

Thank you for your service!! We appreciate your enthusiasm and are excited to welcome you, whether you are a commissioner, corresponding member, visitor, or guest. Your participation is crucial to our ministry, and we value the unique perspective and contributions that each attendee brings.

On <u>Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm</u> there will be a pre-meeting social hour via Zoom with the synod's Visioning Task Force. This will be an informal opportunity to ask questions about the synod that is and the discernment work happening.

Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/6824651360?pwd=Vjg2dHJxbTB6UWtDa3Y0T0VpVTZoQT09&omn=97619360998

Meeting ID: 682 465 1360 Passcode: Synod

### The Assembly of the Synod of South Atlantic will be held via Zoom on <u>Saturday,</u> <u>April 6th at 1 p.m</u>. (expect 1.5-2 hrs.)

Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/94372512156?pwd=ZllaMjFUcUptUTJLekpkNVBvYnNiZz09

Meeting ID: 943 7251 2156 Passcode: Synod

# Synod of South Atlantic Assembly

### 1 pm, Saturday, April 6 via Zoom

The meeting serves both as a meeting of the ecclesiastical governing body of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and a meeting of the Synod of South Atlantic, Inc., a non-profit corporation of the State of Florida.

### Call to Order

- Acknowledgement of Land & People Brian Henderson, Moderator <u>https://native-land.ca/</u>
- Opening Prayer
- Declaration of Quorum
- Welcome to New Commissioners
- Seating of Corresponding Members
- Adoption of the Docket

### **Opening Worship**

#### Report of the Executive Administrative Commission (Attachment A) – Rev. Brian Henderson

• GA Ovt-024 On Creating a General Assembly Administrative Commission on Mid Councils

#### **Committee Updates & Actions**

#### Administration & Relationships – Jeanne Simpson/Bobby Byrd

### **Committee on Representation (Attachment B)** – Hansler Bealyer

- Nomination Synod Moderator-Elect (2024-2025)
- Installation of the Moderator-Elect

### Ministry Support Committee (Attachment C) – Ken Whitehurst

• Association of Smaller Congregations, Rev. Caroline Dennis

### Budget & Finance Committee (Attachment D) – Rev. Christina Greenawalt

### Synod Visioning Task Force Report (Attachment E)

**Task Force Members:** *RE Commissioner, Jacquelyn Rembert (New Harmony Presbytery); Stated Clerk, Rev.* Andy James (Greater Atlanta Presbytery); Stated Clerk/TE Commissioner, Rev. Christina Greenawalt (Central Florida Presbytery); General Presbyter, Rev. Danny Murphy (Trinity Presbytery); General Presbyter, Rev. Holly Dillon (Presbytery of Tampa Bay); TE Commissioner, Rev. Jamil El Shair (Savannah Presbytery)

### Treasurer's Report (Attachment F) – Jodi Dodge

- Audit
- Financial Reports
- Accounting Transition

#### **Report of the Executive & Stated Clerk (Attachment G)** – Valerie Young

- Overture from Flint River Presbytery and Presbytery of Greater Atlanta on Lamar County, GA
- Overture from Flint River Presbytery on Russel County, GA
- Synod of South Atlantic Overture to the 227<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

#### Closing Prayer & Adjournment

#### Additional Written Reports provided by (Attachment H):

- African American Ministries Rev. Cecelia Armstrong
- Synod Presbyterian Women Shelagh Wirth, Moderator
- Westminster Communities Foundation

### Next Synod Meeting: Saturday, October 12 via Zoom

### Executive Administrative Commission April 2024 Report to the Synod of South Atlantic Assembly

- I. The EAC voted to receive Ray Bell's resignation as Chair of the Ministry Support Committee and appointed Ken Whitehurst as the Chair of MSC for the remainder of 2024.
- II. The EAC voted to appoint Bobby Byrd as temporary Chair of the Administration & Relationships Committee until the return of Janne Simpson from her trip abroad.
- III. The EAC voted to recommend that the Synod of South Atlantic concur with the overture to the General Assembly Ovt-024 On Creating a General Assembly Administrative Commission on Mid Councils.

# Motion: That the synod concur with Ovt-024 On Creating a General Assembly Administrative Commission on Mid Councils

IV. Serving as the synod's Personnel Committee, in accordance with Personnel Review Guidelines, an annual review was conducted for the Synod Executive & Stated Clerk. Based upon the input received from presbytery executives, stated clerks, racial-ethnic consultants, commissioners, and members of the synod PJC, the EAC was pleased with the work of the Synod Executive and advised that she be mindful of her travel schedule and pace. The evaluation instrument distributed to the synod stake holders along with observations from EAC members were the basis of this assessment. The EAC (as Personnel) has approved a salary change that brings the total package back up to the level of 2023 (see below). The matter was then referred to the Budget & Finance Committee to bring an adjusted budget to the next Assembly on April 6.

In this process, it became clear that there need to be some changes to the Personnel Review Guidelines to align with the budgeting process. The Synod Executive & Stated Clerk was asked to assist in making this happen.

		2023 Budget	2023 Year End Actual	2024 Budget	2024 - COLA +
5120	Synod Exec/Stated Clerk Salary	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	107,000.00
5121	Synod Exec/Stated Clerk Housing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5122	Synod Exec/Stated Clerk BOP	41,340.00	29,749.42	23,000.00	22,950.00
	Synod Exec/Stated Clerk Payroll				
5123	Tax	8,109.00	9,541.23	8,109.00	9216.00
	Retirement Benefit 403b				
5124	contribution	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,900.00
	Total Synod Exec/Stated Clerk	152,650.00	145,290.65	137,109.00	146,066.00

#### PC-Biz

[OVT-024]	On Creating a General Assembly Administrative Commission on Mid Councils
Source:	Presbytery
Committee:	Unassigned
Event:	226th General Assembly (2024)
Sponsor:	Synod of the Northeast
Type:	General Assembly Full Consideration

## Recommendation

On Creating a General Assembly Administrative Commission on Mid Councils

The Synod of the Northeast overtures the 226th General Assembly (2024) to:

1.Establish a permanent General Assembly Commission on Mid Councils, nominated by the General Assembly Nominating Committee in consultation with the General Assembly Committee on Representation, for the purpose of "approving the acts of synods to organize, divide, unite, or combine presbyteries or portions of presbyteries" (G-3.0502e) and approving exceptions to the minimum composition of a presbytery (G-3.0301). The commission is to be constituted no later than December 31, 2024.

2. Amend the Standing Rules of the General Assembly by adding Section K1 as follows and renumbering other paragraphs of section K, or placing in the appropriate section of any revised version of the Standing Rules approved by the 226th General Assembly (2024):

K.1 The General Assembly Administrative Commission on Mid Councils has the authority to act as the General Assembly, upon request of synods and presbyteries, with the authority of the General Assembly to "approv[e] the acts of synods to organize, divide, unite, or combine presbyteries or portions of presbyteries" (G-3.0502e), and to approve exceptions to the minimum composition of a presbytery (G-3.0301). The administrative commission shall be composed of seven members whose length of term will be 4 years with eligibility for an additional 4-year term.

# Rationale

We are in a time when many presbyteries and synods are considering significant transformational changes. We are also in a time when many presbyteries and synods are considering how to handle decreased PC(USA) membership and decreased resources. Across the denomination presbyteries and synods are in the process of determining how to reconfigure presbyteries and churches to address these issues. Over the next few years this may lead to boundary changes whereby presbyteries merge or reconfigure their boundaries in various ways that require General Assembly approval.

No matter the issue, the work that it takes to discern what God is calling a presbytery or synod to do and to make a new plan that all interested parties can agree upon is significant. It can take several years to achieve this. Once the presbyteries and synod are ready to act, they need approval that is swift. For people who have been working on such a plan and ensuring that all necessary parties agree, nothing could deflate the effort and the energy more than having to wait until the next General Assembly for approval. This work creates a momentum that builds on itself. Having to wait possibly a year or more until the next General Assembly once all the pieces are in place could lead members of this work to begin to focus their energy elsewhere. Agreements

#### PC-Biz

made around certain programs or sharing of resources could fall apart for lack of action. Having a permanent General Assembly Commission on Mid Councils would allow the dedicated work of presbyteries and synods to move forward in a timely fashion.

We believe that most if not all the work of such a commission could be handled via Zoom, thereby requiring no additional funds. This was the case between the 224th and 225th General Assemblies, when the General Assembly Commission on Mid Councils that was established for that period had to meet via Zoom due to Covid-19.

### Committee on Representation Report Synod of the South Atlanta April 6, 2024

The Members of the Committee on Representation are: Hansler Bealyer, St. Augustin, Chair; Janice Barge Clarke, Tampa Bay; Karla Dias, Tropical Florida; Lisa Martin, Florida; Rev. Brian Henderson, Charleston-Atlantic.

### For Synod Action:

The Committee on Representation nominates the following to serve as the Synod Moderator Elect (2024-2025): RE Commissioner Jacquelyn Rembert (New Harmony Presbytery)

RE Commissioner, Jacquelyn Rembert (New Harmony Presbytery)

### For Information:

The purpose of the Committee on Representation is to ensure all-inclusiveness and full representation in the Synod structure in accordance with the Book of Order.

The committee is working to identify candidates for the vacancies on the Permanent Judicial Commission and the Policy Task Force.

Respectfully submitted:

HAB

#### **Report of the Ministry Support Committee to**

#### The Synod of the South Atlantic

#### April 6, 2024

The Ministry Support Committee of the Synod met on Tuesday, December 11 at 11 am to determine final grant/scholarship awards for 2023.

Members present: Jan Lewis, Ray Bell, Andy Moye, Jackie Rembert, Ken Whitehurst. Staff: Valerie M. Young

The following grant applications were reviewed and approved:

#### Grant/Scholarship Review -

Olen Spencer Memorial Grant (balance = \$37,826):

Kenne Sparks, Presbytery of Central Florida = \$1,000

Will Delaney, Foothills Presbytery = \$1,000

#### Uderitz Memorial For Florida Churches (balance = 1,997.89):

First Presbyterian Church, Wewahitchka, Florida = ½ of balance

First Church of Lynn Haven Florida =  $\frac{1}{2}$  of balance

#### Peacemaking Fund (balance = \$1,142.33:

Atlanta Ministries for International Students = \$1,000

The Grants taskforce continues to meet to recommend changes to the administration and award of Synod grants and scholarships.

Submitted by

Ken Whitehurst, Chair

Ministry Support Committee

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### 2024 Annual Report

The Association of Smaller Congregations of the Synod of the South Atlantic mission is to encourage, equip and connect congregations under 200 members within the bounds of the Synod of the South Atlantic. The Association was established 37 years ago and has largely accomplished these goals through its conference, held annually at Epworth by the Sea on St. Simon's Island.

The 2024 Conference "The Gift of Small" and Annual Meeting of the Association were held from February 29 – March 3. We were pleased to partner this year with the Presbyterian Association of Musicians (PAM) and with the Southeast and Puerto Rico region of Partners in Christian Education (SOAP APCE) to bring a conference rich in resources to our participants. While our registration numbers remained consistent with past years, we were pleased to see increased reach into presbyteries which had been under represented in recent years. Several attendees were presbytery leaders with responsibility for supporting smaller congregations in their presbyteries. We are hopeful that these attendees will be seeds of connection for the association as we continue our work, mindful that many smaller membership churches are not able for various reasons to participate in an annual conference.

Of the sixty-three conference attendees, there were 11 presbytery/synod representatives, 40 members or leaders of smaller congregations, 12 PCUSA organizational representatives and partners. Thirty-two of the 2024 conference attendees had attended the conference in previous years.

The conference receives financial assistance from the Synod of the South Atlantic (5000), PMA (\$500), PAM (\$750), SOAP APCE (\$500), Trinity Presbytery (500). Two of our presbyteries. Greater Atlanta and Trinity, provide scholarships for persons from those presbyteries to attend the conference. An offering was received at closing worship to support Thornwell in the amount of \$1074.

The Association bylaws were amended at the annual meeting and are attached. Hemphill Grants were awarded as follows: \$3,000 to Calvery Presbyterian Church in Trinity Presbytery, \$7,000 Douglas Presbyterian Church in Providence Presbytery. The Award for Congregation of the Year was presented to Society Hill Presbyterian, Society Hill, SC, nominated by Exec. Presbyter, Gavin Meeks. Maurine Resch, Northeast GA Presbytery, was recognized for 14 years of service to the Association as Conference Registrar and offered our gratitude as she steps back from active service. The Association Board plans to work in the coming year to increase connection with the 622 congregations within the bounds of the Synod of the South Atlantic with 200 members or less by building membership in the organization, providing resource and connection to our members through regular communication, and listening for the needs of our smaller congregations.

