conditions, it is our opinion that the property has a price range as follows:

Price Range Low	Price Range High	Asking Price
\$325,000	\$400,000	\$450,000

*This is a broker price opinion only. Foundry Commercial recommends owner obtaining a MAI appraisal for a more researched and definitive value. It should be noted there was no interior inspection completed, and condition is assumed as good to fair.

Matt Messier, CCIM, SIOR
Principal
407.540.7718
matt.messier@foundrycommercial.com





ESTIMATED CLOSING STATEMENT

Original

Counter

Name: Presbytery of Sheppards & LampleyAddress: 461 Choccolocco Rd
Anniston AL 36207Contract Amt: 325,000 / 350,000
Closing Paid By: Purchaser350,000
Buyer/Seller

SELLING EXPENSES	1.5% Foundry & 1.5% to ERA	ORIGINAL	COUNTER
Seller Broker/Agent Compensation (<u>3</u> %)		\$ 9750 (\$4875 / \$4875)	\$ 10,500 (\$5250 / \$5250)
Buyer Broker/Agent Compensation (<u>3</u> %)		\$ 9750	\$ 10,500
Seller Concession		\$ 0	\$ 0
Deed Preparation		\$ 250	\$ 250
Termite Letter or Bond (NO TREATMENT/REPAIRS INCLUDED)		\$ 0	\$ 0
ERA King Admin Fee (\$150.00)		\$ 150	\$ 150
Repairs (If Necessary)		\$ 0	\$ 0
Home Warranty		\$ 0	\$ 0
SELLING EXPENSES SUBTOTAL		\$19,900	\$ 21,400

CLOSING COSTS	ORIGINAL	COUNTER
Inspection Fee	\$	\$
Assignment Fee	\$	\$
Amortization Schedule	\$	\$
Appraisal Fee	\$	\$
Attorney Fee	\$	\$ 300
Title Examination Fee	\$	\$ 175
Credit Report	\$	\$
Spot Survey	\$	\$
Mortgage Ins (If Applicable)	\$	\$
Loan Origination Fee	\$	\$
Administrative Transaction Fee	\$	\$
Mortgage Application Fee	\$	\$
Mortgage Underwriting Fee	\$	\$
Mortgage Title Insurance	\$	\$
Owner's Title Insurance	\$	\$ 579
Mortgage Recording Fee	\$	\$
Deed Recording Fee	\$	\$
Loan Transfer Fee	\$	\$
Tax Service Fee	\$	\$
Flood Certification Fee	\$	\$
Courier/Wire Fee	\$	\$
* Discount Points (%) @ % Interest Rate	\$	\$
CLOSING COSTS SUBTOTAL	\$ 19,900	\$ 1054

ESTIMATE OF SELLING AND CLOSING COSTS

\$ 19,900 / 22,454\$ 22,454

Commissions to be distributed the following way:

1.5% to Foundry / 1.5% to ERA King Real Estate on the list side

3% to buyer agent (transaction facilitator)

RECAP

	Original/Counter
Contract Sales Price	325,000 / 350,000
Selling Expenses	19,900 / 22,454
ESTIMATE NET TO SELLER **	\$305,100 / 327,546

*Discount Points can not be guaranteed unless a firm commitment in writing is issued by the Mortgage Company.

** This amount does not include any mortgage payoff(s), tax escrows or possible termite damage treatment.

THE ABOVE FIGURES ARE APPROXIMATE, ARE NOT GUARANTEED AND IN NO WAY AFFECT THE SALES CONTRACT BETWEEN THE BUYER AND THE SELLER.Prepared by the Seller/Listing Agency and received by the Seller/Purchaser at the time the offer to purchase was presented the 11th day of May, 20 26

Firm ERA King Real Estate

Seller

DocuSigned by:
Agent Anna King 5/11/2026
E2C7E483610A4FA

Seller



LEAD BASE PAINT DISCLOSURE

DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT LEAD-BASED PAINT AND/OR LEAD-BASED PAINT HAZARDS

Property Address: 461 Choccolocco Rd

City: Anniston

St: AL **Zip:** 36207

Lead Warning Statement

Every Buyer(s) of any interest in residential real property on which a residential dwelling was built prior to 1978 is notified that such property may present exposure to lead from lead-based paint that may place young children at risk of developing lead poisoning. Lead poisoning in young children may produce permanent neurological damage, including learning disabilities, reduced intelligence quotient, behavioral problems and impaired memory. Lead poisoning also poses a particular risk to pregnant women. The Seller(s) of any interest in residential real property is required to provide the Buyer(s) with any information on lead-based paint hazards from risk assessments or inspections in the Seller's possession and notify the Buyer(s) of any known lead-based paint hazards. A risk assessment or inspection for possible lead-based paint hazards is recommended prior to purchase.

Seller's Disclosure (initial)

 (a) Presence of lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards (check one below):

☐ Known lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards are present in the housing (explain):

☒ Seller(s) has no knowledge of lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the housing.

 (b) Records and Reports available to the Seller(s) (check one below):

☐ Seller(s) has provided the Buyer(s) with all available records and reports pertaining to lead-based paint and/or lead-based hazards in the housing (list documents below):

☒ Seller(s) has no reports or records pertaining to lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the housing.

Buyer(s)'s Acknowledgment (initial)

 (c) Buyer(s) has received copies of all information listed above.

 (d) Buyer(s) has received the pamphlet *Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home*.

 (e) Buyer(s) has (check on one below):

☒ Received a 10-day opportunity (or mutually agreed upon period) to conduct a risk assessment or inspection for the presence of lead-based paint or lead-based paint hazards; or

☐ Waived the opportunity to conduct a risk assessment or inspection for the presence of lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards.



LEAD BASE PAINT DISCLOSURE

DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT LEAD-BASED PAINT AND/OR LEAD-BASED PAINT HAZARDS

REALTOR'S® Acknowledgment (initial)

Initial
GL (f) REALTOR® has informed the Seller(s) of the Seller(s)'s obligations under 42 U.S.C. 4852 d and is aware of his/her responsibility to ensure compliance.

Certification of Accuracy

The following parties have reviewed the information above and certify, to the best of their knowledge, that the information they have provided is true and accurate.

DocuSigned by: <u>Vicky Davis</u> 28424B1A614947C	<u>5/12/2026</u>		
Buyer	Date	Seller	Date

Buyer	Date	Seller	Date
Signed by: <u>Gabby Alvarez</u> REALTOR®	<u>5/13/2026</u>		
	Date	REALTOR®	Date

ADDENDUM TO SALES CONTRACT

Date: 5/12/2026

This Addendum is a part of the Agreement on the Property located at

461 Choccolocco Road

Anniston

AL 36207

and dated _____ between the undersigned Purchaser(s) and the undersigned Seller(s).

1. Buyer acknowledges that Seller is selling, and Buyer shall accept, the Property in an "AS-IS, WHERE-IS" condition without any representation or warranty whatsoever by Seller relating to the buildings, land, or any mechanical systems. Buyer acknowledges that it is a sophisticated real estate buyer who shall have had, as of the Closing Date, open access to, and sufficient time to review, all information, documents, studies and test relating to the Property that Buyer elects to conduct. Buyer covenants and warrants to Seller that Buyer shall rely solely on Buyer's own due diligence investigation in determining to purchase the Property.

2. Any items of personal property left in the building by Seller will be considered "as is" and abandoned and will have zero value. Seller makes no guarantees, warranties, or representations of any kind regarding the condition or usability of any personal property which may remain in the building at closing.

3. Sale is contingent upon Seller obtaining Presbytery approval currently scheduled for May 21, 2026

4. Total commission is six percent (6%) of which four and a half percent (4.5%) will be paid to ERA King Real Estate and one and half percent (1.5%) will be paid to Foundry Commercial.

DocuSigned by:

Vickey Davis

5/12/2026

Purchaser

New Hope Ministries Inc. - Vickey Davis

Witness

Purchaser

Witness

Seller

Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley

Witness

Seller

Witness

Date

COMMERCIAL SALE AGREEMENT

Revised March 2008 (Previous forms obsolete)

This is a legally binding contract. Seek competent advice prior to execution.

Effective Date of Commercial Sale Agreement: _____ (“Effective Date”)

SELLER: _____ Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley _____,

whose address is _____ 3603 Lorna Ridge Dr, Birmingham, AL 35216 _____ (“Seller”)

hereby agrees to sell and

BUYER: _____ New Hope Ministries, Inc. _____,

whose address is _____ 2107 US-78, Anniston, AL 36207 _____ (“Buyer”)

hereby agrees to purchase the following described real estate, together with all improvements thereon and appurtenances thereto (“Property”) situated in the City of _____ Anniston _____, County of _____ Calhoun _____, Alabama, on the terms stated below:

Address:

_____ 461 Choccolocco Road _____

and Described as Follows:

Parcel IDs 21-02-10-0-004-071.000, 21-05-15-0-001-001.000, and 21-02-10-0-004-072.000

1. **THE PURCHASE PRICE** shall be \$ 350,000.00 (“Purchase Price”) payable as follows:

EARNEST MONEY, (see below) \$ 10,000.00 (“Earnest Money”)

CASH on closing this sale \$ 340,000.00 (“Closing Payment”).

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Commercial Sale Agreement

Page 1 of 8

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2. AGENCY DISCLOSURE:

The listing company is: Anna King - ERA King Real Estate and Matthew Messier - Foundry Commercial, LLC.

The selling company is: Gabby Alvarez - ERA King Real Estate

The listing company is: (Two blocks may be checked) ☒ An agent of the Seller. ☐ An agent of the Buyer.

☐ An agent of both the Seller and Buyer and is acting as a limited consensual dual agent.

☐ Assisting the ☐ Buyer ☐ Seller (check one or both) as a transaction broker.

The selling company is: (Two blocks may be checked) ☐ An agent of the Seller. ☐ An agent of the Buyer.

☐ An agent of both the Seller and Buyer and is acting as a limited consensual dual agent.

☒ Assisting the ☒ Buyer ☐ Seller (check one or both) as a transaction broker.

Buyer's Initials

Seller's Initials

3. CONDITION OF PROPERTY: Neither Seller nor any Agent makes any representations or warranties of any kind regarding the condition of the Property except to the extent expressly and specifically set forth herein. Except as otherwise stated in this Agreement, Buyer accepts the Property in its present "As Is", "Where Is" condition.

4. BUYER'S INSPECTION PERIOD:

a. Buyer shall have a period of 15 days from the Effective Date ("Inspection Period") to arrange for financing (if applicable) and to determine, either personally or through or with a representative of Buyer's choosing, any and all conditions of the Property (including without limitation the condition of all improvements thereon) material to Buyer's decision to purchase the Property. This determination shall include, without limitation, Buyer satisfying itself as to title matters, survey matters, structural matters, zoning matters, subdivision restrictions, environmental matters, existing contracts and financial matters affecting the Property, all soil, landscaping and other physical conditions of the Property, availability and sufficient quantities of all utilities, and all additional matters that Buyer believes relevant, in its sole and absolute discretion, in determining whether or not to purchase the Property.

b. If for any reason whatsoever Buyer is unable to obtain financing (if applicable) and/or determines that the Property is unsuitable for its purposes in its sole and absolute discretion, or decides for any other reason not to purchase the Property, then Buyer shall notify Seller in writing of its decision not to purchase the Property not later than the last day of the Inspection Period, at which time the Escrow Deposit shall be returned to Buyer, subject to the provisions contained in Section 5 hereof, and, except as to those matters that specifically survive termination pursuant to the terms hereof, this Agreement shall be null and void and neither party shall have any rights or obligations under this Agreement. If Buyer does not give written notice to Seller of its election to not purchase the Property prior to the expiration of the Inspection Period, then it is agreed that the Buyer shall be deemed to have obtained financing (if applicable) and shall be deemed to have approved the Property and the parties shall proceed to Closing as provided for herein, subject to the provisions of Section 7 and Section 8 herein.

c. From the Effective Date until the Closing, Seller hereby grants to Buyer and its agents access to the Property in order to conduct reasonable investigations and tests as Buyer may desire, including, without limitation, environmental site assessments and structural, mechanical, electrical and other physical investigations of the Property. Seller agrees to cooperate with Buyer to provide relevant information concerning the Property in Seller's

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Commercial Sale Agreement

Page 2 of 8

1643925 v4

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possession upon written request therefore by Buyer in order to conduct such inspections and tests. Buyer shall coordinate all of its testing and investigations, and its agents' testing and investigations with Seller in order to insure the least amount of interference with Seller's operations. Buyer agrees to indemnify and hold Seller harmless against any claims for bodily injury, property damage and mechanics' liens arising out of any actions of Buyer or its agents or representatives on the Property in the course of such activities. Buyer also agrees to restore or repair any of the Property damaged or disturbed as a result of Buyer's exercise of its rights under this Agreement to as near as is reasonably possible to the condition that existed immediately prior to the exercise of such rights. Buyer's obligations to indemnify and hold Seller harmless under this paragraph shall survive Closing and any termination of this Agreement. Buyer's obligation under this subsection to restore the Property shall survive any termination of this Agreement, but shall not survive Closing.

