

**111TH Stated Meeting
of
Foothills Presbytery**

November 12, 2019

**Fourth Presbyterian Church
Greenville, SC**

Supplement

**Stated Clerk's Report
supplement
November 12, 2019**

The Stated Clerk **reports:**

1. Has received the Report of the Commission to Install John Hartman as the Pastor of the Seneca Presbyterian Church, and has found it to be in order. (See Attachment #2)
2. Updates Presbytery that the potential buyer for the West Georgia Road property has decided not to purchase the land. We are in conversations with our Realtor about another potential sale.

Respectfully submitted,

Gordon W. G. Raynal, Stated Clerk

**Report of Commission to Install John Hartman
as Minister of Word and Sacrament
Pastor at Seneca Presbyterian Church, Seneca, SC**

The Commission met Sunday, October 27, 2019, at 9:45 a.m. at Seneca Presbyterian Church.

The Commission was made up of the following:

- **Commission Moderator and Minister of Word and Sacrament:** Kathy Chamlee (Chaplain, Prisma Health)
- **Ministers of Word and Sacrament:** Debbie Foster (Associate Stated Clerk, Foothills Presbytery) and Richard W. Caldwell (Parish Associate, Seneca)
- **Ruling Elders:** Louis Holleman and Glenn McCants (Seneca)
- **Commission Secretary and Ruling Elder:** Angie Rodgers (Mt. Zion)

The Commission meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Chamlee. The Rev. Dr. John Hartman welcomed the members of the Commission and discussed the logistics of the service. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to allow the service Benediction to serve as the closing prayer for the meeting of the Commission. The Commission recessed for morning Worship and the Installation Service.

This morning's Worship Service was also a Kirking of the Tartans celebration and began with a procession of the tartans. Rev. Hartman welcomed everyone with a prayer of preparation and announcements. The prelude was presented by the guest musician and bagpiper, Art Davis. Angie Rodgers led the congregation in the Call to Worship. The service continued with the Blessing of the Tartans, Call of Clans, Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, and Assurance of Pardon led by the Rev. Dr. Hartman. Anthems and Hymns were sung by the members of the choir and the congregation.

The Rev. Debbie Foster led the prayer for illumination; read the New Testament lesson from Luke 19: 1-10; and delivered the sermon entitled "Put Your Whole Self In!"

The Rev. Chamlee, Moderator, propounded the Constitutional Questions to the Candidate; and these were answered in the affirmative. Rev. Chamlee also propounded the Constitutional Questions to the congregation, and these were answered in the affirmative. The Charge to the Pastor was delivered by the Rev. Richard W. Caldwell, and the Charge to the Congregation was delivered by Louis Holleman. The Rev. Chamlee led the prayer of installation and declaration of installation. The members of the Commission and all present Ministers and Ruling Elders gathered and gave the newly installed pastor the right hand of fellowship.

The service was concluded with a hymn and a Scottish Benediction offered by Elder Glenn McCants (Seneca).

Respectfully Submitted,
Angie Rodgers, Secretary



Why "Circle Up"?

As a connectional church, we believe there are things we can better accomplish together than separately. This is what the work of Presbytery is all about—connecting PC(USA) churches in Upstate South Carolina in service to God, the world, and each other. After several years of refining our expenses and purpose, we have effectively streamlined and solidified our mission. Now it's time to **Circle Up** as the churches and members of Foothills Presbytery to support that work. Our annual stewardship goal for 2020 is \$585,000, which will require churches to give on average \$42 per member. Please take a close and prayerful look at this material and let us know if you have any questions. We're asking churches to please submit their included **"Giving Card"** by **December 2**, and we're ambitiously aiming for 100% participation from the 58 churches in Foothills Presbytery.

“Circle Up” Goals

(1) \$585,000 Pledged

After several years of reducing and refining our expenses, we believe that \$585,000 represents a faithful and responsible annual budget. Now it's up to us to meet this budgetary goal. This annual budget will require churches to give on average \$42 per member. (Our recent endowment funds are a tremendous blessing, but it's important to remember that their disbursement is not intended for annual budgetary expenses.)

(2) 100% Participation

Our ambitious goal for 2020 Giving is 100% participation from our 58 congregations. Last year 77% of churches participated in Unified Giving. Some churches will be able to give more than the needed \$42 per member average. Some will need to give less. But Foothills Presbytery is for all of us, big and small, so we're aiming for full participation.

