

# MEETING MINUTES FOR Savannah Presbytery

Fall Stated Meeting  
October 23, 2012



## Butler Memorial Presbyterian Church



Savannah Presbytery

### SCHEDULE

9:00 AM	Registration
10:00 PM	Meeting Called to Order
12:30 PM	Lunch
1:30 PM	Reconvene
4:00 PM	Meeting Adjourned



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## *Butler Memorial Presbyterian Church (USA)*

603 West Victory Drive

Savannah, Georgia 31405

Rev. Don Dilley, Interim Pastor

Office (912) 236-7747

Fax (912) 233-2048

October 16, 2012

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We welcome you to our church this coming Tuesday, October 23. We are one of six African American churches who joined Savannah Presbytery from the United Presbyterian church when they merged with the Southern church.

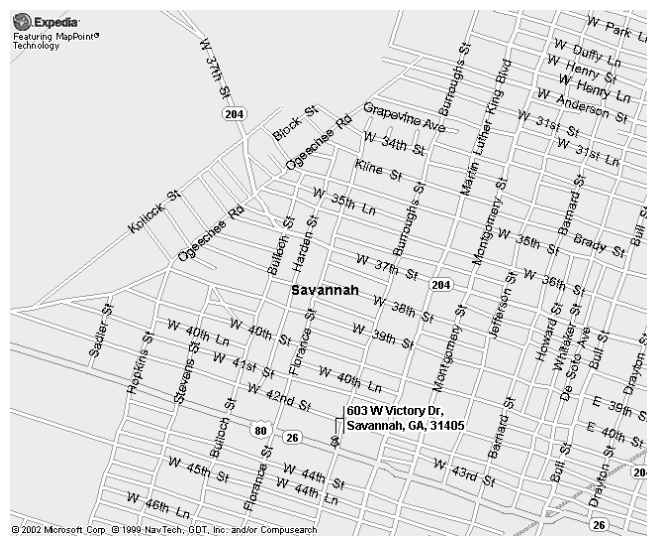
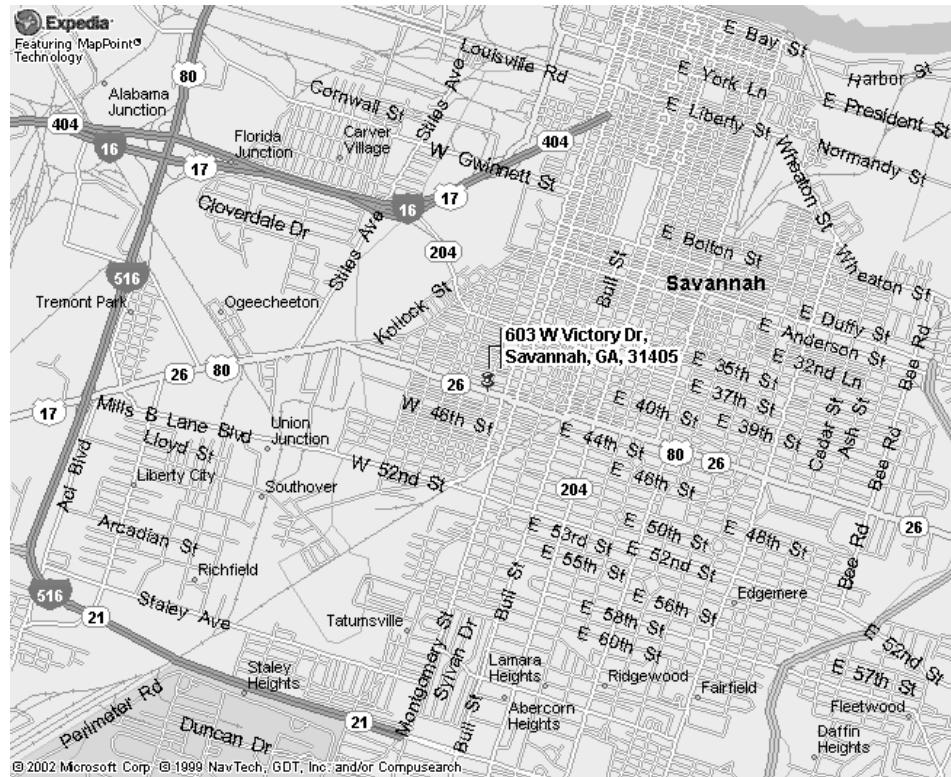
Looking back, we are proud of our historical role in the struggle for civil rights and in the success of our members who were nurtured and raised within our congregation. Founded in 1871 at the site of a grist mill, we have a long history of leadership in Georgia's history. Our pastor during the 60's Rev. Pickens A. Patterson, Sr. was a leader in the local and state NAACP. Hosea Williams, Dr. King's chief organizer, began his civil rights career working with Rev. Patterson. His salary with the SCLC (Southern Christian Leadership Conference) was funded by a grant from the United Presbyterian Church Commission on Religion and Race initiated by our congregation. We hosted a national meeting of the SCLC in the mid-sixties. So civil rights leaders, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Ralph Abernathy, James Bevel, Joseph Lowery, and Andrew Young have all spoken from our pulpit.

Members who have grown up in our church include the retired Chief Justice of Georgia's Supreme Court, Chief Justice Leah Ward Sears, lawyers, over thirty pastors (five of them Presbyterian), Admirals, Generals, soldiers, sailors, college administrators, professors, school administrators, and teachers (over one hundred active or retired teachers have sat in these pews).

As you worship with us and attend to the business of Presbytery feel the host of witnesses who surround you in spirit. Know now that you too now join this host.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Don Dilley,  
Interim Pastor



## Directions to Butler Memorial Presbyterian Church

1. Travel from your location to the intersection of I-95 and I-16.
2. Travel east on I-16 toward Savannah for 7.9 miles.
3. Take exit 165 to merge onto GA-204 W/W 37th St toward 37th St/Abercorn St, travel .7 miles
4. Turn left on 37<sup>th</sup> St., turn right on to MLK blvd, travel to W. Victory, turn right on Victory Dr., travel one block, make right on Burroughs at church sign to enter the parking lot.

*There will be church members assisting with parking, please follow their directions.*

## Stated Meeting Notes and Announcements

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- ✓ **Handbook:** Please print a copy and bring your handbook with you to the meeting. Take time to familiarize yourself with the contents of this handbook. Please read all material carefully prior to coming to the meeting, particularly the Consent Agenda (if there is one), which will be voted on at the beginning of the meeting. Handbooks are posted online two weeks before each presbytery meeting. In order to be good stewards of the presbytery's resources, we ask that each church print out copies for the pastor, clerk, and Elder Commissioner.
- ✓ **PLEASE CHECK WITH YOUR ELDER COMMISSIONER TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY HAVE A COPY OF THIS HANDBOOK.**

If they do not, you can get a copy from the presbytery office, or download it from the website.

- ✓ **Excuses:** If a Minister or Elder Commissioner cannot attend the meeting, a written request for excuse is required. You can email it to bsutton1@savannahpresbytery.org or mail it to Savannah Presbytery, 3590 Darien Highway, Suite 8, Brunswick, GA 31525.
- ✓ **Registration & Lunch:** Registration begins at 9:00 AM. Lunch will be served near the noon hour.
- ✓ **Meeting Location:** Butler Memorial Presbyterian Church,
- ✓ **Display Tables:** Display tables will be set up starting at 9:00 AM. After the presbytery meeting, please take a minute to visit the displays.
- ✓ **Session Minutes Readings:** Before you submit your Minutes to be read, **PLEASE FILL OUT THE "SESSION MINUTES CHECKLIST" COMPLETELY AND INCLUDE IT INSIDE THE COVER OF YOUR MINUTES.** You can get a checklist on the presbytery website or by contacting the presbytery office.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Minutes of the May 22, 2012 Stated Meeting and the July 31, 2012 Called Meeting are on our website, [www.savannahpresbytery.org](http://www.savannahpresbytery.org). These will be voted for approval at the Stated Meeting, please download and review these prior to the presbytery meeting in preparation to vote for their approval. If you are unable to get them from the website, a paper copy can be provided by the presbytery office. Please contact Beth Sutton at 912-264-1997 or bsutton1@savannahpresbytery.org.

**Docket**  
**606th Session of Savannah Presbytery, Fall Stated Meeting**  
**Tuesday, October 23, 2012**

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We are called by God to this Time and Place.  
We gather in Worship to praise God for all we are and are to be.  
We seek to honor God in the work we do this day,  
for all moments are holy as we seek God's will for God's Church.  
We welcome all to this gathering and seek to fellowship together as we celebrate the  
gift of all life  
and of our individual lives by God's grace.  
May you find today that you have been blessed  
through the ordinary as well as in the extraordinary,  
for we are standing, in all our days, on Holy Ground!

- 9:00 AM Registration (please turn off all cell phones)**
- 9:15 AM First time Commissioner Orientation**
- 10:00 AM Call to Order – Ruling Elder Paul Scott, Moderator**  
**Opening Worship**
- 10:45 AM Welcome and Introductions**  
Determination of Quorum  
Appointment of Standing Committees  
Introduction and Welcoming of First time Elder Attendees & Visitors  
Organization of the Docket & Meeting  
Approval of Minutes: May 22, 2012 & July 31, 2012  
Presentation of the Docket, Handbook  
Docketing of New Business  
Adoption of the Docket  
Report of the Stated Clerk 10
- 11:00 AM How our Confessions Guide Us, Rev. Ben Beasley 11**
- 11:20 AM Breakout Discussion Groups**
- 12:30 PM Lunch**
- 1:30 PM Reconvene with Continued Worship – A Service of Remembrance 11**

2:00 PM	<b>Committee Reports with Recommendations</b>	14
	Report of the General Presbyter	
	Report of the Treasurer	
	Report of the Savannah Presbytery Task Force	
	Presbytery Council Report	
	Finance & Stewardship – 2013 Challenge Budget Presentation	
	<b>Team Reports</b>	28
	Committee on Ministry	
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	Mission Ministry Team	
	Education and Training Team	
	Evangelism & Transformation	
	<b>Other Committee Reports</b>	31
	Commissioners to the 200 <sup>th</sup> General Assembly Reports	
	Nominating Committee Report	
	MK Pentecost Committee	
	Presbyterian Women	
	Swainsboro Apartments	
	<b>Special Reports</b>	37
	Report from Synod Commissioner – Rev. Ricky Porter	
	Larry Owens – Presbyterian Homes	
	Robert Hay – Presbyterian Foundation	
	Clark Simmons – Board of Pensions	
	Two Minute Promotions	
	Committee on Resolution & Thanks	
	Benediction & Adjournment	