5. EARNEST MONEY & BUYER'S DEFAULT:

a. Seller and Buyer hereby direct that ERA King Real Estate ("Escrow Agent") act as escrow agent and hold the Earnest Money in trust until this Agreement has been accepted and signed by all parties, at which time the Earnest Money will be promptly deposited into the escrow account of the Escrow Agent. During the Inspection Period Buyer may unilaterally and in its sole discretion cancel this Agreement and be refunded the Escrow Deposit. In the event that following the Inspection Period Buyer fails to carry out and perform the terms of this Agreement as a result of no fault of the Seller, the Earnest Money shall be forfeited to Seller as liquidated damages at the option of Seller, provided Seller agrees to the cancellation of this Agreement. If this Agreement does not close and the Earnest Money is to be turned over to Seller or refunded to Buyer pursuant to this Agreement, Seller and Buyer agree to execute a written release to the Escrow Agent affirming the proper disposition of the Earnest Money. In the event both Seller and Buyer claim the Earnest Money, or either Seller or Buyer refuses or fails to execute a release, the Escrow Agent may interplead the disputed portion of the Earnest Money into a court located in the county where the Property is located, and shall be entitled to deduct or recover from the Earnest Money its court costs, reasonable attorney fees and other out-of-pocket expenses relating to the interpleader. In the event that the Earnest Money is not received and verified as good and sufficient funds within 3 days of the Effective Date, Seller shall have the right to void this Agreement upon notice to Buyer, and upon the exercise of such right, this Agreement shall be void and neither party shall have any further obligation to the other. Furthermore, when the Earnest Money is a check and the check is returned by a financial institution as unpaid, Seller shall have the right to void this Agreement upon notice to Buyer, and upon the exercise of such right, this Agreement shall be void and neither party shall have any further obligation to the other.

b. Buyer and Seller, jointly and severally, agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Escrow Agent from and against any and all losses, costs (including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees), damages, expenses, and claims suffered or incurred by Escrow Agent in connection with or arising from or out of the Escrow Agent serving as an escrow agent under this Agreement.

6. **CONVEYANCE:** Seller agrees to convey the Property to Buyer by Statutory Warranty Deed warranty deed, free and clear of all encumbrances except for the "Permitted Exceptions" as herein set forth. The Property is sold and is to be conveyed subject to: (i) mineral and mining rights not owned by Seller; (ii) existing leases and tenant escrow deposits that are to be transferred to Buyer, subject to any present management and or rental commission agreements thereon; (iii) other existing binding agreements provided by Seller within 3 days of the Effective Date; and (iv) other survey matters and title matters as specifically identified as "Permitted Exceptions" herein (collectively referred to as the "Permitted Exceptions").

7. TITLE INSURANCE:

a. Seller shall provide, at ☐ Buyer's ☒ Seller's (check one) expense within 15 days after the Effective Date a standard owner's title insurance commitment for the issuance of an owner's title insurance policy by **NAME**

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Commercial Sale Agreement

Page 3 of 8

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OF TITLE COMPANY: _____ **Signature Title** _____ ("Title Company") in the amount of the Purchase Price showing fee simple title to the Property to be in Seller, together with the documents relating to exceptions to title referred to therein ("Title Commitment"). Buyer shall notify Seller of any unacceptable liens, encumbrances, restrictions, or other defects or matters ("Title Objections") on or before the expiration of the Inspection Period. In the event that Buyer fails to notify Seller of any Title Objections within said time period, Buyer shall be deemed to have accepted such title and all matters contained therein shall be deemed to be "Permitted Exceptions". In the event that Buyer does provide Title Objections within said time period, within five (5) days following Buyer's delivery of the Title Objections, Seller shall elect (by written notice to Buyer) to cure or decline to correct such Title Objections. If Seller advises Buyer that Seller is unwilling or unable to correct any or all Title Objections or if Seller fails to respond, within five (5) days thereafter, Buyer may elect to terminate this Agreement by giving written notice to Seller, at which time the Earnest Money shall be returned to Buyer subject to the provisions contained in Section 5 hereof. In the event that Buyer fails to provide such notice during such time, Buyer shall be deemed to have accepted such title and such matters shall be deemed to be "Permitted Exceptions".

b. At Closing, ☐ Buyer ☒ Seller (*check one*) shall pay for the owner's title insurance policy ("Owner's Policy") to be issued by the Title Company pursuant to the Title Commitment which shall contain references to the Permitted Exceptions.

8. SURVEY: Within five (5) days of the Effective Date, Seller shall provide, at its expense, any existing surveys of the Property which the Seller has in its possession. During the Inspection Period, Buyer has the right to obtain a new survey of the Property, at its expense.

9. PRORATIONS: All items customarily prorated and adjusted in connection with the closing of real estate similar to the Property, including all ad valorem taxes, rents, operating expenses, insurance, and accrued interest on mortgages assumed, if any, are to be prorated between Seller and Buyer as of the Closing Date, and any advance escrow deposits held by Mortgagees shall be credited to Seller. The cost of recording the deed shall be paid by the Buyer.

10. CLOSING & POSSESSION DATES:

a. The consummation of the sale transaction contemplated herein is referred to as the "Closing". The sale shall be closed and the deed delivered on or before 15 days from the expiration of the Due Diligence Period except Seller shall have a reasonable length of time within which to perfect title or cure defects in the title of the Property, as provided for herein ("Closing Date").

b. At the Closing, Seller shall deliver to Buyer:

- (i) A deed as provided for herein;
- (ii) FIRPTA statements as required herein;
- (iii) Litigation and lien affidavits executed by Seller, in such form as approved by Title Company;
- (iv) Lien waivers executed by Seller, in such form as approved by the Title Company; and
- (v) Such other documents and instruments as may be reasonably required to effectuate the Closing as herein contemplated.

c. At the Closing, Buyer shall deliver to Seller:

- (i) Currently available funds in the amount equal to the Closing Payment adjusted as provided herein, and

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Commercial Sale Agreement

Page 4 of 8

1643925 v4

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(ii) Such other documents and instruments as may be reasonably required to effectuate the Closing as herein contemplated.

d. Possession of the Property shall be given to Buyer on the Closing Date.

11. DISCLAIMER: Seller and Buyer acknowledge that they have not relied upon advice or representations of Agent (or Agent's associated salesperson(s)) relative to (i) the legal or tax consequences of this Agreement and the sale, purchase or ownership of the Property; (ii) the structural condition of the Property, including condition of the roof and basement; (iii) construction materials; (iv) the nature and operating condition of the electrical, heating, air conditioning, plumbing, water heating systems and appliances; (v) the availability of utilities or sewer service; (vi) the character of the neighborhood; (vii) the investment or resale value of the Property including projections of income or operating expenses; (viii) compliance requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act; (ix) the existence of any hazardous or toxic waste, substance, or material, including without limitation any asbestos or any oil or pesticides; (x) any state of facts which would be disclosed by an accurate survey of the Property; or (xi) any other matters affecting their willingness to sell or purchase the Property on the terms and price herein set forth. Seller and Buyer have sought and obtained independent advice relative thereto.

12. SELLER WARRANTIES: Seller warrants that unless excepted herein, Seller has not received notification from any lawful authority regarding any assessments, pending public improvements, repairs, replacements, or alterations to the Property that have not been satisfactorily made. Seller warrants that Seller is the fee owner of the Property or is authorized to execute this document for the fee owner. Seller also represents that, to the best of its knowledge, except as may otherwise be expressly disclosed herein, Seller has not released or disposed of any hazardous or toxic waste, substance or material, including without limitation any asbestos or any oil or pesticides (collectively, "Hazardous Substances"), on or about the Property; has not disposed of or arranged for the disposition of any Hazardous Substances from the Property except in compliance with all applicable federal, state or local laws; and no Hazardous Substances exist on the Property or about the Property that threaten the Property. Seller makes no warranty that the Property is suitable for any particular purpose, nor that the Property is in compliance with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. **THESE WARRANTIES SHALL SURVIVE THE DELIVERY OF THE DEED.**

13. RISK OF LOSS: Seller agrees to keep in force hazard insurance on the Property until this sale is closed and the deed is delivered. If the Property is destroyed or materially damaged between the Effective Date and the Closing Date, through no fault of the Buyer or its agents, and Seller is unable or unwilling to restore it to its previous condition prior to Closing, Buyer shall have the option of canceling this Agreement and receiving the Earnest Money or accepting the Property in its then condition. If Buyer elects to accept the Property in its damaged condition, any insurance proceeds otherwise payable to Seller by reason of such damage shall be applied to the balance of the purchase price or otherwise shall be payable to Buyer.

14. HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES: Seller and Buyer expressly acknowledge that the Agent(s) have not made an independent investigation or determination with respect to the existence or nonexistence of asbestos, PCB transformers, or other toxic, hazardous or contaminated substances or gases in, on, or about the Property, or for the presence of underground storage tanks. Any such investigation or determination shall be the responsibility of Seller and/or Buyer and Agent(s) shall not be held responsible therefor.

15. FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN REAL PROPERTY TAX ACT (FIRPTA): At the Closing, Seller and Buyer shall comply with the FIRPTA and the regulations promulgated thereunder by the IRS.

16. SELECTION OF ATTORNEY: The parties hereto acknowledge and agree that, if they have agreed to share the fees of a closing attorney hereunder, such sharing of fees may involve a potential conflict of interest and they may be required to execute an affidavit at Closing acknowledging their recognition and acceptance of same. Each

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Commercial Sale Agreement

Page 5 of 8

1643925 v4

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of the parties acknowledges that he has a right to be represented at all times in connection with this Agreement and the Closing by an attorney of his own choosing, at his own expense.

17. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS: Any additional provisions set forth on the attached exhibits, and initialed by all parties, are hereby made a part of this Agreement.

18. FACSIMILE AND COUNTERPART SIGNATURES: This agreement may be executed in counterparts and by either party or by both parties by telecopy or facsimile and shall be binding upon the party so executing it upon receipt by the other party of the signature.

19. NO ADDITIONAL BROKERS: Buyer and Sellers represent and warrant to each other that there are no real estate brokers or agents or other persons owed any commission, finder's fee, or other compensation respecting the transaction contemplated herein, except for those parties specifically referenced herein.

20. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE: The Parties agree that time is of the essence of this Agreement.

21. NOTICE: All notices, demands and/or consents provided for in this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been served on the date mailed by United States registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, with postage prepaid. All such notices and communications shall be addressed to the parties hereto at the respective addresses set forth at page 1 hereof, or at such other addresses as either may specify to the other in writing.

22. 1031 EXCHANGE: The parties acknowledge that either of them may elect to effect the disposition of the Property pursuant to this Agreement as a like-kind exchange pursuant to Section 1031 of the United States Internal Revenue Code (an "Exchange"). The parties agree to cooperate with one another in all respects in effecting such Exchange, including, without limitation, by executing and delivering such documents as may be customarily required in such exchange transactions, provided that the parties shall not be required to incur any expense or additional obligation in connection therewith.

23. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION; INSPECTIONS: Buyer shall use reasonable efforts to treat and hold all information furnished by Seller to Buyer in the course of Buyer's inspections and investigations of the Property as confidential information by Buyer and Buyer shall return all such information to Seller at Buyer's expense in the event the transaction contemplated by this Agreement does not close for any reason whatsoever. In addition, Buyer shall use reasonable efforts to treat and hold all reports, engineering studies, analyses and other documents and information resulting from investigations by Buyer, or any of its employees, agents or representatives obtained in the course of Buyer's inspections and investigations of the Property as confidential information and copies of all such documents shall be delivered to Seller at Seller's expense in the event the transaction contemplated by this Agreement does not close for any reason whatsoever.

24. BIRMINGHAM ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® ("BAR") DISCLAIMER, WAIVER AND RELEASE OF CLAIMS. This provision, without any changes, modifications, deletions or revisions, must be included in all BAR form documents that include any reference to BAR. The parties hereto hereby acknowledge and agree that: (A) THIS DOCUMENT HAS IMPORTANT CONSEQUENCES, LEGAL, FINANCIAL AND OTHERWISE, AND BAR HAS ADVISED THE PARTIES THAT THEY SHOULD EACH CONSULT WITH AN ATTORNEY AND/OR OTHER PROFESSIONAL OF THEIR CHOICE WITH RESPECT TO THE TERMS HEREOF, AND/OR THE COMPLETION, MODIFICATION AND/OR EXECUTION OF, THIS DOCUMENT; (B) form documents by their nature are designed to be of specific general application, and may not be applicable to specific facts and circumstances, may not address given party's specific conditions or requirements, and/or may not reflect the relative bargaining or negotiations of the parties, as such variables may arise on any given transaction, (C) to avoid any possible misunderstanding or confusion as to the original form of this document and any revisions,

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Commercial Sale Agreement

Page 6 of 8

1643925 v4

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modifications or changes to it, any and all revisions, modifications or changes to the original form should be made readily apparent by highlighting, underscoring or other means to distinguish them from the original version; (D) BAR has made the original version of this document and other document forms available to BAR's members as a service, but makes no representation or warranty, expressed or implied, as to the suitability or applicability of the terms and conditions of, or the enforceability of, this document or other document forms; (E) BAR document forms are updated by BAR from time to time, and BAR recommends to the parties that they use the most current, updated version of any such document forms; and (F) by executing this document the parties hereto hereby waive and release BAR, its officers, directors, members, attorneys, employees, and agents, from any and all claims, demands, and/or causes of action (whether known or unknown) arising out of, pertaining to, or resulting directly or indirectly from the use of this form document.

25. ENTIRE AGREEMENT: This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between Buyer and Seller regarding the Property, and supersedes all prior discussions, negotiations and agreements between Buyer and Seller, whether oral or written. Neither Buyer, Seller, Agent nor any other sales agent shall be bound by any understanding, agreement, promise, or representation concerning the Property, expressed or implied, not specified herein. Any further changes or modifications to this Agreement must be in writing and signed by the parties hereto.

THIS AGREEMENT IS INTENDED TO BE A LEGALLY BINDING CONTRACT. IF YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE LEGAL EFFECT OF ANY PART OF THIS AGREEMENT, SEEK LEGAL ADVICE BEFORE SIGNING.

_____ Witness to Buyer's Signature _____ Witness to Buyer's Signature _____ Witness to Seller's Signature _____ Witness to Seller's Signature	DocuSigned by: <u>Vickey Davis</u> 5/12/2026 Buyer New Hope Ministries Inc. - Vickey Davis (Date) _____ Buyer (Date) _____ Seller Presbytery of Sheppards & Lapsley (Date) _____ Seller (Date)
---	--

EARNEST MONEY: Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the earnest money as hereinafter set forth;

_____ Cash ☒ Check

Firm _____
BY: _____ ERA King Real Estate

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Commercial Sale Agreement

Page 7 of 8

1643925 v4

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COMMISSION: THE COMMISSION PAYABLE TO THE AGENT(S) IN THIS SALE IS NOT SET BY THE BIRMINGHAM ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, INC., BUT IN ALL CASES IS NEGOTIABLE BETWEEN THE AGENT(S) AND THE CLIENT.

In this Agreement ☒ Seller ☐ Buyer (check one or both) agrees to pay to ERA King and Foundry Commercial, LLC, Agents(s) in this transaction, in CASH at Closing, a commission in the amount of six percent (6%) of the total purchase price.

Seller/Buyer Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley, Inc
DocuSigned by:
Anna King 5/13/2026
Broker/Agent Anna King

DocuSigned by:
Vickey Davis 5/12/2026
8842451A614947C
Seller/Buyer New Hope Ministries Inc, Vickey Davis
Signed by:
Gabby Alvarez 5/13/2026
0370436099038
Broker/Agent Gabby Alvarez

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Commercial Sale Agreement

Page 8 of 8

1643925 v4

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COMMERCIAL SALES AGREEMENT

Date: _____

(SELLER) **The Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley, Inc.** hereby agrees to sell and or assigns **Minerva Hernandez and Pedro Valeriano** (PURCHASER) , and or assigns, hereby agrees to purchase the following described real estate, together with all improvements thereon and appurtenances thereto (Property) situated in the City of Center point, County of Jefferson, Alabama, on the terms stated below:

Address **2650 CenterPoint Parkway, CenterPoint, Al**

AND LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS: Exiting Buildings and 10 +- Acrea of Land.

Lot(s) _____ Block _____ Survey _____

Parcel I D # 12-00-07-3-007-014.000

Map Book 92_&169 Page 34 , as recorded in the office of the Judge of Probate of Jefferson, County.

1. **THE PURCHASE PRICE** shall be \$ **300,000.00** , payable as follows:

EARNEST MONEY, (see below) \$ **5,000.00**

CASH on closing this sale \$ **295,000.00**

2. **AGENCY DISCLOSURE:** The listing company is: Commercial Realty Partners, LLC

The selling company is:..NA

The listing company is: *(Two blocks may be checked)*

- ☐ An agent of the seller.
- ☐ An agent of the buyer.
- ☐ An agent of both the seller and buyer and is acting as a limited consensual dual agent.
- ☒ Assisting the ☐ buyer ☒ seller *(check one or both)* as a transaction broker.

The selling company is: *(Two blocks may be checked)*NA

- ☐ An agent of the seller.
- ☐ An agent of the buyer.
- ☐ An agent of both the seller and buyer and is acting as a limited consensual dual agent.
- ☐ Assisting the ☐ buyer ☐ seller *(check one or both)* as a transaction broker.

Purchaser's Initials MH

Seller's Initials _____

3. **CONDITION OF PROPERTY:** Neither Seller nor any Agent makes any representations or warranties regarding condition of the Property except to the extent expressly and specifically set forth herein. Purchaser has the obligation to determine, either personally or through or with a representative of Purchaser's choosing, any and all conditions of the Property material to Purchaser's decision to buy the Property, including without limitation, the condition of the heating, cooling, plumbing and electrical systems and any built-in appliances, and the roof and the basement, including floors; structural condition; subsurface condition; utility and sewer or septic tank availability and condition.

a. Except as may be required in order to comply with paragraph 3b below, Seller shall not be required to make any repairs to the Property whatsoever under this Agreement. Subject to paragraph 3c below, Purchaser

accepts the Property in its present "as is" condition, including ordinary wear and tear to the closing date. However, if the Property suffers material damage beyond ordinary wear and tear prior to the closing date, and Seller refuses to pay for any repairs reasonably required to restore the Property to a condition at least as good as previously existing, ordinary wear and tear excepted, Purchaser may proceed with the closing or cancel the Agreement and recover the earnest money by notifying Seller in writing of the cancellation within 48 hours of Purchaser's receipt of Seller's notice of refusal to pay for such repairs; provided, that the notice of cancellation must in any event be received prior to closing.

b. ~~It shall be the responsibility of Purchaser to inspect said systems and equipment prior to closing. and to notify Seller immediately of any systems that are not in operating condition. Purchaser's failure to provide such notification prior to closing shall conclusively establish that Seller has satisfied this covenant.~~

c. Within 5 days of the date of this Agreement, Purchaser may have an engineer perform a site investigation, at Purchaser's expense, of said Property to determine the existence and levels of hazardous substances on the said Property. If such investigation reveals evidence that said Property contains any hazardous or toxic waste, substance or material, or any oil or pesticides, Purchaser may, at its option, rescind this Agreement and the earnest money shall be refunded. It shall be the responsibility of the Purchaser, at Purchaser's expense, to satisfy himself that all conditions of this Agreement are satisfied before closing. After closing, all conditions of the Property, as well as any aforementioned items and systems, are the responsibility of the Purchaser. **THE AGENT MAKES NO REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY OF ANY KIND AS TO THE CONDITION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY.**

d. Inspection period shall be 60 days of the date of this agreement, Purchaser may make additional inspections, including but not limited to structural, feasibility studies, and Purchaser shall submit a complete application for financing within ten (10) days of the execution of this Agreement for the purpose of securing such financing. If such investigation or arrangement of financing is not satisfactory at Purchaser's sole discretion the said contract at Purchaser's option may be rescinded and all earnest money refunded.

4. EARNEST MONEY & PURCHASERS' DEFAULT: Seller and Purchaser hereby direct the listing company, or **Land Title**, to hold the earnest money in trust until this Contract has been accepted and signed by all parties, at which time the earnest money will be promptly deposited into the escrow account of the listing company. In the event Purchaser fails to carry out and perform the terms of this contract, the earnest money shall be forfeited as liquidated damages at the option of Seller, provided Seller agrees to the cancellation of this Contract. If this Contract does not close and the earnest money is to be turned over to Seller or refunded to Purchaser pursuant to this Contract, Seller and Purchaser agree to execute a written release to the listing company affirming the proper

disposition of the earnest money. In the event both Seller and Purchaser claim the earnest money, or either Seller or Purchaser refuses or fails to execute a release, the listing company may interplead the disputed portion of the earnest money into court, and shall be entitled to deduct or recover from the earnest money for court costs, attorney fees and other expenses relating to the interpleader. When the earnest money is a check and the check is returned by a financial institution as unpaid, Seller has the right to void the Contract without further recourse on the part of Purchaser.

5. CONVEYANCE: Seller agrees to convey the Property to Purchaser by **Statutory** warranty deed, free of all encumbrances except as herein set forth, and Seller agrees that any encumbrances not herein excepted or assumed will be cleared at the time of closing. The Property is sold and is to be conveyed subject to : (i) mineral and mining rights not owned by Seller; (ii) existing leases and tenant escrow deposits that are to be transferred to Purchaser, subject to any present management and or rental commission agreements thereon; (iii) present zoning classification of 691 Religious Activities; (iv) is ☐ is not ☒ unknown ☐ located in a flood plain; and (v) unless otherwise agreed herein, subject to utility easements serving the Property, subdivision covenants and restrictions, and building lines of record, provided that none of the foregoing materially impair use of the Property for its intended purposes.

6. TITLE INSURANCE: Seller agrees to furnish Purchaser a standard form title insurance policy issued by a company qualified to insure titles in Alabama in the amount of the purchase price, insuring Purchaser against loss on account of any defect or encumbrance in the title unless herein excepted; otherwise, the earnest money shall be refunded. If a Mortgagee's title insurance policy is obtained by Purchaser at the time of closing, the total expense of the owner's and Mortgagee's policies will be divided equally between Seller and Purchaser, even if the Mortgagee is the Seller.

7. SURVEY: Purchaser does ☐ does not ☒ (*check one*) require a survey by a registered Alabama land surveyor of Purchaser's choosing. The survey shall be at Purchaser's ☒ Seller's ☐ expense (*check one*).

8. PRORATIONS: Ad valorem taxes, rents, operating expenses, insurance, and accrued interest on mortgages assumed, if any, are to be prorated between Seller and Purchaser as of the date of closing, and any advance escrow deposits held by Mortgagees shall be credited to Seller. **UNLESS AGREED HEREIN, ALL AD VALOREM TAXES EXCEPT MUNICIPAL ARE PRESUMED TO BE PAID IN ARREARS FOR PURPOSES OF PRORATION; MUNICIPAL TAXES, IF ANY, ARE PRESUMED TO BE PAID IN ADVANCE.**

9. CLOSING & POSSESSION DATES: Time is of the essence. The sale shall be closed and the deed delivered on or before thirty (30) days after the expiration of the Inspection Period, except Seller shall have a reasonable length of time within which to perfect title or cure defects in the title of the Property. Possession is to be given on delivery of the deed, if the Property is then vacant; otherwise possession shall be delivered on at closing at TBD (A.M.) (P.M.)