What can your church do?

(1) Prayerfully consider your “Giving Plan”

Talk with your Committees and Session, and prayerfully consider what you will plan to give. Church “Giving Plan” cards are included in this letter with a self-addressed stamped envelope. We're requesting that cards be returned by December 2.

(2) Share the Mission of Foothills

The Mission Statement of Foothills Presbytery is:

“Caring, Empowering, and Celebrating the churches in Foothills through shared ministry.” You can find more information about our Core Values included in this letter. We want you to share our Mission and Values with your congregation. We'd also love to come and discuss the work of Foothills with your church.

(3) Pray for Foothills Presbytery

Please invite your Session and Members to pray for Foothills. Here's a prayer you can recommend: “God of all, we pray for the work of Foothills Presbytery, and for all the churches and members that make up this community of faith. May we continue to find ways to “Circle Up” together in order to serve and support each other, and the world.”

Stewardship for 2020



Ministry from the Mountains to the Lakes

"Caring, Empowering, and Celebrating the churches in Foothills through shared ministry."

- VALUES**
- FAITH:** Our **Committee on Ministry** demonstrates care and discipline with our Ministers, Ruling Elders, and Sessions.
 - HOPE:** Our **Committee on Preparation for Ministry** guides those seeking ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the PCUSA.
 - LOVE:** Our **Committee on Shared Ministry** facilitates ways to engage, connect, and celebrate the shared ministry of Foothills' Communities of Faith.

Stewardship for 2020



FOOTHILLS PRESBYTERY

"Caring, Empowering, and Celebrating the churches in Foothills through shared ministry."

Ministry from the Mountains to the Lakes

FAITHFUL

COM demonstrates care and discipline with our Teaching Elders, Ruling Elders, and Sessions.

Committee on Ministry

Triennial Visitation • Pulpit Supply • Work of the Minister/Terms of Call
PNC Training and Liaisons • Exam Commission • Commission on
Ruling Elders • Certified Christian Educators • Ethics and Boundaries
Policies and Training • Small Church Working Group

LOVING

Our CSM facilitates ways to engage, connect, and celebrate the shared ministry of Foothills' Communities of Faith.

Committee on Shared Ministry

Leadership Development Mission: Local, National, Global Hospitality,
Peer Ministry, Joys & Concerns Technology and Communication
Resource Center • Outdoor Ministry • Youth Ministry • Campus Ministry
Child Advocacy & Awareness Presbyterian Women • Small Church Connections

HOPEFUL

Our CPM guides those seeking ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

Session Orientation • Student Liaisons • Education & Ordination
Scholarships & Finance • Career and Professional Development

Stewardship for 2020

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*Teaching Elders and Ruling Elders who entered the Church Triumphant
November 2018 to October 2019*

G. Denton Lindsay

John Warren Templeton, Jr.

*St. Andrews Church
Gerald Conrad Pitts, Sr.*

*Easley Church
Dan Spearman
Bill Robinson*

*Fair Play Church
Dick Glymph
Frances Prater*

*Roberts Church
Juanita Radcliffe*

*Limestone Church
Ron Cope*

Committee on Ministry Supplemental Report

November 12, 2019

The Committee on Ministry **reports:**

1. That it heard and approved the approved the following Triennial Visitation Report: Easley
2. That it approved the following Stated Supply relationship: HR Teaching Elder Jim Jackson and the Covenant Session.
3. That per the vote of the Congregation of Westminster Church, Greenville, approved a new Associate Pastor position and so the formation of an APNC. Beth Templeton was elected as the APNC Liaison.
4. That it concurred with the request of Teaching Elder Marc Mason and the vote of the Trinity Congregation on November 3, 2019 to dissolve the Pastoral relationship, and voted to dismiss Marc to Eastern Virginia Presbytery to serve as the Senior Pastor/ Head of Staff at the Yorkminster Church, Yorktown, VA. Teaching Elder Trish Gwinn was elected to serve as Moderator effective January 2020.
5. That, pending the affirmative vote of the Congregation on 11/17/2019 that it concurred with the request of Teaching Elder Jon Van Deventer to dissolve the Pastoral relationship on 12/31/2019 with the Limestone Church, and voted to dismiss Jon to Northeast Georgia Presbytery to serve as the Pastor of the Monticello Church in Monticello, GA. The Stated Clerk will meet with the Session on 12/1/2019 and a Moderator will be elected at the December meeting of COM.
6. That five Presbyteries of South Carolina are going to do Ethical Boundary Training as a shared effort in the years to come.
7. Nazareth Educator, D. J. Wall, has entered the Christian Education Certification Process.

