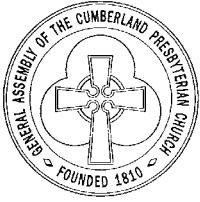


# 188<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

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*of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church*  
**Norman, Oklahoma**  
**June 17-21, 2018**



send me  
**200** YEARS OF MINISTRY WITH THE  
**CHOCTAW**

**PRELIMINARY MINUTES**

## **Vision of Ministry**

Biblically-based and Christ-centered

born out of a specific sense of mission,  
the Cumberland Presbyterian Church strives to be true to its heritage:  
to be open to God's reforming spirit,  
to work cooperatively with the larger Body of Christ,  
and to nurture the connectional bonds that make us one.

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church seeks—to be the hands and feet of Christ in witness and service to the world and, above all, the Cumberland Presbyterian Church lives out the love of God to the glory of Jesus Christ.

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## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

<b>Assembly Meetings:</b>	Embassy Suites Hotel & Convention Center
<b>General Assembly Office:</b>	North Park
<b>Women's Ministry Office:</b>	Event Concierge
<b>Retiring Moderator:</b>	The Reverend David Lancaster, West Tennessee Presbytery
<b>Co-Hosts:</b>	Choctaw Presbytery, Oklahoma Churches of Red River Presbytery (CPC) & Brazos River Presbytery (CPCA)
<b>Co-Pastor Hosts:</b>	The Reverend Leslie Johnson and The Reverend Marian Sontowski, Red River Presbytery
<b>Worship Director:</b>	The Reverend Melissa Malinoski, West Tennessee Presbytery

### SUNDAY, JUNE 17, 2018

<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Hotel Lobby	1:00 p.m.	Welcome Table	
Convention Center	3:00 p.m.	GA Office open	North Park
		Registration for Women's Ministry Convention	Event Concierge
Convention Center		Setup displays	Convention Center Hallways

#### EVENING PROGRAM

Convention Center	7:00 p.m.	Joint Opening GA Worship/Communion Service	Ballroom E & F
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### FIRST DAY - MONDAY, JUNE 18, 2018

Convention Center	8:00 a.m.	Women's Ministry Registration (open until noon)	Event Concierge
Convention Center	8:30 a.m.	Orientation for Commissioners and Youth Advisory Delegates Orientation for Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs (Commissioner/YAD packets may be picked up before or after the orientation session.)	Ballroom G & H
Convention Center	10:30 a.m.	Opening GA Business Session Constitution of the CPC General Assembly Adoption of the Agenda Report of the Credentials Committee Election of Moderator Election of Vice-Moderator Presentation by the Stated Clerk, Mike Sharpe Communications Corrections to Preliminary Minutes Committee Appointments and Referrals to Committees Welcome, Pastor Host, Local Officials Introduction of Board and Agency Representatives	Ballroom E & F
Convention Center	10:30 a.m.	CP Women's Ministry Regional Council Meeting (for Regional Delegates only)	Boomer A & B
	12:00 p.m.	CP Women's Ministry Regional Council Luncheon	Boomer A & B
	2:00 p.m.	Joint Choctaw Anniversary Celebration	Ballroom E & F
	4:30 p.m.	Joint Moderator & Anniversary Reception	Ballroom E & F
	5:00 p.m.	Dinner Break	
	5:30 p.m.	Fellowship Dinner (reservations required) (sponsored by Discipleship Ministry Team)	Eastlake CP Church

#### EVENING PROGRAM

Convention Center	7:00 p.m.	GA Committees meet CP Women's Ministry & National Missionary Society Gathering	Various Locations (see bottom of page 6) Ballroom G & H
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**SECOND DAY - TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 2018**

<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Legacy Park	7:00 - 9:00am	Joint Devotions / FUN RUN & WALK	Legacy Park
Convention Center	8:00 a.m.	Convention Registration	Event Concierge
	10:00 a.m.	GA Committee meetings (until 5pm)	Various Locations
	10:00 a.m.	Gathering of CP Women's Ministry	Ballroom G & H
	12:00 p.m.	CPCA National Missionary Society Luncheon	Ballroom E
	2:00 p.m.	Off-site Field Trip (must be Pre-Registered)	Conference Center Southeast Door
	.	On-site Bible Study	Ballroom G & H
	5:30 p.m.	Bethel University Dinner	Ballroom E
<b>EVENING PROGRAM</b>			
	7:00 p.m.	GA Committees Meet	Various Locations
	8:30 p.m.	Joint Reception Honoring Women in Ministry	Ballroom G & H

**THIRD DAY - WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 2018**

Convention Center	8:30 a.m.	Joint Devotions/Presentations	Ballroom F
	9:30 a.m.	GA Committees Meet (until 5 pm)	Various Locations
	9:30 a.m.	Women's Ministry Convention	Ballroom G & H
	12:00 p.m.	MTS/PAS Luncheon	Ballroom E
	2:00 p.m.	Women's Ministry Convention	Ballroom G & H
	5:00 p.m.	Conclusion of Committee Meetings	Various Locations
	5:30 p.m.	CP Children's Home Dinner	Ballroom E
<b>EVENING PROGRAM</b>			
Convention Center	7:00 p.m.	Evening Worship/Program led by Young Adults	Ballroom F

**FOURTH DAY - THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 2018**

Convention Center	8:30 a.m.	Devotional led by Yahaira Patricio, Youth Advisory Delegate, Tennessee-Georgia Presbytery	Ballroom F
	9:00 a.m.	Break	
	9:30 a.m.	General Assembly Business	Ballroom F
	9:30 a.m.	Women's Ministry Convention Reconvenes	Ballroom G & H
	12:00 noon	Lunch Break	
	12:00 p.m.	Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Luncheon	Ballroom E
	2:00 p.m.	General Assembly Business	Ballroom F
	5:00 p.m.	Dinner Break	
		Take Down Displays	
<b>EVENING PROGRAM</b>			
Convention Center	7:00 p.m.	General Assembly Business Closing Devotion led by Reverend Melissa Malinoski, West Tennessee Presbytery	Ballroom F

(In the event that business is not concluded on Thursday,  
the closing worship will be at the conclusion  
of business on Friday morning.)

**COMMISSIONERS**  
to the  
**ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

PRESBYTERY	MINISTER	COMMITTEE	ELDER	COMMITTEE
Andes (2).....	Juan Castano.....	MC		
Arkansas (2).....	Victor Jones .....	S/E.....	B.A. DeWoody .....	HE/CPCH
	Rian Puckett .....	HE/CPCH.....	Janis Wilson.....	S/E
Cauca Valley (3).....			Agustin Salazar.....	MC
Choctaw (1).....	Hannah Bryan.....	S/E.....	Ron Lewis .....	TSC/UTF
Columbia (2).....	Sherry Ladd .....	C/HF .....	Brenda Howell.....	TSC/UTF
	Charles (Buddy) Pope .....	J.....	George Ladd.....	J
Covenant (3).....	James Fulton.....	MC .....	Rudy Fowler.....	S/E
	Robert Goodman .....	HE/CPCH.....	Katie Heim .....	MC
	Drew Gray .....	C/HF .....	Brenda Shoulta .....	HE/CPCH
Cumberland (3).....	Kevin Brantley .....	J.....	Diann Phelps .....	C/HF
	John Butler .....	HE/CPCH.....	Kathy Allen .....	MC
Cumberland East Coast (1) (NONE)				
Del Cristo (1) .....	Jerry Smyrl .....	HE/CPCH.....	Tom McWilliams.....	TSC/UTF
East Tennessee (3).....	David Koopman .....	J.....	Mary Kay Buckner .....	HE/CPCH
	Randall Mayfield.....	TSC/UTF.....	Larry White .....	S/E
	Milton Ortiz.....	C/HF .....	Richard Snowden .....	J
Emaus (1).....			Cecilia Taborda.....	MC
Grace (3) .....	William Alas.....	C/HF .....	Pat Crouse .....	TSC/UTF
	Timothy Lee .....	S/E.....	Delores Moore.....	C/HF
	Sherrad Hayes.....	J.....	Grady Prevost.....	J
Hong Kong (2).....	Ha Ting Bong .....	HE/CPCH		
	Tsui Ho Kei Jackson.....	HE/CPCH		
Hope (1) .....	Jimmy Cox .....	C/HF .....	James Letsinger.....	C/HF
Japan (1).....	(NONE)			
Missouri (1).....	Michael Reno .....	S/E.....	Mary Lyn Hunter.....	HE/CPCH
Murfreesboro (4).....	Ronnie Pittenger .....	S/E.....	Cathy Hiveley.....	HE/CPCH
	Barry Boggs.....	J.....	Brenda Johnson .....	TSC/UTF
	Chris Warren.....	C/HF .....	Billy Goodman .....	S/E
	Blake Stephens .....	MC .....	Brenda Tate.....	HE/CPCH
Nashville (3).....	Jay Earheart-Brown.....	J.....	Lisa Collins .....	J
	Jesse Freeman.....	S/E.....	Ben Lindamood.....	HE/CPCH
	Sandra Shepherd.....	TSC/UTF.....	Brittney Stevens .....	MC
North Central (2).....	Ralph Blevins .....	TSC/UTF.....	Victory Moore .....	C/HF
	Lisa Scott.....	J.....	Roy Shanks.....	J
Red River (3).....	Kevin Henson.....	TSC/UTF.....	Ben Brown.....	HE/CPCH
	Randy Hardisty.....	S/E.....	Bill McClure.....	S/E
	Terra Sisco.....	MC .....	Vicki Goodwin .....	MC
Robert Donnell (1).....	Micaiah Tanck .....	HE/CPCH.....	Frances Dawson .....	J
Tenn./Georgia (3).....	Jimmy Byrd .....	TSC/UTF.....	James Condra .....	C/HF
	Courtney Krueger.....	S/E.....	Sylvia Hall.....	S/E
	Perry Whitaker .....	MC .....	Christy Cooper .....	MC
Trinity (2).....	Gloria Villa Diaz .....	C/HF .....	James Webb.....	TSC/UTF
	Jack Holt.....	J		
West Tennessee (5).....	David Lancaster.....	MC .....	Patricia Coleman .....	TSC/UTF
	Melissa Malinoski .....	TSC/UTF.....	Gwen Holland.....	HE/CPCH
	Debbie Marshall .....	C/HF .....	Kyong Hwan Inn .....	MC
	Ron McMillan .....	HE/CPCH.....	Gary Page .....	S/E
	Andy McClung .....	S/E.....	Linda Drylie .....	C/HF

**YOUTH ADVISORY DELEGATES**  
**to the**  
**ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

(Each Presbytery is eligible to send two Youth Advisory Delegates)

<b>PRESBYTERY</b>	<b>DELEGATE</b>	<b>COMMITTEE</b>
Arkansas.....	(no youth)	
Choctaw .....	(no youth)	
Columbia.....	(no youth)	
Covenant .....	Dyllan Simmons.....	MC
Cumberland.....	Carly Bell .....	C/HF
.....	Eden Sheftall.....	HE/CPCH
del Cristo.....	(no youth)	
East Tennessee .....	Kennedy Holloway .....	C/HF
Grace .....	Isaac Barkley.....	HE/CPCH
.....	Callie Swindle.....	C/HF
Hope .....	Sydney Holder .....	J
Japan .....	(no youth)	
Missouri.....	Nathaniel Woods.....	HE/CPCH
Murfreesboro.....	Abigail Mathis .....	J
.....	Leigh Ann Morgan.....	S/E
Nashville.....	Jenna Snipes.....	MC
.....	Kailey Sundstrom.....	S/E
North Central .....	Colten Lash .....	J
Red River.....	Elena Riedel.....	S/E
Robert Donnell.....	Katy Barnes.....	TSC/UTF
.....	Lacey Young .....	MC
Tennessee Georgia .....	Yahaira Patricio.....	TSC/UTF
Trinity .....	Chloe Martin.....	S/E
.....	Natalia Rodriguez .....	TSC/UTF
West Tennessee .....	Emily Jerrolds.....	TSC/UTF
.....	Joseph Keenan .....	J

**COMMITTEES ABBREVIATIONS AND MEETING ROOMS**

<b>ABBREV.</b>	<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>MEETING ROOMS</b>
C/HF	Chaplains/Historical Foundation	Boomer A
HE/CPCH	Higher Education/Children's Home	Oklahoma D
J	Judiciary	Oklahoma C
MC	Ministry Council	University C
S/E	Stewardship/Elected Officers	Oklahoma B
TSC/UTF	Theology & Social Concerns/Unification Task Force	Oklahoma A

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

- 1. CHAPLAINS/HISTORICAL FOUNDATION (*Boomer A*)**  
**Chair:** Reverend Sherry Ladd                      **Co-Chair:** Reverend Chris Warren  
**Ministers:** William Alas, Jimmy Cox, Gloria Diaz, Drew Gray, Sherry Ladd, Debbie Marshall,  
Milton Ortiz, Chris Warren  
**Elders:** James Condra, Linda Drylie, James Letsinger, Delores Moore, Victory Moore,  
Dianne Phelps  
**Youth Advisory Delegates:** Carly Bell, Kennedy Holloway, Callie Swindle
- 2. HIGHER EDUCATION/CHILDREN'S HOME (*Oklahoma D*)**  
**Chair:** Reverend Ron McMillan                      **Co-Chair:** Elder Mary Lyn Hunter  
**Ministers:** Ha Ting Bong, John Butler, Robert Goodman, Tsui Ho Kei Jackson, Ron McMillan,  
Rian Puckett, Jerry Smyrl, Micaiah Tanck  
**Elders:** Ben Brown, Mary Kay Buckner, B.A. DeWoody, Cathy Hiveley, Gwen Holland,  
Mary Lyn Hunter, Ben Lindamood, Brenda Shoulta, Brenda Tate  
**Youth Advisory Delegates:** Isaac Barkley, Eden Sheftall, Nathaniel Woods
- 3. JUDICIARY (*Oklahoma C*)**  
**Chair:** Reverend Buddy Pope                      **Co-Chair:** Elder Frances Dawson  
**Ministers:** Barry Boggs, Kevin Brantley, Jay Earheart-Brown, Sherrad Hayes, Jack Holt,  
David Koopman, Buddy Pope, Lisa Scott  
**Elders:** Lisa Collins, Frances Dawson, George Ladd, Grady Prevost, Roy Shanks,  
Richard Snowden  
**Youth Advisory Delegates:** Sydney Holder, Joseph Keenan, Colten Lash, Abigail Mathis
- 4. MINISTRY COUNCIL (*University C*)**  
**Chair:** Reverend David Lancaster                      **Co-Chair:** Reverend Terra Sisco  
**Ministers:** Juan Castano, James Fulton, David Lancaster, Terra Sisco, Blake Stephens,  
Perry Whitaker  
**Elders:** Kathy Allen, Christy Cooper, Vicki Goodwin, Katie Heim, Kyong Hwan Inn,  
Augustin Salazar, Brittany Stevens, Cecilia Taborda  
**Youth Advisory Delegates:** Dyllan Simmons, Jenna Snipes, Lacey Young
- 5. STEWARDSHIP/ELECTED OFFICERS (*Oklahoma B*)**  
**Chair:** Reverend Andy McClung                      **Co-Chair:** Elder Sylvia Hall  
**Ministers:** Hannah Bryan, Jesse Freeman, Randy Hardisty, Victor Jones, Courtney Kruger,  
Timothy Lee, Andy McClung, Ronnie Pittenger, Michael Reno  
**Elders:** Rudy Fowler, Billy Goodman, Sylvia Hall, Bill McClure, Gary Page, Larry White,  
Janis Wilson  
**Youth Advisory Delegates:** Chloe Martin, Leigh Ann Morgan, Elena Riedel, Kailey Sundstrom
- 6. THEOLOGY & SOCIAL CONCERNS/UNIFICATION TASK FORCE (*Oklahoma A*)**  
**Chair:** Reverend Randall Mayfield                      **Co-Chair:** Reverend Sandra Shepherd  
**Ministers:** Ralph Blevins, Jimmy Byrd, Kevin Henson, Melissa Malinoski,  
Randall Mayfield, Sandra Shepherd  
**Elders:** Patricia Coleman, Pat Crouse, Brenda Howell, Brenda Johnson, Ron Lewis,  
Tom McWilliams, James Webb  
**Youth Advisory Delegates:** Katy Barnes, Emily Jerrods, Yahaira Patricio, Natalia Rodriguez
- 7. CREDENTIALS:**  
**Chair:** Reverend Gloria Diaz  
**Co-Chair:** Elder Richard Snowden  
**Member:** Elder Diann Phelps  
**Youth Advisory Delegate:** Isaac Barkley