I offer this report with my thanks for the support of the Synod and gratitude for the engagement of many partners and a strong board.

Respectfully submitted on March 19, 2024 by Caroline Dennis, ASC President

<u>ASC Officers</u>: Caroline Dennis, President; Julius N'for, Treasurer; Dawn Lyons, Secretary; Judy Murphy, Registrar; John Scott, Past President <u>ASC Board</u>: Hoover Haney, Leon Page, Britanny DiGiarmmarino, Joy Fisher, Thomas Whitworth, Dashonda VanDyke

### THE ASSOCIATION OF SMALLER CONGREGATIONS SYNOD OF THE SOUTH ATLANTIC PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

### **CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

### NAME

The name of this organization shall be THE ASSOCIATION OF SMALLER CONGREGATIONS. (The Association.)

#### PURPOSE

Approximately two-thirds *three-fourths* of the Presbyterian churches within the geographical bounds of the Synod of South Atlantic have less than 200 members. These churches generally need additional support, care, and fellowship. They may also need specific training in their individual and corporate tasks and stable, experienced pastoral leadership. Seeking to meet these needs, we, therefore, organize ourselves for the following purposes:

- 1. To facilitate mutual support and encouragement for congregations and pastors.
- 2. To become aware of the unique strengths of the small congregation and how these can be used in presbyteries and synods, and to serve as a channel of interpretation between presbyteries and their smaller congregations.
- 3. To increase continually the awareness and responsibility of the presbyteries for the concerns and needs of their smaller congregations.
- 4. To provide opportunities for fellowship and continuing education for both pastors and churches.
- 5. To encourage the governing bodies to be more intentional in providing care, training, and leadership for smaller congregations; to enable them to become a viable influence within the governing bodies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
- 6. To provide opportunities for creative thinking, planning, and sharing among smaller congregations.

### MEMBERSHIP

- 1. Full membership is open to any congregation, and its members, within the ecclesiastical bounds of the Synod of South Atlantic or its successors, having 200 or fewer members.
- 2. Associate Membership is open to any *other* congregation, its pastor and members larger than 200 members, *within the bounds of the Synod of South Atlantic*, and *the* Judicatory staff of the PC(USA).
- 3. Affiliate Membership will be considered by the Board for those PC(USA) congregations beyond the bounds of the Synod of the South Atlantic.
- 4. Affiliate Membership will be considered by the Board for congregations and individuals that are members of other denominations in correspondence\* with the PC(USA).
- 5. Affiliate and Associate Members may not vote or hold office.

#### \*Notes:

- "denominations in correspondence" are those denominations that hold membership in any of these ecumenical organizations: World Communion of Reformed Churches, National Council of Churches, World Council of Churches, Christian Churches Together, Churches United in Christ. (Book of Order, G-5.02 and Office of General Assembly)
- "churches that entered into Full Communion" are the four denominations: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), United Church of Christ, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and Reformed Church in America. (Book of Order, Appendix B)
- Covenant Relationship exists between the Korean Presbyterian Church in America and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) (Book of Order, Appendix C)

### **OFFICERS**

The Officers of the Association shall be:

- 1. President
- 2. Secretary
- 3. Treasurer
- 4. Past President
- 5. President-Elect

Whenever possible, the presidency shall alternate between laity and clergy. These officers will comprise the Executive Committee. In addition to the officers, the Board will consist of up to eight (8) members chosen, whenever possible, from presbyteries not represented by an officer, and whenever possible on a rotating basis. The President acting alone, or any two (2) members of the Board, may call a meeting of the Board.

### **DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

- 1. The President will preside at all meetings of the Association and its Board.
- 2. The Secretary will function as chair in the absence of the President.
- 3. The Secretary will record, disseminate, and keep a file of minutes of all meetings.
- 4. The Treasurer will receive and bank all funds of the Association and will distribute funds only at the direction of the Board or the Annual Meeting.
- 5. The immediate Past President will serve in a supportive and transitional manner for continuity of the office of the President, President-Elect.
- 6. It shall be the duty of the Board to seek to establish sub-groups of the Association within the bounds of each presbytery. These sub-groups will be responsible for promoting the purposes and goals of the Association at the presbytery level and may sponsor events or meetings.
- 7. The Board may, at its discretion, establish additional roles it deems necessary to fulfill its responsibilities, who will serve at the pleasure of the Board. These roles may include a Conference Registrar; a Communicator to communicate at the direction of the Board with the membership, governing bodies, church and public media by any appropriate means; liaison with other small church networks. Persons in these roles may be invited to attend and participate in Board meetings.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND BOARD**

- 1. Elections shall take place annually during the Annual Meeting of the Association.
- 2. On decision of the Board, nominees may be selected either from the floor or by a nominating committee appointed by the Board. Nominations may always be made from the floor with the prior consent of the person being nominated.
- 3. A term of office for both Officers and Board is one (1) conference year. A person is limited to three (3) consecutive terms in the same office and six (6) consecutive terms on the Board. They may be renominated after passage of one Annual Meeting.
- 4. In the event of termination of an Officer's or Board member's term prematurely, the Board may, at its discretion, appoint a replacement to complete the unexpired term.
- 5. A person that has completed a one year term as President, may be nominated to serve one additional one year term, if elected by <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of the voting membership present at the Annual Meeting.

#### **MEETINGS**

There shall be an Annual Meeting of the Association called by the Board normally in conjunction with an Annual Conference at a time and place to be determined by the Board.

This meeting shall include election of officers, necessary business and program.

Additional meetings of the Association may be called at the discretion of the Board.

Meetings will be conducted under Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, "the current edition of 'Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised" and in no way contrary to the Constitution of the PC(USA).

### ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Board will plan an Annual Conference at a time and place of its choosing, normally in conjunction with an Annual Meeting. The Conference will fulfill one or more of the purposes described above.

#### QUORUM

The quorum of the Board shall be one-half of its members. The quorum of the Association shall be those in attendance.

#### AMENDMENTS

This constitution and by-laws may be amended at any Annual Meeting by two-thirds of the voting members present, with notice prior to meeting.

Adopted 04/21/87	Amended 04/26/89	Amended 05/07/97	Amended 05/05/04
Amended 05/18/11	Amended 3/18/18	Amended 3/5/2023	Amended 3/3/2024

### **BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE** Report to the Synod of the South Atlantic *February* 23-24, 2023

### **Committee Members:**

Rev. Christina Greenawalt, Chair - Central Florida; Timothy Cureton - Providence; Don Mowat – Florida; Sonya Dawson – Foothills; Lois McGill – Peace River; Karen Wismer – Peace River

Corresponding Member: Jodi Dodge, Synod Treasurer - St. Augustine

Synod Staff: Valerie Young, Synod Executive/Stated Clerk

### The purpose of the Budget and Finance Committee (BFC):

To ensure that proper oversight is given to the finances of the Synod in regard to current and future budgets, as well as investments. This includes:

- Propose the budget to the Synod,
- Monitor expenditures during each fiscal year and recommend changes necessary during the year to EAC,
- Provide for the review of an annual audit,
- Serve as the investment committee of the Synod,
- Review annually the Synod's investment policy,
- Oversee the reserve funds of the Synod and the allocation of these funds,
- Oversee the volunteer Treasurer of the Synod.

### Work of the BFC since the November Called Meeting:

- 1. Year End Financials report provided by Treasurer Jodi Dodge
- 2. Accounting Transition and Process Jodi Dodge has updated the committee on the progress of the accounting transition and new processes along with the history of where the presbytery has been in the past.
- 3. Amended the 2024 Budget- upon the request of the EAC, the committee amended the 2024 budget to cover the increase personnel costs to the Synod Exec/Stated Clerk's compensation package. The Committee approved the following adjustments to the budget to reflect the changes:

<b>NEW Ministries</b>				
6220	Grants			
6230	Special Projects			
5125	FSA admin fee			

Previous 2024 Budget	Adjusted 2024 Budget
20,000.00	15,000.00
24,328.26	20,324.51
	46.80

### **For Your Information**

- 1. *Synod of South Atlantic* Audit review of 2023 Jodi gave a report to the BFC that the 2023 Financial Audit is complete and came back clean, with no concerns. (Attachment F)
- 2. Actions planned for a May meeting of the BFC committee:
- a. Investment performance review of portfolio (Vanguard)
- b. Investment strategy plan as we look to having a request for proposal.

- c. Begin a strategy of showing gratitude to the presbyteries for their continued support of the Synod, through the Chair and Exec sending thank you notes.
- 3. Actions planned for later in the year
  - a. Request for proposal
  - b. Budget preparation for 2025 including calculation of COLA
  - c. Consider the Synod mission and its need to adjust its revenue looking at the Per Capita Apportionment, Shared Mission and Investment portfolio
  - d. Initiate conversation about the review process for the Synod's investment portfolio management.

		2023 Budget	2023 Year End	2024 Budget 4% Draw	2024 Budget 4% Draw/Adjusted
	SYNOD DIRECT MINISTRIES				
	Racial Ethnic Ministries				
6110		15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
6120		15,000.00	14,744.08	15,000.00	15,000.00
6130	-	10,000.00	6,077.60	15,000.00	15,000.00
	Total Racial Ethnic	,	,	,	,
	Ministry	40,000.00	35,821.68	45,000.00	45,000.00
	Networking Ministries				
	NEW Ministries				
6220	Grants			20,000.00	15,000.00
6230	Special Projects			24,328.26	20,324.52
	Smaller Congregation				
6210	(ASC)	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
	Total Networking				-
	Ministries	5,000.00	5,000.00	49,328.26	40,324.51
	Other Synod Ministries				
6310	-	8,000.00	0.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
	Presbytery Leader		-		
6320	Community	4,500.00	6,664.55	8,000.00	8,000.00
6330	-	5,000.00	1,500.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
<b>C240</b>	Special Cathorings			F 000 00	F 000 0
6340	· · · · ·			5,000.00	5,000.00
	Total Other Synod Ministries	17 500 00	0.464.55	24,000,00	24.000.00
	winistries	17,500.00	8,164.55	24,000.00	24,000.00
	TOTAL SYNOD DIRECT				
	MINISTRIES	62,500.00	48,986.23	118,328.26	109,324.51

		2023 Budget	2023 Year End	2024 Budget 4% Draw	2024 Budget 4% Draw/Adjusted
	SYNOD COUNCIL				
	OPERATIONS				
	Synod Ecclesiastic				
5411	Synod Stated Meeting	26,000.00	15,976.12	2,500.00	2,500.00
5412	Committee Expenses	700.00	1,711.28	10,000.00	10,000.00
5414	Moderator's	1,000.00	172.42	1,500.00	1,500.00
	Total Ecclesiastic				
	Operation	27,700.00	17,859.82	14,000.00	14,000.00
	Office Operation				
5575	Website/Internet	2,000.00	3,678.13	6,000.00	6,000.00
5510	Rent	12,000.00	12,600.00	0.00	0.00
5525	Telephone	2,100.00	2,668.30	2,500.00	2,500.00
	Office				
5535	Supplies/Operations	5,000.00	4,298.40	6,000.00	6,000.00
5590	Support Contracts	3,600.00	9,766.89	2,200.00	2,200.00
5720	Accounting			13,000.00	13,000.00
5710	Contract Admin			20,000.00	20,000.00
5730	Total Tech			300.00	300.00
5740	Communications				
5580	Staff Travel	1,000.00	313.35	250.00	250.00
	Total Office Operations	25,700.00	33,325.07	50,250.00	50,250.00
	Insurance and Audit				
5610	Insurance	7,000.00	7,877.78	7,000.00	7,000.00
5611	Audit	6,700.00	6,700.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
	Total Insurance and Audit	13,700.00	14,577.78	15,000.00	15,000.00
	TOTAL SYNOD COUNCIL OPERATIONS	67,100.00	65,762.67	79,250.00	79,250.00