Respectfully submitted,

Trish Gwinn, Chair

At the November Presbytery meeting, don't miss the
Frontera de Cristo Café Justo Art Installation
provided by Diane Hopkins-Hughs:



& **Café Justo** will be for sale @ \$10 per bag!



(For more information about coffee sales,
contact April Swanson: apriljoy158@gmail.com)



Foothills Presbytery's Committee on Ministry
is proud to announce
Guest Speaker the Rev. James (Jim) Kirk from PDA.

Jim will be leading worship at our November meeting of Presbytery, and leading the Special Order of the Day (PDA 101).
In addition, he will facilitate two other events while in Foothills. Anyone is invited to attend.



"Human Caused Disasters"

"Nothing can separate us from the love of God". Violence changes everything, and it requires different skills from responding to natural disasters. Participants will learn definitions and guidelines for human-caused disasters, trauma, clergy care, congregation care, worship and liturgy, media relations, and long-term emotional and spiritual care. In addition, participants will learn about preparation.



**Wednesday, Nov. 13
11:45 - 1:15 pm**

Westminster Presbyterian Church
2310 Augusta Street, Greenville

*Brown Bag Lunch - Everyone is Welcome,
RSVP: LWhite@foothillspresbytery.org*



"Disaster Preparedness and Engagement"

"Blessed to be a blessing". This workshop will have a dual focus. Participants will gain valuable insight on how to prepare themselves and their congregations for a disaster. In addition, participants will discover ways to bring their God given talent, time and resources to a response and recovery effort in their community.



**Wednesday, Nov. 13
Dinner* 5:45 & Program 6:15 - 7:15 pm**

John Knox Presbyterian Church
35 Shannon Drive, Greenville 29615

*Reservations Required for dinner by Monday, November 11
Donation (\$6 suggested) RSVP LWhite@foothillspresbytery.org
*(*Please let us know if you plan to join us for dinner or the program only.)*

Nominations Committee Report November 12, 2019

Presbytery Moderator-Elect Rev. Dr. Tom Evans, (First Spartanburg) 2020-2021

Committee on Ministry

2020 Chair, Rev. Nath Briley

Phil Beckwith (St. Andrews)	Class of 2022 (1)
Rev. Ben Dorr (Westminster, Greenville)	Class of 2022 (1)
Rev. David Bailey (Central)	Class of 2022 (2)
Judy Snipes (Faith)	Class of 2022 (2)
Ted Morlok (First, Anderson)	Class of 2022 (1)
Dr. Barbara Moran-Faile (Townville)	Class of 2021 (1)
Rev. Christi Brown (At-Large)	Class of 2020 (1)
Elizabeth Clayton (First, Greer)	Class of 2022 (2)
Rev. Mary Morrison (Fort Hill)	Class of 2022 (2)

Committee on Preparation

2020 Chair, Rev. Dennis Tedder

John Byce (Fourth)	Class of 2022 (1)
Rev. Leslie Lang (First, Spartanburg)	Class of 2022 (2)
Rev. Dennis Tedder (First, Anderson)	Class of 2022 (2)
Rev. Will Nickles (At-Large)	Class of 2022 (2)
Rev. Allen McSween (Honorably Retired)	Class of 2022 (2)

Committee on Shared Ministry

2020 Chair, Rev. Pressley Cox

Rev. Jackie Putnam (Fourth)	Class of 2022 (1)
Rev. Noelle Read (Central)	Class of 2022 (1)
Peggy Hayes (Mt. Zion)	Class of 2022 (1)
Natalie Schwartz (Seneca)	Class of 2022 (1)
Rev. Aaron Ochart (Faith)	Class of 2022 (2)
Rev. Peggy Swann (Townville)	Class of 2022 (2)
Rev. Craig Foster (First Spartanburg)	Class of 2022 (2)

Bills & Overtures

2020 Chair, Rev. Bill Lancaster

Rev. Richard Caldwell (Seneca)	Class of 2020 (1)
Rev. George Harper (Honorably Retired)	Class of 2022 (2)
Rev. Barbara Stoop (Honorably Retired)	Class of 2022 (2)
Daniel Buchanan (Central)	Class of 2022 (1)