## REFERRALS TO COMMITTEES

### Referrals to the Committee on Chaplains/Historical Foundation

Page	Report
63	The Report of the Board of Trustees of the Historical Foundation
88	The Report of the Commission on Military Chaplains and Personnel

### Referrals to the Committee on Children's Home/Higher Education

Page	Report
72	The Report of the Board of Trustees of Memphis Theological Seminary
106	The Report of the Board of Trustees of Bethel University
108	The Report of the Board of Trustees of the Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home

### Referrals to the Committee on Judiciary

Page	Report
90	The Report of the Permanent Committee on Judiciary
111	The Report of the Joint Committee on Amendments

### Referrals to the Committee on Ministry Council

Page	Report
40	The Report of the Ministry Council, except item I.B.6 and Appendix A Questions for the Unification Task Force, which are referred to the Committee on Theology & Social Concerns/Unification Task Force
112	Resolution from Arkansas Presbytery Regarding the Mission and Purpose of the Encounter Publication

### Referrals to the Committee on Stewardship/Elected Officers

Page	Report
33	The Report of the Moderator
34	The Report of the Stated Clerk
53	The Report of the Board of Stewardship, Foundation and Benefits
86	The Report of the Our United Outreach Committee
96	The Report of the Place of Meeting Committee
114	Line Item Budgets Submitted by General Assembly Agencies

### Referrals to the Committee on Theology and Social Concerns/Unification Task Force

Page	Report
42	The Report of the Ministry Council, item I.B.6
46	The Report of the Ministry Council, Appendix A Questions for the Unification Task Force
98	The Report of the Unified Committee on Theology and Social Concerns
100	The Report of the Unification Task Force

## RECOMMENDATIONS AT A GLANCE

### Report of the Moderator (No Recommendations)

### Report of the Stated Clerk

<b>Page</b>	35	Recommendation 1
	36	Recommendation 2

### Report of the Ministry Council

<b>Page</b>	44	Recommendation 1
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### Report of the Board of Stewardship, Foundation and Benefits

<b>Page</b>	58	Recommendation 1
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### Report of the Board of Trustees of the Historical Foundation

<b>Page</b>	64	Recommendations 1 - 2
	65	Recommendation 3

### Report of the Board of Trustees of Memphis Theological Seminary

<b>Page</b>	73	Recommendation 1
	77	Recommendation 2
	80	Recommendation 3

### Report of the Our United Outreach Committee

<b>Page</b>	86	Recommendation 1
	87	Recommendations 2-3

### Report of the Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel

<b>Page</b>	88	Recommendations 1-3
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### Report of the Permanent Judiciary Committee

<b>Page</b>	90	Recommendation 1
	91	Recommendations 2-6
	92	Recommendations 7-9

### Report of the Place of Meeting Committee (No Recommendations)

### Report of the Unified Committee on Theology and Social Concerns (No Recommendations)

### Report of the Unification Task Force

<b>Page</b>	100	Recommendation 1
<b>Page</b>	105	Recommendations 2-3

### Report of the Board of Trustees of Bethel University

<b>Page</b>	107	Recommendation 1
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### Report of the Board of Trustees of the CP Children's Home (No Recommendations)

### Report of the Joint Committee on Amendments (No Recommendations)

### Resolution from Arkansas Presbytery (Page 112-113)

### Budgets of General Assembly Board/Agencies (Pages 114-122)

## ASSEMBLY MEETINGS AND OFFICERS

Historical Review of the Stated Meetings and Officers of:

THE CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERY, 1810-1813

Date	Place	Moderator	Clerk	Members
1810, February	Sam McAdow's House Dickson Co., TN	Samuel McAdow	Young Ewing	3
1810, March 20	Ridge Meeting-House, Sumner Co., TN.	Samuel McAdow	Young Ewing	14
1810, October 23	Lebanon Meeting-House	Finis Ewing	Young Ewing	16
1811, March 19	Big Spring, Wilson Co., TN	Robert Bell	Young Ewing	19
1811, October 9	Ridge Meeting-House	Thomas Calhoun	David Foster	23
1812, April 7	Suggs Creek Meeting-House	Hugh Kirkpatrick	James B. Porter	28
1812, November 3	Lebanon, KY	Finis Ewing	Hugh Kirkpatrick	22
1813, April 6	Beech Meeting-House, Sumner Co. TN	Robert Bell	James B. Porter	34

THE CUMBERLAND SYNOD, 1813-1828

1813, October 5	Beech Meeting-House	William McGee	Finis Ewing	13
1814, April 5	Suggs Creek	David Foster	James B. Porter	27
1815, October 17	Beech Meeting-House	William Barnett	David Foster	15
1816, October 15	Free Meeting-House, TN	Thomas Calhoun	David Foster	22
1817, October 21	Mt. Moriah, KY	Robert Donnell	Hugh Kirkpatrick	27
1818, October 20	Big Spring, TN	Finis Ewing	Robert Bell	27
1819, October 19	Suggs Creek, TN	Samuel King	William Barnett	24
1820, October 17	Russellville, KY	Thomas Calhoun	William Moore	30
1821, Third Tues. in Oct.	Russellville, KY	Minutes not recorded		
1822, October 15	Beech Meeting-House	James B. Porter	David Foster	47
1823, October 21	Russellville, KY	John Barnett	Aaron Alexander	48
1824, October 19	Cane Creek, TN	Samuel King	William Moore	68
1825, October 18	Princeton, KY	William Barnett	Hiram McDaniel	76
1826, Third Tues. in Oct.	Russellville, KY	Minutes not recorded		
1827, November 20	Russellville, KY	James S. Guthrie	Laban Jones	63
1828, October 21	Franklin, TN	Hiram A. Hunter	Richard Beard	94

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 1829-

1829, May 19	Princeton, KY	Thomas Calhoun	F. R. Cossitt	26
1830, May 18	Princeton, KY	James B. Porter	F. R. Cossitt	36
1831, May 17	Princeton, KY	Alex Chapman	F. R. Cossitt	34
1832, May 15	Nashville, TN	F. R. Cossitt	F. R. Cossitt	36
1833, May 21	Nashville, TN	Samuel King	F. R. Cossitt	35
1834, May 20	Nashville, TN	Thomas Calhoun	James Smith	48
1835, May 19	Princeton, KY	Sam King	James Smith	42
1836, May 17	Nashville, TN	Reuben Burrow	James Smith	43
1837, May 16	Lebanon, TN	Robert Donnell	James Smith	49
1838, May 15	Princeton, KY	Hiram A. Hunter	James Smith	47
1840, May 19	Elkton, KY	Reuben Burrow	James Smith	55
1841, May 18	Owensboro, KY	William Ralston	C. G. McPherson	56
1842, May 17	Owensboro, KY	Milton Bird	C. G. McPherson	57
1843, May 16	Owensboro, KY	A. M. Bryan	C. G. McPherson	68
1845, May 20	Lebanon, TN	Richard Beard	C. G. McPherson	95
1846, May 19	Owensboro, KY	M. H. Bone	C. G. McPherson	86
1847, May 18	Lebanon, Ohio	Hiram A. Hunter	C. G. McPherson	71
1848, May 16	Memphis, TN	Milton Bird	C. G. McPherson	100
1849, May 16	Princeton, KY	John L. Smith	C. G. McPherson	75
1850, May 21	Clarksville, TN	Reuben Burrow	Milton Bird	102
1851, May 20	Pittsburgh, PA	Milton Bird	Milton Bird	71
1852, May 18	Nashville, TN	David Lowry	Milton Bird	107
1853, May 17	Princeton, KY	H. S. Porter	Milton Bird	108
1854, May 16	Memphis, TN	Isaac Shook	Milton Bird	112
1855, May 15	Lebanon, TN	M. H. Bone	Milton Bird	101
1856, May 15	Louisville, KY	Milton Bird	Milton Bird	99
1857, May 21	Lexington, MO	Carson P. Reed	Milton Bird	106
1858, May 20	Huntsville, AL	Felix Johnson	Milton Bird	124
1859, May 19	Evansville, IN	T. B. Wilson	Milton Bird	131
1860, May 17	Nashville, TN	S. G. Burney	Milton Bird	168
1861, May 16	St. Louis, MO	A. E. Cooper	Milton Bird	51
1862, May 15	Owensboro, KY	P. G. Rea	Milton Bird	58
1863, May 21	Alton, IL	Milton Bird	Milton Bird	73
1864, May 19	Lebanon, OH	Jesse Anderson	Milton Bird	65
1865, May 18	Evansville, IN	Hiram Douglas	Milton Bird	78
1866, May 17	Owensboro, KY	Richard Beard	Milton Bird	155
1867, May 16	Memphis, TN	J. B. Mitchell	Milton Bird	176
1868, May 21	Lincoln, IL	G. W. Mitchell	Milton Bird	184
1869, May 20	Murfreesboro, TN	S. T. Anderson	Milton Bird	173
1870, May 19	Warrensburg, MO	J. C. Provine	Milton Bird	167

Date	Place	Moderator	Clerk	Members
1871, May 18	Nashville, TN	J. B. Logan	Milton Bird	173
1872, May 16	Evansville, IN	C. H. Bell	Milton Bird	182
1873, May 15	Huntsville, AL	J. W. Poindexter	John Frizzell	165
1874, May 21	Springfield, MO	T. C. Blake	John Frizzell	185
1875, May 20	Jefferson, TX	W. S. Campbell	John Frizzell	169
1876, May 18	Bowling Green, KY	J. M. Gill	John Frizzell	184
1877, May 17	Lincoln, IL	A. B. Miller	John Frizzell	171
1878, May 16	Lebanon, TN	D. E. Bushnell	John Frizzell	205
1879, May 15	Memphis, TN	J. S. Grider	John Frizzell	143
1880, May 20	Evansville, IN	A. Templeton	John Frizzell	194
1881, May 19	Austin, TX	W. J. Darby	John Frizzell	187
1882, May 18	Huntsville, AL	S. H. Buchanan	John Frizzell	188
1883, May 17	Nashville, TN	A. J. McGlumphey	T. C. Blake	204
1884, May 15	McKeesport, PA	John Frizzell	T. C. Blake	148
1885, May 21	Bentonville, AR	G. T. Stainback	T. C. Blake	185
1886, May 20	Sedalia, MO	E. B. Crisman	T. C. Blake	193
1887, May 19	Covington, OH	Nathan Green	T. C. Blake	187
1888, May 17	Waco, TX	W. H. Black	T. C. Blake	217
1889, May 16	Kansas City, MO	J. M. Hubbert	T. C. Blake	217
1890, May 15	Union City, TN	E. G. McLean	T. C. Blake	220
1891, May 21	Owensboro, KY	E. F. Beard	T. C. Blake	213
1892, May 19	Memphis, TN	W. T. Danley	T. C. Blake	229
1893, May 18	Little Rock, AR	W. S. Ferguson	T. C. Blake	226
1894, May 17	Eugene, OR	F. R. Earle	T. C. Blake	167
1895, May 16	Meridian, MS	M. B. DeWitt	T. C. Blake	208
1896, May 21	Birmingham, AL	A. W. Hawkins	J. M. Hubbert	200
1897, May 20	Chicago, IL	H. S. Williams	J. M. Hubbert	224
1898, May 19	Marshall, MO	H. H. Norman	J. M. Hubbert	221
1899, May 18	Denver, CO	J. M. Halsell	J. M. Hubbert	181
1900, May 17	Chattanooga, TN	H. C. Bird	J. M. Hubbert	230
1901, May 16	West Point, MS	E. E. Morris	J. M. Hubbert	226
1902, May 15	Springfield, MO	S. M. Templeton	J. M. Hubbert	255
1903, May 21	Nashville, TN	R. M. Tinnon	J. M. Hubbert	247
1904, May 19	Dallas, TX	W. E. Settle	J. M. Hubbert	251
1905, May 18	Fresno, CA	J. B. Hail	J. M. Hubbert	249
1906, May 17	Decatur, IL	Ira Landrith	J. M. Hubbert	279
1906, May 24	Decatur, IL	J. L. Hudgins	T. H. Padgett	106
1907, May 17	Dickson, TN	A. N. Eshman	J. L. Goodknight	140
1908, May 21	Corsicana, TX	F. H. Prendergast	J. L. Goodknight	136
1909, May 20	Bentonville, AR	J. T. Barbee	J. L. Goodknight	142
1910, May 19	Dickson, TN	J. H. Fussell	J. L. Goodknight	144
1911, May 18	Evansville, IN	J. W. Duvall	J. L. Goodknight	109
1912, May 16	Warrensburg, MO	J. D. Lewis	J. L. Goodknight	119
1913, May 15	Bowling Green, KY	J. H. Milholland	J. L. Goodknight	112
1914, May 21	Wagoner, OK	F. A. Brown	J. L. Goodknight	105
1915, May 20	Memphis, TN	William Clark	D. W. Fooks	116
1916, May 18	Birmingham, AL	J. L. Price	D. W. Fooks	125
1917, May 17	Lincoln, IL	F. A. Seagle	D. W. Fooks	102
1918, May 16	Dallas, TX	C. H. Walton	D. W. Fooks	117
1919, May 15	Fayetteville, AR	J. H. Zwingle	D. W. Fooks	101
1920, May 15	McKenzie, TN	J. E. Cortner	D. W. Fooks	123
1921, May 19	Greenfield, MO	Judge John B. Tally	D. W. Fooks	108
1922, May 18	Greeneville, TN	Hugh S. McCord	D. W. Fooks	102
1923, May 17	Fairfield, IL	P. F. Johnson, D. D.	D. W. Fooks	105
1924, May 15	Austin, TX	D. M. McAnulty	D. W. Fooks	93
1925, May 21	Nashville, TN	W. E. Morrow	D. W. Fooks	114
1926, May 20	Columbus, MS	I. K. Floyd	D. W. Fooks	111
1927, May 19	Lakeland, FL	T. A. DeVore	D. W. Fooks	97
1928, May 21	Jackson, TN	J. L. Hudgins	D. W. Fooks	97
1929, May 16	Princeton, KY	H. C. Walton	D. W. Fooks	98
1930, May 15	Olney, TX	O. A. Barbee	D. W. Fooks	92
1931, May 21	Evansville, IN	J. L. Elliot	D. W. Fooks	98
1932, May 19	Chattanooga, TN	G. G. Halliburton	D. W. Fooks	104
1933, June 14	Memphis, TN	W. B. Cunningham	D. W. Fooks	94
1934, June 14	Springfield, MO	A. C. DeForest	D. W. Fooks	103
1935, June 13	McKenzie, TN	C. A. Davis	D. W. Fooks	104
1936, June 18	San Antonio, TX	E. K. Reagin	D. W. Fooks	100
1937, June 16	Knoxville, TN	George E. Coleman	D. W. Fooks	109
1938, June 16	Russellville, AR	D. D. Dowell	D. W. Fooks	117
1939, June 15	Marshall, MO	E. R. Ramer	D. W. Fooks	126
1940, June 13	Cookeville, TN	Keith T. Postlethwaite	D. W. Fooks	116
1941, June 19	Denton, TX	L. L. Thomas	D. W. Fooks	120
1942, June 18	McKenzie, TN	George W. Burroughs	D. W. Fooks	108
1943, June 17	Paducah, KY	A. A. Collins	D. W. Fooks	94
1944, June 15	Bowling Green, KY	I. M. Vaughn	D. W. Fooks	94
1945, May 31	Lewisburg, TN	S. T. Byars	Wayne Wiman	103
1946, June 13	Birmingham, AL	C. R. Matlock	Wayne Wiman	105
1947, June 12	Knoxville, TN	Morris Pepper	Wayne Wiman	108