10. DISCLAIMER: Seller and Purchaser acknowledge that they have not relied upon advice or representations of Broker (or Broker's associated salesperson(s)) relative to (i) the legal or tax consequences of this Agreement and the sale, purchase or ownership of the Property; (ii) the structural condition of the Property, including condition of the roof and basement; (iii) construction materials; (iv) the nature and operating condition of the electrical, heating, air conditioning, plumbing, water heating systems and appliances; (v) the availability of

utilities or sewer service; (vi) the character of the neighborhood; (vii) the investment or resale value of the Property including projections of income or operating expenses; (viii) compliance requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act; (ix) the existence of any hazardous or toxic waste, substance, or material, including without limitation any asbestos or any oil or pesticides; (x) any state of facts which would be disclosed by an accurate survey of the Property; or (xi) any other matters affecting their willingness to sell or purchase the Property on the terms and price herein set forth. Seller and Purchaser acknowledge that if such matters are of concern to them in the decision to sell or purchase the Property, they have sought and obtained independent advice relative thereto.

11. SELLER WARRANTIES: that unless excepted herein, Seller has not received notification from any lawful authority regarding any assessments, pending public improvements, repairs, replacements, or alterations to the Property that have not been satisfactorily made. Seller warrants that Seller is the fee owner of the Property or is authorized to execute this document for the fee owner. Seller also represents that, to the best of its knowledge, except as may otherwise be expressly disclosed herein, Seller has not released or disposed of any hazardous or toxic waste, substance or material, including without limitation any asbestos or any oil or pesticides (collectively, "Hazardous Substances"), on or about the Property; has not disposed of or arranged for the disposition of any Hazardous Substances from the Property except in compliance with all applicable federal, state or local laws; and no Hazardous Substances exist on the Property or about the Property that threaten the Property. **THESE WARRANTIES SHALL SURVIVE THE DELIVERY OF THE DEED.** Seller makes no warranty that the Property is suitable for any particular purpose, nor that the Property is in compliance with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

12. RISK OF LOSS: Seller agrees to keep in force sufficient hazard insurance on the Property to protect all interests until this sale is closed and the deed is delivered. If the Property is destroyed or materially damaged between the date hereof and the closing, and Seller is unable or unwilling to restore it to its previous condition prior to closing, Purchaser shall have the option of canceling this Agreement and receiving the Earnest Money back or accepting the Property in its then condition. If Purchaser elects to accept the Property in its damaged condition, any insurance proceeds otherwise payable to Seller by reason of such damage shall be applied to the balance of the purchase price or otherwise be payable to Purchaser.

13. HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES: Seller and Purchaser expressly acknowledge that the Broker(s) have not made an independent investigation or determination with respect to the existence or nonexistence of asbestos, PCB transformers, or other toxic, hazardous or contaminated substances or gases in, on, or about the Property, or for the presence of underground storage tanks. Any such investigation or determination shall be the responsibility of Seller and/or Purchaser and Broker(s) shall not be held responsible therefor.

14. FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN REAL PROPERTY TAX ACT (FIRPTA): In the closing of this transaction, Seller and Purchaser shall comply with the FIRPTA and the regulations promulgated thereunder by the IRS.

15. SELECTION OF ATTORNEY: The parties hereto acknowledge and agree that, if they have agreed to share the fees of a closing attorney hereunder, such sharing of fees may involve a potential conflict of interest and they may be required to execute an affidavit at closing acknowledging their recognition and acceptance of same. Each of the parties acknowledge that he has a right to be represented at all times in connection with this Agreement and the closing by an attorney of his own choosing, at his own expense.

16. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS: Any additional provisions set forth on the attached exhibits, and initialed by all parties, are hereby made a part of this Agreement.

17. FACSIMILE AND COUNTERPART SIGNATURES: This agreement may be executed in counterparts and by either party or by both parties by telecopy or facsimile and shall be binding upon the party so executing it upon receipt by the other party of the signature.

18. ENTIRE AGREEMENT: This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between Purchaser and Seller regarding the Property, and supersedes all prior discussions, negotiations and agreements between Purchaser and Seller, whether oral or written. Neither Purchaser, Seller, nor Broker nor any sales agent shall be bound by any understanding, agreement, promise, or representation concerning the Property, expressed or implied, not specified herein. Any further changes or modifications to this Agreement must be in writing and signed by the parties hereto.

19. Approval From Presbytery Assembly: The contract is contingent upon the Seller obtaining approval for the sale of this property from the Presbytery Assembly.

**THIS AGREEMENT IS INTENDED TO BE A LEGALLY BINDING CONTRACT.
IF YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE LEGAL EFFECT OF ANY PART OF THIS CONTRACT,
SEEK LEGAL ADVICE BEFORE SIGNING.**

Witness to Purchaser's Signature

M. H.
M. H. Hernandez (Apr 24, 2025 18:10:17 CDT)

Purchaser

(Date)

Purchaser

(Date)

Witness to Seller's Signature

Seller

(Date)

Seller

(Date)

EARNEST MONEY: Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the earnest money as hereinafter set forth

_____ Cash

_____ Check

Firm _____

By: _____

COMMISSION:

In this Agreement ☒ Seller ☐ Purchaser agrees to pay to Commercial Realty Partners, LLC, Broker(s) in this transaction, in CASH at closing, a commission as stated in a signed listing agreement.

Seller/Purchaser

Seller/Purchaser

Broker/Agent

Broker/Agent

General Presbyter's Report to the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley
Rev. C. Mark McCormick, Ph.D.

Over the past two months, I have been acclimating myself to the cadences of the Office of Presbytery and the responsibilities of the General Presbyter. I have witnessed the dedicated elders of this Presbytery doing the work of compassionate and faithful ministry in central Alabama. If my weeks of service and what I have witnessed are any indication of the health of the Body of Christ in central Alabama, then I can confidently affirm to you today, as we do in Eastertide, "Christ is Risen, Hallelujah, He is Risen Indeed!"

The evidence of the resurrection is all around us in the ministry that the churches, council, commissions, or committees in the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley are accomplishing on any given day. The compassionate ministry of the COM supports the teaching elders installed or Honorably Retired, and the Certified Pastors who minister in so many of our churches. The CPM nurtures and prepares young people for ministry. They walk with them on their journeys of development, share the tears of loss and the laughter of understanding, offer counsel and encouragement, and then turn to one another and thank God for the continuing grace and blessing of young people who submit to God's call upon their lives.

The Executive Council and its committees bring prayerful engagement to all that they do. In those deliberations, I have heard thoughtful discussion about Equipping, Nurturing, and Connecting existing and new worshiping communities in our Presbytery, dialogue regarding how to combat systemic racism and specific actions for undoing its residual hurt and the pain that so many within the bounds of this Presbytery lived through and live with even today.

One small encouragement that arose from some of those discussions is that I take this opportunity to focus on the importance of our commitment to being a Matthew 25 Presbytery. This does not require more great declarations, but it would benefit from checking in to encourage each one of us to notice how our ministries are serving the least of these, paying attention to how our policies and our language impact others, and highlighting this work we are doing as fulfilling the Matthew 25 Initiative of the Presbyterian Life and Witness.

Along these lines, let me urge all minister members and commissioners to this meeting to encourage your congregations with these questions for consideration:

- Do we explicitly connect our ministries in the community to our commitment to the Matthew 25 Initiative?
- Have we responded to the 224th and 225th General Assemblies' encouragement to be cognizant of the church's history of racism and have we drafted or completed an anti-racism policy, hosted reading groups, or participated in forms of reparative justice? (More on this soon from the Anti-Racism Committee!)
- Are there other ways in our community to address poverty – not just its effects, but also its causes?

Clearly, the council, commissions, committees, and *many* congregations in our Presbytery already engage in ministries that address all three points of the Matthew 25 Initiative. Can we more clearly identify the ministries we serve in our communities as evidence of the Eastertide Hallelujah? Can we more explicitly demonstrate the Gospel affirmation that ministering unto the least of these is witnessing the transformative presence in our midst of the Risen Lord?

Hopefully,
Mark

Mission Coordinator's Report to Presbytery, May 21, 2026

1. The United Presbyterians of Wilcox County has been approved for a grant of \$600,000 from the Lilly Foundation, through Samford University's Center for Congregational Resources. This grant is for the purpose of revitalizing the Principal's House at the AnneManie Campus, and to provide a hydroponic garden at the site. The work at the Principal's House will update the plumbing, electrical wiring, repair flooring, build a patio for outside meetings, and other updates. The intent is to provide meeting areas for community groups, educational rooms for various groups, and to improve the present community garden.

A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with Samford and the United Presbyterians of Wilcox County.. The Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley will be the fiscal agent for this project. The construction work will be done by RD Squared Construction (Chris Thomas) of Birmingham. The construction cost will not exceed \$247,051. Ralls Coston has been asked to approve the requests for payment to RD Squared as the requests for payments come due.

2. The Presbytery's Congo Mission Team is continuing with its support of the Nganza and Tshibashi Presbyteries, and the IMCK Hospital in DR Congo. The Pentecost Offering for the PCUSA has been discontinued. In March 2026, Executive Council approved replacing the Pentecost Offering with the Congo Pentecost Offering for this Presbytery. All funds donated to the Congo Pentecost Offering will go to the Congo Mission Team to fund mission projects in the Congo. The Team has developed a flyer for distribution to the churches, to inform them of the Congo Pentecost Offering. The Team will be sending this flyer to the churches, ministers, and clerks of session in the upcoming weeks, to advertise this Offering. Also, the flyer has been posted on the Presbytery's Facebook page.
3. Ralls Coston is continuing to represent the Presbytery at meetings of the Alabama Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters. I also attend Zoom meetings of the National VOAD. VOAD consists of various organizations: religious organizations (Mennonite, Baptist, Lutheran, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Mormons, etc.), secular relief organizations (Team Rubicon, Operation Barbeque, United Way, etc.) and local, state and federal organizations (Jefferson/Shelby EMA, Alabama EMA, FEMA, etc.). These organizations share information about disaster needs and their special resources. The membership dues for ALVOAD are \$50 per year.

The website for Alabama VOAD is: alabamavoad.org. National VOAD's website is: nvoad.org. If anyone is interested in viewing/attending ALVOAD meetings, please contact Ralls Coston.

**Update on Annemanie and Wilcox County Revitalization Efforts
By James Ephraim**

The work in Annemanie continues to move forward with strong collaboration, community engagement, and a shared commitment to revitalization rooted in both faith and action. During a community visioning session held on November 4, 2023, led by Debra Love of E3 Solutions, Inc., the session brought together residents to define their hopes and vision for the future of the Annemanie property.

Community Visioning and Wilcox Task Force

The visioning process laid the foundation for action by ensuring that the voices of the community guided every step forward. Following this session, additional meetings were held with the broader community and the Presbytery's Wilcox County Task Force.

The Wilcox Task Force has played a vital role in coordinating efforts, strengthening communication, and ensuring that the work reflects both community priorities and long-term sustainability. Their leadership has helped move the initiative from vision to implementation.

Environmental Assessment Progress

With the assistance of Debra Love, engagement with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management has resulted in the initiation of Phase I of the environmental assessment for the Annemanie property. This critical step will identify environmental conditions and position the property for future redevelopment and funding opportunities.

In addition to the broader site assessment, there is a strong focus on the lake located on the Annemanie property. Environmental assessment work is underway to evaluate the safety and quality of the water, including testing for any potential contaminants. This effort is essential to determine how the lake can be safely used in the future--whether for recreation, education, or as part of the overall community revitalization plan. Ensuring the health of this natural resource is a key component of protecting both the environment and the well-being of the community.

Once all assessments are completed, the United Presbyterian-related entities (UNCCF) will pursue cleanup grants from government sources. Debra Love will continue to provide leadership and technical assistance in preparing these environmental grant applications.