		2023 Budget	2023 Year End	2024 Budget 4% Draw	2024 Budget 4% Draw/Adjusted
	(PERSONNEL)				
	Synod Exec/Stated Clerk				
	Synod Exec/Stated Clerk				
5120	Salary	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	107,000.0
	Synod Exec/Stated Clerk				
5121	Housing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0
	Synod Exec/Stated Clerk				
5122	ВОР	39,000.00	29,749.42	23,000.00	22,950.0
	Synod Exec/Stated Clerk				
5123	Payroll Tax	7,650.00	9,541.23	8,109.00	9,216.
5124	403b Synod Contribution	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,900.0
5125	FSA admin fee				46.8
	Total Synod Exec/Stated				
	Clerk	152,650.00	145,290.65	137,109.00	146,112.8
	Synod Exec/SC				
	Professional Expenses				
5201	Synod Exec/SC Cont. Ed	2,500.00	1,282.76	2,500.00	2,500.
5202	Synod Exec/SC Travel	15,000.00	15,000.00	18,000.00	18,000.
	Synod Exec/SC Professional				
5203	Expense	2,000.00	783.59	2,000.00	2,000.
	Total Synod Exec/SC Prof				
	Expenses	19,500.00	17,066.35	22,500.00	22,500.
	SE/SC Search/Moving				
5250	Expense	20,000.00	24,722.07		

		-			
				2024 Budget 4%	2024 Budget 4%
		2023 Budget	2023 Year End	Draw	Draw/Adjusted
	Office Admin Expenses				
5311	Office Admin Salary	44,782.67	22,402.84		
5312	Office Admin Benefit	10,453.47	5,226.75		
5313	Office Admin Payroll Tax	3,425.87	1,713.85		
5314	Office Admin Cont. Ed	1,000.00	0.00		
	Total Office Admin	59,662.01	29,343.44		
	Bookkeeper				
5321	Bookkeeper Salary	18,311.96	20,366.17		
5322	Bookkeeper Payroll Tax	1,400.86	1,558.04		
	Total Bookkeeper	19,712.82	21,924.21		
	TOTAL PERSONNEL	271,524.83	238,346.72	159,609.00	168,612.8
	Synod Exec Discretionary				
	Fund				
	For Council Operation				
5451	Support	10,000.00	150.00		
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$411,124.83	\$353,245.62	357,187.26	357,187.3
	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN				
	REVENUE & EXPENSES	(115,617.95)	(46,197.80)	0.05	0.00
	TRANSFER FROM RESERVE				
	EARNINGS	40,000.00			
	NET SURPLUS/ (DEFICIT)	\$ (75,618)	(46,197.80)	0.05	0.00

### **Report of the Synod Visioning Task Force**

April 6, 2024

### For Action:

The Synod Visioning Task Force recommends that the Synod of South Atlantic approve the following journey statement and guiding values and direct the Synod Visioning Task Force to build its continuing work around this document.

### **Our Journey**

The Synod of South Atlantic, PC(U.S.A.) **embodies** the grace and love of Jesus Christ, **cultivates** authentic community within and across presbyteries, and **inspires** impactful ministry, developing leaders so that the Church becomes united in faith, hope, love, witness, and service.

### **Guiding Values**

**Grace:** We embody Jesus Christ's teachings by making grace the foundation of the Synod's work and interactions with others.

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God" - Ephesians 2:8-9

**Love:** We reflect Christ's love in our lives and work by listening deeply to one another and acting to build up the whole family of God.

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs" - 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Authenticity: We welcome the full selves of all who gather at our table, respecting one another and seeking to be open with each other, so that our relationships and interactions are sincere and true to the Christian faith.

"Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good" - Romans 12:9

**Transparency:** We seek to practice openness in the systems and structures of the Synod so that nothing need be hidden from one another.

"O God, you know my folly; the wrongs I have done are not hidden from you." - Psalm 69:5

**Unity:** We work to unite the presbyteries and their congregations in faith, hope, love, witness, and service, emphasizing the importance of togetherness and collective purpose within the Synod.

"Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace" - Ephesians 4:3

**Hope:** We welcome the Spirit's presence that keeps us moving forward in hope, becoming the community God intends.

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer" - Romans 12:12

**Faithfulness:** In our faithfulness, we reflect a commitment and devotion to seeing tomorrow today and seek to make that desired future real throughout the Synod. *"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see" - Hebrews 11:1* 

**Reforming:** As we are open to God's reforming work, we develop presbytery and congregational leaders who share their faith and disciple others, using the patterns of the past to help us discern where God is guiding the church for the future. "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age" - Matthew 28:19-20

### Rationale

The Synod Visioning Task Force was elected by the synod in November 2023. Our members include:

- Rev. Holly Dillon, General Presbyter of Tampa Bay Presbytery
- Rev. Jamil el-Shair, Synod Commissioner and Pastor of Altama Presbyterian Church, Savannah Presbytery
- Rev. Andy James, Stated Clerk of Greater Atlanta Presbytery (co-chair)
- Rev. Danny Murphy, General Presbyter of Trinity Presbytery
- Rev. Christina Greenwalt, Synod Commissioner and Stated Clerk of Central Florida Presbytery
- Elder Jacquelyn Rembert, Synod Commissioner from New Harmony Presbytery (cochair)

Synod Executive Valerie Young has very ably served as staff to the task force. Ruling Elder Karla Dias from the Synod Committee on Representation was also elected to serve with us but stepped down in February 2024.

The Task Force gathered for its first meeting in-person at Calvin Center in Hampton, Georgia, from January 14-16, 2024. Over the course of our time together, we shared stories and meals and engaged in deep conversation and discernment about the past, present, and future of the Synod of South Atlantic. We spent time with scripture and the Book of Order, particularly the charge of the synod as described at G-3.04, to listen for how God might be speaking into our process through these foundational documents. Our initial conversations were led by Rev. Daris Bultena, Executive Presbyter and Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of South Florida, who guided us through an imaginative process that created the basis of our work.

By the end of our first full day together, we discovered that the traditional ideas of a vision and mission statement were not the best fit for where we found ourselves as a task force or for where we believe that our Synod is at this moment in our life together. Our mission and vision became clearest when we understood them to be a part of our *journey* together. And so emerged the proposed journey statement that we present to you:

The Synod of South Atlantic, PC(U.S.A.) **embodies** the grace and love of Jesus Christ, **cultivates** authentic community within and across presbyteries, and **inspires** impactful ministry, developing leaders so that the Church becomes united in faith, hope, love, witness, and service.

This journey statement gives us three clear actions that guide all our work on our journey together as a synod. First, we are called to **embody** the grace and love of Jesus Christ by coming together from our various presbyteries and perspectives to live together in this way on our journey. We are also called to **cultivate** authentic community within and across presbyteries to build the kinds of relationships in our life together that allow health and wholeness to sprout up all across our synod. Finally, as a synod we are called to **inspire** impactful ministry, joining in what God is already doing and breathing new life into places that need a message of hope.

Since we cannot do this work on our own, these three actions are supported by the work of *developing leaders* across our synod to support the faithful ministry of our sixteen presbyteries and the hundreds of congregations within our bounds. All of this work builds toward a common goal so that the Church becomes united in faith, hope, love, witness, and service.

A journey of this sort needs not only a statement about what we are doing together but also some values to guide us along the way. The eight guiding values of grace, love, authenticity, transparency, unity, hope, faithfulness, and reforming are intended to guide the next steps of our task force and the full implementation of this journey so that we have some guidance for how we agree to work together. We believe that lifting up these values will help our task force and the whole Synod in the future to better discern the priorities for our life together.

From here, if the journey statement and guiding values are approved, the Synod Visioning Task Force will begin to develop a plan for the next steps on our journey. We will be meeting in-person later in April to continue imagining how we believe God is calling us to step out on this journey together. Over the course of the summer and early fall, we expect to open up space for conversation across the synod so that we can listen broadly and deeply with one another for how God is inviting us to shape the journey that is ahead. We are deeply grateful for your prayers as we continue on this journey together!

### A New Logo and Branding



As we embark on this new journey together, the Synod Visioning Task Force is excited to introduce a new logo for the synod that incorporates elements of our journey statement and values into a visual form.

- A *Celtic cross* stands at the forefront as a reminder of the grace and love of Jesus Christ and our historic connection to the Reformed tradition as it emerged in Scotland.
- Some may see a *bowl of water* sitting atop a *table* offering a visual representation of the sacraments that unite us with Christ and with one another.
- Some may see a *ship* that serves as the vessel for our journey, with the central circle of the Celtic cross serving as the ship's wheel that gives direction amidst the waves.
- The *blue-green color* throughout the logo reminds us of the waters of baptism but also the water that surrounds two sides of our synod and lends itself to our name.
- The *three waves* visible in the central half-circle figure suggest the three states that make up our synod, the three verbs of our journey statement, and the three persons of our Triune God.
- The logo offers flexibility in colors, layout, and caption to fit different circumstances.

### **Treasurer's Report**

### Report to the Stated Meeting of the Synod

### April 6, 2024

Presbyteries of the Synod of South Atlantic remitted \$200,963.53 in per capita for 2023. This represents 85% of the amount due. Mission giving totaled \$81,514.37 which represented 52% of the target. To compare these figures to 2022, per capita was at 89% and mission giving was at 50%.

Expenses for 2023 finished at a total of \$353,245.62 which exceeded contributions by \$46,197.80. At the end of 2022, we made a \$40,000 transfer from our reserve investment account to help offset this expected shortfall.

Please be sure to pass on our appreciation to each of your presbyteries and encourage our per capita goal of 100%.

Respectfully submitted in His service, Jodi Anderson Dodge Synod Treasurer

More detailed financial information can be found in the attached documents:

- January December 2023 Financial Statements
- Per Capita and Mission Giving 2023