**The next Presbytery Meeting will be on Friday, February 15, 2012  
at Epworth By The Sea, St. Simons Island**

May 21, 2013 Faith Presbyterian Church Rincon, GA

October 22, 2013 Washington Street Presbyterian Church Dublin, GA

Savannah Presbytery Commissioners		
Church	Active Minister Commissioners Serving Churches	Elder Commissioner(s)
Allenhurst	Ben Beasley	Georgia Moody
Altama	Bert Cramer	Tom Allen
Blackshear	*Ainars Berzinch, Stated Supply	Bob Archer (alt. Kevin Manders)
Brunswick Second	**Benjamin Holmes, CRE, Unexcused	
Butler Memorial	Don Dilley, Interim Pastor	Al Mullice
Christ	Kenneth McKenzie, Stated Supply, <b>Excused</b>	Marti Stein
English Eddy	VACANT	Bob Mathews, Unexcused
Faith	Mary Beene, Stated Supply	Amy Greene, Unexcused
First, Brunswick	Dawn Mayes, <b>Excused</b>	Cynthia Sering
First, Darien	**Danny Grace, CRE, <b>Excused</b>	Kay Burch (alt. Roger Wadsworth)
First, Douglas	Ed Ayers, Stated Supply	Steve Tierney, Unexcused
First, Eastman	**Anne Gibbons, CRE	Carol Healy
First, Hinesville	Kathi Parchem, Interim Pastor	Layton Fraser
First, Midway	VACANT	
First, Saint Marys	Rick Douylliez	Judy Southern
First, Savannah (2)	Stephen Williams	Paul Pressley
	William Shelburne, Associate Pastor	Pam Daly
First, Statesboro	Dan Lewis	Doty Dunn (alt. Charles Webb)
First, Waycross	Trip McKinnon	Doug Black
Flemington	Greg Loskoski, <b>Excused</b>	
Frederica	Andy Chambers <b>Excused</b>	Excused.
Grant Chapel	*Jimmie Sanders, Supply, Unexcused	
Henry Memorial	W. Mark George	David Woodburn
Jekyll	Grady Allison, Stated Supply, <b>Excused</b>	Alyce Boorman
Jesup	Richard Grice, Interim Pastor	Bud Frankenthaler
Lyons	*Bobby Dixon, Supply, Unexcused	
McGregor	*David Blalock, Supply, Unexcused	
McRae	*Norwood Davidson, Supply, Unexcused	
Metter	**Joe Anderson, CRE, Unexcused	
Montgomery	Craig Pope	Elise Tilman
Mount Vernon	VACANT	
Peabody Heights	David Muntford, Unexcused	Charlene Muntford, Unexcused
Riceboro	*Janet Odegaard, Stated Supply, Unexcused	
Richmond Hill	Greg Gillispie	Jeff Wood
Saint Simons (2)	Bob Brearley	Gwen Mayberry
	Troy Hauser Brydon, Associate Pastor	
	Jann Briscoe, Parish Associate, <b>Excused</b>	
Skidaway Island	*Sam Henderson, Interim Pastor	Milo Moore
Swainsboro	VACANT	
Vidalia	Kevin Hicks	Marcia Suber
Walthourville	VACANT	
Washington Street	Ricky Porter	Lois Stroman
White Bluff	Eric Beene	Molly McCarthy
Wilmington Island	Andy Meeker	Melissa Orr, Unexcused

\* indicates a non-voting minister as Interim or Supply who is not a member of Savannah Presbytery

\*\* indicates a Commissioned Lay Pastor whose vote counts as an Elder Commissioner, not as a Minister Commissioner



## Voting Minister Members

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### \*Required to Attend Presbytery Meetings

### \*Active Minister Members

Members serving Validated Ministries beyond the jurisdiction of the church (G-2.0503)

Alan Baroody, Exec. Director, Fraser Center,  
Excused

Rachel Butler, Chaplain, Memorial  
Hospital, **Excused**

George Brink  
Stuart Fletcher, Parish Associate,  
Savannah Korean PC

Harry Horne

\*\*Ken McKenzie, Egret's Roost Respite Center,  
**Excused**

Heahwan Rim, Transitional Synod Executive,  
**Excused**

Ozeas Silva, Swainsboro Hispanic Ministry  
Choongyun Yu, Pastor, Immanuel Presbyterian  
Church, **Excused**

### Honorably Retired Members

Bob Allman  
Art Bishop  
Fred Boozer  
John Bressler  
Gil Clary  
Tom Dunlap  
Don Fehr  
Dean Jeanblanc  
Larry Kennon  
John Law - present  
Diane Lovin  
Bill Platt  
Wayne McDaniel  
Thomas Mueller  
Cecil R. Taylor  
Jessie Truvillion  
Carl Schlich

### \*Members At Large (G-2.0503B)

Nelle Bordeaux ..... present  
Fairy Caroland ..... Excused  
Susan Lewis ..... Excused  
Deanie Strength..... Excused  
Claire Williams ..... present

## Other Voting Members

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### \*Officer of the Presbytery

Russell Gladding, *Acting General Presbyter/Stated  
Clerk/Treasurer*

### \*Presbytery Council

Paul Scott, Moderator of Savannah Presbytery

\*\* Kathi Parchem, Moderator-Elect

\*\* Ricky Porter

\*\* Kevin Hicks

Karl Branch

Janet Ward, Presbyterian Women

## Nonvoting Guests

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### Presbytery Personnel

Liz Richardson ..... Business Administrator

Beth Sutton.... Staff Associate – Communications

### Totals

Voting Minister Members..... 26  
Voting Elder Commissioners..... 19  
Voting Commissioned Ruling Elders ..... 1  
Other Voting Members ..... 3  
Other Attendees & Visitors..... 21  
Total ..... 70

\*\*Listed also as a pastor of church

## Report of the Stated Clerk Ruling Elder Russell Gladding

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### Information Only:

1. You have received part 1 and 2 concerning amendments proposed to the presbyteries from the 220<sup>th</sup> General Assembly last summer in Pittsburgh. These are given to you for self study and will be voted on at the February Stated Meeting at Epworth. Our Permanent Judicial Commission will be reviewing these and will present its opinions prior to that vote. There is one error in Part 1, page 31, above question 88 should include Lord's Day 33.
2. Annual statistics for our churches will be coming up in the next few weeks. Clerks and pastors should be on the alert for this notification as they will again be done electronically on-line. The office personnel will be available to assist you by answering your questions or inputting the data if you send it to us. I encourage you to get this done early and let's see if we can get into the top tier of presbyteries with high percentages of church participation.
3. The Reverend Kent Pettit has Renounced Jurisdiction and set aside his ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. We have removed him from our roles and notified the Office of the General Assembly of this action in accordance with our Constitution..
4. Savannah Presbytery in its Stated Meetings is comprised of its Minister Members and Commissioners from its congregations. Recently we have had more and more meetings where churches did not send a commissioner. This is troubling because it does not allow for all of our diverse voices; and it diminishes our balance between Teaching Elders and Ruling Elders. Ruling Elders are our links to the congregations and we need them to be the messengers back to not only the session, but the congregation. I am hearing good things throughout our churches and in our presbytery and we need to have good ambassadors spreading this good news. Pastors, as moderators of your sessions, please make this selection of Ruling Elders Commissioners a higher priority in getting them here and the help them to find ways to promote the mission of the presbytery in our local congregations. Commissioners please take the initiative with your pastor to find ways of communicating what Savannah Presbytery is about to your congregation. May we work together in our connectional church for the sake of God's calling to us as the Church!
5. We want your ideas concerning how to get more people to presbytery meetings and involved in the life of our Mid Council. Tuesdays at 10 AM is limiting the opportunity for many people to experience. Please think and talk to your congregations about other times that would suit them better. Hopefully we can try some different times and also keep our traditional time by alternating when we hold our Stated Meetings. Perhaps we can cast a wider net that way. Thanks for your written ideas. Give them to me, Liz, or Beth or email them to Beth.
6. The Mid Council Financial Network of the PCUSA will be meeting in Savannah on November 16 - 17, 2012. Although this is mainly for Mid Council financial people it is open to our churches. Some of the OGA staff will be here, including our Stated Clerk, Grayde Parsons. There are some discounted rates if you cannot attend all of the meetings, but if you plan to be at any of the meals you will need to register. Information is on the Website or see Beth if you are interested.
7. The following people will be given voice during the meeting: Presbytery Staff, Larry Owens, Robert Hay and Clark Simmons.

**Recommendation:**

1. That Savannah Presbytery grant a waiver allowing Ruling Elders Sonny Bowen and Kevin Manders to each serve an additional 3-year term on the session at Blackshear P.C. (G-2.0404)

**Motion Defeated.**

**How Our Confessions Guide Us**

**Rev. Ben Beasley**

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**Breakout Discussion Group**

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1. How can candidates for ordination as Ruling Elders sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed Faith as expressed in the confessions, and be instructed and led by those confessions as mandated by the Book of Order, before they know what those tenets are? Are there ways to address this issue in our churches?
2. Having so many creeds and confessions may cause some confusion in the church and in our personal lives as to what exactly it is we do believe; do you consider this good or bad? Why?
3. When studying the Book of Confessions, what are the benefits of connecting with the past?
4. How can you make use of the Book of Confessions in your church – in worship, in Christian Education, in Session discussions?
5. Name some of the ways we could use the Book of Confessions to aid us in our faith journey?

**Lunch**

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## A Service of Remembrance

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### For All the Saints, Who From Their Labors Rest... We Remember and Give Thanks to God

#### From A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

*In the memory of and thanksgiving for the life of the Rev. Dr. Albert C. Winn who died July 17, 2012. Former Moderator of the PC(USA) General Assembly, Former President of Louisville Theological Seminary, Chair of the Committee who wrote this Brief Statement of Faith, Pastor, Mentor and friend.*

**Leader:** God of our history, God of the Church, God of Savannah Presbytery: We thank You for Your Spirit, poured out on all who have served You so faithfully, whom You have welcomed into that great church triumphant.

For those who endured, even in the midst of threats and persecutions:

**People:** God of life – Creator, Sustainer, and Redeemer – we give You great thanks.

**Leader:** For those who believed in your ever-renewing spirit; for those who refused glory because they followed Christ's example of humbleness and humility:

**People:** God of life – Creator, Sustainer, and Redeemer – we give You great thanks.

**Leader:** For those who have opened long-closed windows for the fresh air of Your Spirit and doors to allow others to enter freely into the joy of Your family of faith:

**People:** God of life – Creator, Sustainer, and Redeemer – we give You great thanks.

**Leader:** For those who have been steadfast in the struggle for Your kingdom:

**People:** God of all life – Father, Son and Holy Spirit - we give You thanks and praise.

**ALL:** Lord of all, we remember today and celebrate the lives of those from our ranks who have helped keep our faith alive. We give special thanks for those who have run the race, fought the good fight, and now rest from their labors in Your eternally loving arms. Thank You for their faithfulness and service in life and for their full realization now in death of the certainty of resurrection and new life. You have welcomed them, O Lord, into the great church triumphant. Help us to welcome and bless their memory now.