Lilly Grant Opportunity and Key Partnerships

A major milestone in this effort is the successful Lilly Endowment grant opportunity introduced through the connection of Terry Hamilton-Poore with Keri Burns of Samford University.

Special thanks to Adrienne Royster, who prepared the successful grant application. These funds will support:

- **Renovation of the President's Home**
- **Development of meaningful community programming**

This investment represents both hope and tangible progress for the Annemanie community.

Wilcox County Gardening Project and Extension Partnership

Another meaningful component of this revitalization effort is the Wilcox County Gardening Project, with one site located in Annemanie and another at Bama Kids. This initiative is led by Alecia Foster and focuses on engaging youth in hands-on-learning.

A key partnership supporting this work includes Dr. Kahn, as agriculture research scientist, and George Hunter, Extension Coordinator with the Tuskegee University Extension. Their expertise strengthens the agricultural and educational components of the project.

Through this collaboration, youth are actively involved in planting, maintaining, and harvesting gardens. They are learning about agriculture, sustainability, and nutrition while gaining hands-on generation and promotes community self-sufficiency.

Gym Renovation and Public Safety Partnership

A strong priority identified by the community is the renovation of the Annemanie gymnasium. The Wilcox County Sheriff's Department has expressed interest in establishing a substation within the gym facility, creating an important partnership between public safety and community development.

Living Out the Matthew 25 Vision

This work is a powerful example of what it means to live into the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Matthew 25 vision-building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty.

- By engaging the community in shaping its future, this effort strengthens congregational vitality and deepens relationships rooted in trust and shared purpose.
- By investing in historically under-resourced communities like Annemanie, it actively works toward dismantling structural inequities.
- Through workforce opportunities, environmental cleanup, youth engagement, and redevelopment, it creates pathways to eradicate systemic poverty.

This is ministry in action. We are meeting people where they are, listening to their voices, and walking alongside them to build a stronger future.

The redevelopment of Annemanie is not just about restoring buildings. It is about restoring hope, creating opportunity, and demonstrating faith through meaningful, sustained engagement in the life of the community.

Looking Ahead

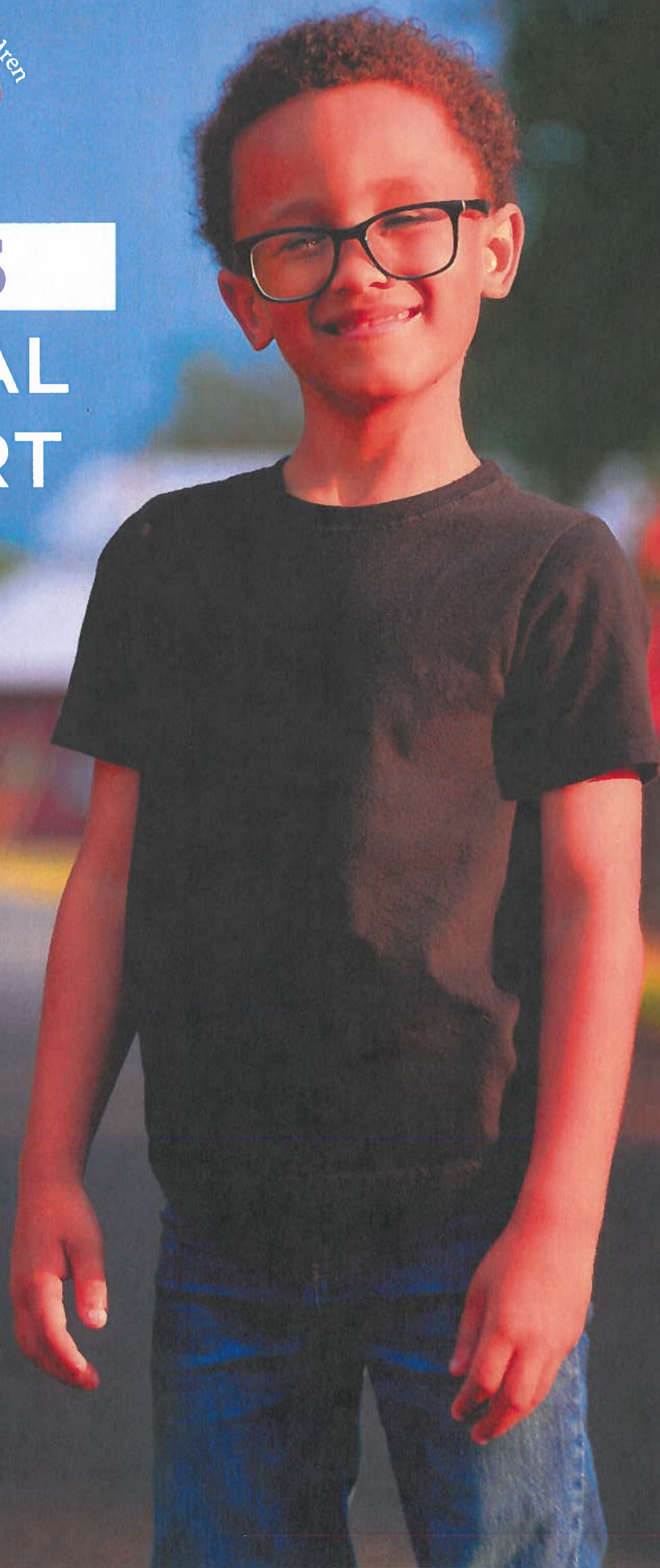
With environmental assessments underway, and strong partnerships in place, Annemanie is moving vision to reality. Together, through faith, collaboration, and commitment, this work reflects the very heart of ministry which is serving, uplifting,

and transforming communities for generations to come.

We would like to extend sincere appreciation to all of the individuals and partners throughout the Presbytery who are working together in this ministry. Your commitment, collaboration and faithfulness continue to make this work possible.



2025 ANNUAL REPORT





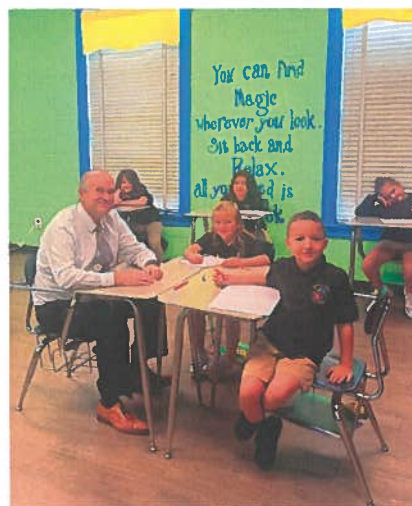
MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

Dear Friends and Supporters,

For 158 years, the Presbyterian Home for Children has remained committed to one calling: responding faithfully to the needs of children and families in crisis. While our mission remains constant, the challenges facing those we serve continue to evolve—and so must we.

During fiscal year 2024-2025, PHFC made strategic investments to renovate our historic campus and strengthen programs and staff. These strategic investments will continue to be made this year. Families facing housing instability, separation, educational barriers, and trauma require more than shelter—they need stability, healing, and hope.

We expanded our Secure Dwellings program with the addition of the Family Unity Center, supporting mothers working toward reunification. Ascension Leadership Academy increased capacity to serve 20 additional students, while Caminos® and Family Bridges also grew to reach more families. PHFC earned reaccreditation with commendation from the EAGLE Accreditation Commission and expanded our reach into Tennessee and Mississippi.



Our commitment to operational excellence remains steadfast, reflected in our continued 4-star Charity Navigator top rating, Gold Seal of Transparency with Candid and being named Top-Rated by GreatNonprofits.

Every improvement reflects our commitment to evolving with purpose. We are deeply grateful to our supporters who make this work possible as we honor our legacy and build brighter futures—together.

In gratitude,

Doug Marshall

Doug Marshall
President & CEO
Presbyterian Home for Children



CHANGING LIVES: OUR IMPACT IN 2025



BRINGING STABILITY TO SANTARIA AND HER FAMILY

At 24, Santaria is raising four children—ages 9, 7, 3, and 2—while rebuilding her life through the Presbyterian Home for Children's Secure Dwellings program.

Though she didn't realize it at the time, PHFC had been part of her story for years. As a child, she attended her uncle's graduation from Hope Academy on the PHFC campus, and later watched an aunt find refuge through Secure Dwellings during a housing crisis.

As an adult, Santaria faced deep loss and instability. After returning to Anniston from California, she discovered she had been evicted. The deaths of her father and aunt—her main supports—left her grieving and homeless. Despite working as a CNA, poor credit made housing nearly impossible. For a time, her family lived in a relative's living room, their belongings stored in her car.

Remembering PHFC's help, Santaria reached out. Today, her family has stability at Ramsey Cottage. "I appreciate all of it," she said.

MISSION

A faith-based beacon of hope transforming the lives of children, young adults, and families.

VISION

We envision a world where every individual we serve finds peace, safety, and healing, has access to transformative education and is empowered to reach their full potential.

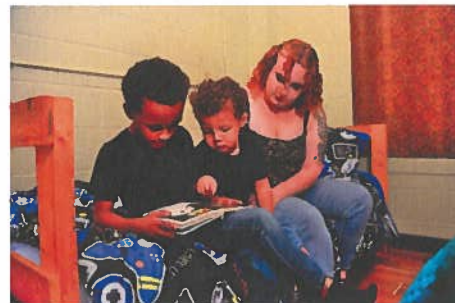
PROGRAMS & IMPACT

FAMILY SERVICES | HEALING, REUNIFICATION & STABILITY

PHFC strengthened Family Services in 2025 FY to better support mothers, children, and young adults navigating trauma and housing instability, even family separation.

Through the launch of the Family Unity Center, PHFC now provides dedicated space and programming to help mothers reunite with their children following DHR-mandated separations. In its first year, the Family Unity Center will create opportunities for up to seven mothers to work toward reunification in a supportive, structured environment. We have also added a licensed therapist to our staff, expanding trauma-informed care and mental health services for the families, children, and young adults we serve.

We have upgraded our campus to improve the quality of life for our additional moms and kids, with a renewed playground and pavilion at the site of our former swimming pool to serve as an outdoor haven for children and their mothers living on campus in our Secure Dwellings program. It is being named in memory of Felicia Ayers Storey, a devoted leader whose nearly 40 years of service to the Home left a lasting mark of compassion and faith.



ASCENSION LEADERSHIP ACADEMY | EDUCATION THAT TRANSFORMS



Education remains one of PHFC's most powerful tools for long-term transformation. In 2025 FY, our K-12 private school Ascension Leadership Academy (ALA) achieved major milestones that reflect both growth and excellence.

ALA earned Cognia accreditation, affirming the school's commitment to high academic standards, accountability, and continuous improvement. In response to increasing enrollment and demand, PHFC expanded ALA by opening an entire new floor that allows us to welcome more students and create additional learning space for a growing student population.

ALA found success in 2025 in getting more students approved for the state's CHOOSE Act scholarship to allow more children to enjoy the benefits of attending ALA and receive a high-quality, personalized school experience.

"We came to Ascension Leadership Academy after trying different places. We were looking for a faith-based Christian atmosphere for our son to learn and excel in. It's a well-rounded education."

John Tyson, parent of middle school student at ALA



MISSION OUTREACH | CARING CLOSET & BLACK BELT SUPPORT

In Alabama's Black Belt region, families face some of the highest rates of poverty and limited access to basic resources. PHFC's Mission Outreach continues to grow in Wilcox County and surrounding rural communities to meet these urgent needs with dignity.

What began as a weekend backpack program providing food for 40 children has expanded into a comprehensive outreach effort now supporting 250 elementary school students in Pine Hill, Alabama. Through our Caring Closet and school partnership at FS Ervin Elementary and M.I.N.D. Mentoring in New Dimensions nonprofit, children now have consistent access to:

- Shelf-stable food
- School uniforms and essential clothing (underwear, socks)
- Basic school supplies
- Washer and dryer to clean uniforms and nap mats
- Faith-based encouragement and the Word of God

This growth reflects PHFC's commitment to meeting both physical and spiritual needs, ensuring children can focus on learning, especially in communities with limited resources.



"These thoughtful contributions go far beyond the classroom – they reflect a true spirit of compassion and community."