Synod of South Atlantic Balance Sheet Consolidated - December 2023

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		Current Year	Previous Year
ASSETS	1000		
BANK ACCOUNTS	1050		
CHECKING ACCOUNTS	1100		
TIAA-Operating Account	1110	\$238,641.15	\$317,117.38
MANAGED FUNDS	1300		
GENERALLY MANAGED FUNDS	1305		
VG General (\$1M)	1311-116	1,657,984.66	1,424,739.31
VG Gainesville (\$1.8M)	1341-114	2,301,363.53	2,055,975.49
Subtotal Generally Managed Funds	1305	3,959,348.19	3,480,714.80
SPECIALLY MANAGED FUNDS	1350		
VG Hawkins (\$400k)	1361-104	474,513.22	424,889.83
VG Hemphill (\$200k)	1371-103	258,045.42	231,131.82
TIAA 0958 GA Presby Trans	1390	0.00	2,962.64
Subtotal Specially Managed Funds	1350	732,558.64	658,984.29
Subtotal Managed Funds	1300	4,691,906.83	4,139,699.09
OTHER ASSETS	1900		
Accounts Receivable	1920	0.00	1,477.01
		<u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u><u></u></u>	¢1 159 202 19
TOTAL ASSETS		\$4,930,547.98	\$4,458,293.48
	0000	\$4,930,547.98 	\$4,430,293.40 
LIABILITIES	2000	\$4,930,547.98 ====================================	\$4,436,293.46
LIABILITIES CURRENT LIABILITIES	2010	\$4,930,547.98 	\$ <del>4,430,233.40</del>
LIABILITIES CURRENT LIABILITIES OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES	2010 2400		
LIABILITIES CURRENT LIABILITIES OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES Insurance Liability	2010	-\$3,622.00	\$0.00
LIABILITIES CURRENT LIABILITIES OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES	2010 2400		
LIABILITIES CURRENT LIABILITIES OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES Insurance Liability	2010 2400	-\$3,622.00	\$0.00
LIABILITIES CURRENT LIABILITIES OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES Insurance Liability FOTAL LIABILITIES	2010 2400 2410	-\$3,622.00	\$0.00
LIABILITIES CURRENT LIABILITIES OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES Insurance Liability FOTAL LIABILITIES	2010 2400 2410 3000	-\$3,622.00	\$0.00 0.00
LIABILITIES CURRENT LIABILITIES OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES Insurance Liability FOTAL LIABILITIES FUND PRINCIPAL UNRESTRICTED	2010 2400 2410 3000 3100	-\$3,622.00 -3,622.00	\$0.00 0.00
LIABILITIES CURRENT LIABILITIES OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES Insurance Liability FOTAL LIABILITIES FUND PRINCIPAL UNRESTRICTED Unrestricted Fund Balance	2010 2400 2410 3000 3100 3110-116	-\$3,622.00 -3,622.00	\$0.00 0.00
LIABILITIES CURRENT LIABILITIES OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES Insurance Liability FOTAL LIABILITIES FUND PRINCIPAL UNRESTRICTED Unrestricted Fund Balance RESTRICTED FUNDS	2010 2400 2410 3000 3100 3110-116 3200	-\$3,622.00 -3,622.00	\$0.00 0.00 \$1,625,825.00
LIABILITIES CURRENT LIABILITIES OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES Insurance Liability TOTAL LIABILITIES FUND PRINCIPAL UNRESTRICTED Unrestricted Fund Balance RESTRICTED FUNDS TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	2010 2400 2410 3000 3100 3110-116 3200 3201	-\$3,622.00 -3,622.00 \$1,812,918.20	\$0.00 0.00 \$1,625,825.00 322.60
LIABILITIES CURRENT LIABILITIES OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES Insurance Liability TOTAL LIABILITIES FUND PRINCIPAL UNRESTRICTED Unrestricted Fund Balance RESTRICTED FUNDS TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED TIAA Peacemaking	2010 2400 2410 3000 3100 3110-116 3200 3201 3210-107	-\$3,622.00 -3,622.00 \$1,812,918.20 747.31	\$0.00 0.00 \$1,625,825.00 322.60 39,311.45
LIABILITIES CURRENT LIABILITIES OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES Insurance Liability TOTAL LIABILITIES FUND PRINCIPAL UNRESTRICTED Unrestricted Fund Balance RESTRICTED FUNDS TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED TIAA Peacemaking TIAA Capital Fund	2010 2400 2410 3000 3100 3110-116 3200 3201 3210-107 3220-108	-\$3,622.00 -3,622.00 \$1,812,918.20 747.31 0.00	\$0.00 0.00 \$1,625,825.00 322.60 39,311.45 3,461.19
LIABILITIES CURRENT LIABILITIES OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES Insurance Liability TOTAL LIABILITIES FUND PRINCIPAL UNRESTRICTED Unrestricted Fund Balance RESTRICTED FUNDS TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED TIAA Peacemaking TIAA Capital Fund TIAA Westcott,NMPF,Others	2010 2400 2410 3000 3100 3110-116 3200 3201 3210-107 3220-108 3230-109	-\$3,622.00 -3,622.00 \$1,812,918.20 747.31 0.00 2,139.23	\$0.00 0.00 \$1,625,825.00 39,311.45 3,461.19 2,962.64
LIABILITIES CURRENT LIABILITIES OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES Insurance Liability TOTAL LIABILITIES FUND PRINCIPAL UNRESTRICTED Unrestricted Fund Balance RESTRICTED FUNDS TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED TIAA Peacemaking TIAA Capital Fund TIAA Westcott,NMPF,Others TIAA Trans'l/Interest	2010 2400 2410 3000 3100 3110-116 3200 3201 3210-107 3220-108 3230-109 3250-111	-\$3,622.00 -3,622.00 \$1,812,918.20 747.31 0.00 2,139.23 0.00	\$0.00
LIABILITIES CURRENT LIABILITIES OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES Insurance Liability TOTAL LIABILITIES FUND PRINCIPAL UNRESTRICTED Unrestricted Fund Balance RESTRICTED FUNDS TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED TIAA Peacemaking TIAA Capital Fund TIAA Capital Fund TIAA Westcott,NMPF,Others TIAA Trans'l/Interest TIAA Urie Schol (2.5k)	2010 2400 2410 3000 3100 3110-116 3200 3201 3210-107 3220-108 3230-109 3250-111 3260-112	-\$3,622.00 -3,622.00 \$1,812,918.20 747.31 0.00 2,139.23 0.00 3,207.51	\$0.00 0.00 \$1,625,825.00 39,311.45 3,461.19 2,962.64 3,207.51

PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED

3300

Synod of South Atlantic					
Balance Sheet					
Consolidated - December 2023					

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		Current Year	Previous Year
PF Ogden Scholarship	3310-101	2,645.02	2,259.07
PF Uderitz Memorial Sch	3320-102	11,377.46	9,417.72
VG Hemphill/Grants	3330-103	258,045.42	231,131.82
VG Hawkins Long Term	3340-104	474,513.22	424,889.83
PF Simpson Fund	3350-105	6,756.26	5,893.34
TRUIST Spencer Memorial	3360-106	35,826.00	29,005.00
Subtotal Permanently Restricted	3300	789,163.38	702,596.78
Subtotal Restricted Funds	3200	3,121,251.78	2,832,468.48
TOTAL EQUITY		4,934,169.98	4,458,293.48
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	-	\$4,930,547.98	\$4,458,293.48

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#### Synod of South Atlantic Income and Expense Statement GENERAL FUND, December 2023

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		Current Period	Year to Date	Year to Date Budget	YTD Budget Difference	YTD Prior Yea
INCOME	4000					
CONTRIBUTION INCOME	4010					
UNRESTRICTED	4020					
Per Capita	4030-401	\$38,544.36	\$188,306.20	\$200,082.00	-\$11,775.80	\$192,414.75
Prior Year Per Capita	4035-401	0.00	25,922.46	19,500.00	6,422.46	14,269.02
Mission Giving	4040-402	13,080.28	79,108.72	75,325.00	3,783.72	74,871.6
Prior Year Mission Giving	4045-402	0.00	8,275.52	0.00	8,275.52	5,195.55
Other Income	4060	0.00	175.00	0.00	175.00	0.00
Subtotal Unrestricted	4020	51,624.64	301,787.90	294,907.00	6,880.90	286,750.92
Subtotal Contribution Income	4010	51,624.64	301,787.90	294,907.00	6,880.90	286,750.92
INTEREST INCOME	4500					
Bank Interest	4510	397.20	5,259.92	600.00	4,659.92	1,174.53
TOTAL INCOME		52,021.84	307,047.82	295,507.00	11,540.82	287,925.45
EXPENSES	5000					
PERSONNEL	5010					
SE/SC SALARY & BENEFITS	5100					
SE/SC	5110					
SE/SC Salary	5120	\$8,333.34	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$47,664.24
SE/SC Housing	5121	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	27,463.50
SE/SC BOP	5122	968.03	29,749.42	41,340.00	11,590.58	28,967.85
SE/SC Payroll Tax	5122	637.50	9,541.23	8,109.00	-1,432.23	5,747.22
SE/SC Retirement Benefit	5123	500.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Se/sc	5110	10,438.87	145,290.65	155,449.00	10,158.35	109,842.81
SE/SC EXPENSE REIMBURSE	5200					
SE/SC Continuing ED	5201	0.00	1,282.76	2,500.00	1,217.24	918.43
SE/SC Travel	5202	1,595.30	15,783.59	17,000.00	1,216.41	8,533.52
Subtotal Se/sc Expense Reimburse	5200	1,595.30	17,066.35	19,500.00	2,433.65	9,451.95
SE/SC Search/Moving EXP	5250	0.00	24,722.07	20,000.00	-4,722.07	4,085.19
Subtotal Se/sc Salary & Benefits	5100	12,034.17	187,079.07	194,949.00	7,869.93	123,379.95
SUPPORT STAFF	5300					
OFFICE ADMIN	5310					
Admin Salary	5311	0.00	22,402.84	44,782.67	22,379.83	42,650.16
Admin Benefits	5312	0.00	5,226.75	10,453.47	5,226.72	10,453.56
Admin Payroll Tax	5313	0.00	1,713.85	3,425.87	1,712.02	3,262.80
Admin Continuing ED	5314	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Subtotal Office Admin	5310	0.00	29,343.44	59,662.01	30,318.57	57,366.52
BOOKKEEPER	5320					
Bkkpr Salary	5321	4,343.18	20,366.17	18,311.96	-2,054.21	15,986.64
Bkkpr Payroll Taxes	5322	332.25	1,558.04	1,400.86	-157.18	1,222.99
Subtotal Bookkeeper	5320	4,675.43	21,924.21	19,712.82	-2,211.39	17,209.63
Subtotal Support Staff	5300	4,675.43	51,267.65	79,374.83	28,107.18	74,576.15
Subtotal Personnel	5010	16,709.60	238,346.72	274,323.83	35,977.11	197,956.10
	5400					

SYNOD OPERATIONS

5400

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#### Synod of South Atlantic Income and Expense Statement GENERAL FUND, December 2023

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		Current Period	Year to Date	Year to Date Budget	YTD Budget Difference	YTD Prior Year
SYNOD ECCLESIASTIC	5410					
Stated Meeting	5411	0.00	15,976.12	26,000.00	10,023.88	9,473.79
Committee Expenses	5412	1,201.80	1,711.28	700.00	-1,011.28	0.00
Moderator's Training	5414	0.00	172.42	1,000.00	827.58	0.00
Subtotal Synod Ecclesiastic	5410	1,201.80	17,859.82	27,700.00	9,840.18	9,473.79
SE DSCTNRY COUNCIL OPS	5450					
SE Discretionary	5451	0.00	150.00	10,000.00	9,850.00	9,850.06
Subtotal Se Dsctnry Council Ops	5450	0.00	150.00	10,000.00	9,850.00	9,850.06
OFFICE OPERATIONS	5500					
Rent	5510	1,050.00	12,600.00	12,000.00	-600.00	12,000.00
Phones	5525	413.30	2,668.30	2,100.00	-568.30	1,851.01
Office Supplies/Postage	5535	1,798.97	4,298.40	5,000.00	701.60	2,500.94
Website	5575	3.75	3,678.13	2,000.00	-1,678.13	449.00
Staff Travel	5580	0.00	313.35	1,000.00	686.65	881.75
Support Contracts	5590	1,851.00	9,766.89	3,600.00	-6,166.89	3,180.84
Subtotal Office Operations	5500	5,117.02	33,325.07	25,700.00	-7,625.07	20,863.54
INSURANCE & AUDIT	5600					
Insurance	5610	2,675.00	7,877.78	7,000.00	-877.78	7,147.00
Audit	5611	0.00	6,700.00	6,700.00	0.00	6,500.00
Subtotal Insurance & Audit	5600	2,675.00	14,577.78	13,700.00	-877.78	13,647.00
Subtotal Synod Operations	5400	8,993.82	65,912.67	77,100.00	11,187.33	53,834.39
DIRECT MINISTRIES	6000					
RACIAL ETHNIC MINISTRIES	6100					
Korean American Ministry	6110	0.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00
African American Ministry	6120	0.00	14,744.08	15,000.00	255.92	13,112.52
HispanicAmerican Ministry	6130	0.00	6,077.60	10,000.00	3,922.40	5,000.00
Subtotal Racial Ethnic Ministries	6100	0.00	35,821.68	40,000.00	4,178.32	33,112.52
NETWORKING MINISTRIES	6200					
Smaller Cong (ASC)	6210	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
OTHER MINISTRIES	6300					
Pby Leader Formation	6310	0.00	0.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	6,475.00
Synod Pby Leaders Forum	6320	0.00	6,664.55	4,500.00	-2,164.55	2,793.50
PJC Training	6330	0.00	1,500.00	5,000.00	3,500.00	0.00
Subtotal Other Ministries	6300	0.00	8,164.55	17,500.00	9,335.45	9,268.50
Subtotal Direct Ministries	6000	0.00	48,986.23	62,500.00	13,513.77	47,381.02
TOTAL EXPENSES		25,703.42	353,245.62	413,923.83	60,678.21	299,171.51
EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES		\$26,318.42	-\$46,197.80	-\$118,416.83	\$72,219.03	-\$11,246.06