(A time of silent prayer and remembrance as names are read by leader.)

## 2011/2012 Church Triumphant (Through October 23, 2012)

### Teaching Elder

The Reverend Daniel Thomas	Honorably Retired (Remembrance by Rev. John Laws)	April 29, 2012
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### Ruling Elders

Blackshear	Joseph Leon Carter (Joe)	July 28, 2012
Butler Memorial	Aspringwall Reid	March 12, 2012
	J. Agatha Cooper	September 12, 2012
	Albertha E. Boston	October 1, 2012
Faith	Art Wlodarek (WATER-ek)	February 15, 2012
First, Brunswick	Dr. Erwin Reeves (Burl) Jennings	November 29, 2011
	Kenneth Devore Kribbs	July 30, 2012
First, Hinesville	Olin Smith Fraser	Nov 5, 2011
First, Waycross	Ellie Royal	January 5, 2012
Jekyll	Ernie Sederholm	December 9, 2011
	Erna Wormser	December 11, 2011
	Undy Blaisdel	January 30, 2012
McGregor	Donald McArthur	July 2012
McRae	C. L. Tucker	
Montgomery	Ben Goodwin	January 9, 2012
Peabody Heights	John Rollins	
	La Voyce Holmes	
Saint Simon	Russell J. Brothers	February 23, 2012
	Lyneath T. Orr	September 14, 2012
	Dr. Willard Snyder	September 21, 2012
	William P. Rhudy	October 10, 2012
Skidaway Island	Paul Strickler	February 9, 2012
	Bob Aiken, Jr	March 10, 2012
	Sid Carr	June 22, 2012
	Tom White	August 15, 2012
Vidalia	Lessa McIntyre	December 2, 2011
	Gaston Wilkes	April 7, 2012
Washington Street	Joyce Daniel Whitehead	May 18, 2012
White Bluff	Ed Jungemann (YOUNG-man)	March 3, 2012
	Nellie Hodges	March 10, 2012
	Judy Rambo	April 1, 2012
	Elder Frank Maceyko (muh-SAY-ko)	April 6, 2012

Leader:        God of history, continue to pour out Your Spirit upon us.

**ALL:** Thank You, Gracious God, for life! Praise be to You for the lives of saints remembered who now dwell with You, the Living God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit in the fullness of Your Kingdom. Praise be to You for the joyful memory of those who have served You and for their example to us and all the church. And, thank You, O God, for the lives You give to each of us and the joy that we have in serving You. May the memories of saints past and our mission in the future be fully grounded in the truth of our confession and the reality of our living and dying, that in life and in death, we belong to You! Amen and Amen.

**HYMN NO. 526**      *“For All the Saints”* (Verses 1 and 3)

## Committee Reports with Recommendations

### Report of the Transitional General Presbyter Ruling Elder Russell Gladding

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As I move around to the different congregations in our presbytery I am reminded of the difficulties faced by our churches; declining memberships, dwindling financial resources, concern about denominational politics and some that have internal discord. In spite of these factors, the thing that I also am privileged to observe is a spirit of these congregations that shows itself in wonderful worship, nurture of the members, and a commitment to ministry and mission in the community and to the world.

I see congregations joining together with other congregations to do God's work with feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, healing the sick, and freeing those who are captives in many ways within our society. These are doing the mission of God as Jesus proclaimed it.

I also see this same phenomenon as I travel and meet with members of our Synod and General Assembly. There are indeed problems in membership, money, politics and discord. But, the same things we do within our local congregation are happening across our country as the PCUSA seeks to be the hands, feet and heart of the Christ in ministry to those in need.

I mention all of this because in a couple of recent opportunities, I have been reminded of all the times in the history of the church that it should have died; but it did not. I was reminded in all of those times where God's light did not go out in the midst of great darkness. I have been reminded that faithful saints in these times recognized that God was at work in their lives even to a greater extent during those "dark nights of their soul."

My prayer for the Church, for the Presbyterian Church USA, and for all of our churches within Savannah Presbytery is that we may continue to look for God's light when we may feel overwhelmed by the darkness. May we continue to add to the light as we continue to do what we can to build the kingdom in our various contexts.

I am thankful to God for the privilege of serving with all of you in Savannah Presbytery. All of us together some six thousand strong; we are Savannah Presbytery. We are connected, no matter our differences, as the one body of Christ.

In the next year and a half we will have the opportunity to have two guests from our General Assembly to visit us. Our stated Clerk, the Reverend Grady Parsons will visit us next October at our Stated Meeting, and The Reverend Neal Presa, Moderator of the 220<sup>th</sup> General Assembly will be with us for our Leadership Development Conference in February, 2014. We are connected with them in the same way we are connected here. I hope that by putting faces with names that there may be opportunity to understand the just as we have differences within our congregations and presbytery and seek to remain one body with Jesus uniting us in his service; the same is true with the General Assembly. It is not just the leadership at OGA. It is us, joined with brothers and sisters in Christ from all over our country and indeed all around the world. We are the PCUSA! Do we have differences? Yes, but our unity in Christ's mission is what must unite us. For us that sometimes seems impossible, as darkness creeps over us. God's light is shining in our impossibilities. "See, I am doing a new thing. Don't be afraid. Follow me!" May we answer God's calling. Amen.



## Report of Treasurer Ruling Elder Russell Gladding

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The Financial Statements printed here include an Income/Expense Statement and a Balance Sheet through the third quarter of 2012. There are several items that I call your attention to.

On the Balance Sheet you will notice that the note receivable for the 2010 Toyota Camry from the General Presbyter has been entered (#37.) Also, item #19 under current assets New Covenant Fund the amount is reduced by \$157,206.10 to \$481,984.31. This was authorized by the presbytery in July to pay off the Monkchun PC Mortgage. This will be restored to the New Covenant Fund with interest when the sale of the property in Hinesville is completed in August, 2015. On the Income Statement you will see where this income, \$157,206.10 was received (# 6000) and where it was expensed (# 7001Kz).

Other items of interest on the Income Statement are:

1. Unified Pledge Income for the three quarters is at 70% of budget, or 5% below what we had budgeted for this period. I would call your attention to your church line item to see where you stand. The fourth quarter has traditionally been our best revenue period and we will need it to be in order to make our budget.
2. Overall income when eliminating the income for the Monkchun mortgage is \$306, 313.82 versus a budget of \$317,849.00.
3. Overall expenses when eliminating the expense for paying off the Monkchun mortgage are \$61, 302.22. It is slightly less than our budget through this period.

We will be looking at the remainder of the year with particular interest toward stewardship. Members of the Finance and Stewardship Committee will be contacting each congregation to discuss how we can work together in reaching the goals that Savannah Presbytery has set out in the challenge budget presented today. This challenge is set out as that which the members, commissioners, and congregations have told us they want the presbytery to be about. We covet your prayers and your support as we seek to be God's people in this place and time.

# Savannah Presbytery Balance Sheet

10/16/2012

As of September 30, 2012

Cash Basis

Sep 30, 12

## ASSETS

### Current Assets

#### Checking/Savings

01 - Atl Natl - UNIFIED CHECK 3103 (Atlantic National Checking)	6,547.01
02 - Atl. Nat'l - Unified MM 0495 (UNIFIED MONEY MARKET)	28,437.28
03 - Atl. Nat'l -Selected MM 0503 (MONEY MARKET)	210.56
04 - Atl Natl - Special Uses/Scholar (Special Uses/Scholarship)	29,571.15
06 - BoA Ck -MK Pentecost Ecology (M.K. Pentecost Fund / Ecology Checking)	4,524.28
07 - BoA MM - MK Pentecost Ecology (M.K. Pentecost Fund Ecology - Money Market)	14,469.91

Total Checking/Savings 83,760.19

#### Other Current Assets

17 - CD - Habersham Clay	30,000.00
18 - CD - Presb. Investment Prog	37,628.60
19 - New Covenant Fund	481,984.31
35 - Due from MK Pentecost Trust	6,906.23
36 - Due to Savannah Pres	-8,606.23
37 - Note Receivable Gladding (2010 Toyota Camry)	12,000.00

Total Other Current Assets 559,912.91

Total Current Assets 643,673.10

### Fixed Assets

50 - Office Equipment	57,769.18
52 - Office Bldg - Rt 17	115,000.00
53 - Equip for Ecology	571.00
54 - Leasehold Improvements	29,344.36
60 - Accumulated Depreciation	-126,439.69
71 - Accum Depreciation Ecology	-523.42

Total Fixed Assets 75,721.43

### Other Assets

72 - Note Receivable Christ PC	272,003.85
73 - Note Receivable - PC Midway	5,904.90
74 - Note Receivable-Immanuel PC (Purchase of former Hineville Korean PC property)	220,000.00

Total Other Assets 497,908.75

**TOTAL ASSETS 1,217,303.28**

**LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

**Liabilities**

**Current Liabilities**

**Other Current Liabilities**

005 - Payroll Liabilities 1,148.52

010 - Accrued Expenses -51,708.50

**Total Other Current Liabilities** -50,559.98

**Total Current Liabilities** -50,559.98

**Total Liabilities** -50,559.98

**Equity**

003 - Fund Balance (Retained Earnings) 1,176,027.68

004 - Opening Bal Equity 294,000.40

008 - Fund Balance Ecology 32,052.84

**Net Income** -234,217.66

**Total Equity** 1,267,863.26

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY** 1,217,303.28

## Savannah Presbytery Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual

January through December 2012

Cash Basis  
10/16/2012

	Jan - Dec 12	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
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Ordinary Income/Expense