Together, we are helping ensure every student at F. S. Ervin Elementary has the resources to learn, grow, and succeed."

F.S. Ervin Principal Jenorice Kennedy

CAMINOS® | PROTECTING VULNERABLE CHILDREN ACROSS THE SOUTHEAST

PHFC continued to strengthen Caminos®, our specialized program serving unaccompanied migrant minors across the Southeast. Using our expertise in caring for at-risk children and families, PHFC provides home studies (HS) and post-release services (PRS) to ensure children placed with sponsor families are living in safe and appropriate home environments.

Through Caminos®, our team helps safeguard vulnerable children by confirming proper living conditions, connecting families to essential services, and ensuring each child receives best-practice care and oversight during this critical transition period.

Caminos® is a registered trademark of Everstand. All rights reserved.



VOLUNTEERS: SERVING TOGETHER IN COMMUNITY

Volunteers play an essential role in helping PHFC extend care and practical support to the children, families, and young adults we serve. In 2025, individuals, churches, and community partners from across Alabama gave their time and talents to support campus projects, programs, and special initiatives.

From hands-on service to mission-driven support, volunteers contributed nearly 1,000 hours of service this year to provide critical assistance and generating meaningful cost savings that allow more resources to be directed towards the families, children, and young adults in our care.



VOLUNTEER IMPACT

18 volunteer sessions in 2025

983.5 volunteer hours contributed

168 volunteers served in 2025

\$14,752 estimated cost savings

A YEAR OF GENEROSITY: STRENGTHENING OUR MISSION, EXPANDING OUR IMPACT

This fiscal year, the Presbyterian Home for Children was strengthened by an extraordinary outpouring of generosity. Faithful church partners and committed individual donors stepped forward in meaningful ways, ensuring children and families received the care and stability they need.

Our faith-based community continues to anchor this work, with 96 churches contributing more than \$240,000 in support of our mission.

Individual giving was equally inspiring in fiscal year 2025. A total of 732 donors made 1,547 gifts, together contributing more than \$1.6 million. Support came not only in financial contributions, but also through thoughtful in-kind gifts – vehicles, furniture, new mattresses, school supplies, and other essentials that directly enriched life on our campus and strengthened our programs. Many donors chose to honor or remember loved ones through their giving. This fiscal year, 474 tribute gifts generated nearly \$190,000, turning personal moments into lasting impact. The 2025 Christmas season once again stood out as a time of remarkable generosity, with holiday and year-end gifts totaling more than \$413,000 through 532 gifts.

As our reach grows and our impact deepens, we are grateful to each person who walks alongside us. Your generosity – through giving, partnership, and service – continues a legacy of care, creating pathways to hope, security, and opportunity for the children and families we serve.

FUNDRAISING BY THE NUMBERS

\$240K donations made from 96 churches & church groups

\$580K donations given through 1,547 gifts from individuals

\$430K contributions from foundations & 31 grants from 21 grantors

\$191K contributions from 3 matured legacies and bequests

\$1.6M total donations and philanthropic support from 913 unique donors

*Fiscal Year 2024-2025

We are grateful for every individual and group who chose to serve alongside PHFC. If your church, youth group, business, or organization is interested in volunteering with PHFC, please contact Suzanne Cornett (scornett@phfc.org) to learn more about upcoming opportunities.

WHERE YOUR SUPPORT GOES

To maintain transparency, we provide a breakdown of our revenue sources and program expenditures, ensuring that the majority of donations go directly to programs that change lives. We are a 4-Star Rated Charity by Charity Navigator and received a Gold Transparency Rating from Candid.

OPERATING EXPENSES

INCOME SOURCES

DONATIONS & SUPPORT

Churches & Church Group	240,117
Individuals	579,782
Foundations & Grants	429,658
Program Service Fees	215,726
Distribution from Trusts	141,052
Tuition & Fees	70,290
Legacies & Bequests	191,243
Businesses & Organizations	30,000
Miscellaneous	46,757
TOTAL DONATIONS & SUPPORT	\$1,944,625

GOVERNMENT SOURCES

State Board of Education	54,213
Alabama Choose Act Scholarships	18,045
Department of Human Resources	162,136
Federal HS/PRS Contract Payments - Caminos ®	719,169
TOTAL GOVERNMENT SOURCES	\$953,563

Transfer of Investment Funds for Use in Operations	419,229
Proceeds from Debt, Net of Repayments	613,277

TOTAL CASH SOURCES **\$3,930,694**

USE OF FUNDS

Child Care & Program Services	2,762,352
Development & Awareness	491,853
General & Administrative	355,469
Union Village Construction	249,854
Capital Expenditures (excluding Union Village)	166,710
Legacies & Bequests transferred to Investments	50,155
Transfer of Funds to Investments	11,000

TOTAL USE OF FUNDS **\$4,087,393**

SURPLUS (DEFICIT)* **(156,699)**

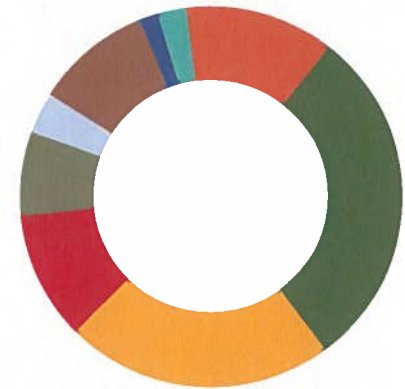
CASH AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD **479,303**

CASH AT END OF PERIOD** **322,604**

* The totals above are unaudited and generally reflect cash received and spent during FY 2025. A copy of the complete independent audited financials based on generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) is available upon request.

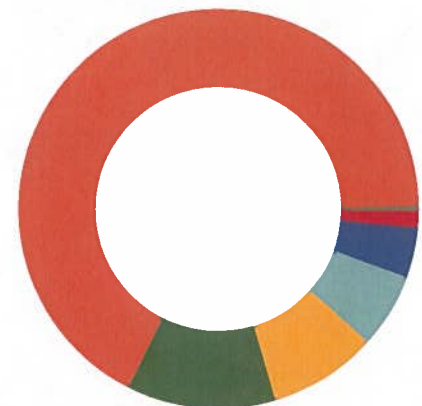
** Includes cash with donor restrictions

INCOME SOURCES



- Churches & Church Group 12.3%
- Individuals 29.8%
- Foundations & Grants 22.1%
- Businesses & Organizations 1.5%
- Program Service Fees 11.1%
- Distribution from Trusts 7.3%
- Tuition & Fees 3.6%
- Legacies & Bequests 9.8%
- Other 2.4%

USE OF FUNDS



- Childcare & Program Services 67.6%
- Development & Awareness 12%
- General & Administrative 8.7%
- Union Village Construction 6.1%
- Capital Expenditures (excluding Union Village) 4.1%
- Legacies & Bequests transferred to Investments 1.2%
- Transfer of Funds to Investments 0.3%



P.O. BOX 577
TALLADEGA, AL 35161

PRESBYTERIAN HOME FOR CHILDREN

PRESBYTERIAN HOME FOR CHILDREN EARNS EAGLE REACCREDITATION

The Presbyterian Home for Children earned reaccreditation from the EAGLE (Educational Assessment Guidelines Leading toward Excellence) Accreditation Commission, the highest standard for a faith-based organization serving children, youth, and families.

The reaccreditation, effective from September 2025 through September 2029, included an overall commendation, a rare distinction showing PHFC not only met all standards but demonstrated exceptional performance in several key areas.

"This remarkable achievement reflects the spirit, dedication, and belief in our mission that guides all we do," CEO Doug Marshall said. "The EAGLE process is about more than policies or procedures – it's about faith in action."

The EAGLE reaccreditation process is known for its rigor and evaluates organizations on faith foundation, holistic delivery of care and services, community engagement, governance and leadership, performance measurement, workforce management, physical and financial resources, technology, and marketing and fundraising.

Accredited with EAGLE since 2017, PHFC earned 580 out of 585 available points, equating to a score of 99 percent in this year's review.



The review team cited PHFC's strong faith connections with churches and congregations, active community engagement, strategic marketing efforts, and "exceptional" financial management, noting that "though a small organization, PHFC operates with the expertise of a much larger one."

"This reaccreditation is such a meaningful affirmation of who we are and why we do this work," said Vice President of People, Culture and Administration Stephani Burton. "Together we celebrate what God continues to do through the Presbyterian Home for Children."

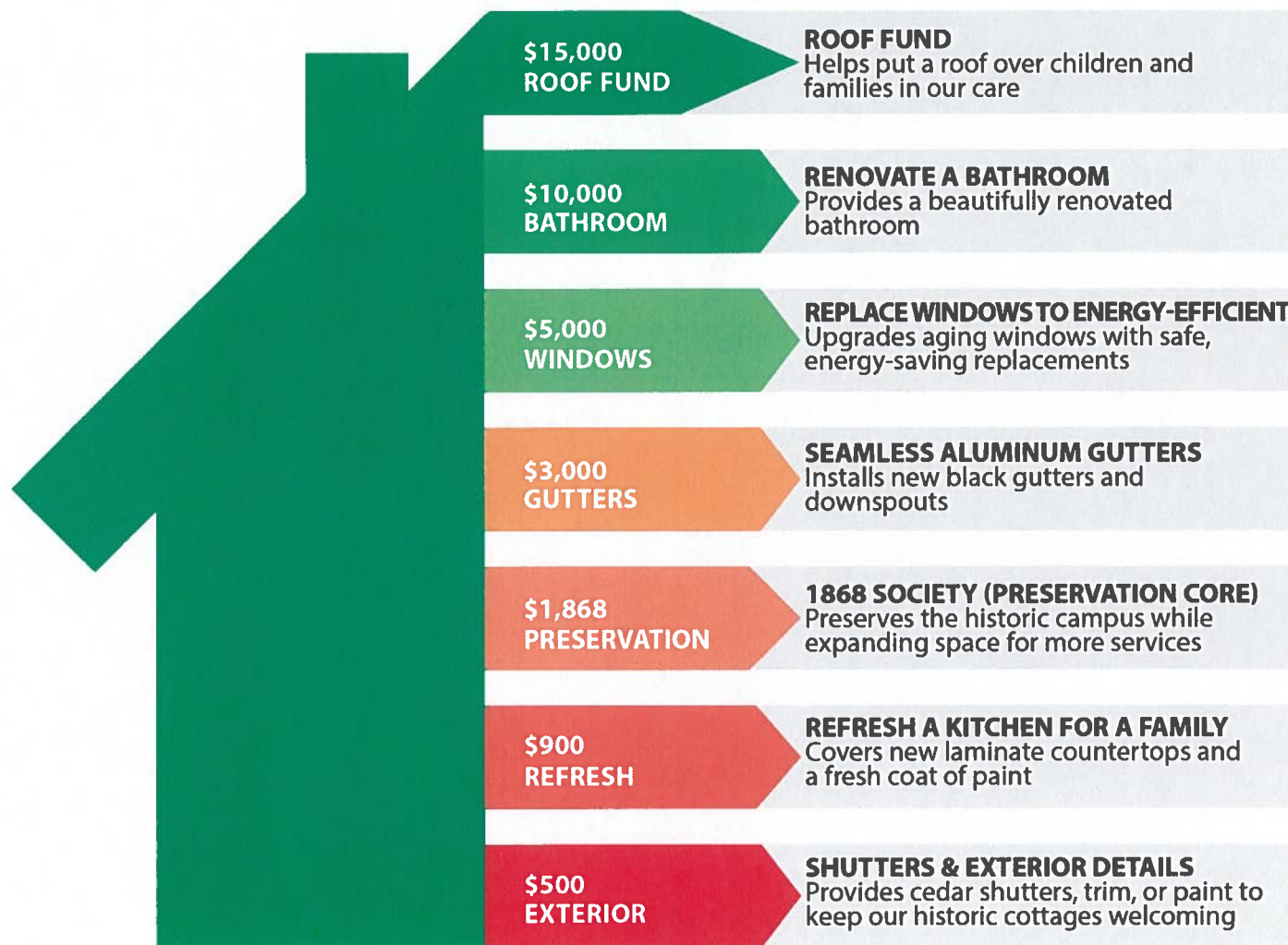
EAGLE is the only accrediting agency that rates faith-based organizations.