#### Synod of South Atlantic Detail Changes in Equity, December 2023

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Reference	Journal Date	Account	Description		Debit	Credit
01-3210-107	TIAA Peacemaking			Beginning Balance		1,260.50
CONTRIB.	CO 12/06/2023	01-3210-107	Contributions 12/06/2023 - Peac	emaking		233.65
3116	AP 12/13/2023	01-3210-107	AMIS INTERNATIONAL		1,000.00	
CONTRIB.	CO 12/31/2023	01-3210-107	Contributions 12/31/2023 - Peac	0		253.16
				Subtotal	1,000.00	486.81
			TIAA Peacemaking	Current Balance		747.31
1-3215-116	TIAA PDA			Current Balance		0.00
1-3220-108	TIAA Capital Fund			Beginning Balance		45.65
RELEASE RES	TRICTIO JE 12/31/2023	01-3220-108	Release restricted amount		45.65	
				Subtotal	45.65	
			TIAA Capital Fund	Current Balance		0.00
)1-3230-109	TIAA Westcott,NMPF,Others			Current Balance		2,139.23
01-3250-111	TIAA Trans'l/Interest			Current Balance		0.00
01-3260-112	TIAA Urie Schol (2.5k)			Current Balance		3,207.51
01-3270-113	TIAA Synod Exec Sch (25k)			Current Balance		24,630.82
1-3280-114	VG Gville Campus (1.8M)			Beginning Balance		2,201,176.75
/G FUND BAL-	GAIN JE 12/31/2023	01-3280-114	VG FUND DEC 2023 - Update G	ville Fund Bal		100,186.78
				Subtotal		100,186.78
			VG Gville Campus (1.8M)	Current Balance		2,301,363.53
1-3290-115	TIAA Hawkins Short Term			Current Balance		0.00
1-3310-101	PF Ogden Scholarship			Current Balance		2,645.02
1-3320-102	PF Uderitz Memorial Sch			Current Balance		11,377.46
1-3321-102	PF Uderitz-FL Church			Beginning Balance		1,997.89
119	AP 12/13/2023	01-3321-102	Florida Presbytery		998.94	
119	AP 12/13/2023	01-3321-102	Florida Presbytery		998.95	
119-VOID	AP 12/13/2023	01-3321-102	Florida Presbytery			998.94
119-VOID	AP 12/13/2023	01-3321-102	Florida Presbytery			998.95
3121	AP 12/13/2023	01-3321-102	First Presbyterian Church		998.95	
3122	AP 12/13/2023	01-3321-102	First Presbyterian Church		998.94	
				Subtotal	3,995.78	1,997.89
			PF Uderitz-FL Church	Current Balance		0.00
1-3330-103	VG Hemphill/Grants			Beginning Balance		246,811.75
/G FUND BAL-	GAIN JE 12/31/2023	01-3330-103	VG FUND DEC 2023 - Update H	emphill Fund Bal		11,233.67
				Subtotal		11,233.67
			VG Hemphill/Grants	Current Balance		258,045.42
1-3340-104	VG Hawkins Long Term			Beginning Balance		453,855.90
/G FUND BAL-	GAIN JE 12/31/2023	01-3340-104	VG FUND DEC 2023 - Update H	awkins Fund Bal		20,657.32
				Subtotal		20,657.32
			VG Hawkins Long Term	Current Balance		474,513.22
1-3350-105	PF Simpson Fund			Current Balance		6,756.26
1-3360-106	TRUIST Spencer Memorial			Beginning Balance		37,826.00
117	AP 12/13/2023	01-3360-106	Central Florida Presbyter		1,000.00	
118	AP 12/13/2023	01-3360-106	Foothills Prebytery		1,000.00	
				Subtotal	2,000.00	
			TRUIST Spencer Memorial	Current Balance		35,826.00

# PRESBYTERY PER CAPITA & MISSION GIVING FOR YEAR 2023 WITH PRIOR YEAR PC & MG TILL MAR' 2024

	Per Capita	Mission Giving	Prior Yr. Per Capita	Prior Yr. Mission Giving	Total	Per Capita Yearly Goal	YTD %	Mission Giving Yearly Goal	YTD %
110 - Central Florida	10,174.91	1,431.88	10,382.59	1,304.65	23,294.03	20,557.50	100%	13,705.00	20%
125 - Charleston Atlantic	19,000.00	5,000.00			24,000.00	22,188.00	86%	14,792.00	34%
128 - Cherokee	8,645.60	1,000.00			9,645.60	5,769.00	150%	3,846.00	26%
218 - Flint River	3,939.20	2,626.14	227.06	151.37	6,943.77	4,420.50	94%	2,947.00	94%
221 - Florida	6,623.00	4,415.00			11,038.00	6,622.50	100%	4,415.00	100%
223 - Foothills	19,410.00	6,470.00			25,880.00	19,410.00	100%	12,940.00	50%
254 - Greater Atlanta	28,856.99	7,500.00			36,356.99	45,366.00	64%	30,244.00	25%
442 - New Harmony	10,033.50	6,689.00			16,722.50	10,033.50	100%	6,689.00	100%
472 - Northeast Georgia	8,588.25	2,750.00			11,338.25	9,369.00	92%	6,246.00	44%
528 - Peace River	14,256.00	9,632.36			23,888.36	18,796.50	76%	12,531.00	77%
554 - Providence	6,700.05	4,635.37	832.95	949.63	13,118.00	8,377.50	90%	5,585.00	100%
579 - St. Augustine	15,792.00	10,500.00			26,292.00	15,739.50	100%	10,493.00	100%
624 - Savannah	5,431.56	3,600.00			9,031.56	5,431.50	100%	3,621.00	99%
704 - Tampa Bay	13,515.37				13,515.37	17,292.00	78%	11,528.00	0%
713 - Trinity	8,744.77	11,793.00	1,214.73		21,752.50	17,422.50	57%	11,615.00	102%
714 - Tropical Florida	8,595.00	1,065.97			9,660.97	8,595.00	100%	5,730.00	19%
TOTAL	188,306.20	79,108.72	12,657.33	2,405.65	282,477.90	235,390.50	85%	156,927.00	52%

### SYNOD OF SOUTH ATLANTIC

### **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

### December 31, 2023 and 2022

with

### **REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS**

### SYNOD OF SOUTH ATLANTIC

### December 31, 2023

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Synod of South Atlantic Council Synod of South Atlantic

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

### **Qualified Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Synod of South Atlantic (a nonprofit organization), which comprises the statements of financial position — modified cash basis as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related statements of activities and changes in net assets — modified cash basis and statements of cash flows — modified cash basis for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, except for the effects on the financial statements of not recording and depreciating fixed assets as described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the assets, liabilities, and net assets of Synod of South Atlantic as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and its activities and cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting as described in Note 1.

### **Basis for Qualified Opinion**

As explained in Note 1 to the financial statements, the Synod utilizes the modified cash basis of accounting to recognize receipts and expenditures for each year of operations reported. Typically, under this accounting framework, large purchases of resources that are utilized over more than one operating cycle are recorded as property and equipment on the statements of financial position. The Synod has a list of such purchases but does not record property and equipment in this fashion on the statement of financial position. The effects on the accompanying financial statements have not been determined.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Synod and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

Synod of South Atlantic Independent Auditors' Report

### **Emphasis of Matter (Basis of Accounting)**

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

### **Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting as described in Note 1; this includes determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Synod's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

### Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements, including omissions, are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.



- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Synod's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Synod's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

Newsom and Associates, P.A.

February 27, 2024



### SYNOD OF SOUTH ATLANTIC STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION -MODIFIED CASH BASIS OF ACCOUNTING December 31, 2023 and 2022

### ASSETS

	<u>2023</u>		<u>2022</u>
Current assets :			
Cash	\$	175,942 \$	266,514
Other receivables		3,622	1,477
Total current assets		179,564	267,991
Cash restricted for long term purposes		62,699	53,566
Investments		4,691,907	4,136,736
	\$	4,934,170 \$	4,458,293

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Other current liabilities	\$ -	\$ -
Net assets:		
Unrestricted net assets	4,145,007	3,755,696
Restricted net assets	 789,163	702,597
Total net assets	 4,934,170	4,458,293
	\$ 4,934,170	\$ 4,458,293

See accompanying notes.



#### SYNOD OF SOUTH ATLANTIC STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS -MODIFIED CASH BASIS OF ACCOUNTING For the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

	Without Donor Restrictions	2023 With Donor Restrictions	Total	Without Donor Restrictions	2022 With Donor Restrictions	Total
Contributions: Presbytery & congregation Investment income	\$ 214,228 169,777	\$ 87,384 29,230	\$ 301,612 199,007	\$ 206,059 64,782	\$ 80,692 17,098	\$
Realized and unrealized gains and (loss) on investments Other income Released from restriction	400,775 11,682 109,484	79,436 - (109,484)	480,211 11,682	(800,034) 17,363 113,879	(149,839) 32,005 (113,879)	(949,873) 49,368 -
Total contributions	905,946	86,566	992,512	(397,951)	(133,923)	(531,874)
Expenditures: Racial ethnic ministries	25 022		25.022	22 112		22 112
Networking ministry	35,822 13,165	-	35,822 13,165	33,113 14,269	-	33,113 14,269
Ecclesiastic operations	33,793	-	33,793	27,857	-	27,857
Scholarships, grants, and other	163,390	_	163,390	123,942	_	123,942
Office operations	33,325	_	33,325	24,949	_	24,949
Insurance and audit	14,578	-	14,578	13,647	-	13,647
Salaries and benefits	222,562		222,562	185,336	<u> </u>	185,336
Total expenditures	516,635		516,635	423,113		423,113
Changes in net assets	389,311	86,566	475,877	(821,064)	(133,923)	(954,987)
Beginning net assets	3,755,696	702,597	4,458,293	4,576,760	836,520	5,413,280
Ending net assets	\$ 4,145,007	\$789,163	\$ 4,934,170	\$3,755,696	\$702,597	\$4,458,293_

See accompanying notes.



## SYNOD OF SOUTH ATLANTIC STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS -MODIFIED CASH BASIS OF ACCOUNTING For the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Cash provided by (used in)		
operating activities:		
Mission contributions	\$ 301,612	\$ 286,751
Outside contributions	11,682	49,368
Other investment income	5,260	6,273
Program & support expenditures	 (518,780)	 (430,091)
Net cash used in		
operating activities	(200,226)	(87,699)
Cash provided by (used in) investing activities:		
Sale of investments	118,787	211,870
Purchases of investment	 -	 (64,857)
Net cash provided by (used in)		
investing activities	 118,787	 147,013
Net increase (decrease) in cash		
and cash equivalents	(81,439)	59,314
Beginning cash and cash equivalents	 320,080	 260,766
Ending cash and cash equivalents	\$ 238,641	\$ 320,080

#### RECONCILIATION OF TOTAL CASH TO UNRESTRICTED AND RESTRICTED CASH

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Operating cash (unrestricted) Cash restricted for long term purposes	\$ 175,942 62,699	\$ 266,514 53,566
Total cash	\$ 238,641	\$ 320,080

See accompanying notes.



## SYNOD OF SOUTH ATLANTIC STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS -MODIFIED CASH BASIS OF ACCOUNTING For the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 (Continued)

## ADJUSTMENTS TO RECONCILE CHANGES IN NET ASSETS TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Changes in net assets	\$ 475,877	\$ (954,987)
Adjustments to reconcile changes in net assets to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
(Gain) loss on value of investments Reinvested investment income Change in other assets Change in other liabilities	 (508,300) (165,658) (2,145) -	 949,873 (75,608) (1,477) (5,500)
Net cash used in operating activities	\$ (200,226)	\$ (87,699)

See accompanying notes.



## SYNOD OF SOUTH ATLANTIC NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2023

## 1. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u>

<u>Organization and Purpose</u> - The Synod of South Atlantic, (Synod), is an administrative branch of the Presbyterian Church (USA), and is incorporated under the laws of Florida.

The Synod's mission is to faithfully serve Jesus Christ and the Presbyterian Church (USA) by supporting the ministries of our 16 Presbyteries and encouraging cooperation among Sessions, Presbyteries, and the General Assembly.

<u>Basis of Accounting</u> - The Synod uses the modified cash basis of accounting for recording receipts and expenditures. Under this method of accounting, revenues and the related assets are recognized when received, rather than when earned, and expenses are recognized when paid, rather than when the obligation is incurred. The Synod also includes in its cash receipts, amounts received from Presbyteries up to approximately 15 days after year end so that the Presbyteries receive credit for such amounts in the current year.

<u>Revenue Recognition for Contributions</u> - Contributions received are recorded as unrestricted or restricted, depending on the existence or nature of any donor restrictions. All donor-restricted support is reported as an increase in restricted net assets. When a restriction expires (that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished), restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported in the statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions.

<u>Investments</u> - Investments are recorded at market value based on prices found on an open exchange. Any income, appreciation or depreciation of investments are recorded as a change in net assets.

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

<u>Cash and Cash Equivalents</u> - Cash and cash equivalents include all monies in banks and highly liquid investments with maturity dates of less than three months. The carrying value of cash and cash equivalents approximates fair value because of the short maturities of those financial instruments.