Income

1000 · .Unified Pledge Income

p1 · __PLDG - Allenhurst	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	100.0%
p2 · __PLDG - Altama	150.00	450.00	-300.00	33.33%
p3 · __PLDG - Blackshear	5,096.85	5,000.00	96.85	101.94%
p4 · __PLDG - Brunswick Second	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
p5 · __PLDG - Butler Memorial	3,000.00	5,000.00	-2,000.00	60.0%
p6 · __PLDG - Christ PC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
p7 · __PLDG - English Eddy	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
p8 · __PLDG - Faith PC	585.55	1,000.00	-414.45	58.56%
p9 · __PLDG - First Brunswick	12,307.34	13,200.00	-892.66	93.24%
p10 · __PLDG - First Darien	2,912.76	5,760.00	-2,847.24	50.57%
p11 · __PLDG - First Douglas	5,000.00	9,000.00	-4,000.00	55.56%
p12 · __PLDG - First Eastman	3,337.31	4,000.00	-662.69	83.43%
p13 · __PLDG - First Hinesville	400.00	600.00	-200.00	66.67%
p14 · __PLDG - First Midway	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.0%
p15 · __PLDG - First Saint Marys	11,250.00	15,000.00	-3,750.00	75.0%
p16 · __PLDG - First Savannah	3,333.32	12,000.00	-8,666.68	27.78%
p17 · __PLDG - First Statesboro	9,000.00	12,000.00	-3,000.00	75.0%
p18 · __PLDG - First Waycross	3,441.33	4,588.00	-1,146.67	75.01%
p19 · __PLDG - Flemington	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
p20 · __PLDG - Frederica PC	2,700.00	2,880.00	-180.00	93.75%
p21 · __PLDG - Grant Chapel	1,650.00	3,300.00	-1,650.00	50.0%
p22 · __PLDG - Henry Memorial	2,000.00	4,000.00	-2,000.00	50.0%
p43 · __PLDG - Hinesville Korean	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
p23 · __PLDG - Jekyll PC	666.66	4,000.00	-3,333.34	16.67%
p24 · __PLDG - Jesup PC	3,000.00	7,200.00	-4,200.00	41.67%
p25 · __PLDG - Lyons PC	2,700.00	3,600.00	-900.00	75.0%
p26 · __PLDG - McGregor	2,000.00	3,000.00	-1,000.00	66.67%
p27 · __PLDG - McRae	0.00	1,250.00	-1,250.00	0.0%
p28 · __PLDG - Metter	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
p29 · __PLDG - Montgomery	7,875.00	10,500.00	-2,625.00	75.0%
p30 · __PLDG - Mount Vernon	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
p31 · __PLDG - Peabody Heights	0.00	1,200.00	-1,200.00	0.0%
p32 · __PLDG - Riceboro	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
p33 · __PLDG - Richmond Hill	5,250.00	9,000.00	-3,750.00	58.33%
p34 · __PLDG - Saint Simons PC	48,333.33	60,000.00	-11,666.67	80.56%
p35 · __PLDG - Savannah Korean	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	100.0%

	<b>Jan - Dec 12</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>\$ Over Budget</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>
p36 - __PLDG - Skidaway Island	16,499.98	22,000.00	-5,500.02	75.0%
p37 - __PLDG - Swainsboro	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
p38 - __PLDG - Vidalia	8,166.28	11,666.00	-3,499.72	70.0%
p39 - __PLDG - Walthourville	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
p40 - __PLDG - Washington Street PC	5,337.30	9,000.00	-3,662.70	59.3%
p41 - __PLDG - White Bluff	6,846.15	9,130.00	-2,283.85	74.99%
p42 - __PLDG - Wilmington Island PC	12,000.00	14,400.00	-2,400.00	83.33%
<b>Total 1000 - .Unified Pledge Income</b>	<b>187,839.16</b>	<b>268,224.00</b>	<b>-80,384.84</b>	<b>70.03%</b>
<b>2000 - Education &amp; Training Income</b>				
2001 - Summer Camp Income	23,865.00	17,000.00	6,865.00	140.38%
2005 - - LDC - Laity - Inc	15,015.00	19,125.00	-4,110.00	78.51%
2006 - School of the Laity - Inc	200.00			
2007 - - Youth Connects/MidHigh - Inc	1,050.00	1,500.00	-450.00	70.0%
<b>Total 2000 - Education &amp; Training Income</b>	<b>40,130.00</b>	<b>37,625.00</b>	<b>2,505.00</b>	<b>106.66%</b>
<b>3000 - Mission Partner-Synod Grant Incom</b>	<b>7,749.27</b>	<b>12,000.00</b>	<b>-4,250.73</b>	<b>64.58%</b>
<b>4000 - Other Income</b>				
4003 - Interest Income (Interest)	38.97			
4008 - PILP Investment CD - Inc	289.87			
40010 - BofA - Habersham Clay CD -Inc	131.52			
4006 - New Church Development Income	118.38			
<b>Total 4000 - Other Income</b>	<b>578.74</b>			
<b>6000 - Miscellaneous Other Income</b>				
6001 - Interest-Immanuel PC (interest during lease of old HKPC property)	1,700.00			
6000 - Miscellaneous Other Income - Other	225,522.75			
<b>Total 6000 - Miscellaneous Other Income</b>	<b>227,222.75</b>			
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>463,519.92</b>	<b>317,849.00</b>	<b>145,670.92</b>	<b>145.83%</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>7000 - Team &amp; Committee Expenses</b>				
<b>7001 - Presbytery Council</b>				
<b>7001A - General Presbyter/S Clerk/Treas</b>				
7001A1 - - GP/SC/Treas - Salary -	41,695.94	52,000.00	-10,304.06	80.19%
7001A4 - GP/SC/Treas - Misc. Travel/ Ed (Meals, Lodging & Continuing education)	1,538.04	1,043.00	495.04	147.46%
7001A5 - - GP/SC/Treas - Travel -Exp				
7001A5a - - Auto/Gas Allowance - Exp	6,441.68	7,200.00	-758.32	89.47%
<b>Total 7001A5 - - GP/SC/Treas - Travel -Exp</b>	<b>6,441.68</b>	<b>7,200.00</b>	<b>-758.32</b>	<b>89.47%</b>
7001A6 - -GP/SC/Trea - Board of Pension	15,113.10	16,757.00	-1,643.90	90.19%
<b>Total 7001A - General Presbyter/S Clerk/Treas</b>	<b>64,788.76</b>	<b>77,000.00</b>	<b>-12,211.24</b>	<b>84.14%</b>

	<b>Jan - Dec 12</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>\$ Over Budget</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>
<b>7001D · Business Administrator</b>				
<b>7001D1 · Business Admin Salary - Exp</b>	31,716.25	40,000.00	-8,283.75	79.29%
<b>7001D2 · Pension and Major Medical - Exp</b>	11,363.10	13,636.48	-2,273.38	83.33%
<b>7001D3 · Business Admin Pro Exp</b>	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00	0.0%
<b>Total 7001D · Business Administrator</b>	<b>43,079.35</b>	<b>55,136.48</b>	<b>-12,057.13</b>	<b>78.13%</b>
<b>7001G · Staff Assoc/Communication - Exp</b>				
<b>- 701F · - Payroll Expenses - Exp</b>	7,191.72	12,480.00	-5,288.28	57.63%
<b>Total 7001G · Staff Assoc/Communication - Exp</b>	<b>7,191.72</b>	<b>12,480.00</b>	<b>-5,288.28</b>	<b>57.63%</b>
<b>7001I · Gen Assembly &amp; Synod Expense</b>				
<b>7001I1 · - G.A. Per Capita -Exp</b>	0.00	39,839.67	-39,839.67	0.0%
<b>7001I3 · - Synod - Per Capita -Exp</b>	163.00	6,009.00	-5,846.00	2.71%
<b>7001I4 · - Synod - Unified -Exp</b>	0.00	8,713.00	-8,713.00	0.0%
<b>Total 7001I · Gen Assembly &amp; Synod Expense</b>	<b>163.00</b>	<b>54,561.67</b>	<b>-54,398.67</b>	<b>0.3%</b>
<b>7001J · PCUSA Conference Attendance</b>				
<b>7001J1 · General Assembly Attend GP</b>	2,529.17	1,500.00	1,029.17	168.61%
<b>7001J3 · Fall Polity Conference - GP</b>	730.00	1,500.00	-770.00	48.67%
<b>Total 7001J · PCUSA Conference Attendance</b>	<b>3,259.17</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>	<b>259.17</b>	<b>108.64%</b>
<b>7001K · Presbytery Office Operating Exp</b>				
<b>7001Ka · - Recording Clerk - Exp</b>	150.00	225.00	-75.00	66.67%
<b>7001Kb · - Publishing - Exp</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
<b>7001Kc · - Contingency - COLA and Merit</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
<b>7001Kd · - Electricity and Gas - Exp</b>	2,701.16	4,500.00	-1,798.84	60.03%
<b>7001Ke · - Telephone and DSL - Exp</b>	4,857.46	5,000.00	-142.54	97.15%
<b>7001Kf · - Water - Exp</b>	291.26	600.00	-308.74	48.54%
<b>7001Kg · - Insurance - Exp</b>	6,617.00	8,000.00	-1,383.00	82.71%
<b>7001Kh · - Postage - Exp</b>	557.53	1,000.00	-442.47	55.75%
<b>7001Ki · - Legal Fees - Exp</b>	860.00	2,000.00	-1,140.00	43.0%
<b>7001Kj · - Supplies - Exp</b>	3,556.47	4,000.00	-443.53	88.91%
<b>7001Kk · - Audit - Exp</b>	3,500.00	3,500.00	0.00	100.0%
<b>7001Kl · - Equipment Contracts - Exp</b>	7,494.45	11,000.00	-3,505.55	68.13%
<b>7001Km · - Equipment Maintenance - Exp</b>	2,896.37	4,000.00	-1,103.63	72.41%
<b>7001Kn · - Equipment Purchase - Exp</b>	635.96	1,000.00	-364.04	63.6%
<b>7001ko · - Building Maintenance - Exp</b>	17,413.58	12,100.00	5,313.58	143.91%
<b>7001Kp · - Webpage Maint - Exp</b>	2,061.98	1,000.00	1,061.98	206.2%
<b>7001Kq · - Software - Exp</b>	660.00	1,000.00	-340.00	66.0%
<b>7001Kr · - Staff Travel Expenses - Exp</b>	151.77	500.00	-348.23	30.35%
<b>7001Ks · - Pastoral Relations - Exp</b>	651.47	1,500.00	-848.53	43.43%
<b>7001Kt · Misc. Service Charges</b>	299.95	350.00	-50.05	85.7%
<b>7001Ku · - GP Leader Formation - Exp</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%