Date	Place	Moderator	Clerk	Members
1948, June 17	Nashville, TN	Paul F. Brown	Wayne Wiman	105
1949, June 16	Muskogee, OK	Blake Warren	Wayne Wiman	109
1950, June 15	Los Angeles, CA	L. P. Turnbow	Wayne Wiman	98
1951, June 14	Longview, TX	John E. Gardner	Wayne Wiman	105
1952, June 12	Memphis, TN	Emery A. Newman	Wayne Wiman	120
1953, June 18	Gadsden, AL	Charles L. Lehning, Jr.	Wayne Wiman	107
1954, June 17	Dyersburg, TN	John S. Smith	Wayne Wiman	124
1955, June 16	Lubbock, TX	Ernest C. Cross	Shaw Scates	118
1956, June 21	Cookeville, TN	Hubert Morrow	Shaw Scates	118
1957, June 21	Evansville, IN	William T. Ingram, Jr.	Shaw Scates	119
1958, June 18	Birmingham, AL	Wayne Wiman	Shaw Scates	116
1959, June 17	Springfield, MO	Virgil T. Weeks	Shaw Scates	120
1960, June 15	Nashville, TN	Arleigh G. Matlock	Shaw Scates	130
1961, June 21	Florence, AL	Ollie W. McClung	Shaw Scates	126
1962, June 20	Little Rock, AR	Eugene L. Warren	Shaw Scates	126
1963, June 19	Austin, TX	Franklin Chesnut	Shaw Scates	117
1964, June 17	Chattanooga, TN	Vaughn Fults	Shaw Scates	123
1965, June 16	San Francisco, CA	Thomas Forester	Shaw Scates	114
1966, June 15	Memphis, TN	John W. Sparks	Shaw Scates	124
1967, June 21	Paducah, KY	Raymon Burroughs	Shaw Scates	123
1968, June 19	Oklahoma City, OK	Loyce S. Estes	Shaw Scates	115
1969, June 18	San Antonio, TX	J. David Hester	Shaw Scates	116
1970, June 17	Knoxville, TN	L. C. Waddle	Shaw Scates	116
1971, June 16	Jackson, TN	E. Thach Shauf	Shaw Scates	116
1972, June 19	Kansas City, MO	Claude D. Gilbert	Shaw Scates	110
1973, June 18	Ft. Worth, TX	Thomas H. Campbell	Shaw Scates	101
1974, June 17	Bowling Green, KY	David A. Brown	Shaw Scates	116
1975, June 16	McKenzie, TN	Roy E. Blakeburn	Shaw Scates	120
1976, June 21	Tulsa, OK	Hubert W. Covington	T. V. Warnick	115
1977, June 30	Tampa, FL	Fred W. Bryson	T. V. Warnick	122
1978, June 19	McKenzie, TN	Jose Fajardo	T. V. Warnick	120
1979, June 18	Albuquerque, NM	James C. Gilbert	T. V. Warnick	126
1980, June 16	Evansville, IN	Robert L. Hull	T. V. Warnick	126
1981, June 15	Denton, TX	W. Jean Richardson	T. V. Warnick	126
1982, June 21	Owensboro, KY	W. A. Rawlins	T. V. Warnick	124
1983, June 20	Birmingham, AL	Robert G. Forester	T. V. Warnick	127
1984, June 11	Chattanooga, TN	C. Ray Dobbins	T. V. Warnick	125
1985, June 17	Lexington, KY	Virgil H. Todd	Roy E. Blakeburn	125
1986, June 23	Odessa, TX	James W. Knight	Roy E. Blakeburn	125
1987, June 15	Louisville, KY	Wilbur S. Wood	Roy E. Blakeburn	125
1988, June 6	Tulsa, OK	Beverly St. John	Robert Prosser	119
1989, June 12	Knoxville, TN	William Rustenhaven, Jr.	Robert Prosser	96
1990, June 25	Ft. Worth, TX	Thomas D. Campbell	Robert Prosser	88
1991, June 24	Paducah, KY	Floyd T. Hensley, Jr.	Robert Prosser	106
1992, June 22	Jackson, TN	John David Hall	Robert Prosser	102
1993, June 21	Little Rock, AR	Robert M. Shelton	Robert Prosser	100
1994, June 20	Albuquerque, NM	Donald C. Alexander	Robert Prosser	100
1995, June 19	Nashville, TN	Clinton O. Buck	Robert Prosser	102
1996, June 17	Huntsville, AL	Merlyn A. Alexander	Robert Prosser	95
1997, April 11	Nashville, TN	Merlyn A. Alexander	Robert Prosser	80
1997, June 16	Louisville, KY	W. Lewis Wynn	Robert Prosser	95
1998, June 15	Chattanooga, TN	Masaharu Asayama	Robert Prosser	97
1999, June 21	Memphis, TN	Gwendolyn Roddye	Marjorie Shannon	96
2000, June 19	Bowling Green, KY	Bob G. Roberts	Robert D. Rush	96
2001, June 18	Odessa, TX	Randolph Jacob	Robert D. Rush	88
2002, June 17	Paducah, KY	Bert L. Owen	Robert D. Rush	95
2003, June 23	Knoxville, TN	Charles McCaskey	Robert D. Rush	96
2004, June 21	Irving, TX	Edward G. Sims	Robert D. Rush	87
2005, June 27	Franklin, TN	Linda H. Glenn	Robert D. Rush	91
2006, June 18	Birmingham, AL	Donald Hubbard	Robert D. Rush	87
2007, June 18	Hot Springs, AR	Frank Ward	Robert D. Rush	84
2007, December 7	Nashville, TN	Frank Ward	Robert D. Rush	62
2008, June 7	Japan	Jonathan Clark	Robert D. Rush	82
2009, June 15	Memphis, TN	Sam Suddarth	Robert D. Rush	86
2010, June 13	Dickson, TN	Boyce Wallace	Robert D. Rush	88
2011, June 20	Springfield, MO	Don M. Tabor	Michael Sharpe	82
2012, June 18	Florence, AL	Robert D. Rush	Michael Sharpe	90
2013, June 17	Murfreesboro, TN	Forest Prosser	Michael Sharpe	93
2014, June 16	Chattanooga, TN	Lisa Anderson	Michael Sharpe	86
2015, June 20	Colombia, South America	Michele Gentry	Michael Sharpe	91
2016, June 20	Nashville, Tennessee	Dwayne Tyus	Michael Sharpe	84
2017, June 19	Palm Harbor, Florida	David Lancaster	Michael Sharpe	77

## BYLAWS

Bylaws of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church General Assembly Corporation  
A Non-profit Religious Corporation Organized and Existing  
Under the Laws of the State of Tennessee

### ARTICLE 1-RELIGIOUS CORPORATION

**1.01 Purpose.** The Cumberland Presbyterian Church is a spiritual body comprised of a portion of the universal body of believers confessing Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. As an ecclesiastical body, the Cumberland Presbyterian Church is a connectional Church which includes all of the judicatories of the Church. The highest judicatory of this ecclesiastical body is the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church (referred to in these Bylaws as “the Church”). This corporation has been formed to serve and support the Church by holding real and personal property of the Church, employing staff to serve the Church, and performing other secular and legal functions.

**1.02 Ecclesiastical Authority Not Limited by Corporate Powers.** The enumeration in state statutes or these Bylaws of specific powers which may be exercised by the Commissioners, Board of Directors, or the officers of the corporation when acting in their corporate capacity shall not limit their authority when acting in their ecclesiastical capacity for the Church.

**1.03 Church Authorities.** The doctrine of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, expressed in the Confession of Faith, Constitution, Rules of Discipline, and Rules of Order of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, shall have precedence over any inconsistent provision of these Bylaws.

### ARTICLE 2-TERMINOLOGY

**2.01 Delegates.** The corporation’s delegates shall be called “Commissioners.”

**2.02 General Assembly.** A meeting of the Commissioners shall be called a “General Assembly.”

**2.03 President.** The corporation’s president shall be called the “Stated Clerk.”

**2.04 Ecumenical Representative.** A person who is not a member of a Cumberland Presbyterian Church or presbytery but who supports the mission of a denominational entity and is elected to a term of service on that entity shall be called an “Ecumenical Representative.”

### ARTICLE 3-OFFICES

**3.01 Location.** The principal office of the corporation in the State of Tennessee shall be located in Shelby County, Tennessee. The corporation may have such other offices, either within or outside the State of Tennessee, as the General Assembly or the Board of Directors may direct from time to time.

### ARTICLE 4-COMMISSIONERS

**4.01 Commissioners.** The Commissioners shall have the powers and authority described in the corporation’s charter and these Bylaws. Included among them are the power to:

- a. Elect the elected members of the Board of Directors.
- b. Approve any amendment to the corporation’s charter except an amendment to delete the names of the original directors; to change the name of the registered agent, or to change the address of the registered office;
- c. Elect and remove the Moderator, Stated Clerk, and the Engrossing Clerk.
- d. Fill vacancies on the corporation’s various boards, agencies and committees, and on the boards of any subsidiaries;
- e. Approve the merger or dissolution of the corporation, or the sale of substantially all of the corporation’s assets; and
- f. Transact such other business of the corporation as may properly come before any meeting of the Commissioners.

**4.02 Selection of Commissioners: Number and Qualifications.** Commissioners shall be selected by the presbyteries. A presbytery shall be entitled to send one minister and one elder for each 1,000, or fraction thereof, active members (including ordained clergy) in the presbytery. Each elder selected as a Commissioner must be serving as a member of a session at the time of the General Assembly at which

he or she will serve. A Commissioner shall continue to serve until no longer qualified or until his or her successor is selected and qualified. The clerk of each presbytery shall certify the presbytery's duly elected commissioners, youth advisory delegates, and alternates to the Stated Clerk in a manner provided by the Stated Clerk.

**4.03 Youth Advisory Delegates.** Each presbytery may select not more than two youth advisory delegates who should be from 15 through 19 years of age. Advisory delegates may serve as members with full rights on General Assembly committees, but shall not vote as Commissioners.

**4.04 Annual Meeting and Notice.** The Commissioners shall meet annually at a date and time established by the General Assembly. The meeting shall be continued from day to day until adjournment. Written notice of the meeting shall be mailed to the stated clerks of all presbyteries and published in the Cumberland Presbyterian at least sixty (60) days prior to the proposed meeting.

**4.05 Special Meetings and Notice.** The Moderator, or in case of the Moderator's absence, death, or inability to act, the Stated Clerk, may with the written concurrence or at the written request of twenty Commissioners, ten of whom shall be ministers and ten elders, representing at least five presbyteries, call a special meeting of the Commissioners. If warranted by a change of circumstances, a called special meeting may be cancelled by the Moderator, or in case of the Moderator's absence, death, or inability to act, the Stated Clerk, with the written concurrence of at least ten of the Commissioners who requested or concurred in the call of the special meeting. Written notice of any special meeting shall be mailed to the stated clerks of all presbyteries, to all Commissioners, and to their alternates at least sixty (60) days prior to the meeting. The notice shall specify the particular business of the special meeting, and no other business shall be transacted.

**4.06 Place of Meeting.** The General Assembly may designate any place within or outside the state of Tennessee as the place for an annual meeting. If the Commissioners fail to designate a place for an annual meeting, or if an emergency requires the place to be changed, the Board of Directors may designate a place for the annual meeting. The Moderator or the Stated Clerk, as the case may be, when calling a special meeting shall designate the time and place of the meeting in the notice of the meeting.

**4.07 Quorum.** Any twenty or more Commissioners, of whom at least ten are ministers and ten elders, entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum at any General Assembly. When a quorum is once present to organize a meeting, business may continue to be conducted and votes taken despite the subsequent withdrawal of any Commissioner. A meeting may be adjourned despite the absence of a quorum.

**4.08 Voting.** Every Commissioner shall be entitled to one vote, which must be cast by the Commissioner in person; no proxies are permitted. All corporate actions shall be taken by majority vote except as otherwise provided by the corporation's parliamentary authority. Voting for members of the Board of Directors shall be non-cumulative.

## ARTICLE 5-BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**5.01 Authority.** The Board of Directors shall manage the business and affairs of the corporation except for any power or authority which is reserved to the Commissioners or delegated to any other agency of the corporation. The Board of Directors is authorized to amend the corporation's charter only to delete the names of the original directors; to change the name of the registered agent; or to change the address of the registered office.

**5.02 Composition of the Board of Directors.** The Board of Directors shall consist of seven (7) members, who shall be the directors of the corporation. Six (6) members shall be elected by the Commissioners and the Stated Clerk shall serve by virtue of office. All members, whether elected or ex officio, shall have all of the privileges of office.