## 1. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)</u>

<u>Functional Allocation of Expenses</u> – The costs of providing the various activities have been summarized on a natural classification basis in the statement of activities. Due to the nature of the Synod's purpose, an allocation of expenses by functional expense would be impractical and is not presented.

<u>Property and Equipment</u> - The Synod records all expenditures for property and equipment as expenses when paid and maintains limited records on property and equipment. Depreciation expense is not computed.

<u>Income Taxes</u> - The Synod is exempt from Federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as currently amended. Management has evaluated the Synod's tax positions and concluded that the Synod had no uncertain tax positions that require adjustments to the financial statements. The Synod is not required to file income tax returns with the Internal Revenue Service.

## 2. <u>Concentration of Credit Risk and Revenue</u>

The Synod has resources invested in financial instruments that are subject to market fluctuations. See Footnote 5 for details on these investments. Dividends and earnings, net of fees, are reported as "Investment Income" on the Statements of Activities. Realized and unrealized gains and losses on the investments are reported as "Realized and Unrealized Gains and Losses on Investment" on the Statements of Activities.

Income from the Synod's investments that have donor-imposed restrictions are recorded as in increase or decrease to restricted net assets. As these donor-imposed restrictions are satisfied, the Synod records the release from those restrictions.

The Synod derives most of its revenues from contributions of its Presbyteries. Per Capita contributions are based on the Presbytery churches' congregation size at a defined rate. Mission Giving contributions are volunteered contributions from the Presbyteries. The total revenue from these funding sources is presented as "Presbytery and Congregational" contributions on the Statements of Activities.



### 3. <u>Donor Restrictions on Net Assets</u>

Donor restricted net assets are available for the following purposes as of December 31, 2023 and 2022:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Income only funds:		
Simpson Fund	\$ 6,756	\$    5,893
Ogden Fund	2,645	2,259
Uderitz Fund	11,377	9,418
Spencer Fund	35,826	29,005
Hawkins gifts	474,514	424,890
Hemphill grants	<u>258,045</u>	<u>231,132</u>
	\$ <u>789,163</u>	\$ <u>702,597</u>

## 4. Designations of Unrestricted Net Assets

The Synod has designated unrestricted net assets for the following purposes:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Gainesville Campus Ministry	\$2,301,364	\$2,055,975
Georgia Presbyteries Transitional		
Study Fund	-	2,963
Synod executive scholarship	24,631	24,631
Executive auto appropriations	-	39,311
Urie Scholarship	3,208	3,208
	\$ <u>2,329,203</u>	\$ <u>2,126,088</u>



#### 5. <u>Investments</u>

The Synod estimates the fair value of all financial instruments at the end of each fiscal year end (December 31<sup>st</sup>). The estimated fair value amounts have been determined by the Synod using available market information and appropriate valuation methodologies. Considerable judgment is necessarily required in interpreting market data to develop the estimates of fair value, and accordingly, the estimates are not necessarily indicative of the amounts that the Synod could realize in a current market exchange.

The Synod measures fair value on a recurring basis for certain financial instruments. The following tabulation summarizes such measurements.

- Level 1: Observable inputs that reflect quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets.
- Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3: Unobservable inputs.

Long-term investments (not held for trading) are stated at fair value and consist of equity investments maintained by Vanguard that are readily tradable on an open exchange. The Synod estimates the fair market value of the investments at the readily tradable price of each investment as of the Synods reporting year end (Level 1 Input).

The Synod's investment policy is to allocate investment portfolio consisting of 60% stock funds, 40% bond funds, 0% cash for each funding source. At December 31, 2023, the Synod's investment mix approximately consisted of 60% stock funds, 40% bond funds, 0% cash for each funding source. At December 31, 2022, the Synod's investment mix approximately consisted of 71% stock funds, 29% bond funds, 0% cash for each funding source, which complied with the Synod's investment policy in 2022.



## 5. <u>Investments (continued)</u>

Fair values and unrealized appreciation (depreciation) at December 31, 2023 and 2022, are presented by funding source and summarized as follows:

	December 31, 2023		
			Unrealized
			Apprec.
	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Market</u>	(Deprec.)
Hemphill funds	\$ 251,239	\$  258,045	\$ 6,806
Hawkins	461,997	474,513	12,516
Gainesville funds	2,240,664	2,301,364	60,700
Synod General Fund	<u>1,614,254</u>	<u>1,657,985</u>	43,731
Total investments	\$ <u>4,568,154</u>	\$ <u>4,691,907</u>	\$ <u>123,753</u>

	December 31, 2022		
			Unrealized
			Apprec.
	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Market</u>	(Deprec.)
Hemphill funds	\$ 234,803	\$ 231,132	\$ (3,671)
Hawkins	427,454	424,890	(2 <i>,</i> 564)
Gainesville funds	2,050,365	2,055,975	5,610
Synod General Fund	<u>1,432,369</u>	<u>1,424,739</u>	<u>(7,630</u> )
Total investments	\$ <u>4,144,991</u>	\$ <u>4,136,736</u>	\$ <u>(8,255</u> )



## 6. <u>Commitments and Contingencies</u>

The Synod rents office space from the Presbytery of St. Augustine lease for a period of twelve months at \$1,100 per month for the use of space and telecommunications. As of December 31, 2023, the Synod no longer occupies the space and has adopted an agile model of office operations.

Total rent expense for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 was approximately \$12,600 and \$12,000, respectively.

## 7. <u>Subsequent events</u>

In preparing these financial statements, the Synod has evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure through February 27, 2024, the date the financial statements were available to be used. The Synod did not discover any event occurring after year end that warranted such disclosure.

## 8. <u>Retirement Plan Contributions</u>

All full-time Synod employees are covered under a qualified pension plan/403(b) administered by the Presbyterian Church (USA). Contributions to those plans by the Synod was approximately \$21,000 for both years ending December 31, 2023 and 2022.

## 9. <u>Concentration of Credit Risk from Uninsured Balances of Cash</u>

The Synod maintains cash balances which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) up to \$250,000. At December 31, 2023, the Synod had no uninsured cash balances and at December 31, 2022, the Synod had an uninsured cash balance of \$70,080.



## 10. <u>Summary of Scholarships and Other Expenses</u>

Below is a detailed breakdown of grants and gifts for 2023 and 2022.

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Gainesville Campus Ministry	\$ 89,867	\$ 87,332
Scholarships	3,000	3,000
Hawkins grants	18,747	17,996
Hemphill grants	10,173	10,252
Vehicle	39,311	-
Other	2,292	<u> </u>
	\$ <u>163,390</u>	\$ <u>123,942</u>

## 11. Management of Liquid Assets

The Synod maintains and oversees various liquid assets that have been designated for specific purposes and are not available for general expenses. Below is a reconciliation of liquid assets available for general expenses to total Synod assets as of December 31, 2023:

	<u>Available</u>	<u>Unavailable</u>	<u>Total</u>
Cash	\$ 175,942	\$ 62,699	\$ 238,641
Investments	<u>1,657,985</u>	<u>3,033,922</u>	<u>4,691,907</u>
Total	\$ <u>1,833,927</u>	\$ <u>3,096,621</u>	\$ <u>4,930,548</u>



## 12. Management Evaluation of Going Concern

The Synod's management has evaluated whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Synod's ability to continue as a going concern entity one year after the issued date of these reports.

As of February 27, 2024, the issued date of these reports, management has not identified any conditions or events that raise substantial doubt about the Synod's ability to continue as a going concern entity.



## Synod of South Atlantic Balance Sheet as of 01/31/2024

	as 01 01/31/2024		
Account Number	Account Name	Current Year	Previous Year
<u>Assets</u>			
1110	EB-Operating Account	\$234,142.02	\$272,752.97
1311.116	VG General (\$1M)	\$1,655,806.68	\$1,513,097.11
1341.114	VG Gainesville (\$1.8M)	\$2,298,340.39	\$2,139,023.68
1361.104	VG Hawkins (\$400k)	\$473,889.89	\$451,395.17
1371.103	VG Hemphill (\$200k)	\$257,706.44	\$245,528.41
1390	TIAA GA Presby Trans	\$0.00	\$2,965.22
	Total Accounts	\$4,919,885.42	\$4,624,762.56
1900	OTHER ASSETS		
1920	Accounts Receivable	\$0.00	\$1,477.01
	Total 1900 – OTHER ASSETS	\$0.00	\$1,477.01
Total Assets	-	\$4,919,885.42	\$4,626,239.57
Liabilities	-		
2250	OTHER DEDUCTIONS		
2285	Benefits/Ins & Ret	\$0.00	\$2,616.49
2290	FSA	\$100.00	\$0.00
	Total 2250 - OTHER DEDUCTIONS	\$100.00	\$2,616.49
2411	TIAA Visa –	\$10,923.43	\$0.00
Total Liabilities	-	\$11,023.43	\$2,616.49
Equity			
3110.116	Unrestricted Fund Balance - Fund Balance	\$1,788,858.56	\$1,704,689.08
3210.107	TIAA Peacemaking - Fund Balance	\$747.31	\$669.75
3220.108	TIAA Capital Fund	\$0.00	\$45.65
3230.109	TIAA Westcott, NMPF, Others - Fund Balance	\$2,139.23	\$3,461.19
3250.111	TIAA Trans'l/Interest	\$0.00	\$2,965.22
3260.112	TIAA Urie Schol (2.5k) - Fund Balance	\$3,207.51	\$3,207.51
3270.113	TIAA Synod Exec Sch (25k) - Fund Balance	\$24,630.82	\$24,630.82
3280.114	VG Gville Campus (1.8M) - Fund Balance	\$2,298,340.39	\$2,139,023.68
3310.101	PF Ogden Scholarship - Fund Balance	\$2,742.47	\$2,352.80
3320.102	PF Uderitz Memorial Sch - Fund Balance	\$12,570.58	\$10,545.89
3321.102	PF Uderitz - FL Church - Fund Balance	\$1,228.64	\$0.00
3330.103	VG Hemphill / Grants - Fund Balance	\$257,706.44	\$245,528.41
3340.104	VG Hawkins Long Term - Fund Balance	\$473,889.89	\$451,395.17
3350.105	PF Simpson Fund - Fund Balance	\$6,974.15	\$6,102.91
3360.106	TRUIST Spencer Memorial - Fund Balance	\$35,826.00	\$29,005.00
Total Equity		\$4,908,861.99	\$4,623,623.08
Total Liabilities + To		\$4,919,885.42	\$4,626,239.57
	—		

## Synod of South Atlantic Income Statement for the period of 01/01/2024 to 01/31/2024

	for the period of 01/01/2024			
Account Numbe	er Account Name	Current Year	Previous Year	Annual Budget
<u>Income</u>				
4020	UNRESTRICTED			
4030.401	Per Capita	\$554.00	\$0.00	\$191,868.00
4035.401	Prior Year Per Capita	\$15,590.02	\$24,606.93	\$20,000.00
4045.402	Prior Year Mission Giving	\$2,405.65	\$7,133.15	\$78,000.00
	Total 4020 - UNRESTRICTED	\$18,549.67	\$31,740.08	\$289,868.00
4300	PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED			
4310.101	PF Ogden Scholarship	\$97.45	N/A	N/A
4320.102	PF Uderitz Memorial - Scholarship	\$1,193.12	N/A	N/A
4330.102	PF Uderitz Memorial - FL Church	\$1,228.64	N/A	N/A
4350.105	PF Simpson Fund	\$217.89	N/A	N/A
	Total 4300 - PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED	\$2,737.10	N/A	N/A
4510	Bank Interest	\$421.45	\$412.70	\$4,500.00
Total Income		\$21,708.22	\$32,152.78	\$294,368.00
<u>Expense</u>	-			
6100	RACIAL ETHNIC MINISTRIES			
6110	Korean American Ministry	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00
6120	African American Ministry	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00
6130	Hispanic American Ministry	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00
0100	Total 6100 – RACIAL ETHNIC MINISTRIES	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$45,000.00
6200	NETWORKING MINISTRIES	<b>\$0.00</b>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>φ</i> 13,000.00
6210	Smaller Cong (ASC)	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
6220	Grants	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00
6230	Special Projects	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,324.20
0200	Total 6200 - NETWORKING MINISTRIES	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$40,324.20
6300	OTHER MINISTRIES	φ3,000.00	φ0.00	φ <del>4</del> 0,324.20
6310	Pby Leader Formation	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$6,000.00
6320	Synod Pby Leaders Forum	\$3,463.91	\$0.00	\$8,000.00
6340	Special Gatherings	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
0040	Total 6300 - OTHER MINISTRIES	\$4,463.91	\$0.00	\$19,000.00
5400		φ <del>4</del> ,403.91	φ0.00	\$19,000.00
	OPERATIONS Chated Marshing	<b>#0.00</b>	¢4 500 00	
5411	Stated Meeting	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$2,500.00
5412	Committee Expenses	\$4,304.17	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
5414	Moderator's Training	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
5451	PJC Training	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
5510	Rent	\$0.00	\$1,050.00	\$0.00
5525	Phones	\$201.87	\$105.00	\$2,500.00
5535	Office Supplies/Postage	\$914.48	\$675.75	\$6,000.00
5575	Website	\$314.88	\$0.00	\$0.00
5580	Staff Travel	\$205.12	\$0.00	\$250.00
5590	Software	\$1,814.40	\$266.15	\$2,200.00
5710	Admin	\$1,666.00	\$0.00	\$20,000.00
5720	Accounting	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$13,000.00
5730	Total Tech	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
5740	Communications	\$4,008.00	\$0.00	\$6,000.00
5610	Insurance	\$3,622.00	\$889.25	\$7,000.00
5611	Audit	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,000.00
	Total 5400 – OPERATIONS	\$17,450.92	\$4,486.15	\$84,250.00