READ MORE HERE



Your generous donations can help provide for renovations like these!



**Should we raise funds in excess of the need, contributions will be used where most needed to support the Presbyterian Home for Children's mission.*

*** We appreciate all gifts. All donors with annual cumulative gifts of \$1868+ are welcomed into our 1868 Society.*

Interested in Giving?

Contact Suzanne Cornett, Director of Development,
for more information about ways to give.

256-362-8284 | scornett@phfc.org



SCAN TO DONATE

THE JOURNEY



Presbyterian Home *for* Children





LIVING RIVER
A RETREAT ON THE CAHABA

May 2026
Newsletter



Living River Sunday- Oct. 18, 2026

All congregations and any individual are invited to participate, worshipping, celebrating creation, and having fun together across Central Alabama.

Living River is adjusting its annual Fall River Fest, now called Living River Sunday.

Different this year:

- A full liturgy and sermon aids provided by July 1 for churches to consider using on Living River Sunday, even if this is the only way your church can participate.
- Events concentrated from 12:00-5:00 pm, so everyone can enjoy an afternoon at Living River after church and in time to make it home for dinner!
- A worship option at Living River at 11:00 am for any individual or congregation still wanting to have church at Living River.
- A big, community lunch from 12:00-2:00 pm with live music and activities!

Encourage your church's session and pastors to incorporate Living River Sunday into the fall schedule!

And, share the event with friends and family to make a fun, fall day of it.

Activities will include guided creative arts, recreation, exploration, and environmental education, something for people of all ages and abilities.



Summer Camp is right around the corner!

Please share about the opportunity and impact of **Living River Summer Camp** with your **grandchildren, neighbors, friends, and family**. Living River needs your help growing its Summer Camp program and reaching more families. All kids and youth are welcome!

There are only a few scholarships left through the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley. They are first come, first serve. Additional scholarship is available through Living River. Visit www.livingriver.org for more information and to register.



Thank you to Independent Presbyterian Church Community Ministries and to all who donated to Living River's Scholarship Fund for summer camp- The Scholarship Fund will fund up to 16 campers from Wilcox Co. and provide additional scholarships to any camper's family who may need it.

Summer camp wouldn't be possible without people like you who volunteer their time, talents, and resources. Thank you for providing young people with the opportunity to form deep, meaningful connections and lifelong memories at Living River summer camp. Living River needs volunteers to provide groceries and dinners for counselors during training and help in the kitchen during summer camp. You can scan the QR codes below to donate camp supplies or find more information about volunteering. Links to both the wishlist and signup are also on Living River's website, www.livingriver.org



Summer Camp
Amazon Wishlist:



Summer Camp
Volunteer Signup:



Thank you to Living River Open Day Hosts

Every month, Living River opens its gates to the community, and Living River Hosts are ready to welcome guests. Thank you to Karin Bell, Mary Clyde Teague, Jeno Smith, Kara Kilpatrick, Natalie Reed, Laura Bannon, Kent Howard, Brian Massengale, Blake Westbrook, J Benoit, Rick Atkerson, Thomas Wells, Pat Satterfield, Mike Wade, and Tonya Redwine.

When asked why they've volunteered to be hosts, "It's an easy way to support Living River. Show up for a few hours and welcome visitors who are interested in exploring." And, "I am always in awe when I get out of my car and realize how quiet it is. This is a great way to leave the busy world for a few hours." If you would like to serve as a Living River Host, please call or text Kent Howard at 205-913-1941.

Living River is open once a month for public recreation use. Upcoming Open Days- June 20, July 18, Aug. 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 18 (Living River Sunday), Nov. 21, and Dec. 19. Hosts are at Living River's office to greet and answer questions. Visitors can hike, play disc golf, fish, relax by the river, and rent canoes!

Visiting Living River on Open Days is free, no prior registration needed. We hope to see you soon at Living River!



Living River's Financial Health Year-to-date

Budget Report			
Sources of Funds	3/31/2026		2026 Annual Budget
Program	39,214	26%	150,900
PSL - Trinity Property	8,379	25%	33,504
Donations	65,431	29%	228,700
Designated gifts for camp	-	0%	6,500
Grants	70,500	86%	81,875
Other	585	2%	23,658
Total	\$ 184,109	35%	\$ 525,137
Uses of Funds			
Personnel & Fees for Services	56,689	18%	306,846
Program Expenses	2,604	7%	39,148
Facilities	34,031	30%	114,779
Mortgage Payments	7,539	23%	33,504
Administration	7,309	24%	30,860
Total	\$ 108,172	21%	\$ 525,137
Sources minus uses	\$ 75,937		\$ -

Statement of Financial Position			
	3/31/2026		12/31/2025
Assets			
Operating Account	\$ 197,394		\$ 145,175
Capital Account	280,110		232,846
Other Current Assets	-		9,394
New Covenant Endowment Fund	482,821		496,200
New Covenant Scholarship Fund	9,824		10,096
Fixed Assets - Net	6,210,325		6,210,325
Total Assets	\$ 7,180,474		\$ 7,104,036
Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	\$ 13,994		\$ 5,324
Program Deposits	22,721		18,221
Payroll Liabilities	3,875		6,102
Oakworth Mortgage	71,484		78,205
Total Liabilities	112,074		107,852
Net Assets			
Net Assets	7,068,400		6,996,184
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 7,180,474		\$ 7,104,036

Living River Needs Bedrock Sustaining Donors

Programs and annual donations make up 75% of Living River's income. Living River depends on its generous donors to sustain and grow its programs each year. Will you consider becoming an annual donor to Living River? Could you increase your annual giving?

Bedrock Donors give a minimum of \$25 a month or \$300 annually, strengthening Living River's foundation! Donations can be made online or by mailing a check. Sustaining Donors will be recognized annually, first-time donors with a beautiful glass piece by artist Sherri Van Pelt. **You can find more information about the Bedrock Donor program on Living River's website under "Donate."**



Living River's website: www.livingriver.org

Exciting Ways to Make an Impact through Living River

Living River's endowment, the Living River Legacy Fund, grew to \$496,200 in 2025. **Please consider bequests to the Living River Legacy Fund in your will or designating donations to the Legacy Fund.** A 4% annual endowment draw supports Living River's operations. Imagine what will be possible as the Living River Legacy Fund grows!



Help Living River retire its mortgage by July 2027, Jenny's retirement.

When Jenny started as Living River's Executive Director in 2018, Living River's mortgage was over \$1 million. The mortgage balance now stands at \$71,484! With regular monthly payments, the mortgage would be paid off in 2.5 years. Help Living River pay it off early by July 2027 as a retirement gift to Living River's longtime, faithful leader, Jenny.



Living River's Capital Improvement Fund

To perform preventive maintenance and replace appliances as needed, Living River aims to maintain a capital improvement fund of at least \$150,000. Consider helping Living River raise \$60,000 to replenish its Capital Improvement fund. Thank you!

Other Upcoming Living River Programs
Living River Day Camp at Baytreat
July 6-10, 8:00 am-4:00 pm



Do you have friends or family in the Mobile area? Share information about the Living River Day Camp at Baytreat in Fairhope with them for elementary-age campers, rising K-6.

More information and registration at www.livingriver.org.

Save the date for Living River's 2026 Elementary Retreat
Nov. 13-15

Pictures from this year's Spring Family Day:



LIVING RIVER
A RETREAT ON THE CAHABA
2000 Living River Parkway
Montevallo, AL 35115

Join Living River at the annual Cahaba Lily Festival in West Blocton on May 16, 9:00 am- 12:00 pm.



Report from the Stated Clerk

Minutes Review

If the Online Minutes Reading Event held on May 16 does not work for you or your session, *and* you would like an in-person minutes reading event option, please communicate that to the stated clerk.

If you prefer not to have your session minutes reviewed at a Minutes Reading Event, and instead prefer that the stated clerk review your session minutes, please either send a digital copy of your session's minutes from 2025 to the stated clerk by Thursday, May 21, or bring a physical copy (please do NOT bring the original and only physical copy), to the stated meeting of the Presbytery on May 21.

Online Minutes Review Event

Friends,

On Saturday, May 16, I will be hosting an online minutes review event from 10am-12pm, via Zoom.

To participate, please send a digital copy (PDF, or .docx, format preferred), of the 2025 minutes from your session to Tammy Strickland by Friday, May 8. Please also let Tammy know who will be representing your session at this event, and that person's contact information. While the clerk of session is the preferred participant, any one serving on your session in 2025, the clerk of session in 2025, or the clerk of session in 2026 may represent your congregation and participate.

On Wednesday, May 13, each participant will receive the digital copy of the congregational minutes they will review at the event, and the minutes review form that we will use. You may read over the minutes ahead of our gathering on Saturday, May 16.

Saturday, May 16, participants will join the Zoom meeting, and together we will go over the items on the Minutes Review Form. Each participant will mark whether the item on the form is included in the minutes. I will have digital access to all the minutes being reviewed, so I can look with you, and answer any questions participants may have as we go.

This event has two goals:

1. To review the minutes of the participating congregations as part of our compliance with the requirements of the Book of Order.
2. To review the responsibilities and requirements of the session, and compare those with the documentation of the execution of those responsibilities and requirements.

What participants will need in order to participate:

- a steady internet connection during the event;
- a device or screen on which to participate in the Zoom meeting;
- a digital or physical copy of the Minutes Review Form which the participant can complete;
- a digital or physical copy of the minutes the participant has been assigned to review.

After the event, each participant shall send a copy of the Minutes Review Form they completed at the event to both the stated clerk, and the clerk of session of the congregation whose session minutes they reviewed. This may be done electronically or via the USPS.

If you have any questions about this event, please reach out to Marilyn or Tammy.

Christ is Risen!

Marilyn

The Rev. Marilyn McKelvey Tucker-Marek

Stated Clerk, Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley

Cell: (334) 202-2004

Email: Marilyn.McK.Tucker@gmail.com; StatedClerk@pslpcusa.org

Administrative Commission Report to Presbytery
Providence AC
May 21, 2026

In the spring of 2024, Providence Session recommended closing the church and the congregation agreed. No one wanted to see that happen, but there was consensus regarding the need to be good stewards of the blessings God brought together on Bell Road. Those blessings could be used to keep the doors open as long as possible, or they could be liquidated and used to fund ministry in the community long after the church closed.

The Providence Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission was appointed by Presbytery in August, 2024 at the request of Providence Session to assist with developing a plan for dissolution. During the initial meeting in October 2024, the scope of work for the AC was identified. Due to the confirmed fact that Providence as a PCUSA Congregation functioned under the "Southern Option" regarding property, the AC served in an advisory capacity only regarding possible sale of the church property.

The AC focused its attention on assisting with development of a plan for dissolution, which included final worship, closing the preschool, selling the real property, and identifying legacy ministries Providence wished to fund and / or support with any proceeds from the sale of its property. Providence Session sought the advice and guidance of both The Presbyterian Foundation and its real estate wing, Foundry Commercial for that work.

The partnership evolved into successful sale of the property to ARC of Montgomery, an organization that directly supports nearly 600 children, youth, adults, seniors and families. Arc helps people with intellectual and developmental disabilities achieve a higher quality of life and sense of belonging within their community. A sinking trust fund was established with the New Covenant Trust of the Presbyterian Foundation, and 100% of property sales were deposited to it.

All of the legal entities and assets of Providence have been closed out. The AC wants us all to see for ourselves how the painful and difficult decision to close a church can result in faithful stewardship. Here is the list of recipients of disbursed assets.

Presbyterian Home for Children - \$ 611,100. This gift, spread over two years, will provide for much needed renovation and deferred maintenance to facilities. The renovated chapel will be named the Providence Chapel and will house the former sanctuary cross. One renovated cottage will be renamed the Memorial / Westminster Cottage.

Meals on Wheels Montgomery - \$ 611,100. This gift, spread over five years, will facilitate continuation of meal provision in the same capacity the church provided.

Medical Outreach Ministries - \$ 611,100. This gift, spread over five years, will allow for continued support of this vital community ministry.