**5.03 Qualification for Election.** Each person elected to the Board of Directors shall be a natural person who is a person in good standing of a presbytery or local Cumberland Presbyterian Church. No two directors shall be from the same presbytery, provided, however, that a director who moves from one presbytery to another may continue to serve until the expiration of his or her term of office.

**5.04 Election and Tenure.** The elected members of the Board of Directors shall serve terms of three (3) years each. The terms shall be staggered so that two (2) directors shall be elected each year. Each person elected shall serve until his or her successor has been elected and qualified.

**5.05 Action of Board in Emergency or By Default.** If, for any reason, the General Assembly fails to fill a vacancy on the Board of Directors at the next General Assembly, then the Board of Directors may fill the vacancy by majority vote of the members then in office.

**5.06 Meetings.** The Board of Directors shall meet annually or more often at such time and place as it may set. Special meetings may be called by or at the request of the Stated Clerk or any three directors

at any place, either within or outside the state of Tennessee.

**5.07 Notice.** Notice of any meeting shall be given at least five (5) days before the date of the meeting, except that notice by mail shall be given at least ten (10) days before the date of the meeting. Notice may be communicated in person; by telephone, fax, or electronic mail; or by first class mail or courier. Except as specifically provided by these Bylaws, neither the business to be transacted at nor the purpose of any special or regular meeting of the Board of Directors need be specified in the notice of the meeting.

**5.08 Notice of Special Actions.** Any meeting of the Board of Directors at which one or more of the following actions shall be considered must be preceded by seven (7) days written notice to each member that the matter will be voted upon, unless notice has been waived. Actions requiring such notice are: amendment or restatement of the corporate charter; approval of a plan of merger for the corporation; sale of all or substantially all of the corporation's assets; and dissolution of the corporation.

**5.09 Officers of the Board of Directors.** The Board of Directors may have such officers of the board as it may deem appropriate.

**5.10 Quorum and Voting.** A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board of Directors. When a quorum is once present to organize a meeting, it is not broken by the subsequent withdrawal of any of those present. A meeting may be adjourned despite the lack of a quorum. The vote of a majority of the members present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors unless a greater vote is specifically required by the Charter or the Bylaws.

**5.11 Conference Meetings.** Any or all the members of the Board of Directors or any committee designated by it may meet by means of conference telephone or similar communications equipment which permits all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other simultaneously. A member who participates in a meeting by such means is deemed to be present in person at the meeting.

**5.12 Action by Written Consent.** Whenever the members of the Board of Directors are required or permitted to take any action by vote, such action may be taken without a meeting on written consent, setting forth the action so taken and signed by all of the members entitled to vote,

**5.13 Emergency Actions.** If the Board of Directors determines by a vote of three-fourths of all its members that an emergency exists of such magnitude as to threaten the work of the whole Church, or of all boards and other agencies of the Church, and that the emergency requires action before the next meeting of the General Assembly, then the Board of Directors shall exercise the powers of the Commissioners in such emergency.

**5.14 Compensation.** Members of the Board of Directors shall receive no compensation in their capacity as members of the Board of Directors. Members may be paid their expenses, if any, of attendance at each meeting of the Board of Directors.

**5.15 Removal of Directors.** An elected member of the Board of Directors may be removed by the Commissioners for misfeasance or if he or she is no longer qualified to be elected to the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE 6-WAIVER OF NOTICE

**6.01 Written Waiver.** Any notice required to be given to any member of the Board of Directors or a Commissioner under these Bylaws, the Charter, or the laws of Tennessee may be waived. The waiver shall be in writing, signed (either before or after the event requiring notice) by the person entitled to the notice, and delivered to the corporation.

**6.02 Waiver by Attendance.** The attendance of a member of the Board of Directors or a Commissioner at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of the meeting, unless the person attends a meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting was not properly called or convened.

## ARTICLE 7-MODERATOR AND VICE-MODERATOR

**7.01 Nomination and Election.** At the beginning of each annual meeting the General Assembly shall elect a Commissioner to serve as Moderator until the next annual meeting. Nominations for Moderator shall come from the floor. One nominating speech, not to exceed ten minutes, shall be permitted on behalf of each nominee. If there is more than one nominee, the election shall be conducted by written ballot. A committee appointed and supervised by the Stated Clerk shall receive the ballots, count them, and certify the election. If no nominee receives a majority of the votes cast, a run-off election shall be conducted. Only those leading nominees who together received a majority of the votes cast on the preceding ballot shall be



included in the run-off election.

**7.02 Nature of Office.** The Moderator of the General Assembly is the ecclesiastical head of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church during the tenure of the office and a spiritual representative of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church wherever God leads. The Moderator receives a precious gift and great opportunity for service in the Church: the freedom to go anywhere and to listen to the mind, heart and spirit of the denomination and to speak with and to the Church. The office of Moderator has great honor and respect, and the person elected to the Office is a priest, prophet, and pastor of the Church at large. The Moderator prays with and for the work of the Spirit of God in the life of the denomination at every opportunity. The Moderator participates in the life and work of the Church as far as possible, and pays particular attention to ecumenical relations, especially with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America. Judicatories, congregations, and others are urged to invite the Moderator, and the Moderator is encouraged to attend meetings of Church entities and judicatories to observe the life and work of the Church at every level.

**7.03 Duties and Privileges of Office.**

- a. The Moderator shall preside at all meetings of the General Assembly.
- b. The Moderator shall appoint, with the consent of the General Assembly, such special committees as are needed;
- c. The Moderator shall serve as chairperson of the General Assembly Program Committee and as a member of the Place of Meeting Committee;
- d. The Moderator shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the General Assembly.
- e. The Moderator shall serve as an advisory member of the Ministry Council during tenure in office.
- f. The Moderator shall observe the places and times God is calling the Church to service, assess the need for a Denominational response to God's call, and report items that concern the General Assembly.
- g. The Moderator shall wear the official cross and stoles of office during the term of office.

**7.04 Expenses of Office.** Any allowance budgeted by the General Assembly to offset the expenses of the Moderator shall be administered by the Stated Clerk. Persons issuing an invitation to the Moderator are encouraged to agree in advance on arrangements for the payment of travel expenses. Upon the Moderator's retirement from office, a gavel and a replica of the Moderator's cross shall be presented to the Moderator.

**7.05 Vice-Moderator.** The General Assembly shall elect a Vice-Moderator in like manner. The Vice-Moderator shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the Moderator of the General Assembly and perform the duties of the Moderator in the event of the Moderator's disability or absence from office for any reason.

**7.06 Removal.** The Moderator or Vice-Moderator may be removed by the General Assembly whenever in its judgment the removal would serve the best interests of the corporation.

## ARTICLE 8-STATED CLERK

**8.01 President.** The Stated Clerk is the principal executive officer of the corporation and shall also have the titles of "president" and "treasurer".

**8.02 Nomination and Election.** The Nominating Committee may nominate the serving Stated Clerk for re-election. If the Nominating Committee declines to nominate the serving Stated Clerk for re-election, or if the Stated Clerk has vacated the office, resigned, or declined to be re-nominated, then the Corporate Board shall conduct a search for and nominate a candidate to the General Assembly. In either event, further nominations may be made by the Commissioners. The Commissioners shall elect the Stated Clerk by majority vote.

**8.03 Term of Office.** The Stated Clerk shall be elected to a term of four (4) years. The regular term of office begins on January 1 and ends on December 31. There is no limit on the number of terms which may be served by an individual Stated Clerk.

**8.04 Duties.** The Stated Clerk shall be concerned with the spiritual life of the Church and with maintaining and strengthening a united witness for the Church. The Stated Clerk shall also generally supervise and control the business affairs of the corporation and see that all orders and resolutions of the General Assembly are carried into effect. In fulfillment of these duties, the Stated Clerk shall:

01. Have responsibility to provide for the orderly governance of the Church in accordance with the Constitution, Rules of Order and Rules of Discipline.
02. Maintain records of the corporation and respond to requests for official records of General Assembly actions and interpretations of its actions.

03. Represent the Church when an official of the General Assembly is needed.
04. Represent the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in establishing and maintaining relations with other Churches, particularly those of the Presbyterian and Reformed tradition, and in addressing common concerns.
05. Sign all documents on behalf of the corporation or the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.
06. Represent the corporation or the Church in litigation or other legal matters affecting the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, including the selection and employment of legal counsel.
07. Make suitable arrangements for General Assembly meetings, including researching possible meeting sites, contracting for facilities, and arranging space for committee meetings and sessions of the General Assembly;
08. Provide for printing and other communication needs of the General Assembly while in session.
09. Call meetings of the Place of Meeting Committee and the Program Committee.
10. Prepare and distribute an information form to be completed by Commissioners for the Moderator's use in making committee appointments.
11. Advise the Moderator in the appointment of committees.
12. In consultation with the Moderator, refer all matters to come before the next General Assembly; and provide copies of all such referrals to the Commissioners and advisory delegates before the General Assembly convenes.
13. Prepare and distribute preliminary minutes and an agenda for General Assembly meetings which shall provide time for the consideration of any appropriate business, including memorials from a judicatory or denominational entity delivered to the Stated Clerk in writing by April 30.
14. Supervise the recording and publication of minutes and a summary of actions taken by each General Assembly.
15. Make copies of General Assembly minutes available to ordained ministers, licentiates, candidates, commissioners, clerks of sessions, members of denominational entities, schools of the Church, synod, and presbytery clerks, to the Stated Clerk's exchanges and other interested persons in order to encourage lower judicatories and persons in the Church to implement the actions of the General Assembly.
16. File the minutes of each General Assembly with the Historical Foundation as a permanent record.
17. Maintain and update annually the Digest of the General Assembly actions.
18. Represent the Church at large on the Ministry Council.
19. Provide support services for the Moderator and all denominational entities.
20. Receive and make any appropriate response to communications to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church or General Assembly.
21. Maintain a name and address file on congregations, session clerks, pastors, and other leadership of congregations with statistical information about congregations, presbyteries, and synods.
22. Solicit, receive, publish, and disseminate annual reports from churches.
23. Review reports by denominational entities and assist them in complying with correct reporting and budgeting procedures and in avoiding duplication of work.
24. Hold, report annually, and distribute as authorized by the General Assembly or the Ministry Council the Contingency Fund and all other General Assembly Funds not entrusted to the care of a denominational entity.
25. Call the Judiciary Committee into session or by other means secure the advice of the committee on appropriate matters.
26. Communicate with presbyteries and synods on behalf of the General Assembly and attend their meetings from time to time.
27. Provide training for presbytery and synod clerks and orientations for General Assembly commissioners.
28. Generally perform duties as are prescribed in the Constitution or directed by the General Assembly.

**8.05 Removal.** The Stated Clerk may be removed by the General Assembly whenever in its judgment the removal would serve the best interests of the corporation.

**ARTICLE 9-OTHER OFFICERS**

**9.01 Secretary.** The chief executive officer of the Ministry Council shall, by virtue of office, be the secretary of the corporation, and shall in general perform all duties incident to the office of secretary.

**9.02 Engrossing Clerk.** The Engrossing Clerk shall be elected by the General Assembly to a term of four (4) years. The regular term of office begins on January 1 and ends on December 31. There is no limit on the number of terms which may be served by an individual Engrossing Clerk. The Engrossing Clerk shall serve as Stated Clerk pro tempore during the meeting of the General Assembly in the event the Stated Clerk is absent or unable to serve. The Engrossing Clerk shall perform such other duties as may from time to time be prescribed by the Board of Directors or the General Assembly.

**9.03 Additional Officers.** The corporation may have such additional officers as it may from time to time find necessary or appropriate.

**ARTICLE 10-ORGANIZATION AND RELATIONSHIPS**

**10.01 Generally.** The following are denominational entities related to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church:

01. Subsidiary corporations: Board of Stewardship, Foundation and Benefits of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church; Memphis Theological Seminary of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church; Ministry Council of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.
02. Related corporations: Bethel University; Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home; Historical Foundation of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America.
03. Commissions: Chaplains and Military Personnel.
04. Committees: Committee on Nominations; Joint Committee on Amendments; Judiciary, Our United Outreach; Place of Meeting Committee; Program Committee; Unified Committee on Theology and Social Concerns.

**10.02 Election and Tenure.** The following qualifications and rules relate to service on any denominational entity.

01. Unless elected as an Ecumenical Representative, no person shall be qualified to serve except a member in good standing in a presbytery or local congregation of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.
02. No person who is employed in an executive capacity including Chief Executive, Vice-President, Team Leader, Director, or equivalent in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church is eligible to serve on a denominational entity. No employee of a denominational entity is eligible for service on the same denominational entity.
03. Each person shall be elected for a term of three years unless elected to fill the remainder of an unexpired term. However, if a person elected to serve on a denominational entity where residence in a particular synod is a qualification for election shall move to another synod while in office, the term to which he or she was elected shall terminate at the close of the next meeting of the General Assembly. When nominating persons to boards and agencies, priority consideration be given to persons whose individual life and/or church involvement demonstrates a commitment to support Our United Outreach.
04. Members of the Committee on Nominations may not be elected to a consecutive term. All other persons may serve up to three consecutive terms for a total not to exceed nine years in office.
05. A Cumberland Presbyterian who has served on any entity is not eligible to serve on the same entity (except for an authorized consecutive term) until at least two (2) years have elapsed since the conclusion of the previous service.
06. A Cumberland Presbyterian who is serving on any entity is not eligible to serve on another entity until at least one (1) year has elapsed since the conclusion of the previous service.
07. An Ecumenical Representative who is serving or has served on any entity is not eligible to serve on any other entity (except for an authorized consecutive term on the same entity) until at least one (1) year has elapsed since the conclusion of the previous service.

**10.03 Resignation or Removal.**

01. Any person serving on a denominational entity who is no longer qualified or eligible

to serve shall be deemed to have resigned.

02. Any person serving on an incorporated denominational entity may resign by delivering written notice of resignation to the secretary or an executive officer of the denominational entity, who shall promptly report the resignation to the Stated Clerk. Any person serving on an unincorporated denominational entity may resign by delivering written notice of resignation to the Stated Clerk. A resignation is effective when delivered unless some other effective date is specified in the written resignation.
03. No member who continues to meet the standard requirements for election or appointment to any denominational entity shall be removed from office except for misfeasance. Removal of a person elected by the General Assembly shall be by vote of the General Assembly.

**10.04 Board of Stewardship, Foundation and Benefits.** The corporation shall elect the eleven (11) directors of the Board of Stewardship as provided in its charter.

**10.05 Historical Foundation.** The corporation shall elect six (6) of the twelve (12) directors of the Historical Foundation as provided in its charter. The corporation shall elect the directors of the Historical Foundation in such a manner that, immediately following any election, there shall be at least one (1) member from each synod and no person shall be elected if the election would cause two directors from the same presbytery to be serving simultaneously. The remaining six (6) directors shall be elected by the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America.