	<b>Jan - Dec 12</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>\$ Over Budget</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>
7001Kv · Temporary Help	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
7001Kx · Council Miscellaneous	4,052.51	2,500.00	1,552.51	162.1%
7001Ky · Hinesville Closing	1,893.30			
7001Kz · Payoff Monkchun Motgage (use of NC fund to pay off the balance of HKPC debt on property at 1010 Beatie Blvd)	157,206.10			
<b>Total 7001K · Presbytery Office Operating Exp</b>	<b>218,508.32</b>	<b>63,775.00</b>	<b>154,733.32</b>	<b>342.62%</b>
7001 · Presbytery Council - Other	13.39			
<b>Total 7001 · Presbytery Council</b>	<b>337,003.71</b>	<b>265,953.15</b>	<b>71,050.56</b>	<b>126.72%</b>
<b>7002 · Church &amp; Polity</b>				
7002A · - PJC Cmte - Exp	0.00	250.00	-250.00	0.0%
7002B · - COM Cmte - Exp				
7002Ba · Fraser Center	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	100.0%
7002Bd · Emergency Pastoral Contingency	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
7002B · - COM Cmte - Exp - Other	2,221.56	5,500.00	-3,278.44	40.39%
<b>Total 7002B · - COM Cmte - Exp</b>	<b>4,221.56</b>	<b>8,500.00</b>	<b>-4,278.44</b>	<b>49.67%</b>
7002D · - CPM - Exp				
7002Da · Candidate Testing	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
7002Db · CLP Program	0.00	2,500.00	-2,500.00	0.0%
7002Dc · Other	0.00	250.00	-250.00	0.0%
<b>Total 7002D · - CPM - Exp</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3,750.00</b>	<b>-3,750.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Total 7002 · Church &amp; Polity</b>	<b>4,221.56</b>	<b>12,500.00</b>	<b>-8,278.44</b>	<b>33.77%</b>
<b>7003 · Education &amp; Training</b>				
7003A · Team Expense	43.21	300.00	-256.79	14.4%
7003B · - School of the Laity - Exp	120.00	2,500.00	-2,380.00	4.8%
7003D · - LDC Expense	20,966.15	26,415.00	-5,448.85	79.37%
7003G · - Faith 3D/Triennium - Exp	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.0%
7003J · - Camps - Summer - Exp	27,256.21	31,000.00	-3,743.79	87.92%
7003k · - Youth Connects/MidHigh - Exp	896.57	1,500.00	-603.43	59.77%
7003L · - Stipend	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	100.0%
<b>Total 7003 · Education &amp; Training</b>	<b>51,282.14</b>	<b>64,215.00</b>	<b>-12,932.86</b>	<b>79.86%</b>
<b>7004 · Evangelism &amp; Transformation</b>				
7004C · African-Amer Cong Consortium	3,000.00			
7004D · Hispanic Min Swainsboro	23,750.00	30,000.00	-6,250.00	79.17%
<b>Total 7004 · Evangelism &amp; Transformation</b>	<b>26,750.00</b>	<b>30,000.00</b>	<b>-3,250.00</b>	<b>89.17%</b>
<b>7006 · Mission</b>				
7006A · Mission Ministry Team Exp	10.08	500.00	-489.92	2.02%
7006B · Hispanic Min Swainsboro Exp	0.00	10,000.00	-10,000.00	0.0%

	<b>Jan - Dec 12</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>\$ Over Budget</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>
<b>7006F · White Bluff Tutoring</b>	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	100.0%
<b>7006K · Thornwell Home for Children</b>	667.00	2,000.00	-1,333.00	33.35%
<b>7006L · Presbytery Adult Mission Trip</b>	0.00	700.00	-700.00	0.0%
<b>7006M · Presbytery Youth Mission Trip</b>	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.0%
<b>Total 7006 · Mission</b>	1,677.08	14,700.00	-13,022.92	11.41%
<b>7007 · - Nominating Committee - Exp</b>	60.48			
<b>Total 7000 · Team &amp; Committee Expenses</b>	420,994.97	387,368.15	33,626.82	108.68%
<b>Total Expense</b>	420,994.97	387,368.15	33,626.82	108.68%
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	42,524.95	-69,519.15	112,044.10	-61.17%
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>42,524.95</b>	<b>-69,519.15</b>	<b>112,044.10</b>	<b>-61.17%</b>



# Report of the Savannah Presbytery Administrative Task Force

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## **Summary of Work**

The Administrative Task Force was formed in March 2011 by Council to help the Presbytery move through a time of transition into transformation. The group met regularly from that time through the present date. The group was given two tasks:

1. How to proceed during the rest of 2011, given the financial constraints of the Presbytery.
2. To think about the future of the Presbytery in 2012 and beyond. The group was tasked with looking at the needs and functions of the Presbytery and making recommendations about ministries, programs, and staff needed to accomplish those functions.

The first responsibility was taken care of at the first meeting of the group on March 17, 2011. The Task Force met with Presbytery staff members Russell Gladding and Liz Richardson and heard from them about their responsibilities and the needs of the Presbytery office. We then made a recommendation to Council regarding naming Russell Gladding Interim General Presbyter (as well as continuing as Stated Clerk and Treasurer) and compensating both him and Liz appropriately for the additional work they were doing, and Council acted on that recommendation (with the change of giving Russell the title, Acting General Presbyter).

We spent a great deal of time discussing and researching how best to accomplish the second responsibility. Several issues were identified that needed to be considered during this process.

- The need to rebuild trust and relationships with the churches in the Presbytery, given the amount of transition and changes in leadership that had taken place over the past several years. It was acknowledged that some healing needed to occur.
- The need to be more inclusive in representation on Presbytery committees and councils
- The need for openness, collaboration, and good communication
- The need to identify different ways of carrying out the mission and ministry of Presbytery, given the new reality of reduced staff and budget

We agreed that the first step was to identify a process to use in planning and discernment. We realized that listening to all of the people in the Presbytery was important, and thus the starting point should be gathering information. We researched and discussed various models for planning, and decided that given the situation, a consultant who could provide an unbiased perspective would be very helpful.

Making the decision to engage a consultant was an important step in the process, and that brought us to David York, who has used the Holy Cow Consultation process to aid churches and Presbyteries, including Greater Atlanta Presbytery, which had positive things to say about their experience.

David suggested that we begin with a Presbytery-wide survey. The survey included a number of standard questions, as well as additional questions the Task Force crafted to fit our specific needs.

The survey was completed in August 2011, and there were 220 people in the Presbytery who completed the survey:

Clergy	30
Session member	125
Presbytery commissioner	13
Member of Presbytery Council or Committee	24
Paid or volunteer staff member	10
None of these	30

### **Survey results**

David York met with the Task Force and the Council on September 20, 2011, to interpret the results of the survey. The survey indicated that only 24% of respondents were satisfied with how things were in the Presbytery at that time. David explained that the survey identified drivers of satisfaction and energy that were key to creating priorities for the Presbytery. The top three priorities that emerged from the survey were

1. That Presbytery should take a leadership role with churches that are struggling.
2. The Presbytery equip pastors and other leaders in congregations with strategies that enable to them reach new members.
3. That the Presbytery be streamlined organizationally and administratively so that it makes better use of financial resources.

At the Task Force meeting following that meeting, we continued to discuss the results of the survey. We noted that the survey indicated that there were people who wanted to be involved in Presbytery but do not know how. We also noted that relationship development continued to be very important.

The next step in the process was to continue to seek input and encourage discussion through small groups. At the October 25, 2011 Presbytery meeting, those attending were divided into six small groups. The groups were led by Task Force members, and each group discussed three questions:

1. Societal trends
2. Involvement in Presbytery
3. Helping churches become more vital

The small groups provided an opportunity for Presbytery members to discuss and share their thoughts and concerns, and for the Task Force to listen.

### **Small Group Summary**

From the surveys and small group discussions, the Task Force confirmed that three overall priorities had emerged:

1. Assist churches that are struggling
2. Equip pastors and leaders with strategies for churches to become more vital
3. Streamline Presbytery organization and administration to make better use of financial resources.

Regarding #2, while David York's initial analysis used the language, "to reach new members," the Task Force found that the issue was not really number of members but vitality. We affirmed that even small churches that are not gaining new members can be vital.

We discussed how to cast a wider net to gain input from additional people in the Presbytery and decided to create separate focus groups for pastors, clerks of session, and Presbytery committee members and others in the Presbytery.

We consulted with David York via a conference call to plan the focus groups. We discussed that the work of this process should drive the next Leadership Development Conference in February. Workshops could be planned to meet the needs expressed in the focus groups (as well as in other feedback).

The Task Force agreed on this goal: that before the October 2012 Presbytery meeting, we would create a complete report about the work of the Task Force and the results of the process, and that we would make a recommendation about permanent staffing. We also noted that a new Presbytery manual will need to be written, but it would be better to wait until a permanent staff person is in place.

Focus groups met in each of the three Presbytery districts as follows:

- July 15, 2012 – District 2 Focus Group met at Vidalia
- July 29, 2012 – District 3 Focus Group met at First Brunswick
- August 5, 2012 – District 1 Focus Group met at First Savannah

Each Focus Group had separate meetings for pastors, clerks of session, and others. Each group addressed the same questions, relating to how to achieve the three priorities identified above. The total participation in all three districts was approximately 100 people.

### **Focus Group Summaries**

When the Task Force met again on September 6, 2012, we reviewed our original tasks and discussed what we had learned through the various parts of the planning process. We agreed that during the transitional period, as we were going through the process, many of the issues we had identified at the beginning of the process had been resolved. Relationships with churches have been strengthened, trust rebuilt, and communication has improved. Presbytery members seem more connected to and involved with the Presbytery. The satisfaction level with Presbytery has increased. Churches are cooperating together on mission and ministry. The Presbytery has a new website and E-newsletter that have improved communications. Those who do not use technology are being reached in traditional ways. We agreed that the Presbytery staff, Russell Gladding, Liz Richardson, and new part-time staff member Beth Sutton, were to be commended for their part in these accomplishments.

We also noted that the Presbytery has succeeded in carrying out the mission and ministries of the Presbytery in different ways, due to the reduced staff and budget. For example, the Education and Training Work Group has found creative ways to continue valued ministries in new ways, such as the School of the Laity resuming in 2013 with a different model of leadership.