Examinations*2020 Chair, Elizabeth Clayton*

Bill Burns (First, Spartanburg)

Class of 2022 (2)

Finance & Stewardship*2020 Chair, Dennis Latham*

McCrary Gwinn (Grace Covenant)

Class of 2022 (1)

Sandi Tolly (First, Anderson)

Class of 2020 (1)

Rev. Justin Cazel (At-Large)

Class of 2020 (1)

Rev. Hudson Neely (Tyger River)

Class of 2022 (2)

Russ Williams (Westminster, Greenville)

Class of 2022 (2)

Nominations Committee - Approved by Present & Former Moderators

Rev. David Howell (John Knox)

Class of 2022 (1)

Fran Bagwell (First, Spartanburg)

Class of 2022 (1)

Jimmy Cheeks (First, Simpsonville)

Class of 2022 (2)

Permanent Judicial Commission

Mark Sucher (Eastminster)

Class of 2025

Rev. Jean Weaver (Honorably Retired)

Class of 2025

Personnel Committee*2020 Chair, Rev. Tom Evans*

Rev. Deborah Broadwell (Honea Path)

Class of 2022 (1)

Phil Lyles (Easley)

Class of 2022 (2)

Representation & Review*2020 Chair, Elizabeth Jones*

Harold Gilbert (Central)

Class of 2022 (1)

Rev. Michael Sullivan (Nicholtown)

Class of 2022 (2)

Sexual Ethics Team

Rev. Kate Taber (Furman Chaplain)

Class of 2022 (1)

Worship Committee*2020 Chair, Holt Andrews*

Allyson Helvie (Mt. Zion)

Class of 2022 (1)

Rev. Chad Wright-Pittman, (First Anderson)

Class of 2021 (1)

Rev. Beverly Kelly (Honorably Retired)

Class of 2022 (2)

Mandy Keathley (Central)

Class of 2022 (2)

Synod Commissioners:

Elder Jimmy Cheeks (First Simpsonville)
Rev. Beth Hoskins (Inman)

GA Commissioners:

2020 TE Rev. Leslie Lang (First Spartanburg)
TE Rev. Mel Davis (Fair Play)
RE Jimmy Cheeks (First Simpsonville)
RE Lori Malvern (Townville)

For Member Information. Not elected by Presbytery:

Foothills Representation: (current)

Synod PJC:

Rev. Barb Stoop (Honorably Retired)

SC Inn at Montreat:

Rev. Jim Caprell (Clinton Presbyterian Community)

Class of 2021 (1)

Presbyterian Communities Bd of Trustees:

Joel Ledbetter (Easley)

Rev. Gordon Raynal (Foothills Staff)

PC –Board of Trustees:

Rev. Stan Reid (McCarter)

Board of Pensions Board:

Rev. Stan Reid (McCarter)

Bills and Overtures Committee

Supplementary Report to

Foothills Presbytery

Nov. 12, 2019

The Presbytery of Inland Northwest has asked Foothills Presbytery to concur in an overture they are sending to the 224th General Assembly (2020).

The Overture (attached) would require a 2/3rds vote of the presbyteries to approve an amendment to the Presbyterian Church (USA) Book of Order, rather than the simple majority now required.

The Bills and Overtures Committee recommends that Foothills concur in the overture, but the committee is divided on concurrence with four in favor and two against.

The Presbytery will vote on the overture itself, not the committee's recommendation.

Submitted by

Bill Lancaster

Chair, Bills and Overture

Proposed Overture, Presbytery of the Inland Northwest

The Presbytery of the Inland Northwest overtures the 224th General Assembly (2020) to direct the Stated Clerk to send the following proposed amendment to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes:

Shall G-6.04e be amended as follows: [Text to be deleted is shown with a strike-through; text to be added is shown as italic.]

“The Stated Clerk receives written advice that a proposed amendment to the Book of Order has received the affirmative votes of a ~~majority~~ *two-thirds* of all the presbyteries. The proposed amendment so approved shall become effective one year following the adjournment of the assembly transmitting the proposed amendment.”