## Synod of South Atlantic Income Statement for the period of 01/01/2024 to 01/31/2024

Account Numbe	r Account Name	Current Year	Previous Year	Annual Budget
5110	SE/SC			
5120	SE/SC Salary	\$8,333.34	\$8,333.26	\$107,000.00
5122	SE/SC BOP	\$1,848.21	\$2,616.49	\$22,950.00
5123	SE/SC Payroll Tax	\$629.85	\$637.50	\$9,216.00
5124	SE/SC Retirement Benefit	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$6,900.00
5125	FSA Fees	\$3.90	\$0.00	\$46.80
	Total 5110 - SE/SC	\$11,315.30	\$12,087.25	\$146,112.80
5200	SE/SC EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT			
5201	SE/SC Continuing ED	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
5202	SE/SC Travel	\$2,458.60	\$0.00	\$18,000.00
5203	SE/SC Professional Expense	\$164.05	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
	Total 5200 - SE/SC EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT	\$2,622.65	\$0.00	\$22,500.00
5300	Other Staff	\$0.00	\$6,531.57	\$0.00
	Total 5300 – OTHER STAFF	\$0.00	\$6,531.57	\$0.00
Total Expense		\$40,852.78	\$23,104.97	\$357,187.00
Net Income (Lo	uss)	\$-19,144.56	\$9,047.81	\$-62,819.00
	TRANSFER ACCOUNTS			
	Transfer from VG Reserves	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$62,819.00
TOTAL BUDGET	ED INCOME/EXPENSE	\$-19,144.56	\$9,047.81	\$0.00

## Synod Executive & Stated Clerk Report to April 2024 Synod of South Atlantic

- In accordance with the synod's Manual of Operations, the minutes of the November 14, 2023 meeting were sent out to all who were present. Having received no corrections, the minutes stand as approved.
- The synod has a committee working to put a 'Policy Task Force' in place to develop the policies now required by the most recent changes to the Book of Order. Those include antiracism, harassment, family leave, and boundaries training policies. Additionally, there are some necessary updates to the synod's sexual misconduct, harassment, and child and youth protection policies.
- Insurance has been reviewed and renewed for 2024. A copy of the declaration of insurance will be included in the synod's 2024 minutes book.
- The Synod's yearly minutes books can be found online at https://www.synodofsouthatlantic.org/minutes-books
- There have been no complaints, charges, or other official business of the synod's Permanent Judicial Commission. The new Church Discipline Training, facilitated by the Rev. Greg Goodwiller, PRP, continues to be available on the synod website <u>https://www.synodofsouthatlantic.org/pic</u> for both synod and presbytery PJC members.
- Preparations for the Synod's 2025 In-person gathering has begun with the following serving as a *Planning Team*: Rev. David Rollins, Exec (St. Augustine Presbytery); Rev. Rick Douylliez, Exec (Savannah Presbytery); Rev. Becky Albright, Exec (Charleston-Atlantic Presbytery); Hansler Bealyer, Synod COR Chair; and Valerie Young, Synod Exec/Stated Clerk
- The November 2023 vote to add "At-Large Commissioners" to the synod's Plan for Election has been approved so far by four of the fifteen presbyteries.

# Search Committee Resourcing (varying degrees)

- Providence
- Cherokee
- Florida
- Missouri Union

## **Presbytery Leaders**

- 1 In-Person Gathering
- Monthly Zoom meeting

## **Presbytery Stated Clerks**

- Future: 1 In-Person Gathering/Minutes Reading
- Monthly Zoom meeting

## Presbytery Visits (Leader/Meetings/Other)

- Central Florida M
- Charleston-Atlantic M
- Greater Atlanta M/GA Co-mods
- Cherokee M
- Providence M
- Trinity M
- Savannah M/O
- Tampa Bay M

## Synod Committee Leaders

- Resourcing Visioning Task Force
- Resource committees and Task Forces as scheduled
- Providing individual orientation for each new synod commissioner

#### **Conferences/Other**

- South Carolina Alphabet Soup
- Synod Executives Forum
- Association of Smaller Congregations

#### Administrative/Other

- 2022 Synod Minutes submitted
- Working w/ Treasurer on Accounting Transition
- Move toward "Virtual Office"
  complete
- Weekly staff meetings w/ Admin & Presbytery of Tampa Bay

#### **National Church**

• Serve on GA Funding Model Development Team

#### **UPCOMING Meetings:**

- Synod Clerk Minutes Reading
- Board of Pensions Update
- General Assembly

#### **UPCOMING Synod Events:**

<u>1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday SACK Lunch</u> (South Atlantic Community Knowledge)

**General Assembly Commissioner Training** 

Post GA Presbytery Leaders Gathering

Sabbath By the Pool: A Continuing Education event for Women in Vocational Ministry

## Visit www.synodofsouthatlantic.org





March 22, 2024

Rev. David Bender, Stated Clerk Providence Presbytery P.O. Box 2601 Rock Hill, SC 29732

Re: 2022 Presbytery Minutes & Records Review

## **Attestation of Minutes & Records**

The 2022 Minutes of Providence Presbytery were peer reviewed on March 22, 2024 and found to have the following exception(s):

- G-3.0113 Requires that each conduct or have conducted a full financial review or audit annually. There was no evidence of a full financial review or audit.
- The minutes of the Winter Stated Meeting (March 13, 2022) and the Summer Called Meeting (August 14, 2022) fail to declare the presence of a quorum.
- When a guorum is declared, there is no specification of the requirement in the presbytery's own rules as to the constitution of a quorum.
- A plan for the review of session records is presented, with no indication of any exceptions.

Comment(s):

- Minutes are well organized and thorough.
- Where the checklist indicates that an item should be "including the requirement specified in the Presbytery's own rules (G-3.0304), it is intended for that information to be included in the minutes themselves, rather than pointing to the Manual of Operations on the checklist.
- It is not necessary to include the previous minutes as "evidence of adoption" of policies. Simply including the policies containing a notation of the date of adoption suffices.

We are grateful to God for the life and strong relational ministry and mission shared in and with **Providence Presbytery!** 

Sincerely,

Valerie Young

Synod Executive & Stated Clerk

# Overture to Transfer Lamar County, Georgia to Flint River Presbytery · April 2024

Flint River and Greater Atlanta Presbyteries petition the Synod of South Atlantic to overture the 226<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2024) to transfer Lamar County, Georgia from the bounds of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta to Flint River Presbytery. Both presbyteries approved the original request from Barnesville Presbyterian Church in February 2024. *(see G-3.0403c – Book of Order)* 

## **Rationale:**

In November 2023 the Session of Barnesville Presbyterian Church, the only PC(U.S.A.) congregation in Lamar County, Georgia, requested a transfer of their church from the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta to Flint River Presbytery. There was a previous request brought before both presbyteries in 2019, shortly before the COVID-19 pandemic, which put a temporary halt to most church activities.

The Barnesville Session feels that a move to the more rural Flint River Presbytery would be the right fit for the small-town, mostly elderly congregation. Members' daily business is generally oriented to the south, rather than the metropolitan Atlanta area. This is largely due to Atlanta traffic. Church leadership desires to be more active on the presbytery level, however the metropolitan area has become untenable for the elderly congregation to traverse.

Given that it is the only Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. in Lamar County, GA, both presbyteries have approved the movement of the entire county in February 2024, as reflected in this overture.

# Overture to Transfer Russell County, Alabama to Flint River Presbytery · April 2024

Flint River Presbytery and Sheppards and Lapsley Presbytery petition the Synods of the South Atlantic and the Living Waters, respectively, to overture the  $226^{th}$  General Assembly (2024) to include Russell County, Alabama, in the bounds of Flint River Presbytery and the Synod of South Atlantic. *(see G-3.0403c – Book of Order)* 

## **Rationale:**

The congregation of First Presbyterian Church of Phenix City, Alabama, is the only Presbyterian Church in Russell County. Phenix City directly borders the current boundaries of Flint River Presbytery in Southwest Georgia. Like many of the congregations in Flint River Presbytery, First/Phenix City is a small congregation. However, their central presbytery office is located in Birmingham, Alabama, which is approximately 140 miles and nearly 3 hours away. Flint River has several congregations in the Columbus, Georgia area, which are located quite close to Phenix City.

The congregation of First Presbyterian Church of Phenix City, Alabama made their presbytery (Sheppards and Lapsley) aware of their desire to transfer membership to Flint River Presbytery so that the mission and ministry of the church might be better served due to size of congregations and closer locations of what would be sister churches in Flint River Presbytery. Because of this, First/Phenix City felt a closer bond could be established within the structure and culture of Flint River Presbytery.

Flint River voted at the August 5, 2023, presbytery meeting to receive First Presbyterian Church of Phenix City, Alabama, into the bounds of Flint River pending the approval of Sheppards and Lapsley Presbytery. At the August meeting of Sheppards and Lapsley Presbytery, approval was given to dismiss First Presbyterian Church of Phenix City to Flint River Presbytery.

Since the action of receiving First/Phenix City into Flint River would cross the boundaries of these two synods, approval is required by both before an overture can be sent to the General Assembly.

With the ultimate approval by the General Assembly, Flint River Presbytery will be able to nurture the covenant community of the disciples of Christ at First/Phenix City and Russell County, Alabama more intentionally due to size, common goals and ministry efforts, collegiality, and working together to assure that the love and grace of God may be shared locally and globally.

## The Synod of South Atlantic overtures the 226<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2024) to approve the geographic districts of its presbyteries as follows:

The geographic district of the Presbytery of Central Florida consists of the counties of Brevard, Highlands, Indian River, Lake, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Sumter, and Volusia, all in the state of Florida.

The geographic district of the Presbytery of Charleston Atlantic consists of the counties of Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Beaufort, Berkeley, Calhoun, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester, Hampton, Jasper, and Orangeburg, all in the state of South Carolina.

The geographic district of the Presbytery of Cherokee consists of the counties of Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Cherokee, Cobb, Dade, Dawson, Fannin, Floyd, Forsyth, Gilmer, Gordon, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk, Walker, and Whitfield, all in the state of Georgia; with the exception that the Chattanooga Korean Presbyterian Church in Catoosa County is a member of the Presbytery of East Tennessee, and the Austell Presbyterian Church in Cobb County is a member of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta.

The geographic district of the Presbytery of Flint River consists of the county of Russell in the state of Alabama; and the counties of Baker, Benn Hill, Berrien, Bibb, Bleckley, Brooks, Calhoun, Chattahoochee, Clay, Colquitt, Cook, Crawford, Crisp, Decatur, Dooly, Dougherty, Early, Echols, Grady, Harris, Houston, Irwin, Jones, Lamar, Lanier, Lee, Lowndes, Macon, Marion, Miller, Mitchell, Monroe, Muscogee, Peach, Pulaski, Quitman, Randolph, Schley, Seminole, Stewart, Sumter, Talbot, Taylor, Terrell, Thomas, Tift, Turner, Twiggs, Upson, Webster, Wilcox, and Worth, all in the state of Georgia.