We all agreed that we believe the Presbytery has moved from a transitional state to a transformative state. The leadership of Russell Gladding as Acting General Presbyter has been key in this accomplishment, especially in rebuilding trust and relationships with churches and Presbytery members. We believe that at this point in the life of the Presbytery, with the significant accomplishments mentioned above, we should move forward with our excellent current leadership. We strongly believe that there is no need to search elsewhere for a General Presbyter; indeed, initiating a search process at this point would be a big step backward instead of forward. As a result, we make the following report and recommendation to the Presbytery Council:

- A collaborative spirit is emerging within the life and mission of Savannah Presbytery through churches finding ways in which to do things together that perhaps could not be done otherwise on their own

- A downsizing of presbytery staff has resulted in both a challenge and an opportunity for us to become more efficient and effective in carrying out our various ministries
- Improved communication through different media has greatly enhanced our sense of being a “connectional” church
- A need for continued nurturing of congregations within our bounds and the re-building of mutual and supportive relationships between local communities of faith and the presbytery at large

**Recommendation to the Council for Presbytery Approval:**

That the Savannah Presbytery affirm the current presbytery staff and name Elder Russell Gladding as General Presbyter and Treasurer. (Russell’s term of office for Stated Clerk will end October 2013)

*Submitted by the Presbytery Task Force: Rick Douylliez (Chair), Kevin Hicks, John Law, Dawn Mayes, Paul Scott, Janet Ward*

**Report of the Presbytery Council**  
**Rev. Andy Meeker, Moderator**

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**Information Only:**

1. The Council received and affirmed the final report and recommendations of the Savannah Presbytery Task Force. This report is to be forwarded to the Savannah Presbytery at its stated Meeting at Butler Memorial Presbyterian Church on October 23, 2012.
2. Finance and stewardship presented a proposed expense Budget which is to be used a challenge budget for 2013. The Council approved this to be presented to the Presbytery at the October 2012 Stated Meeting.
3. The Council approved the report of the Nominating Committee and forwarded it to the Savannah Presbytery for adoption.

**For Action**

1. The Council recommends that, the Savannah Presbytery affirm the work of Russell Gladding during the transitional period and name him General Presbyter of the Savannah Presbytery at its Stated Meeting on October 23, 2012.

**Recommendation Approved with thanks for the good work that Russell has accomplished.**

2. The Council recommends that, the Savannah Presbytery dismiss the Administrative Task Force with thanks.

**Recommendation Approved.**

**Finance & Stewardship – 2013 Challenge Budget Presentation**  
**Rev. Andy Meeker**

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**2013 Presbytery Expense Challenge Budget**

	2010	2011	2012	2013
<b>Staff</b>				
G/P Clerk/Treasurer	\$ 151,639	\$ 130,776	\$ 77,000	\$ 81,318
Support Staff	\$ 96,637	\$ 77,838	\$ 55,136	\$ 55,764
Program Staff	\$ 51,961	\$ 8,144	\$ 12,480	\$ 15,000
Taxes	\$ 10,340	\$ 9,438	\$ 10,000	\$ 11,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 310,577</b>	<b>\$ 226,196</b>	<b>\$ 154,616</b>	<b>\$ 163,082</b>
<b>Operating Costs</b>	<b>\$ 67,933</b>	<b>\$ 63,325</b>	<b>\$ 64,000</b>	<b>\$ 75,825</b>
<b>Mission/Programs</b>				
Education	\$ 47,973	\$ 31,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 37,700
Church & Polity	\$ 2,240	\$ 14,500	\$ 14,500	\$ 14,500
Evangelism	\$ 41,305	\$ 34,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000
Mission	\$ 21,834	\$ 14,700	\$ 14,700	\$ 14,700
<b>Per Capita/Unified Giving</b>	<b>\$ 86,672</b>	<b>\$ 55,000</b>	<b>\$ 55,000</b>	<b>\$ 60,190</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 578,534</b>	<b>\$ 438,721</b>	<b>\$ 362,816</b>	<b>\$ 395,997</b>

**Personnel Committee**  
**Rev. Andy Meeker**

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**For Action**

Recommendations for staff salary changes for 2012 are contained within the budget report.

**Recommendation Approved.**

**Information Only**

The Personnel Committee, after hearing a partial report from the Task Force, concurs with their recommendation to call/elect/make Russell Gladding the General Presbyter of Savannah Presbytery.

The Personnel Committee, along with Russell Gladding (as Head of Staff) met with members of the presbytery staff to conduct annual reviews. The committee is very pleased with our current staff, the considerable work they do and the sense of camaraderie and support they show for one another and the overall work of the presbytery.

## Team Reports

### Report of Committee on Ministry Rev. Eric Beene, Chair

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#### **Information Only**

1. The Committee received the Rev. Richard Grice as a member of Savannah Presbytery upon his dismissal from the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia as an honorably retired minister.
2. The Committee approved an Interim Agreement between the Rev. Richard Grice and Jesup church.
3. The Committee approved the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the Rev. John Wall and Skidaway Island church upon request of the congregation and pastor.
4. The Committee approved an Interim Agreement between the Rev. Sam Henderson and Skidaway Island church and granted permission for Rev. Henderson, a member of Cherokee Presbytery, to labor within the bounds of Savannah Presbytery.
5. The Committee on Ministry sponsored a training session on Sexual Misconduct and Child Abuse Prevention on August 2. Twenty-two minister members and Commissioned Ruling Elders of Presbytery completed the training that day. Please remember that minister members of Savannah Presbytery are required to attend a misconduct and abuse prevention workshop at least once every 3 years. If a minister member was not able to attend this training, please contact the Presbytery office for information about additional training opportunities.
6. Members of our committee have met with the sessions of 24 of the congregations of Savannah Presbytery this year. We have committed to meet with every session each year to hear about the strengths, joys, and challenges faced in each of our congregations. If your Session has not already received or scheduled a visit with a member of the COM, please be expecting a request for some time on your agenda!

#### **For Action**

1. The Committee recommends that Savannah Presbytery appoint the following to serve as an Administrative Commission to inquire into and settle the difficulties in the Richmond Hill Presbyterian Church in response to the request of the Session of RHPC and in accordance with G-3.0109b: Ruling Elders Doty Dunn (First, Statesboro) and Alex Sifford (St. Simons Island), and Teaching Elders Mary Beene, Bert Cramer, and Craig Pope. The Commission shall make its final report to Presbytery and be considered dissolved on October 31, 2013, unless the Presbytery extends its term.

*Note: This recommendation does not include assigning any powers of original jurisdiction to the Administrative Commission at this time.*

#### **Recommendation Approved.**

## **Report on the Committee on Preparation For Ministry**

### **Reverend Troy Hauser Brydon**

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#### **Information Only**

- The CPM is beginning work on a handbook for presbytery-specific requirements for the preparation for ministry process.
- The Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE) program (formerly, CLP) is gaining more interest. If you are feeling a call to be a CRE or if your work within the presbytery would be aided by being a CRE, please get in touch with the CPM so that you can be enrolled in the process. It cannot begin until enrollment.

## **Report of Mission Ministry Team**

### **Rev. Rick Douylliez**

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#### **For Action**

That the 2012 Peacemaking Offering (25% remains at the presbytery level) be presented to the Bethesda House of Mercy, a center for domestic abuse in Waycross, Georgia.

#### **Recommendation Approved.**

#### **Information Only**

The Savannah Mission Ministry Team met at the Swainsboro Presbyterian Apartments on Thursday, October 11, 2012 at 10:45 a.m. Nettie Drew welcomed everyone to the Swainsboro Apartments and shared a few recent heart-warming stories about the residents.

The Team reviewed the current language in the provisional manual. This will need to be re-written soon as the presbytery seeks to complete a new and revised manual of operations. It was understood that the Self Development of People requirement would not be included in the new manual.

A report of the 2012 Presbytery Youth Mission Trip was presented. Five churches in the presbytery were represented. Twenty-three youth and adults spent a week long trip and were engaged in various forms of “hands-on” mission within the boundaries of District 3.

Margie Peavey gave a report on a trip that First Statesboro took to Haiti in June and the various mission projects of their congregation.

Ozeas Silva reported on the current happenings at the Swainsboro Hispanic Ministry and of the joyful anniversary celebration this past year.

The Team will sponsor and coordinate the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Mission Fair at the Leadership Development Conference/ Winter Presbytery Stated Meeting February 15-16 at Epworth by the Sea. All congregations will be encouraged to participate.

# Report on Education and Training Team

## Rev. Andy Meeker

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### No recommendations.

### Information Only

#### **1. School of the Laity**

Plans are in place to restart School of the Laity where we left off before this year's Jubilee. Leslie McCracken will act as SOL Coordinator and will work closely with Beth Sutton in the Presbytery office. Schedule, accommodations at Epworth, and faculty are all being confirmed for the following 2013 school dates: March 9&10; June 7-9; October 12&13. We are also working on establishing a SOL Alumni Association and a possible reunion.

#### **2. Leadership Development Conference**

Plans are moving forward to have our annual Leadership Development Conference on February 15&16, 2013. Keynote speaker, theme and workshop leaders are all being recruited. Beth Sutton will be the LDC coordinator.

#### **3. Summer Camp**

Camp will once again take place at Ebenezer Camp and Conference Center in Rincon the week of June 17-22, 2013, so mark your calendars.

#### **4. Youth Events**

A group coordinated by First St. Marys, First Waycross and Allenhurst Churches will be heading to the Montreat Youth Conference the week of June 1-8, 2013. Contact Rick Douylliez, Trip McKinnon or Ben Beasley for more information. Special thanks to the member of First St. Marys who is helping to underwrite the cost of the trip

Plans are for Nat Scott and St. Simons Church to coordinate a trip to next summer's Triennium Youth Conference, July 16-20, on the campus of Purdue University. Stay tuned for more information, but it is hoped that participants, their home church, and the Presbytery will all share in the cost of the trip. Other Youth events, Youth Connects and mission opportunities are in the works.



## Other Committee Reports

### **Ruling Elder Commissioner Report 220th Annual General Assembly, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania June 30 — July 7, 2012 Charles Rogers, Allenhurst Presbyterian Church**

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I was elected, commissioned and served as the Ruling Elder Commissioner to the 220th General Assembly in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania June 30 through July 7, 2012. I was randomly assigned to the Church Growth and Development Committee and Presbyterian Investment and Loan Corporation. This was one of the most interesting, meaningful and exciting events of my life ( which includes 30 years active duty in the US Army).

I began Saturday morning by attending a series of workshops which were intended to orient the commissioners on the more pressing issues, divestment, special offerings, and group interviews with the candidates for Moderator and Vice Moderator. The General Assembly began, as it should, with worship on Saturday afternoon. Following worship the Assembly opened and proceeded to elect a Moderator and Vice Moderator. Teaching Elder Neil Pressa, Elizabeth (NJ) Presbytery was elected on the fourth ballot. This was not without controversy and the Vice Moderator felt it necessary to resign almost immediately and we had to elect another Vice Moderator.

Sunday I attended worship at the First Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh which is celebrating its 175 anniversary. I had forgotten that many old churches in the North are not air conditioned and it was a extremely warm but after the service the church provide all commissioners and other attendees with a sack lunch. Sunday's session was for the election of a Stated Clerk. In an almost unprecedented election only Teaching Elder Grady Parsons ran unopposed. Grady lends stability to the office of the General Assembly during these turbulent times.