**10.06 Memphis Theological Seminary.** The corporation shall elect the twenty-four (24) directors of Memphis Theological Seminary as provided in its charter. The corporation shall elect the directors in such a manner that, immediately following any election, there shall be at least eleven (11) directors who are members of ecumenical partners of the Seminary.

**10.07 Ministry Council.**

01. The corporation shall elect the fifteen (15) directors of the Ministry Council as provided in its charter.
02. The corporation shall elect the directors of the Ministry Council in such a manner that immediately following any election, there shall be three (3) directors from each synod; at least six (6) but no more than nine (9) directors who are ordained clergy; and no more than nine (9) directors of the same gender.
03. The Stated Clerk and Moderator shall be designated as Advisory Members to the board of directors of the Ministry Council. In addition, the corporation shall elect three (3) Youth Advisory Members who shall be between the ages of 15 - 17 be elected for 1-year terms, with eligibility for re-election for one additional term.

**10.08 Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel.** The commission shall consist of three (3) members elected by the corporation.

## ARTICLE 11-COMMITTEES

**11.01 General.** The corporation shall have the committees provided for in these Bylaws and such other standing or special committees as the General Assembly may create from time to time. Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, the Moderator, in consultation with the Stated Clerk, shall appoint all committees.

**11.02 Committees of Commissioners and Youth Advisory Delegates.** Prior to each General Assembly, the Moderator, in consultation with the Stated Clerk, shall organize the Commissioners and Youth Advisory Delegates into the following committees: Chaplains/Missions/Pastoral Development, Children's Home/Historical Foundation, Higher Education, Judiciary, Ministry Council/Communications/Discipleship, Stewardship/Elected Officers, and Theology and Social Concerns. Each committee shall consider such matters expected to come before the General Assembly as are referred to it by the Stated Clerk. Any denominational organization, the work of which is affected by a matter before a committee, shall be entitled to address the committee.

**11.03 Committee on Nominations.**

01. The committee shall consist of ten (10) persons elected by the corporation in such a manner that, immediately following any election, the committee shall have at least one minister and one lay person from each synod. It is preferred but not required that no two members shall be from the same presbytery.

02. Approximately one third of the members of the committee shall be elected each year by the General Assembly and shall serve one term not to exceed three years.
03. The committee shall meet not earlier than February 15 each year and shall nominate to the General Assembly qualified persons to fill all vacancies to be filled by vote of the General Assembly, including vacancies on the Committee on Nominations, unless another method of nomination is provided in these Bylaws. The report of the committee shall list the names of nominees, the presbytery if a minister, and the presbytery and the local congregation if a lay person. The Committee on Nominations shall be intentional in nominating persons who represent the global nature of the Church.
04. Presbyteries and synods and their moderators and stated clerks are requested to assist the Committee on Nominations by recommending persons for any position by providing the name and qualifications of the potential nominees to the Stated Clerk no later than February 1 on a form to be provided by the Stated Clerk. Nominations from the floor shall also be in order.
05. No person shall be nominated for election by the General Assembly unless the nominee has within the past year given his or her consent to the nomination.

**11.04 Joint Committee on Amendments.** The Judiciary Committee shall appoint as many as five of its members to act in committee with an equal number of members of the Judiciary Committee of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America. Upon the request of the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church or the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, this Joint Committee shall prepare for the consideration of both general assemblies proposed amendments to the Confession of Faith, Catechism, Constitution, Rules of Discipline, Directory for Worship, and Rules of Order.

**11.05 Judiciary Committee.**

01. The committee shall consist of nine (9) persons elected by the corporation in such a manner that, immediately following any election, the committee shall have at least four members (4) who are ordained ministers and at least three (3) members who are licensed attorneys-at-law. The Stated Clerk shall be staff liaison to the committee, attending its meetings and providing resources and counsel.
02. The committee shall meet at least annually upon the call of its chairperson or the Stated Clerk.
03. The committee shall provide advice and counsel to the Stated Clerk. Upon the written request of any judicatory or denominational entity made to the chairperson or Stated Clerk, the committee shall render an advisory opinion on matters of church law or procedure. The chairperson shall secure the views of all members of the committee and write the advisory opinion based on the majority view of the members. The committee shall not render legal opinions on matters of civil law nor otherwise engage in the practice of law.
04. At least one member of the committee shall attend each meeting of the General Assembly to advise with its officers and Commissioners on matters of church law or procedure. At the Moderator's request a member of the committee shall be available to advise the Moderator during the business sessions of the General Assembly.
05. The committee shall be a commission within the meaning of section 2.5 of the Rules of Discipline to hear and determine appeals from synods.

**11.06 Our United Outreach Committee.**

01. The committee shall consist of five (5) persons elected by the corporation in such a manner that, immediately following any election, the committee shall have one person from each synod. Seven (7) additional members will include a member of the Ministry Council, a member of the Corporate Board, a member of the Board of Stewardship, Foundation and Benefits, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Historical Foundation, and a Cumberland Presbyterian member of the Boards of Trustees of Bethel University, the Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home, and Memphis Theological Seminary. The executives of the above named denominational entities shall serve as non-voting, Resource/Advocacy members.
02. The Office of the General Assembly will be responsible for the expenses of the representative of each synod. The represented denominational entities will be responsible for the expenses of their representatives and executives.

**11.07 Place of Meeting.** The committee shall consist of the Moderator, the Stated Clerk and a representative of the Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministries.

**11.08 Program Committee.** The committee shall consist of the Moderator, Stated Clerk, Director of Ministries, Assistant to the Stated Clerk who serves as secretary, the pastor of the host church, four elected representatives designated by the Ministry Council from among its ministry teams, and one representative designated by each of the following: Bethel University, Board of Stewardship, Foundation, and Benefits, Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home, Historical Foundation, Memphis Theological Seminary, and the Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry. The committee will begin planning for two years prior to the meeting of a particular General Assembly.

**11.09 Unified Committee on Theology and Social Concerns.** The committee shall consist of eight (8) members elected by the corporation, the Stated Clerk, and the President of Memphis Theological Seminary. At least one member of the committee other than the Seminary's president shall be a Cumberland Presbyterian member of the faculty of Memphis Theological Seminary.

## ARTICLE 12-INDEMNIFICATION

**12.01 Indemnification.** The corporation shall indemnify any director, officer or employee who is, or is threatened to be, made a party to a completed, pending, or threatened action or proceeding from any liability arising from the director's, officer's or employee's official capacity with the corporation. This indemnification shall extend to the personal representation of a deceased person if the person would be entitled to indemnification under these Bylaws if living.

**12.02 Costs and Expenses Covered by Indemnification.** Indemnification provided under these Bylaws shall extend to the payment of a judgment, settlement, penalty, or fine, as well as attorney's fees, court costs, and other reasonable and necessary expenses incurred by the director or officer with respect to the action or proceeding.

**12.03 Limitation on Indemnification.** No indemnification shall be made to or on behalf of any person if a judgment or other final adjudication adverse to that person establishes his or her liability:

01. for any breach of the duty of loyalty to the corporation;
02. for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law; or
03. for any distribution of the assets of the corporation which is unlawful under Tennessee law.

## ARTICLE 13-TRUSTEE FOR THE CORPORATION

**13.01 Trustee.** The Board of Stewardship, Foundation and Benefits of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, a nonprofit corporation existing under the laws of the state of Tennessee, holds certain real property and other assets of the Church as trustee for the use and benefit of the Church. The Board of Stewardship may continue to hold such real property and other assets, but after the adoption of these Bylaws, it shall hold those assets as trustee for the use and benefit of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church General Assembly Corporation.

**13.02 Other Assets.** Other, additional property may from time to time be conveyed to the Board of Stewardship to be held by it as trustee for the corporation. All assets held by the Board of Stewardship as trustee for the corporation shall be held at the pleasure and direction of the General Assembly.

## ARTICLE 14-PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

**14.01 Designation.** The parliamentary authority of the corporation in all meetings shall be the latest revised edition of the Rules of Order as set out in the Confession of Faith and Government of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. In matters not provided for in the Rules of Order, the parliamentary authority shall be Robert's Rules of Order, latest revised edition.

**14.02 Standing Rules.** The following shall be Standing Rules for meetings of the General Assembly and may be suspended as provided in the parliamentary authority. (see Rules of Order 8.34c)

### Standing Rules

1. Unless otherwise determined by the General Assembly or by the Stated Clerk in the event of an emergency, the annual General Assembly shall meet on the third or fourth Monday of June at two o'clock in the afternoon to organize, elect a moderator and transact business, and shall close on Thursday or Friday

of the same week.

2. Reports of all standing and special committees shall be considered in the order established by the Moderator in consultation with the Stated Clerk. Committee reports may be presented orally or in writing provided to all Commissioners and youth advisory delegates. Those presenting committee reports shall have the opportunity to make remarks and give explanation, such presentations not to exceed ten minutes unless time is extended by two-thirds vote taken without debate. All committee recommendations shall be submitted in writing.

3. All materials from denominational entities for consideration or action by a General Assembly shall be submitted to the Stated Clerk at least thirty (30) days before the meeting of General Assembly.

4. Resolutions and memorials proposed for adoption by individual commissioners rather than denominational entities or judicatories of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church shall be introduced no later than the close of business on the second day of a meeting of General Assembly, and, when introduced, shall be referred by the Moderator, in counsel with the Stated Clerk, to the appropriate committee or committees for report and recommendations to the Assembly.

## ARTICLE 15-REPORTS AND AUDITS

**15.01 Congregational Reports.** Annually by December 1, the Stated Clerk shall send to session clerks statistical forms for reporting congregational data. Session clerks shall mail the completed forms to presbytery clerks by February 1. The presbytery clerk shall mail the composite statistical report for all congregations of a presbytery to the Stated Clerk by February 10.

**15.02 Institutional Reports.** In order to be considered for inclusion in the General Assembly budget, all denominational entities shall deliver to the Stated Clerk an annual report including a concise description of the organization's work during the previous year and a line item budget for the forthcoming year. Financial reports should be condensed as much as possible while conveying all essential information on the organization's operations. All denominational entities except academic institutions on a fiscal year are requested to maintain their books on a calendar year.

**15.03 Reporting Schedule.** An electronic copy and two written copies of the annual report signed by two officers of the organization shall be delivered to the Stated Clerk by March 15 each year. Organizations requesting funds from Our United Outreach shall submit multi-year program budgets to the Our United Outreach Committee.

**15.04 Audits.** Organizations and operations included in the General Assembly budget shall be audited annually by a certified public accountant. Copies of the auditor's report, including any recommendations for changes in the procedures relating to internal financial controls, shall be delivered to the Stated Clerk. Organizations with total receipts of \$100,000 or less are not required to have an audit but shall submit their books and financial statements to the Stated Clerk annually.

**15.05 Bonds.** Each organization or person whose financial records are required to be audited shall have a fidelity bond in an amount adequate to protect all funds held by the organization or person.

## ARTICLE 16-AMENDMENTS

**16.01 Manner of Amendment.** Except as provided below, these Bylaws may be amended or repealed only by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the votes cast in a duly constituted meeting of the General Assembly. No portion of the Bylaws may be amended or repealed by the Board of Directors. Fair and reasonable notice of any proposed amendment shall be provided as required by state law.

**16.02 Extraordinary Actions.** In order to be effective the following actions must be approved by (1) the affirmative vote of two consecutive General Assemblies, or (2) a ninety percent (90%) vote of a single General Assembly.

01. Terminating the existence of a denominational entity named in Bylaw 10.01
02. Creating a new denominational entity other than a temporary committee or task force.
03. Decreasing the Our United Outreach budget allocation to a denominational entity by more than 40% of the amount distributed to it during the previous calendar year; or
04. Taking any other actions which would cause a drastic change in the mission or structure of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

## MEMORIAL ROLL OF MINISTERS

### IN MEMORY OF MINISTERS LOST BY DEATH

<u>NAME</u> .....	<u>PRESBYTERY</u> .....	<u>AGE</u> .....	<u>DATE</u>
Bagby, Larry .....	West TN .....	76 .....	08/12/17
Bynum, Ronald .....	Robert Donnell.....	87 .....	04/28/18
Coleman, Don .....	West TN .....	81 .....	04/30/18
Eatherly, John.....	Columbia.....	77 .....	10/14/17
English, Don .....	Grace .....	90 .....	06/22/17
Gross, Ronald.....	North Central .....	86 .....	01/15/17
Hom, Paul .....	del Cristo.....	85 .....	03/14/17
Jacob, Randy .....	Choctaw .....	80 .....	01/29/17
Jones, Joseph.....	Cumberland.....	88 .....	12/15/17
Kelley, Lawrence .....	Columbia.....	102 .....	12/04/17
Lunn, Calvin .....	Columbia.....	70 .....	06/06/17
Maynard, Terrell.....	Grace .....	72 .....	03/14/17
Moore, Hillman C .....	Covenant .....	84 .....	03/13/18
Mosley, Karen .....	West TN .....	60 .....	04/14/18
Murrie, Willard .....	Covenant .....	97 .....	04/20/17
Parish, Johnny .....	Nashville .....	59 .....	01/26/18
Parsons, Hugh .....	Trinity .....	83 .....	04/17/18
Perkins, William.....	Cumberland.....	85 .....	01/08/18
Ranson, Doris.....	Cumberland.....	86 .....	05/12/18
Shirey, John.....	Covenant .....	92 .....	07/02/17
Smith, Albert J .....	North Central .....	87 .....	02/10/17
Vasseur, Terry.....	Covenant .....	78 .....	02/05/17
Wallace, Boyce.....	Cauca Valley .....	87 .....	01/04/17
Westfall, Charles .....	Covenant .....	89 .....	03/12/17
Yaple, George.....	Hope .....	90 .....	04/24/17



## LIVING GENERAL ASSEMBLY MODERATORS

- 2017—REV. DAVID LANCASTER, 426 Fuqua Road, Martin, TN 38237  
 2016—REV. DWAYNE TYUS, 426 Old Hickory Boulevard, Madison, TN 37115  
 2015—REV. MICHELE GENTRY, Urb San Jorge casa 28, Km 8 via a La Tebaida  
 Armenia, Quindio, COLOMBIA, SA  
 2014—REV. LISA HALL ANDERSON, 1790 Faxon Avenue, Memphis, TN 38112  
 2013—REV. FOREST PROSSER, 1157 Mountain Creek Road, Chattanooga, TN 37405  
 2012—REV. ROBERT D. RUSH, 12935 Quail Park Drive, Cypress, TX 77429  
 2011—REV. DON M. TABOR, 9611 Mitchell Place, Brentwood, TN 37027  
 2009—ELDER SAM SUDDARTH, 206 Ha Le Koa Court, Smyrna, TN 37167  
 2007—REV. FRANK WARD, 8207 Traditional Place, Cordova, TN 38016  
 2006—REV. DONALD HUBBARD, 2128 Campbell Station Road, Knoxville, TN 37932  
 2005—REV. LINDA H. GLENN, 49 Mason Road, Threeway, TN 38343  
 2004—REV. EDWARD G. SIMS, 2161 N. Meadows Drive, Clarksville, TN 37043  
 2003—REV. CHARLES MCCASKEY, 679 Canter Lane, Cookeville, TN 38501  
 1999—ELDER GWENDOLYN G. RODDYE, 3728 Wittenham Drive, Knoxville, TN 37921  
 1998—REV. MASAHARU ASAYAMA, 3-15-9 Higashi, Kunitachi-shi, Tokyo, JAPAN  
 1996—REV. MERLYN A. ALEXANDER, 80 N. Hampton Lane, Jackson, TN 38305  
 1995—REV. CLINTON O. BUCK, PO Box 770068, Memphis, TN 38117  
 1992—REV. JOHN DAVID HALL, 109 Oddo Lane SE, Huntsville, AL 35802  
 1990—REV. THOMAS D. CAMPBELL, PO Box 315, Calico Rock, AR 72519  
 1989—REV. WILLIAM RUSTENHAVEN, Jr., 703 W. Burseson, Marshall, TX 75670  
 1981—REV. W. JEAN RICHARDSON, 7533 Lancashire, Powell, TN 37849