Rationale

A constitution should provide stability and require broad consensus to change. The current practice of requiring only a majority of all presbyteries to vote in the affirmative treats constitutional change as a simple motion. This does not provide stability or require broad consensus, nor does it adequately protect the unity of the body or the rights of the minority. Requiring two-thirds of presbyteries to vote in the affirmative for a change in the *Book of Order* would:

1. Better balance the tension between the following parliamentary principles:
 - a. The unity of the body shall be protected;
 - b. The rights of the minority shall be protected;
 - c. The will of the majority shall prevail.
2. Restore the threshold for constitutional change to the norms of *Robert's Rules of Order*.

Further Rationale and Response to Objections

1. Objection- “A majority shall rule.” (F-3.0205) Response- This is a general principle. It is not a prescriptive rule. It is a statement about how we normally do business. It does not apply to all motions, votes or decisions (for example, the motion to end debate/previous question requires 2/3 majority). Debating and voting on normal motions and amending a constitution are different categories.
2. Objection- “Replacing a majority with a 2/3 threshold would substitute the discernment of a minority for that of the majority.” Response-
 - a. A constitution is an established, agreed upon authority describing what we do and how we do it. It is an aid for stability and unity in a group. For this reason, a high degree of consensus is usually required for change. Requiring broad consensus to amend a constitution is part of what it means to have a constitution.
 - i. A constitution “... defines the primary characteristics of an organization... prescribes how the society functions; and includes all rules that the society considers so important that they (a) cannot be changed without previous notice to the members and the vote of a specified large majority (such as a two-thirds vote), and (b) cannot be suspended.” (RONR [11th ed.], p.12-13)
 - ii. Broad consensus in important matters is not synonymous with substituting the will of a minority over the majority. If this were so, then all votes requiring a super-majority would be inherently unjust. Passing a motion with 51% support and rescinding an action previously adopted (requiring 2/3) are different categories.
 - iii. Votes requiring a super-majority indicate something or someone is being protected.

- b. Requiring 2/3 for constitutional change is one way the rights of the minority are protected. It increases the likelihood of a high degree of agreement before foundational documents effecting the whole body are amended and altered.
 - c. Requiring 2/3 for constitutional change is a way to protect the rights of the majority. The Constitution of the PCUSA is for the whole church.
 - i. The Church is "... The particular congregations of the PC (USA) ... taken collectively..." (F-3.0201). The church is more than its councils.
 - ii. The presbyters gathered in councils who vote on constitutional change represent a tiny minority of the church. The rights of those not present are protected by requiring a high degree of consensus in this voting minority.
 - d. The congregations and presbyteries of our church are expected to have bylaws. Unless special provision has been made, changing these bylaws requires a 2/3 majority with previous notice. This does not violate the rights of the majority.
- 3. Objection- "This overture would ... 'equate our rules and our theology- thus elevating the rules which should always be subordinate with Scripture and theology.'" Response- "The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA) consists of the Book of Confessions and the Book of Order (F-3.04)."
- a. Our constitution does not present itself in as a hierarchy of authority between these two parts.
 - b. The Book of Order does present itself as including that which is mandated. (The Preface to the Book of Order differentiates between "shall," "should," "may," etc. "Shall" indicating that which is mandatory and required).
 - c. The Book of Order contains theology, and not practice only.
 - d. As stated previously, our presbyteries and congregations are required to have bylaws for procedures and rules (G-3.0106- "a manual of administrative operations"). The provisions of these bylaws require a super-majority to amend and adopt, even as rules.
 - e. Because presbyteries have local bylaws adapted to local circumstances, the Book of Order does not need to function as a Manual of Operations.
- 4. Objection- "This has been rejected by past General Assemblies." Response- This is not in itself an argument. What were the reasons given? Were they good reasons? Without additional information, this is an argument that we shouldn't change because we haven't changed in the past.
- 5. Objection- "This overture would impede the church's ability to respond to current needs and to correct errors." Response- As Christians in the Reformed tradition, we recognize, "... the human tendency to idolatry..." (F-2.05)." Requiring a 2/3 majority for constitutional change could help prevent us from making errors, and guard against the idolatry of following the spirit of the age. A 2/3 majority still provides an opportunity and mechanism for change and reform.
- 6. Objection- "This overture would limit access to and participation in the decision-making process." Response- This overture would limit constitutional change to that which has wide agreement.
- 7. Objection- "There is the question of procedural justice." Response- A body is free to change how it amends its constitution, "...provided that, in the procedure of adopting them (i.e. these changes), it conforms to parliamentary law or its own existing rules (RONR [11th ed.], p.10, III. 15-20)."