The geographic district of the Presbytery of Florida consists of the counties of Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Wakulla, Walton, and Washington, all in the state of Florida.

The geographic district of the Presbytery of Foothills consists of the counties of Anderson, Cherokee (the townships of Gaffney, Macedonia, and Saratt), Greenville, Oconee, Pickens, and Spartanburg, all in the state of South Carolina.

The geographic district of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta consists of the counties of Butts, Carroll, Clayton, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, Haralson, Heard, Henry, Meriwether, Newton, Pike, Rockdale, Spalding, Troup, and Walton, all in the state of Georgia. The Austell Presbyterian Church in Cobb County, which is located within the geographic district of the Presbytery of Cherokee, is also a member congregation.

The geographic district of the Presbytery of New Harmony consists of the counties of Chesterfield, Clarendon, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Georgetown, Horry, Lee, Marion, Marlboro, Sumter, and Williamsburg, all in the state of South Carolina; with the exception that the First Presbyterian Church of Pageland in Chesterfield County is a member of the Presbytery of Charlotte.

The geographic district of the Presbytery of Northeast Georgia consists of the counties of Baldwin, Banks, Barrow, Burke, Clarke, Columbia, Elbert, Franklin, Glascock, Greene, Habersham, Hall, Hancock, Hart, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Lincoln, Lumpkin, Madison, McDuffie, Morgan, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Putnam, Rabun, Richmond, Stephens, Taliaferro, Towns, Union, Warren, Washington, White, Wilkes, and Wilkinson, all in the state of Georgia. The geographic district of the Presbytery of Peace River consists of the counties of Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Lee, Manatee, and Sarasota, all in the state of Florida.

The geographic district of the Presbytery of Providence consists of the county of Union (that portion delimited by Waxhaw Highway, Old Waxhaw Monroe Road, South Providence Road, Lancaster Highway, and the North Carolina/South Carolina border) in the state of North Carolina; and the counties of Cherokee (the township of Blacksburg), Chester, Kershaw, Lancaster, Union, and York, all in the state of South Carolina.

The geographic district of the Presbytery of Savannah consists of the counties of Appling, Atkinson, Bacon, Brantley, Bryan, Bulloch, Camden, Candler, Charlton, Chatham, Clinch, Coffee, Dodge, Effingham, Emanuel, Evans, Glynn, Jeff Davis, Jenkins, Johnson, Liberty, Laurens, Long, McIntosh, Montgomery, Pierce, Screven, Tattnall, Telfair, Toombs, Treutlen, Ware, Wayne, and Wheeler, all in the state of Georgia.

The geographic district of the Presbytery of St. Augustine consists of the counties of Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Clay, Columbia, Dixie, Duval, Flagler, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy (excluding the town of Yankeetown), Marion, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns, Suwannee, Taylor, and Union, all in the state of Florida.

The geographic district of the Presbytery of Tampa Bay consists of the counties of Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Levy (the town of Yankeetown), Pasco, Pinellas, and Polk, all in the state of Florida.

The geographic district of the Presbytery of Trinity consists of the counties of Abbeville, Aiken, Edgefield, Fairfield, Greenwood, Laurens, Lexington, McCormick, Newberry, Richland, and Saluda, all in the state of South Carolina.

The geographic district of the Presbytery of Tropical Florida consists of the counties of Broward, Hendry, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Palm Beach, and St. Lucie, all in the state of Florida.

## Rationale

In 2021 the Office of the General Assembly initiated a project to develop a database with the descriptions of each presbytery's geographic district, as well as a precise and accurate map. When the process revealed a variety of discrepancies and needs for clarification, OGA had conversations with mid council leaders in every synod to resolve identified issues. Agreements developed during those consultations resulted in these clear descriptions, now presented to the General Assembly for approval.

Where a congregation that is a member of one presbytery is located in the geographic district of another presbytery, the exception is noted in the description of both presbyteries; this is a recognition of current reality, reflecting decisions made in the past, and is not intended as permission for a presbytery to organize congregations outside its own district.

There are two significant changes in previous boundaries included, both regarding Flint River Presbytery:

<u>First:</u> In April 2024 the Synod of the South Atlantic approved a petition from Flint River Presbytery and Sheppards and Lapsley Presbytery to overture the 226<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2024) to include Russell County, Alabama, in the bounds of Flint River Presbytery and the Synod of South Atlantic. Flint River voted at the August 5, 2023, presbytery meeting to receive First Presbyterian Church of Phenix City, Alabama, into the bounds of Flint River pending the approval of Sheppards and Lapsley Presbytery. At

the August meeting of Sheppards and Lapsley Presbytery, approval was given to dismiss First Presbyterian Church of Phenix City to Flint River Presbytery. The same petition was approved by the Synod of Living Waters in February 2024.

The congregation of First Presbyterian Church of Phenix City, Alabama, is the only Presbyterian Church in Russell County. Phenix City directly borders the current boundaries of Flint River Presbytery in Southwest Georgia. Like many of the congregations in Flint River Presbytery, First/Phenix City is a small congregation. However, their central presbytery office is in Birmingham, Alabama, which is approximately 140 miles and nearly 3 hours away. Flint River has several congregations in the Columbus, Georgia area, which are located quite close to Phenix City.

The congregation of First Presbyterian Church of Phenix City, Alabama made their presbytery (Sheppards and Lapsley) aware of their desire to transfer membership to Flint River Presbytery so that the mission and ministry of the church might be better served due to size of congregations and closer locations of what would be sister churches in Flint River Presbytery. Because of this, First/Phenix City felt a closer bond could be established within the structure and culture of Flint River Presbytery. Flint River voted at the August 5, 2023, presbytery meeting to receive First Presbyterian Church of Phenix City, Alabama, into the bounds of Flint River pending the approval of Sheppards and Lapsley Presbytery. At the August meeting of Sheppards and Lapsley Presbytery, approval was given to dismiss First Presbyterian Church of Phenix City to Flint River Presbytery.

With approval, Flint River Presbytery will be able to nurture the covenant community of the disciples of Christ at First/Phenix City and Russell County, Alabama more intentionally due to size, common goals and ministry efforts, collegiality, and working together to assure that the love and grace of God may be shared locally and globally.

<u>Second:</u> Also in April 2024, the Synod of South Atlantic approved a request of both Flint River and Greater Atlanta Presbyteries that Lamar County, Georgia be transferred to Flint River Presbytery.

In November 2023 the Session of Barnesville Presbyterian Church, the only PC(U.S.A.) congregation in Lamar County, Georgia, requested a transfer of their church from the bounds of Presbytery of Greater Atlanta to Flint River Presbytery. There was a previous request brought before both presbyteries in 2019, shortly before the COVID-19 pandemic, which put a temporary halt to most church activities.

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Given that it is the only Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. in Lamar County, GA, both presbyteries have approved the movement of the entire county in February 2024, as reflected in this overture.

## Submitted by Rev. CeCe Armstrong

Well, here we are again to read a report in the form of a poem The hope is that it is informative but surely the report is not long

The Southeast Region Bi-annual NBPC Conference will happen in July Gathering in Jacksonville, FL will happen whether the tide is low or high

The Clergy/Educator's Retreat will return to St. Simons, GA one more time With Zoom gatherings throughout the year, meeting in person will be just fine

There is another huge event that has not normally been for us to do The gathering of youth from several presbyteries and from other synods too

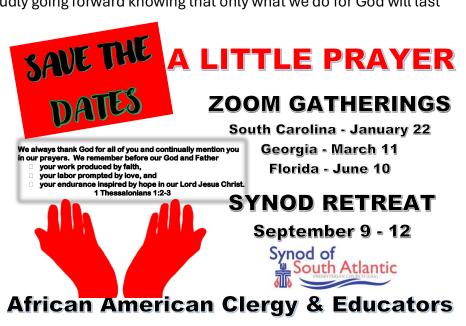
Presbyterians Concern about African American Youth will gather in mid-June We have promoted the event since our Synod youth need the info real soon

Thank you for the opportunity to serve; a consultant's work is never done It's my desire to offer our Triune God in ways that are sincere and fun

Money was spent last year and future specifics are being decided We are working on a few things and by the Holy Spirit will be guided

Looking forward to what lies ahead and I'm ready to serve again Looking forward to seeing all of you and making a few new friends

Refusing to look behind us; there is nothing we can do about the past Proudly going forward knowing that only what we do for God will last



https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85941555286?pwd=L3Y5T212dU5qeEZZbXhyaHVyQUI1QT09

Meeting ID: 859 4155 5286

Passcode: 067490



You can contact Virginia Peterkin at 803-240-0627

# Southeast Region of the National Black Presbyterian Caucus Conference "ONE BODY, MANY PARTS: CONNECTING FOR THE GREATER CAUSE"

1 Corinthians 12:12-27

July 19-20, 2024 Jacksonville, FL



## Presbyterian Women in the Synod of South Atlantic Stated Synod Meeting April 2024

1 Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled[a] among us, 2 just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. Luke 1:1-2

- The Synod Moderators throughout the US & Puerto Rico meet virtually for their bimonthly meeting. Our last meeting was Tuesday, January 23, 2024. There was a Synod/Presbytery Treasurer's zoom training/discussion held Tuesday, January 30, 2024 which was well attended by Synod of Mid America & South Atlantic Moderators and PWP Moderators & Treasurers.
- Churchwide loves getting information from the churches and presbyteries and PW church groups are asked to send their stories & pictures to Cheri Harper at <a href="mailto:cheri.harper@pcusa.org">cheri.harper@pcusa.org</a> for articles in the PW *Horizons* Magazine.
- I attended the following meetings at which I brought greetings from PW Synod & led some helpshops:
  - March 2, 2024 Trinity Presbytery PW Annual Gathering
  - March 17, 2024 Florida Presbytery PW Annual Gathering which I was unable to attend b/c of husband's surgery.
  - PW Triennial Gathering registration is open online
    - The Marriott Grande, St Louis MO taking reservations.

I have enjoyed meeting ladies throughout the synod and marvel at how much PW does in the church, presbytery, & synod level.

I will be leaving office on June 30, 2024. Debbie Durden will be the new PW Synod Moderator starting July 1, 2024.

Blessings Shelagh M, Wirth PWS Moderator <u>swirth1949@gmail.com</u> 803 629 7851

Incoming PW Synod Moderator Debbie Durden 2583 Orchard Walk Jonesboro, GA, 30236 770-778-5412 dfdurden@gmail.com



80 West Lucerne Circle, Orlando, FL 32801| Phone: 407-839-5050 | Fax: 407-839-0079 | WestminsterCommunitiesFL.org/foundation

## Report to the Synod of South Atlantic Spring 2024

Westminster Communities of Florida is a faith-based, not-for-profit organization inspired by a mission of serving older adults and in covenant relationship with the synod. We have been touching lives through service since 1954. Today we serve more than 7,500 residents in 23 communities across Florida.

The strength of our relationship with the church is demonstrated through our *Honorable Service Grant* program, which continues to grow year after year. Since its inception in September 2002, the Foundation has awarded nearly 750 grants totaling more than \$6 million. These grants assist retired church workers, many of whom are ministry couples, surviving spouses, educators, missionaries and administrators to become residents of our communities. These grants come from the Westminster Communities Foundation (Foundation), the philanthropic arm of our communities. The grants make our communities affordable for the retired missionaries and ministers who make our communities richer.

The Foundation focuses its annual fundraising efforts on garnering support for contract residents of our 11 Life Plan Communities around the state who, through no fault of their own, have outlived their financial resources. This year, the Foundation will provide approximately \$2 million through benevolent assistance to ensure every resident will forever have a home at Westminster Communities of Florida. It is a crucial part of our Mission, which is what makes us unique and what makes us a family.

Westminster Communities of Florida offers affordable housing and amenities to nearly 2,300 senior adults aged 62 and older in 12 Rental Retirement Communities. Affordable senior housing is a valuable part of our Mission as a faith-based, not-for-profit organization. As such, the Foundation funds the communities' chaplain positions and associated programs.

We are proud to continue our organization's faith-based heritage and its' Covenant with the Synod of South Atlantic.

Sincerely,

Jeff D. Coates Vice President of Philanthropy Westminster Communities Foundation, Inc. 407-839-5050 jcoates@wservices.org