### *IN MEMORY OF:*

Moderator of the 178th General Assembly

**REV. JONATHAN CLARK**

Died March 2, 2018

Moderator of the 163rd General Assembly

**REV. ROBERT M. SHELTON**

Died March 4, 2018

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY OFFICERS

**MODERATOR**  
**THE REVEREND DAVID LANCASTER**  
 426 Fuqua Road  
 Martin, TN 38237  
 lancasterd@bethelu.edu  
 (731)588-5895

**VICE MODERATOR**  
**THE REVEREND LISA SCOTT**  
 (address on file in GA office)  
 lascott1979@att.net  
 (816)332-0604

**STATED CLERK AND TREASURER**  
**THE REVEREND MICHAEL SHARPE**  
 8207 Traditional Place  
 Cordova, TN 38016  
 (901)276-4572  
 FAX (901)272-3913  
 msharpe@cumberland.org

**ENGROSSING CLERK**  
**THE REVEREND VERNON SANSOM**  
 7810 Shiloh Road  
 Midlothian, TX 76065  
 (972)825-6887  
 vernon@sansom.us

## THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY CORPORATION

**(Members whose terms expire in 2018)**

(1)MS. CALOTTA EDSSELL, 7044 Woodsong Cove, Germantown, TN 38138  
 cedsell@hotmail.com

(1)REV. NORLAN SCRUDDER, 29688 S 534 Road, Park Hill, OK 74451  
 ndscrudder@gmail.com

**(Members whose terms expire in 2019)**

(2)MR. TIM GARRETT, 150 Third Avenue South, Suite 2800, Nashville, TN 37201  
 tgarrett@bassberry.com

(2)REV. BOBBY COLEMAN, 704 E Webb Street, Mountain View, AR 72560  
 bobby.coleman@gmail.com

**(Members whose terms expire in 2020)**

(2)REV. JOHN BUTLER, 501 Cherokee Drive, Campbellsville, KY 42718  
 rev.butlerj8134@gmail.com

(2)MS. BETTY JACOB, PO Box 158, Broken Bow, OK 74728  
 chocpres@pine-net.com

## MINISTRY COUNCIL

### (Members whose terms expire in 2018)

- (2)MR. KENNETH BEAN, 1035 Stonewall Street N, McKenzie, TN 38201
- (1)REV. KENNY BUTCHER, 4608 Cather Court, Nashville, TN 37214
- (1)REV. PHILLIP LAYNE, 10699 Griffith Highway, Whitwell, TN 37397
- (2)REV. RON MCMILLAN, 675 Kimberly Drive, Atoka, TN 38004
- (1)MS. VICTORY MOORE, 17388 Chandlerville Road, Virginia, IL 62691

### (Members whose terms expire in 2019)

- (1)MS. KAREN AVERY, 9420 Layton Court NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111
- (1)MS. CARLA BELLIS, 19264 Law 2170, Aurora, MO 65605
- (3)REV. TROY GREEN, 105 Cobb Hollow Lane, Petersburg, TN 37144
- (1)MS. TSURUKO SATOH, 8710 Hickory Falls Lane, Pewee Valley, KY 40056
- (1)REV. MIKE WILKINSON, 1504 Clear Brook Drive, Knoxville, TN 37922

### (Members whose terms expire in 2020)

- (3)REV. DONNY ACTON, 1413 Oakridge Drive, Birmingham, AL 35242
- (1)MR. DAVID CORREA, Calle 76 #87-14, Medellin, COLOMBIA, SOUTH AMERICA
- (1)MS. SAMANTHA HASSELL, 510 N Main Street, Sturgis, KY 42459
- (3)REV. LANNY JOHNSON, 120 S Mill Street, Morrison, TN 37357
- (1)MS. CHARELLE WEBB, 3507 Pickering Lane, Pearland, TX 77584

### YOUTH ADVISORY MEMBERS

- (2)MR. CAMERON ALDERSON, 122 E Cherry Street, Chandler, IN 47610
- (1)MS. LEIGHANN MORGAN, 1468 Williams Cove Road, Winchester, TN 37398
- (2)MS. CHARLI UHLRICH, 250 County Road 1950 N, Bethany, IL 61914

### ADVISORY MEMBERS

- REV. DAVID LANCASTER, 426 Fuqua Road, Martin, TN 38237
- REV. MICHAEL SHARPE, 8207 Traditional Place, Cordova, TN 38016

## COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY TEAM

### (Members whose terms expire in 2018)

- (3)REV. MICHAEL CLARK, 2353 Blue Springs Road, Decherd, TN 37324
- (3)REV. JAMES D. MCGUIRE, 220-2 Southwind Circle, Greeneville, TN 37743

### (Members whose terms expire in 2019)

- (2)REV. NICHOLAS CHAMBERS, 362 Ouachita 54, Camden, AR 71701
- (2)REV. STEVEN SHELTON, 7886 Farmhill Cove, Bartlett, TN 38135

### (Members whose terms expire in 2020)

- (1)MS. FREDERICKA JOHNS, PO Box 234, Calico Rock, AR 72519
- (2)MS. DUSTY LUTHY, 2026 Washington Street, Paducah, KY 42003

## DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY TEAM

### (Members whose terms expire in 2018)

- (3)MS. JOANNA WILKINSON, 226 Sunset Drive, Lebanon, MO 65536
- (2)MS. RACHEL COOK, 210 Bynum Street, Scottsboro, AL 35768
- (2)REV. CHRISTIAN SMITH, 475 State Street, Cookeville, TN 38501

### (Members whose terms expire in 2019)

- (2)REV. NANCY MCSPADDEN, 120 Roberta Drive, Memphis, TN 38112
- (2)REV. JOSEFINA SANCHEZ, 7 Hancock Street, Melrose, MA 02176
- (1)REV. JESSE THORNTON, 2518 IL Highway 15, Fairfield, IL 62837

### (Members whose terms expire in 2020)

- (2)MS. LE ILA DIXON, 4406 John Reagan Street, Marshall, TX 75672
- (2)REV. DREW GRAY, 12304 Wickliffe Road, Kevil, KY 42053
- (1)REV. BILLY PRICE, 12510 Buttermilk Road, Knoxville, TN 37932

## MISSIONS MINISTRY TEAM

### (Members whose terms expire in 2018)

- (2)MR. TIM CRAIG, 8958 Carriage Creek Road, Arlington, TN 38002
- (2)REV. CARDELIA HOWELL-DIAMOND, 1580 Jeff Road NW, Huntsville, AL 35806
- (3)MS. SHERRY POTEET, P.O. Box 313, Gilmer, TX 75644
- (2)MS. MELINDA REAMS, 10 W Azalea Lane, Russellville, AR 72802

### (Members whose terms expire in 2019)

- (2)REV. VICTOR HASSELL, 510 N Main Street, Sturgis, KY 42459
- (2)MR. DOMINIC LAU, 3820 Anza Street, San Francisco, CA
- (2)REV. BRITTANY MEEKS, 710 N Avalon Street, Memphis, TN 38107
- (2)REV. CHRIS WARREN, 906 Prince Lane, Murfreesboro, TN 37129

### (Members whose terms expire in 2020)

- (1)MS. DONNA CHRISTIE, 3221 Whitehall Road, Birmingham, AL 35209

## PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY TEAM

### (Members whose terms expire in 2018)

- (2)REV. DUAWN MEARNES, 15347 County Road 3537, Ada, OK 74820
- (3)REV. LINDA SNELLING, 240 Dakota Drive, Waxahachie, TX 75167

### (Members whose terms expire in 2019)

- (2)REV. SANDRA SHEPHERD, 1432 Wexford Downs Lane, Nashville, TN 37211

### (Members whose terms expire in 2020)

- (2)REV. AMBER CLARK, 2353 Blue Springs Road, Decherd, TN 37324
- (2)REV. DREW HAYES, 6322 Labor Lane, Louisville, KY 40291

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY BOARD OF:

### I. TRUSTEES OF BETHEL UNIVERSITY

#### (Members whose terms expire in 2018)

- (3)MR. CHARLIE GARRETT, 107 Willow Green Drive, Jackson, TN 38305
- (2)+REV. ELTON C. HALL, SR., 305 Tiffon Circle, Hewitt, TX 76643
- (2)MS. DEWANNA LATIMER, 193 Moses Drive, Jackson, TN 38305
- (1)\*DR. E. RAY MORRIS, PO Box 924628, Norcross, GA 30010
- (1)MR. STEVE PERRYMAN, 535 Ranch Road, Rogersville, MO 65742

#### (Members whose terms expire in 2019)

- (2)MR. JEFF AMREIN, 11711 Paramount Way, Prospect, KY 40059
- (3)\*JUDGE BEN CANTRELL, 1485A Woodmont Boulevard, Nashville, TN 37215
- (1)\*MR. SCOTT CONGER, 143 Fawn Ridge Drive, Jackson, TN 38305
- (3)+DR. ARMY DANIEL, 3125 Searcy Drive, Huntsville, AL 35810
- (2)MR. BILL DOBBINS 5716 Quest Ridge Road, Franklin, TN 37064
- (3)DR. ROBERT LOW, c/o New Prime, Inc., 2740 W Mayfair Avenue, Springfield, MO 65803
- (1)\*DR. BROCK MARTIN, 419 Browning Avenue, Huntingdon, TN 38344

#### (Members whose terms expire in 2020)

- (1)DR. NANCY BEAN, PO Box 205, McKenzie, TN 38201
- (3)\*MS. LISA COLE, PO Box 198615, Nashville, TN 37219
- (3)MR. CHESTER (CHET) DICKSON, 24 W Rivercrest Drive, Houston, TX 77042
- (2)REV. NANCY MCSPADDEN, 120 Roberta Drive, Memphis, TN 38112
- (3)DR. ED PERKINS, 721 Paris Street, McKenzie, TN 38201
- (2)MR. KENNETH (KEN) D. QUINTON, 2912 Waller Omer Road, Sturgis, KY 42459
- (1)MR. TOMMY SURBER, 825 Hico Road, McKenzie, TN 38201
- (2)REV. ROBERT (BOB) WATKINS, 10950 West Union Hills Drive #1356, Sun City, AZ 85373

Trustee Emeritus – Dr. Vera Low, 3653 Prestwick Court, Springfield, MO 65809 (deceased)

### II. TRUSTEES OF CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

#### (Members whose terms expire in 2018)

- (1)REV. DUANE DOUGHERTY, 212 County Road 4705, Troup, TX 75789
- (1)MRS. CAROLYN HARMON, 4435 Newport Highway, Greeneville, TN 37743
- (1)DR. ROBIN HENSON, 8220 Westwind Lane, North Richland Hills, TX 76182
- (1)REV. JOYCE MERRITT, 3929 Snail Shell Cove, Rockvale, TN 37153

#### (Members whose terms expire in 2019)

- (2)\*MR. RICHARD DEAN, 2140 Cove Circle North, Gadsden, AL 35903
- (1)MRS. KAY GOODMAN, 1042 Bobcat Road, Sanger, TX 76266
- (2)REV. MELISSA KNIGHT, 5730 Haley Road, Meridian, MS 39305
- (2)MS. PATRICIA LONG, 525 E Oak Street, Aledo, TX 76008

#### (Members whose terms expire in 2020)

- (1)MR. PETE CARTER, 306 Jackson Hills Drive, Maryville, TN 37804
- (1)MR. CAMERON MARONE, 3933 Park Haven Drive, Denton, TX 76210
- (1)MR JAY THOMAS, 3301 Cooperbranch E, Denton, TX 76209

### III. TRUSTEES OF HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

**(Members whose terms expire in 2018)**

- (1)REV. LISA OLIVER, 110 Allen Drive, Hendersonville, TN 37075  
 (3)DR. SIDNEY L. SWINDLE, 4407 Swann Avenue, Tampa, FL 33609

**(Members whose terms expire in 2019)**

- (1)MS. ROBIN MCCASKEY HUGHES, 1205 Olde Bridge Road, Edmond, OK 73034  
 (3)REV. MARY KATHRYN KIRKPATRICK, 401 1/2 Henley-Perry Drive, Marshall, TX 75670  
 (1)MS. ASHLEY LINDSEY, 2090 Claypool Boyce Road, Alvaton, KY 42122

**(Members whose terms expire in 2020)**

- (1)+MS. JACKIE COOPER, 4705 Inidan Summer Drive, Nashville, TN 37207  
 (3)MR. MICHAEL FARE, 401 E Deanna Lane, Nixa, MO 65714  
 (3)\*MS. DOROTHY M. HAYDEN, 3103 Carolina Avenue, Bessemer, AL 35020  
 (1)+REV. JOE HOWARD, III, 2903 Al Lipscomb Way, Dallas, TX 75215  
 (2)+MS. PAT WARD, 2620 Rabbit Lane, Madison, AL 35756

### IV. TRUSTEES OF MEMPHIS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY OF THE CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**(Members whose terms expire in 2018)**

- (3)REV. KEVIN BRANTLEY, 308 A Chestnut Street, Sacramento, KY 42372  
 (1)REV. KEVIN HENSON, 8461 McDaniel Road, Fort Worth, TX 76126 (resigned)  
 (1)REV. LINDA HOWELL, PO Box 80050, Keller, TX 76244  
 (3)MR. MARK MADDOX, 225 Oak Drive, Dresden, TN 38225  
 (2)MS. SONDRAL RODDY, 2583 Hedgerow Lane, Clarksville, TN 37043  
 (3)MR. TAKAYOSHI SHIRAI, 25 Minami Kibogaoka Asahi-ku, Yokohama, Kanagawa-ken 241-0824 JAPAN  
 (2)\*REV. MELVIN CHARLES SMITH, 1263 Haynes Street, Memphis, TN 38114  
 (2)\*MS. LATISHA TOWNS, The Med, 877 Jefferson Avenue, Memphis, TN 38103