Sunday evening we began working in our assigned committees. Work in my committee was not as intense as in some committees. No one is opposed to church growth and PLIC has never had a church default on a loan. We had 19 overtures to consider plus reviewing PLIC operations. Most of the work was rewording overtures and making recommendations. It is of interest that no overture is recommended without considering the financial impact to the denomination. We were in committee from Sunday night until Tuesday night. Our moderator did a great job keeping us focused and on track. Some of the time in committee was devoted to presentations from groups that issues at stake and wanted our favorable consideration. I was much impressed by the Youth Advisory Delegates assigned to the committee. They were well spoken, with good ideas and suggestions. They were polite but were not intimidated by the older commissioners. They all exhibited a great love and concern for the church.

The assembly met in full Wednesday through Friday (actually concluding work at 1:45 AM Saturday). All session opened with prayer and devotions. Many issues were discussed. Unfortunately, too much time was spent in debate on early discussions which took its toll at the end and some important issues were given short shrift. Divestment of Motorola and Caterpillar stock was defeated by one vote. Changing the marriage definition (man and woman vs. two individuals) was also defeated. However, I believe both of these issues will be back at the 221 General Assembly and most likely be approved. An overture to revisit the ordination standards was soundly defeated. The Assembly appeared to be too exhausted by previous GA actions to take this up again. Wording in the Book of

Order concerning Teaching Elders and Ruling Elders was retained. Apparently some Teaching Elders were having problems identifying themselves and wanted to revert to the previous wording but most Ruling Elders liked their new status.

Special offerings remain basically the same. These offerings are of concern as only 10% of PCUSA churches take all four offerings and the average giving is only \$6.00 (shame on us)! The goal is to raise this to \$8.00. The idea of non-geographical presbyteries was defeated as being un-Presbyterian. Female ministers spoke against a \$30,000 proposed study of their status in the Church. They said they did not need a study to know that they are under paid and undervalued and the money could be better used elsewhere. The study was defeated.

Several items of additional interest included:

1. Developing resources for non-English speaking congregations.
2. Establishing 1001 Worshiping Communities. No longer will the denomination plant congregations in areas where there are no Presbyterian churches, hoping that "if we build it they will come". Instead worshiping communities will be established in nontraditional locations such as bowling alleys, coffee shops, tattoo parlors, reaching out especially immigrant communities.
3. Going forward to reinvigorate the Presbyterian college ministry program now called UKirk.

The General Assembly closed as it opened with a worship service.

I attended a breakfast hosted by Presbyterians for Renewal and a dinner sponsored by the Medical Missionary Board and ate with a missionary from Bangladesh; I attended luncheons sponsored by the Presbyterian Historical Society (my wife and I are members) and Columbia Seminary. I had the opportunity to meet many members of the denomination and discuss our future. I even met and had interesting conversations with the ecumenical observer from the Reformed Church of Poland. I did not think there were Protestant Poles let alone reformed ones. It is unfortunate that we are being held hostage, in a way, by people continually telling us that if we do this, we have churches that are ready to walk; or if we do not do this we are going to lose this group. We need to find what unites us rather than divides us.

I would like to thank Teaching Elder Ben Beasley for nominating me and the Presbytery for their confidence in electing me as ruling elder commissioner. Lastly, I thank Teaching Elder Commissioner Eric Beene for his technological assistance and theological guidance. He made it a lot easier for me.

**Teaching Elder Commissioner Report**  
**220th Annual General Assembly, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**  
**June 30 — July 7, 2012**  
**Rev. Eric Beene, White Bluff Presbyterian Church**

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Eric Beene gave a verbal report concerning the accomplishments of the General Assembly, noting that although several of the major initiatives had been voted down, these votes were reached with careful thought and much hard work.

# Report on the Committee on Nominations

## Chair Jean Vernon

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### Presbytery Council

Moderator Elect: Rick Douylliez, St. Mary's

Nominee: Johnye Gillans, Butler Memorial, Member At Large

### Committee on Representation

#### 2015

Rev. Nelle Bordeaux	C	[2] D-1	Member-At-Large
Joanne Boone	E	[1] D-3	Brunswick Second

### Presbytery Nominating Committee 2012-2013

Elder Jim Conner, St. Marys

Elder Johnye Gillans, Butler Memorial

Rev. Dan Lewis, Pastor, Statesboro

Rev. Craig Pope, Pastor, Montgomery

Elder Jean Vernon, Chair, Brunswick 1st

Elder Paul Walter, Skidaway

### Church & Polity Team

### Committee on Ministry

#### 2013

Bert Cramer	C	[1] D-3	Altama
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#### 2014

Brenda Harrelson	E	[1] D-1	Faith
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#### 2015

Doty Dunn	E	[2] D-2	First, Statesboro
Rev. Craig Pope	C	[1] D-1	Montgomery
Rev. Kathi Parchem	C	[2] D-1	First, Hinesville
Rev. Stephen Williams	C	[2] D-1	First, Savannah

### Committee on Preparation for Ministry

#### 2013

Grace James	E	[1] D-2	First, Douglas
Marcia Dodd	E	[1] D-1	Skidaway Island

#### 2015

Rev. Andy Chambers	C	[1] D-3	Frederica
Rev. Dawn Mayes	C	[2] D-3	First, Brunswick
Rev. Rachel Butler	C	[1] D-1	Member-At-Large

## **Permanent Judicial Commission**

### **2015**

Rev. Bob Brearly	C	[1] D-3	St. Simons
Joe McGoogan	E	[1] D-3	First, Brunswick
Al Mullice	E	[1] D-1	Butler Memorial

## **Education & Training Ministry Team**

### **2014**

Rev. Trip McKinnon	C	[1] D-3	First, Waycross
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### **2015**

Susan Hill	E	[1] D-3	Saint Mary's
Joan Pierce	E	[1] D-1	Skidaway Island
Chris Thomas	E	[1] D-1	White Bluff
Rev. Will Shelburne	C	[2] D-1	First, Savannah

## **Evangelism & Transformation Ministry Team**

### **2015**

Rev. Greg Gillispie, Chair	C	[2] D-1	Richmond Hill
Rev. Mark George	C	[1] D-2	Henry Memorial
Donna McClain	E	[1] D-3	Waycross

## **Mission Ministry Team**

### **2015 (all members of team returning)**

Rev. Ben Beasley	C	[1] D-1	Allenhurst
JoAnne Beasley	E	[1] D-2	Lyons
Rev. Rick Douylliez, Chair	C	[1] D-3	First, Saint Marys
Dr. Steven Smith	E	[1] D-1	First, Savannah

## **M.K. Pentecost Ecology Fund Committee**

### **2015**

Rev. Alan Baroody, Chair	C	[2] D-1	Fraser Center
Kathy Gladding	L	[2] D-3	First, Brunswick
Beverly English	E	[1] D-1	Montgomery
Ed Torgeson	E	[1] D-3	First, St. Mary's

## **Swainsboro Presbyterian Apartments Board of Directors**

### **2015**

JoAnne Beasley	E	[2] D-2	Lyons
Bobby Scott	E	[1] D-3	Jesup
Grace Walter	E	[1] D-1	Skidaway Island
Rev. Claire Williams	C	[1] D-1	First, Savannah

## Report of M. K. Pentecost Committee

### Reverend Mary Beene, Coordinator

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**Information only:**

Some of you may not know what the M.K. Pentecost Ecology Fund is. In the 1990s, Mr. M.K. Pentecost left a large charitable trust to the Savannah Presbytery, established for “the presbytery’s ministry of environmental justice and ecological stewardship of natural resources including marine and wild life. The funds are to be used for promoting the support of conservation efforts, education, and studies in key environmental issues of endangered ecosystems and ecological projects which are approved by the presbytery.” The M. K. Pentecost Ecology Fund was set up as a committee, elected by Presbytery, to administer this grant-making program. Most grants go to regional nonprofit organizations working on coastal and ecological efforts in the southern coastal region, the geographic area specified in Mr. Pentecost’s will.

Through the “Go Green” program, some grants are also given to churches in the Presbytery working on ecological projects that fit the requirements of the trust. At our recent committee meeting, \$5,000 of the grant money was set aside for an emergency fund “for the purpose of providing relief in the case of an ecological crisis or disaster.”

Funds for the grants and programs of the M.K. Pentecost Ecology Fund come directly from the investment income of M.K. Pentecost’s trust, and are managed by the Presbyterian Foundation. No Savannah Presbytery operating funds are used for the program, nor can the M.K. Pentecost funds be used by the Presbytery outside the requirements of the donor’s stated intentions. This has been a wonderful program in our Presbytery and there are probably people in your community that would like to know that the Presbyterian Church supports conservation of God’s creation. Please contact the Fund’s Coordinator, Mary Beene ([mbeene@savannahpresbytery.org](mailto:mbeene@savannahpresbytery.org)) for more information or if you have interest in or ideas for getting the word out in your community about this great work.

- In May, the M.K. Pentecost Committee approved one “Go Green” Grant to First Presbyterian Church – Savannah for a project to teach youth about vegetable gardening.
- The committee also approved grants for these non-profit and scientific study grants:

Organization	Grant
1. Altamaha Riverkeeper	Protecting The Altamaha River
2. Christine Racza, Coastal Carolina University	Study Of Biomass Of An Invasive Species In A SC Riverway
3. Jamie Brusa, Coastal Carolina University	Study Of Bottlenose Dolphins
4. Kathryn O'Shaughnessy, Coastal Carolina University	Study Of Mud Crabs And Invasive Species
5. Leigha Peterson, Coastal Carolina University	Study Of Porewater Chemistry And Sediment Porosity
6. Lucas P. Lemly, Coastal Carolina University	Study Of Fish In The Peedee-Waccamaw River System
7. Sarah Chappel, Coastal Carolina University	Study Of Groundwater Discharge And Hypoxia
8. William Beckett Hills, Coastal Carolina University	Study Of Diamondback Terrapins
9. Coastal Georgia Greenway	Public Awareness Campaign
10. Eastern Surfing Association, GA District	Study Of Oyster Reef Restoration On Tybee Island

11. Georgia Conservancy	Land Conservation Efforts
12. Terry Lester, Georgia Southern University	Study Of Fiddler Crabs And Salt Marsh Ecosystems
13. Glynn Environmental Coalition	Seafood Contamination Awareness Project
14. Grays Reef NMS	Ocean Film Festival
15. The Nature Conservancy in Georgia	Georgia For Generations Campaign
16. University of Georgia Odum School of Ecology	Study Of Invasive Species

- Over the next couple of months, the M.K. Pentecost Fund will be reworking its website and online presence to begin to build connections that show how “green” churches in our Presbytery can effectively reach people in the community that care about God’s creation. If you have ideas, please contact Mary Beene.
- We are excited to offer our next round of “Go Green” grants to Savannah Presbytery Churches for \$400 projects to help your church go green. Applications will be available online before the February Presbytery meeting and workshops will be offered to help you develop your proposals at the Leadership Development Conference, but it is not too early to begin thinking about what your church might like to do. For ideas, contact Mary Beene.