Montgomery Step Foundation - \$69,300
Presbyterian Association of Musicians (PAM) - \$67,200
Friendship Mission - \$ 33,000
Let God Arise Ministries - \$ 10,500
Family Sunshine Center - \$ 10,500
Bayard Rustin Center - \$ 9,200
Aid to Inmate Mothers - \$ 4,200
Immanuel Presbyterian Church - \$ 5,000
Living River Summer Camp Scholarships - \$ 23,100
Legacy for Enduring Witness Fund of Presbytery - \$ 33,420
Presbyterian Home for Children – final balance of checking account @\$ 7,000

Total Legacy Gifts Given: \$ 2,105,720

These legacy gifts bear witness to faithful stewardship as God makes possible. The amounts are not what determines the level of faithfulness. The Spirit behind them is what does that.

The AC is thankful God revealed a path for enduring, faithful stewardship of the blessings of Court Street, Memorial, Westminster, and Providence Presbyterian Churches. We are humbled by the fortitude of leadership from Providence that made sure the particulars of agreeing to follow that path together were carried out. We are all buoyed and empowered by the myriad prayers offered for a successful journey towards dissolution.

Motion: The Providence AC requests final dissolution of Providence Presbyterian Church, which was approved “when the way was clear” by PSL at its meeting November 20, 2025, effective May 21, 2026. The AC asks to be dismissed of its service to Presbytery. *Approved*

Respectfully submitted,

Krysten Holloway – Elder, Westminster Birmingham
Wes Padgett – Elder, Providence
Jerry Sailor – Elder, Providence
Sue Westfall – Former General Presbyter, PSL
Jonathan Yarboro – Pastor, First Wetumpka

"MAY THIS BE A DAY

LONG TO BE REMEMBERED . . . "

The Memorial Presbyterian Church of Montgomery, Alabama, was organized by the East Alabama Presbytery on June 9, 1946, at 7:30 P.M. at the First Presbyterian Church with fifty-one charter members. Dr. J. L. Bowman and Messrs. H. L. DeWitt and Stanhope Elmore were elected and installed as Elders. During the first five months of the church's history, the congregation assembled for worship in the Sidney Lanier High School Auditorium, after which time they moved to Colonel Hurt's School, located then on the corner of Fairview and Cleveland Avenue.

The ground-breaking service for the first unit of our Educational Building was held on the afternoon of October 13, 1946. The first service in the new building was held on December 20 of the same year. The Educational Building as it now stands was erected in three different stages: the first unit in 1946, the second unit, which consisted of wings to the east and west of the existing structure, in 1948, and the third unit, consisting of the present kitchen and fellowship hall, in 1955.

The ground-breaking ceremonies for the sanctuary were held on the afternoon of December 27, 1953, and the first worship service after its completion was conducted on March 20, 1955.

Memorial Church has had but two pastors: the Reverend Cecil B. Lawter, who served from its organization in 1946 until June, 1951, and the Reverend Alfred L. Bixler, who began his ministry in February, 1952. Through the nine years of our history, nine hundred and fifty-eight members have been recorded on the rolls of our church. At the present our membership stands at six hundred and twenty, which includes non-resident members. Of this number, one hundred and twenty-nine have been received since January 1, 1955.

May this be a day long to be remembered, not only as a day when the building was dedicated, but also as the day when the congregation was re-dedicated to the Lord and his service. Let us, as a congregation with a purpose, join hands in united effort and earnest prayer to promote the work of God's kingdom in Montgomery, and through this church unto the uttermost parts of the world.

"JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF

BEING THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE . . . "

In September of 1952 the purpose and planning of quite a few years resulted in a financial campaign among the members of Memorial Church to raise \$125,000.00 to be added to the \$108,000.00 already in the bank for the construction of our new sanctuary. The congregation responded enthusiastically and promised to give \$137,000.00 over a three year period.

In December of that year construction on the new sanctuary was begun. As its completion drew near, it was necessary to conduct a second financial campaign before a loan could be secured from the bank. Even though the congregation had not yet completed their payments on the first campaign, it agreed with characteristic enthusiasm to embark upon another fund-raising effort, this time for \$100,000.00. Again our campaign was over subscribed — this time by \$18,000.00. Unfortunately, however, a goodly number of those who made pledges in both campaigns have moved away from our city and discontinued their pledges. It is hoped that new members received since the completion of the sanctuary will help make up the loss incurred.

The total cost of this beautiful structure, including furniture, landscaping and paving amounted to \$370,700.00. Of this amount, \$30,000.00 was a special gift by Mrs. W. A. Bellingrath for our wonderful organ, given in memory of her husband.

The building, designed by the architectural firm of Pearson, Tittle and Narrows, with Harold Wagoner of Philadelphia as consultant, was built of briar hill stone, trimmed with Alabama limestone. The sanctuary has a seating capacity of approximately six hundred and fifty persons.

It is our earnest prayer that through the years and decades before us, that here Jesus Christ shall be introduced to many thousands who do not know and love Him; the faith and commitment of many who already know Him shall be deepened; and His way of love shall be demonstrated in service to the world.

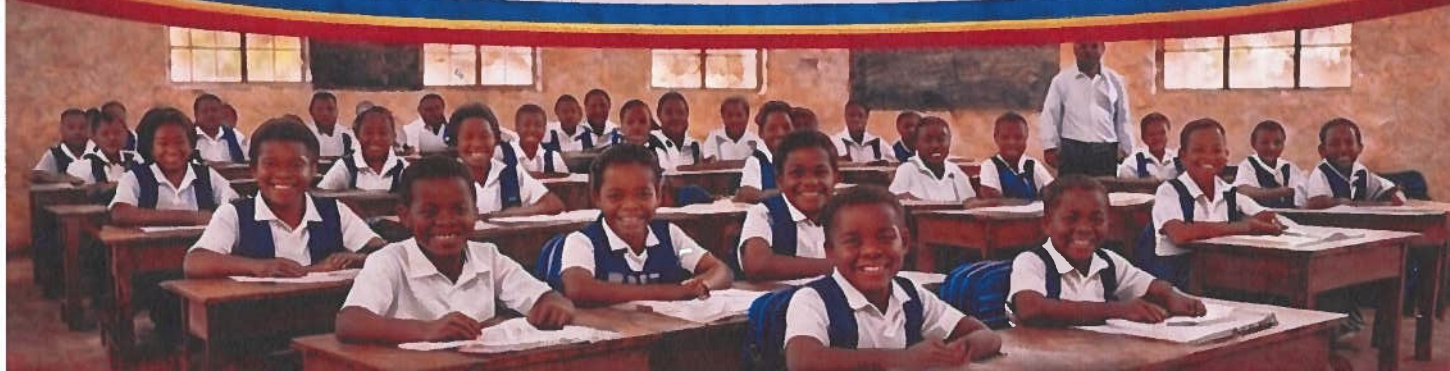


Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley **CONGO PENTECOST OFFERING**

Sunday • May 24, 2026



PCUSA



Building Schools. Transforming Communities. Sharing Christ's Love.

Matthew 25:40

Why Your Gift Matters

CONGO PARTNERSHIP

Presbytery of NGANZA

Presbytery of TSHIBASHI

Presbytery of Sheppards & Lapsley

The Congo Partnership

The Presbytery of Nganza, Presbytery of Tshibashi, and the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley have been working together since 2004 to share the Good News of Jesus Christ through ministries, leadership, development, and micro loans.



Building Schools

Many of Congo's Presbyterian schools are built with temporary materials. Through the Build Congo Schools initiative, churches are helping construct durable classrooms, provide desks, books, and training for teachers.



Educating Leaders

Sheppard & Lapsley University of Congo
This university prepares future pastors, educators, lawyers, and leaders for the church and the nation.



IMCK (Institut Medical Chrétien du Kasai)

was founded in 1954 by Presbyterian missionaries as a training institute for nursing. Over the years it has grown into a robust health care center with 160-bed Good Shepherd Hospital. The Institute is now one of the leading health care facilities in the country.



Durable Solutions Congo –

A mission to address both health and environmental issues focusing on clean cookstoves, solar, water and syntrophic agriculture.

Learn more at DurableSolutionsCongo.org



TO GIVE: Please make all checks payable to:
Presbytery of Sheppards & Lapsley
3603 Lorna Ridge Drive • Birmingham, AL 35216

Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley
Analysis of Revenues & Expenses - Summary
January to March 2026

Appendix B-18

Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	MTD Budget (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Budget (This Year)	YTD Budget/Actual (This Year)	Annual Budget (This Year)
Revenues						
General Fund	\$19,786.49	\$18,898.17	\$71,737.07	\$56,694.51	\$15,042.56	\$226,778.00
Mission Giving-Income	\$208.33	\$1,727.67	\$5,067.80	\$5,183.01	(\$115.21)	\$20,732.00
Per Capita Income	\$12,079.41	\$16,887.50	\$60,444.38	\$50,662.50	\$9,781.88	\$202,650.00
Total Revenues	\$32,074.23	\$37,513.34	\$137,249.25	\$112,540.02	\$24,709.23	\$450,160.00
Expenses						
Council						
Council Expenses-Other	\$0.00	\$931.25	\$0.00	\$2,793.75	\$2,793.75	\$11,175.00
Salaries & Allowances						
Executive Presbyter	\$8,313.39	\$9,756.75	\$26,952.91	\$29,270.25	\$2,317.34	\$117,081.00
Administrative Salaries	\$1,158.75	\$386.25	\$1,158.75	\$1,158.75	\$0.00	\$4,635.00
Staff Expenses	\$0.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$1,050.00	\$1,050.00	\$4,200.00
Total Salaries & Allowances	\$9,472.14	\$10,493.00	\$28,111.66	\$31,479.00	\$3,367.34	\$125,916.00
Total Council	\$9,472.14	\$11,424.25	\$28,111.66	\$34,272.75	\$6,161.09	\$137,091.00
Equip, Nurture, Connect						
Other ENC Expenses	\$2,632.95	\$1,266.66	\$4,056.15	\$3,799.98	(\$256.17)	\$15,200.00
Total Equip, Nurture, Connect	\$2,632.95	\$1,266.66	\$4,056.15	\$3,799.98	(\$256.17)	\$15,200.00
Mission	\$0.00	\$12.50	\$0.00	\$37.50	\$37.50	\$150.00
UKirk Birmingham	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Trustees	\$4,986.19	\$6,080.92	\$15,289.40	\$18,242.76	\$2,953.36	\$72,971.00
Presbytery Per Capita Expenses						
Stated Clerk & Moderator	\$2,028.84	\$2,598.24	\$7,669.36	\$7,794.72	\$125.36	\$31,179.00
Presbytery Commissions	(\$100.00)	\$333.32	\$1,799.54	\$999.96	(\$799.58)	\$4,000.00
Asst.to Stated Clerk/Ofc Mgr	\$5,867.68	\$5,888.58	\$17,603.04	\$17,665.74	\$62.70	\$70,663.00
Total Presbytery Per Capita Expenses	\$7,796.52	\$8,820.14	\$27,071.94	\$26,460.42	(\$611.52)	\$105,842.00
Per Capita-Expenses	\$5,694.38	\$8,345.17	\$29,627.53	\$25,035.51	(\$4,592.02)	\$100,142.00
Mission Giving-Expenses	\$208.33	\$1,727.67	\$5,067.80	\$5,183.01	\$115.21	\$20,732.00
Total Expenses	\$30,790.51	\$37,677.31	\$109,224.48	\$113,031.93	\$3,807.45	\$452,128.00
Net Operating Total	\$1,283.72	(\$163.97)	\$28,024.77	(\$491.91)	\$28,516.68	(\$1,968.00)
Other Revenues						
Designated Income (Loss)	\$0.07	\$0.00	\$112.57	\$0.00	\$112.57	\$0.00
Property Contributions	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Other Revenues	\$2,406.17	\$0.00	\$7,341.75	\$0.00	\$7,341.75	\$0.00
Other Expenses						
Total Other Expenses	\$5,585.78	\$0.00	\$8,378.67	\$0.00	(\$8,378.67)	\$0.00
Net Total	(\$1,895.89)	(\$163.97)	\$26,987.85	(\$491.91)	\$27,479.76	(\$1,968.00)