**(Members whose terms expire in 2019)**

- (3)MR. MICHAEL R. ALLEN, 149 Windwood Circle, Alabaster, AL 35007  
 (3)MS. DIANE DICKSON, 24 West Rivercrest, Houston, TX 77042  
 (1)\*MS. JANE ASHLEY FOLK, 4405 Dunwick Lane, Fort Worth, TX 76109  
 (1)\*MR. HARRY HILLIARD, 206 E Bankhead Street, New Albany, MS 38652  
 (2)\*DR. RICK KIRCHOFF, 2044 Thorncroft Drive, Germantown, TN 38138  
 (3)\*DR. INETTA RODGERS, 1824 S Parkway E, Memphis, TN 38114  
 (1)\*DR. DEBORAH SMITH, 584 E McLemore Avenue, Memphis, TN 38106  
 (1)MS. MARIANNA (MOLLY) WILLIAMS, 947 Troy Avenue, Dyersburg, TN 28024

**(Members whose terms expire in 2020)**

- (1)\*REV. NANCY COLE, 3346 Arcadia Drive, Tuscaloosa, AL 35404  
 (2)REV. ANNE HAMES, 118 Paris Street, McKenzie, TN 38201  
 (1)\*REV. JIMMY JOHNATHAN MOSBY, PO Box 45843, Little Rock, AR 72214  
 (3)REV. JENNIFER NEWELL, 2322 Marco Circle, Chattanooga, TN 37421 (resigned)  
 (2)REV. SUSAN PARKER, 655 York Drive, Rogersville, AR 35652  
 (1)\*MR. REGINALD PORTER, JR., 4458 Whitephine Cove, Memphis, TN 38109  
 (1)REV. KIP RUSH, 516 Franklin Road, Brentwood, TN 37027  
 (1)+MR. CRAIG WHITE, 134 McEntire Lane SW A36, Decatur, AL 35603 (resigned)  
 (1)\*MS. RUBY WHARTON, 1183 E Parkway South, Memphis, TN 38114

### V. STEWARDSHIP, FOUNDATION AND BENEFITS

**(Members whose terms expire in 2018)**

- (3)MR. ANDREW B. FRAZIER, JR., 107 Doris Street, Camden, TN 38320 (deceased)  
 (1)MR. JAMES SHANNON, 2307 Littlemore Drive, Cordova, TN 38016  
 (2)MR. MICHAEL ST. JOHN, 324 Carriage Place, Lebanon, MO 65536

**(Members whose terms expire in 2019)**

- (2)REV. CHARLES (BUDDY) POPE, 2391 Fairfield Pike, Shelbyville, TN 37160
- (3)MS. SUE RICE, 1301 Brooker Road, Brandon, FL 33511 (resigned spring 2018)
- (3)MS. DEBBIE SHELTON, 1255 MG England Road, Manchester, TN 37355
- (1)MS. ANDREA SMITH, 1715 Water Cure Road, Winchester, TN 37398

**(Members whose terms expire in 2020)**

- (2)MR. RANDY DAVIDSON, PO Box 880, Ada, OK 74821
- (1)REV. MARK HESTER, 763 Finn Long Road, Friendsville, TN 37737
- (1)REV. GARY TUBB, 103 Forest Drive, Mountain Home, AR 72653
- (1)REV. DWAYNE TYUS, 426 W Old Hickory Boulevard, Madison, TN 37115

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSIONS:****I. MILITARY CHAPLAINS AND PERSONNEL**

- (1) Term Expires in 2018–REV. TONY JANNER, 104 Northwood Drive, McKenzie TN 38201
- (2) Term Expires in 2019–REV. CASSANDRA THOMAS, 1920 Dancy Street, Fayetteville, NC 28301
- (1) Term Expires in 2020–REV. CHARLES MCCASKEY, 679 Canter Lane, Cookeville, TN 38501

These three persons and the Stated Clerk represent the denomination as members of the Presbyterian Council for Chaplains and Military Personnel, 4125 Nebraska Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20016

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES****I. JUDICIARY****(Members whose terms expire in 2018)**

- (2)REV. ANNETTA CAMP, 2303 Mill Creek Road, Halls, TN 38040  
anetta@cumberlandchurch.com
- (3)MS. KIMBERLY SILVUS, 1128 Madison Street, Clarksville, TN 37040  
kgsilvus@gmail.com
- (1)MR. BILL TALLY, 907 Tipperary Drive, Scottsboro, AL 35768  
wtally@scottsboro.org

**(Members whose terms expire in 2019)**

- (3)REV. ANDY MCCLUNG, 919 Dickinson Street, Memphis, TN 38107  
scubarev@att.net
- (1)MS. RACHEL MOSES, 1138 Blaine Avenue, Cookeville, TN 38501  
coachrach@aol.com
- (1)REV. JAN OVERTON, 3320 Pipe Line Road, Birmingham, AL 35243  
jan@crestlinechurch.org

**(Members whose terms expire in 2020)**

- (1)MS. PAMELA BROWN, 6400 North Grove Avenue, Warr Acres, OK 73012  
pambrownlaw@cox.net
- (2)REV. HARRY CHAPMAN, 4908 El Picador Court SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124  
wrightrev2gmail.com
- (1)REV. GEOFFREY KNIGHT, 2119 Avalon Place, Houston, TX 77019  
geoff@cphouston.org

## II. JOINT COMMITTEE ON AMENDMENTS

The committee consists of five members of the Judiciary Committee of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

## III. NOMINATING

### (Members whose terms expire in 2018)

- (1)REV. THOMAS CAMPBELL, PO Box 343, Calico Rock, AR 72519  
tdcampbellar@gmail.com  
(1)MS. HEATHER MORGAN, 1468 Williams Cove Road, Winchester, TN 37398  
htmorgan87@gmail.com

### (Members whose terms expire in 2019)

- (1)MS. FAYE DELASHMIT, 2705 Garrett Drive, Bowling Green, KY 42104  
steve.delashmit@twc.com  
(1)REV. DEREK JACKS, 341 Shadeswood Drive, Hoover, AL 35226  
pastorderek@homewoodcpc.com  
(1)REV. STEPHEN LOUDER, 98 Gallant Court, Clarksville, TN 37043  
pastorsteve@clarksvillecpc.com  
(1)MS. JANIE STAMPS, 4008 Logan Lane, Fort Smith, AR 72903  
bjstamps@msn.com

### (Members whose terms expire in 2020)

- (1)REV. BRIAN HAYES, 69 Cactus Drive, Benton, KY 42025  
cprevbhayes@gmail.com  
(1)MR. LEE HOLDER, 6589 County Road 747, Cullman, AL 35055  
holder4bama@yahoo.com  
(1)REV. TOM SPENCE, PO Box 802, Burns Flat, OK 73624  
tomspace0302@gmail.com  
(1)MS. JENANN LESLIE, 300 Henley Perry Drive, Marshall, TX 75670  
jenann.leslie@gmail.com

## IV. OUR UNITED OUTREACH COMMITTEE

### (Members whose terms expire in 2018)

- (2)MR. RANDY WEATHERSBY, 6130 US Highway 278 E, Cullman, AL 35055  
(2)MS. ROBIN WILLS, 4607 E Richmond Shop Road, Lebanon, TN 37090

### (Members whose terms expire in 2019)

- (1)REV. BRUCE HAMILTON, 1037 Binns Drive, Monticello, AR 71655

### (Members whose terms expire in 2020)

- (1)MS. MARY ANN COLE, 1726 Karen Circle, Bowling Green, KY 42104  
(1)MR. MIKEL DAVIS, 102 Willow Wood Lane, Ovilla, TX 75154

## V. PLACE OF MEETING

THE STATED CLERK OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
THE MODERATOR OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
A REPRESENTATIVE OF WOMEN'S MINISTRIES OF THE MISSIONS MINISTRY TEAM



## VI. UNIFIED COMMITTEE ON THEOLOGY AND SOCIAL CONCERNS

### (Members whose terms expire in 2018)

- (2)REV. GEORGE ESTES, 7910 Cloverbrook Lane, Germantown, TN 38138 (resigned)  
geoestes@gmail.com; (901)755-6673
- (2)REV. SHELIA O'MARA, PO Box 170, Gadsden, TN 38337  
chaplainshelia@aol.com; (443)699-2321; (443)370-7218 cell
- (2)MR. DAVID PHILLIPS-BURK, 3325 Bailey Creek Cove N, Collierville, TN 38017 (resigned)  
dlphillipsburk@aol.com; (256)520-1380

### (Members whose terms expire in 2019)

- (3)+MRS. JIMMIE DODD, c/o Hopewell CPCA, 4100 Millsfield Highway, Dyersburg, TN 38024  
dodd125@gmail.com
- (3)REV. BYRON FORESTER, 2376 Eastwood Place, Memphis, TN 38112  
bforester@bellsouth.net; (901)246-1242
- (1)REV. MARCUS HAYES, 2901 Sandage Avenue, Apt 304, Fort Worth, TX 76109  
marcus.hayes@att.net
- (2)REV. JOHN A. SMITH, 916 Allen Road, Nashville, TN 37214  
john.a.smith.81@gmail.com; (615)545-6486
- (3)+ELDER JOY WALLACE, 6940 Marvin D Love Freeway, Dallas, TX 75237  
jwallace@wlgllc.net

### (Members whose terms expire in 2020)

- (1)+MS. SHARON COMBS, PO Box 122, Sturgis, KY 42459  
(270)860-4175
- (1)+REV. EDMOND COX, 249 Mimosa Circle, Maryville, TN 37801  
(865)789-6161
- (2)+DR. NANCY FUQUA, 1963 County Road 406, Towncreek, AL 35672  
fuq23@bellsouth.net; (256)566-1226
- (1)REV. RICHARD MORGAN, 1468 Williams Cove Road, Winchester, TN 37398  
icthuse@charter.net
- (1)REV. LISA SCOTT, (address on file in GA office)  
lascott1979@att.net
- (1)+REV. ROBERT E THOMAS, 1017 N Englewood, Tyler, TX 75702  
(903)592-0238

President of Memphis Theological Seminary - Ex-officio Member

REV. JAY EARHEART-BROWN, 866 N McLean Boulevard, Memphis, TN 38107  
jebrown@memphisseminary.edu; (901)278-0367

## OTHER DENOMINATIONAL PERSONNEL

### REPRESENTATIVES TO:

Caribbean and North American Area Council, World Communion of Reformed Churches:  
STATED CLERK MICHAEL SHARPE, 8207 Traditional Place, Cordova, TN 38016

### (Member whose terms expire in 2020)

- (1)MS. SHERRY POTEET, PO box 313, Gilmer, TX 75644  
spoteet1@aol.com

## THE REPORT OF THE MODERATOR

S/E

With only a few weeks left in this term as the Moderator of the 187th General Assembly, it is with a profound sense of gratitude and humble awareness of the privilege and honor of serving in this office for the past year that I submit this report. The kindness and graciousness which greeted me at each visit will remain a cherished memory and magnificent reminder of “a people called Cumberland Presbyterians.” I can only pray that in some effective manner that my gratefulness was amply demonstrated during my visits, and that your compassion more than compensated for the wear and tear of travel and time away from home.

The assistance, kindness and wisdom of General Assembly Stated Clerk, Reverend Michael Sharpe, and his administrative assistant, Mrs. Elizabeth Vaughn, provided constant encouragement and support, and, no doubt, helped me avoid countless faux pas I could have easily committed.

In addition, Vice-Moderator Reverend Lisa Scott, ably and gladly traveled to presbyteries which I was unable to reach, guaranteeing that appreciation and gratitude was conveyed to all of our brothers and sisters in the states. Her kind and cheerful cooperation during the Assembly meeting last summer and these visits demonstrated the great leadership which she offers our beloved community.

It was an honor to participate in the meeting of the Ministry Council and as a guest of the Board of Trustees of our Memphis Theological Seminary. As with the various presbyteries, the welcome was always kind and gracious. An opportunity to speak at the greater Huntsville, Alabama area Denomination Day celebration was also a highlight, as it likewise afforded me an opportunity to speak at the historic Church Street CPCA congregation, pastored by my dear friend and college classmate, the Reverend Doctor Mitchell Walker and his wife, Elaine.

In my visits and preaching opportunities, one theme was sounded repeatedly with as much enthusiasm and determination as I could muster: the Biblical mandate to share the Gospel in our communities and across the world. As a means of providing a touchstone, I encouraged all of us to review regularly our annual yearbook, paying special attention to column 5 in the reports of our congregations. No better sign of health and wellness of churches can be employed than by the number of persons coming to know the Lord through our ministries.

In addition, the Sharon, Tennessee congregation which I have served for almost ten years has provided an incredible amount of prayer and support during this year. They have provided me with an immeasurable dose of encouragement repeatedly, and demonstrated their concern for my wellbeing.

Finally, whether leaving home or returning, the love and godly influence of my late wife, Barb, accompanied me every mile of the way. The manner in which she enriched our lives empowered me to serve in this capacity in a manner which cannot be adequately explained but neither can in the least bit be doubted. Our four children and their families are also testimonies to her faith and love.

Thanks be to God and to my dear church family for the privilege of serving you as your moderator this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

R. David Lancaster  
Moderator of the 187th General Assembly

# THE REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK

S/E

## I. THE OFFICE OF THE STATED CLERK

The Constitution, the Rules of Discipline, the Rules of Order, and the General Assembly Bylaws (found in the front of the General Assembly Minutes) list the many responsibilities for the person who holds the position of Stated Clerk, the primary task is to maintain and strengthen a united witness for the Church. The Stated Clerk shall also generally supervise and control the business affairs of the Corporation, and see that all directives of the General Assembly are implemented.

The Office of the General Assembly also provides budgeting, accounting, and support services for commissions, committees, agencies and task forces without executive assistance.

Additional services and activities provided through the office of the Stated Clerk this past year include:

- Providing assistance to the Unification Task Force
- Developing and maintaining a web presence for the following General Assembly Committees/ Commissions without staff: Nominating Committee, Unified Committee on Theology and Social Concerns, Commission on Military Chaplains and Personnel, Our United Outreach Committee and the Unification Task Force.
- Creation of spring and fall Denominational News Updates, a compilation of talking points obtained from each board and agency that may be shared by visiting denominational staff and the moderator when making visits to presbyteries and in other settings. The updates are also shared with presbytery clerks.
- Development of a Travel Chart, to assist with the coordination of travel plans by denominational staff to meetings of presbyteries. The travel chart is also shared with presbytery clerks.
- Hosted the annual conference for Presbytery and Synod Clerks.

A significant portion of the Stated Clerk's time has been spent responding to various judicial and legal questions affecting local churches and presbyteries. The Clerk is appreciative for advice provided to this office from both the Permanent Judiciary Committee and from Mr. Jamie Jordan who serves as legal counsel for the Office of the General Assembly.

The Stated Clerk is grateful to the Church for calling him to serve in this position and appreciates the support of the Church for the Office and for the person who holds this position.