## Report on Presbyterian Women

### Janet Ward, Moderator

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Reflecting back over the months from May to October, I have seen a beautiful growth in the Presbyterian Women of the Savannah Presbytery! The ladies are living out the Presbyterian Women's purpose in every facet of their lives. They are truly a group of ladies who are taking every mission opportunity and putting them into reality. I have been allowed the opportunity to personally see the love that God has given each woman being shared with so many.

Our cookbook venture that began late last year, is almost history. We only have 142 cookbooks remaining until we will be sold out. Everyone everywhere has been enjoying these cookbooks. Ladies at Churchwide bought our southern style cookbooks to be able to give their families a taste of the south.

The Savannah Presbytery was represented with 5 Presbyterian Women at Churchwide in Orlando. Daily updates were posted each evening and viewed by many on the Savannah Presbytery website and the Presbytery Facebook webpage. Our voting delegates gave a presentation to the entire PW at our recent Fall Gathering. It is truly amazing that the 2000 that attended the Gathering were so gracious in their giving. We collected a Gathering offering of \$40,655.82 which is going to dig 20 wells in the Sudan, ensuring clean accessible water for the people. Gift cards were donated which were presented to Beth-El Farmworkers Ministry in the amount of \$41,246.15. Two cents a meal was collected at every meal. All of our ladies enjoyed, fellowship, sharing knowledge, and I even learned how to tell stories! Well I guess I could do a little of that, but the workshop that I attended helped teach me more ways to share stories of Presbyterian Women.

In mid September, the Presbyterian Women of the Savannah Presbytery hosted a Horizon's Bible Study Workshop for anyone who wanted to learn about the Bible Study. Once again, we owe our gratitude to Rev. Eric Beene, for making the arrangements to secure our speaker for the workshop. Nancy Benson-Nicol, author of this year's Horizon's Bible Study, *Dispatches to God's Household: The General Epistles*, was our guest speaker for the day. Nancy gave a wonderful insight to the entire Bible Study. We were entertained, educated, and inspired to get busy studying the Epistles. The men of White Bluff Presbyterian Church provide the main course of the meal for all attendees who wanted to break bread and fellowship with each other. Janet and Molly provided the desserts for the meal. We had 75 ladies attend the workshop, and 63 stayed for lunch. The men had an abundance of meat

after everyone was fed. I took a cue from my auctioneer husband and made the grand effort to sell the extra BBQ meat. I was successful we had to turn down some prospective buyers because the meat ran out!

Next, we held our Fall Gathering hosted by the PW of Skidaway Island Presbyterian Church, September 29, 2012. This was a great Gathering. Our guest speaker was Rev. Paula Hoffman, First Presbyterian Warner Robins. She gave us a new prospective on "Singing in the Rain." Everyone was treated to a JOY Marketplace where they could purchase items that benefited various mission charities that our Presbyterian Women Groups support. The ladies of Skidaway Island went to such great lengths to make everyone feel welcome, giving them an environment to share with one another, be filled with God's message, learn more about mission opportunities, and brag a little about their church's PW activities! The day was fun, exciting, exhilarating, impacting, and eventually exhausting! Everyone in attendance had the opportunity to meet LADY PW. She made her debut at this meeting exclaiming that she would be see everyone real soon at the Savannah Presbytery meeting in October. All 130+ folks enjoyed the hospitality of the Presbyterian Women of Skidaway Island Presbyterian Church!

I have recently presented a program to the ladies of Wilmington Island Presbyterian Church, giving them ideas to rejuvenate their PW programs. I answered questions, and encouraged them to begin in creative ways making sure that every woman interested in participating had the opportunity. We intensely looked at the Creative Ministries, and other PW programs. When I left the 40 women in attendance appeared to be excited. I overheard the women making plans and presenting ideas to each other for mission opportunities in their community. Wow God was in charge of this group of ladies!

Our ladies are busy within their own churches, inviting me to attend many different events. I have had so many wonderful learning opportunities with the PW in the Savannah Presbytery. God has certainly blessed me allowing me to serve as the Moderator of the Savannah Presbytery.

As the moderator of the Savannah Presbytery Presbyterian Women, I have been participating in many committee meetings, on Council, as well as special meetings for the Presbytery. These experiences have been uplifting as well as trying at times. Working with so many men and women around the Savannah Presbytery, I have been given so many opportunities to make new friends that will be my friends for the years to follow.

This is my last Presbytery meeting as your PW Moderator, as my time in office is rapidly coming to a close. There are only a few meetings left to attend and for me to preside over on behalf of PW of the Savannah Presbytery. I have one more Gathering to plan. Planning has begun, and excitement is in the air! I have several PW's that have requested my presence in the next few months. I began my moderator role in the Fall of 2008 and will complete my two terms at the close of the Annual Gathering in January, 2013. What a wonderful learning experience and opportunity God has given to me! I am truly blessed to have served our GOD along with so many of you!

Thank you to all the people who do God's work with a PURPOSE to enhance the world that we are a part of! Thank you for using your God given talents for the causes of Presbyterian Women!

Blessings to you! May each of you feel God's presence during and beyond this Presbytery meeting!

## **Report on Swainsboro Presbyterian Apartments**

### **Reverend Eric Beene, Chair**

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Please see the "Be An Angel Flyer" at back of handbook.

Bulletin inserts are available on the website, use the search function on the right hand side, type "be an angel" and click on the post. The link for the insert is at the bottom of the post.

**Pickup will be Friday, December 7th at the Presbytery Office & White Bluff Presbyterian Church in Savannah and Monday, December 10th at Lyons Presbyterian Church.**

## **Report on Swainsboro Hispanic Ministry**

### **Reverend Ozeas Silva**

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Rev. Silva thanked the Savannah Presbytery for our assistance in the Hispanic Ministry at Swainsboro. He also gave Nettie Drew a birthday gift in thanksgiving for her tremendous support and assistance with their ministry.

## **Special Reports**

### **Report from Synod Commissioner**

#### **Rev. Dr. Ricky Porter**

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Rev. Porter gave a report of the Synod Meeting held October 4 and 5, 2012 in St. Petersburg, Florida, at Eckerd College.

### **Presbyterian Homes**

#### **Rev. Larry Owens, Director of Annual Giving**

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Rev. Owens reminded our members to continue to be faithful in their much-needed support of Presbyterian Homes.

### **Presbyterian Foundation**

#### **Robert Hay**

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Robert Hay emphasized that the role of the Foundation is to cultivate, attract, and manage financial resources of individuals and institutions to serve Christ's mission. He is available to help and advise individuals and churches with regards to wills, bequests and legacies.

### **Board of Pensions**

#### **Clark Simmons**

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Mentioned luncheons, please call him if you have any questions.

### **Two Minute Promotions**

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1. Rev. Kathy Parchem reminded us about Villa International's 45th Anniversary Celebration, Viva Villa Wine & Cheese Tasting and Silent Auction on Sunday, November 18, 2012 from 5-8 p.m.
2. Rev. Ben Beasley reminded us about the lock-In at Allenhurst November 9th, hosted in conjunction with First, St. Mary's.
3. Rev. Andy Meeker reminded us about Wilmington Island PC's Oyster Roast on Nov. 3, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.

## **Committee on Resolution and Thanks**

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## **Benediction and Adjournment**

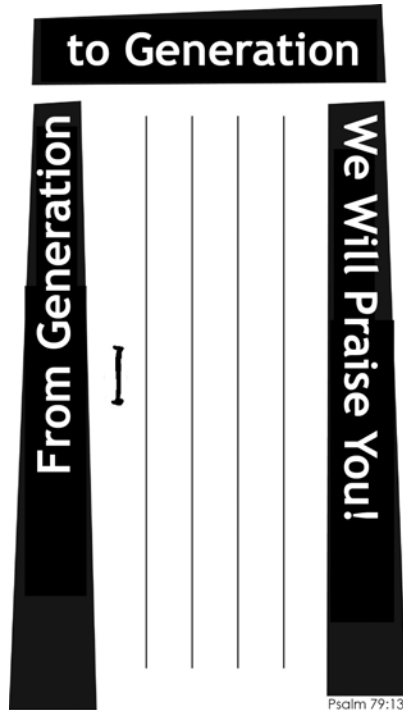
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**The next Presbytery Meeting will be on Friday, February 15, 2012  
at Epworth By The Sea, St. Simons Island**

May 21, 2013 Faith Presbyterian Church Rincon, GA

October 22, 2013 Washington Street Presbyterian Church Dublin, GA



Save the Date

Epworth-by-the-Sea | St. Simons Island

Keynote Speaker

**John Roberto**

[www.lifelongfaith.com](http://www.lifelongfaith.com)

*Lifelong Faith Associates is committed to helping congregations develop lifelong faith formation for all ages and generations, increasing the capacity of leaders and communities to nurture faith growth.*

If you have ideas for workshop topics and/or presenters, please contact our LDC team: Will Shelburne, Charles Rogers, Mary Holley, Beth Sutton at the Presbytery Office or Mary Beene at [mebeene@bellsouth.net](mailto:mebeene@bellsouth.net) or 912-856-2806.

# *“Be an Angel”*



## **The “Be an Angel” program for Swainsboro Presbyterian Apartments needs your support again in 2012!**

Over the past years, the Apartments have been fortunate to receive very generous donations from the churches of the Savannah Presbytery. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and I hope we can count on you again in 2012! For some of our residents, these gifts are the only Christmas presents they receive.

Christmas gift bags include but are not limited to personal items such as **toiletries, boxes of stationery, assorted greeting cards, scarves, socks, bedroom slippers, candies, diabetic candies/cookies, hand towels, kitchen towels, pot holders, books and puzzles.**

Your generous donations will insure that each of our 52 residents, (10 men, 42 women - including two married couples) will have a Christmas gift bag.

**Pickup will be Friday, December 7th at the Presbytery Office & White Bluff Presbyterian Church in Savannah and Monday, December 10th at Lyons Presbyterian Church. The last day to drop off gifts at the Presbytery will be Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup>.**

**Thanks for your support of this important ministry!**