## II. STAFF

Ms. Elizabeth Vaughn serves as the Assistant to the Stated Clerk, a position that requires her to maintain accurate records of ministers, probationers, congregations, record income and expenses and to authorize payment of all items in the Office of the General Assembly budget. The Church is fortunate to have a person with such knowledge, efficiency and dedication to work. The Stated Clerk and the Assistant to the Stated Clerk are currently the only employees of the Office of the General Assembly.

Reverend Vernon Sansom continues to serve as Engrossing Clerk and is to be commended for the accuracy in recording the minutes of the General Assembly. Vernon also leads the orientation session for those who serve as chairperson and co-chairperson for each General Assembly appointed Committee and provides valuable assistance in the preparation of committee reports at each meeting of the General Assembly.

## III. ECUMENICAL RELATIONSHIPS

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church has historically been involved in ecumenical relationships. Through co-operative ministries, chaplains for the military and veteran's hospitals are endorsed, migrant workers and persons in Appalachia are served, and missionaries are sent into a variety of countries. Through ecumenical partnerships disaster relief funds are distributed. Through working co-operatively church school and camping materials are developed. The Cumberland Presbyterian witness is more effective through participation with other Christians in these and various other ministries.

### A. CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church have one heritage, one Confession of Faith and share in several co-operative relationships and ministries such as the Historical Foundation, the United Board of Christian Discipleship, youth ministry, and the Unified Committee on Theology and Social Concerns. The Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church also participate with other Reformed bodies in ministry. Although working through partnerships, the witness of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church would be greatly enhanced through a union of the two denominations.

### B. WORLD COMMUNION OF REFORMED CHURCHES

Both the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in a America are members of World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC). The WCRC was formed in 2010 by a merger of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and the Reformed Ecumenical Council. The WCRC represents approximately eighty million members of two hundred thirty denominations from one hundred seven countries, including Reformed, Congregationalists, Presbyterian and United Churches. Resources and updates from the World Communion of Reformed Churches are available on their website: ([www.wcrc.ch](http://www.wcrc.ch)).

Reverend Christopher Ferguson serves as general secretary of the WCRC and offices in Hanover, Germany where the headquarters for WCRC is located.

## IV. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

The 187<sup>th</sup> General Assembly submitted to the presbyteries the following Constitutional Amendment:

Constitution 9.5 be renumbered as 9.6 and a new 9.5 be inserted, reading as follows:

*9.5 The General Assembly, in order to promote the mission work of the Church and the development of new churches outside the United States, may authorize a synod or its missions entity (utilizing ordained personnel) to act in place of a presbytery with respect to persons, ministers, and churches outside the United States and outside the bounds of any existing presbytery. The missions entity or synod may attach mission work to an existing presbytery, with the presbytery's approval.*

The following presbyteries voted in the affirmative: Arkansas, Columbia, Covenant, Cumberland, del Cristo, East Tennessee, Grace, Hong Kong, Japan, Missouri, Murfreesboro, Nashville, North Central, Red River, Robert Donnell, Tennessee-Georgia, Trinity, and West Tennessee.

The following presbytery voted in the negative: Hope.

The following presbytery did not report: Andes, Cauca Valley, Choctaw, East Coast and Emaus.

**RECOMMENDATION 1: That the 188<sup>th</sup> General Assembly declare that the Constitutional Amendment has been approved.**

## V. THE CORPORATE BOARD

In the called meeting in December 2007, the General Assembly elected a new board of directors for the General Assembly Incorporation, thus the Corporate Board was formed. The responsibilities for the Corporate Board are listed in the General Assembly Bylaws, Article 5.

The Corporate Board met once this past year.

The Center Interagency Team (CIT) comprised of the Center's Principle Executive Officers, continues to be responsible for oversight of the day-to-day maintenance and property needs at the Denominational Center. Current CIT members include: Mike Sharpe (Office of the General Assembly), Robert Heflin (Board of Stewardship, Foundation and Benefits), Susan Gore (Historical Foundation), and Edith Old (Ministry Council). The Shared Services budget covers the cost for maintaining the Center offices and property (see page 122).

## VI. ENDORSEMENTS FOR MODERATOR

The Reverend Jay Earheart-Brown, Nashville Presbytery and the Reverend Lisa Scott, North Central Presbytery have been endorsed as Moderator of the 188<sup>th</sup> General Assembly.

## VII. MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Office of the General Assembly continues to make the minutes of the General Assembly available on a CD, and mailing them to persons requesting them. The resource center also prints and sells a few printed copies of the General Assembly Minutes each year. For information contact Matthew Gore, [mhg@cumberland.org](mailto:mhg@cumberland.org). It is permissible to download and print a copy of the minutes from the website ([www.cumberland.org/gao](http://www.cumberland.org/gao)).

## VIII. STATISTICAL INFORMATION

The annual congregational report forms are sent to the session clerk on December 1, and due in the office of the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery on February 1, and all reports are to be in the Office of the General Assembly by February 10.

In 2017 a hundred and eighty-one congregations failed to report, thus statistics are not accurate. The statistics for a non-reporting congregation may be several years old, but it is the latest information available. The General Assembly Office continues to shorten and simplify the reporting process. Efforts also continue to further simplify online reporting for those able to utilize the technology. Hard copies of the report forms will still be made available for those congregations who do not have access to the internet.

The 178th and 179th General Assembly directed “that each presbytery request that its Board of Missions or similar agency, as they minister to the needs of the churches within their presbyteries, remind the churches that it is important that they submit annual reports which are part of our history and offer assistance when needed in preparation of these reports.” If a congregation fails to receive a report, a duplicate form can be requested from the Office of the General Assembly or one may be printed from the web site ([www.cumberland.org/gao](http://www.cumberland.org/gao)), and going to the section on congregational reports.

Compiled statistical information is available in the annual Yearbook available online ([www.cumberland.org/gao](http://www.cumberland.org/gao)) or in print format, available through Cumberland Resource Distribution – [resources@cumberland.org](mailto:resources@cumberland.org) (901-276-4581)

## VIII. CHURCH CALENDAR 2018-2019

The 182nd General Assembly, directed the Office of the General Assembly to be responsible for reporting the “Church Calendar” to the General Assembly for adoption. Listed below are the dates received from the Boards and Agencies of the denomination.

**RECOMMENDATION 2: That the 188th General Assembly approve the following dates for the 2018-2019 Church Calendar:**

### CHURCH CALENDAR 2018-2019

#### July-2018

7	Program of Alternate Studies Graduation
7-21	PAS Summer Extension School, Bethel, McKenzie, Tennessee
14	Children’s Fest
14	Middle Schooler’s Event
21	Children’s Fest East

#### August-2018

4	Bethel University Commencement
5-Sept 30	Christian Education Season
19	Seminary/PAS Sunday
20	Bethel University Fall Semester Begins

- 25 MTS Fall Semester Begins (*tentative*)
- 28 MTS Opening convocation (*tentative*)
- 30 Bethel University Spring Convocation

**September-2018**

- 9 Family Sunday
- 9 Senior Adult Sunday
- 16 Christian Service Recognition Sunday
- 16 International Day of Prayer and Action for Human Habitat
- 23 Seminary Sunday

**October-2018**

- Clergy Appreciation Month
- 7 Worldwide Communion Sunday
- 7 Pastor Appreciation Sunday
- 21 Native American Sunday

**November-2018**

- Any Sunday Loaves and Fishes Program
- 1 All Saints Day
- 2 World Community Day (Church Women United)
- 4 Bethel University Sunday
- 4 Stewardship Sunday
- 11 Day of Prayer for People with Aids and Other Life-Threatening Illnesses
- 18 Bible Sunday
- 25 Christ the King Sunday

**December-2018**

- Any Sunday Gift to the King Offering
- 2-24 Advent in Church and Home
- 8 Bethel University Commencement
- 24 Christmas Eve
- 25 Christmas Day

**January-2019**

- 6 Epiphany
- 7 BU Spring Semester Begins
- 7 Human Trafficking Awareness Day
- 7-8 Stated Clerks' Conference
- 15 Deadline for receipt of 2018 Our United Outreach Contributions

**February-2019**

- Black History Month
- 1 Annual congregational reports due in General Assembly office
- 3 Denomination Day
- 3 Historical Foundation Offering
- 3 Souper Bowl Sunday
- 10 Our United Outreach Sunday
- 17 Youth Sunday

**March-2019**

- Women's History Month (USA)
- 6 Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent
- 6-April 21 Lent to Easter
- 14 Palm/Passion Sunday
- 17 Children's Home Sunday
- 24-30 National Farm Workers Awareness Week

**April-2019**

18 Maundy Thursday  
 19 Good Friday  
 21 Easter

**May-2019**

3 Friendship Day (Church Women United)  
 5 Bethel University Commencement  
 12 MTS Closing Convocation & Graduation  
 27 Memorial Day Offering for Military Chaplains & Personnel for USA churches

**June-2019**

9 Stott-Wallace Missionary Fund Offering/World penMission Sunday  
 9 Pentecost  
 16 CPC Ministries Sunday  
 10-14 General Assembly, Huntsville, Alabama  
 11-13 CPWM Convention, Huntsville, Alabama  
 23 Unification Sunday  
 23-28 Cumberland Presbyterian Youth Conference, Bethel University, McKenzie, Tennessee

**July-2019**

6 Children's Fest  
 6 Middle Schooler's Event  
 7 Outdoor Ministries Sunday  
 13 Program of Alternate Studies Graduation  
 13-27 PAS Summer Extension School, Bethel, McKenzie, Tennessee  
 16-20 Presbyterian Youth Triennium

**August-2019**

4 Bethel University Commencement  
 4-Sept 30 Christian Education Sunday & Season  
 18 MTS Fall Semester Begins (*tentative*)  
 22 Seminary/PAS Sunday  
 22 Bethel University Fall Semester Begins  
 25 MTS Fall Semester Begins (*tentative*)  
 28 MTS Opening convocation (*tentative*)  
 30 Bethel University Spring Convocation

**September-2019**

4 MTS Opening convocation (*tentative*)  
 8 Family Sunday  
 8 Senior Adult Sunday  
 15 Christian Service Recognition Sunday  
 15 International Day of Prayer and Action for Human Habitat

**October-2019**

Clergy Appreciation Month  
 6 Worldwide Communion Sunday  
 6 Pastor Appreciation Sunday  
 20 Native American Sunday

**November-2019**

Any Sunday Loaves and Fishes Program  
 1 All Saints Day  
 1 World Community Day (Church Women United)  
 3 Bethel University Sunday  
 3 Stewardship Sunday  
 10 Day of Prayer for People with Aids and Other Life-Threatening Illnesses  
 17 Bible Sunday  
 24 Christ the King Sunday

**December-2019**

	Any Sunday Gift to the King Offering
2	PAS Advisory Council
2-24	Advent in Church and Home
8	Bethel University Commencement
24	Christmas Eve
25	Christmas Day

**XI. CONTINGENCY FUND**

The Stated Clerk is to hold, distribute and report annually the General Assembly Contingency Fund (see Bylaws 8.04, #24). Below is a summary Contingency Fund Activity for the 2017 Calendar Year.

**Summary of 2017 Activity**

**Balance Forward 1/1/2017** **\$ 50,453.06**

## Income in 2017:

Our United Outreach/Contributions	\$ 10,990.00
Interest	<u>1,423.79</u>
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$ 12,413.79</b>

## Expenditures in 2017:

Bethel University Covenant Review Committee	\$ 201.45
Children's Home Covenant Review Committee	<u>\$ 879.71</u>
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$ 1,051.16</b>

**Total Fund Balance as of 12/31/17** **\$ 61,815.69**

**\*Restricted Funds:**

\$ 4,100.00	The current balance designated by the 178th General Assembly to print the Catechism in the various languages represented in the church.
1,011.51	Pastoral Development Ministry Team/General Assembly Ordination Task Force

**Total Amount of \*Restricted Funds:** **\$ 5,111.51 (12/31/17)**

**Total Amount of Unrestricted Amount:** **\$ 56,704.18 (12/31/17)**

**Total Fund Balance:** **\$ 61,815.69 (12/31/17)**

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Sharpe, Stated Clerk



# THE REPORT OF THE MINISTRY COUNCIL

MC

To the 188<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church meeting in session at the Embassy Suites and Conference Center, in Norman, Oklahoma on June 17-21, 2018.

## I. MINISTRY COUNCIL

### A. INTRODUCTION

The Ministry Council (MC) serves as the primary long- and short-range program planning agency of the Church, striving to ensure that all segments work on a unified mission and human and material resources are utilized to carry out ministries of the Church in an effective manner. The Ministry Council is accountable to the General Assembly (GA).

Due to the scope of the work related to denominational ministries under the MC, our report has historically been quite lengthy, necessitating the division of the report to multiple GA committees. At the urging of the Stated Clerk, and with the intention of providing crucial information in a concise manner, we made significant changes to our report format last year. This condensed report focuses on recommendations to the GA. A more detailed annual report of the work of the MC and Ministry Teams is available to commissioners and guests at this GA and on our web page <https://cpcmc.org/mc/ga18-supplement/>. We encourage commissioners and others to visit the Ministry Council booth to meet elected members and staff and to share ideas for enhancing ministries.

#### 1. Ministry Council (MC) Elected Membership and Terms

MC elected members are subject to GA requirements of endorsement by presbytery (clergy) or church (laity), as well as geographical (synodic) and gender representation. It is our belief that God calls people from across the denomination to serve in leadership roles, and that the limited number of Personal Data Forms and related endorsements on file in the Office of General Assembly does not reflect the abundance of qualified leaders within the Church. The Ministry Council respectfully reminds all Commissioners of an action of the 186<sup>th</sup> General Assembly that urged each presbytery *“to proactively recruit and encourage qualified leaders to prayerfully consider opportunities to serve as elected board members at the denominational level, to include the Ministry Council and all other denominational entities.”*

The terms of Ken Bean, Reverend Kenny Butcher, Reverend Phillip Layne, Reverend Ron McMillan and Victory Moore expire in 2018. All are eligible for an additional term of service. The one-year term of Youth Advisory Member, LeighAnne Morgan, concludes with this General Assembly. She is eligible for a second one-year term. The terms of Youth Advisory Members, Mr. Cameron Alderson and Ms. Charli Uhrich, conclude with this General Assembly. Having served two one-year terms, Alderson and Uhrich are ineligible for an additional one-year term. We express appreciation to Mr. Alderson and Ms. Ulrich for their service. The Ministry Council is the only denominational entity board with Youth Advisory Members.

**2. Ministry Teams** plan and implement the program ministries of the Church and are made up of both Staff and Elected Team Members. Ministry Teams report to the Ministry Council. **Elected Team Members** are elected by the MC and reflect the GA model to ensure representation among gender, laity and clergy.

**Communications Ministry Team (CMT)** elected member Reverend Jim McGuire and Reverend Dr. Michael Clark have both completed three terms of service. The CMT and Ministry Council are grateful for their wisdom and institutional knowledge which will be sorely missed. At its February 2018 meeting, the Ministry Council elected Reverend Nathaniel Mathews to replace Reverend Michael Clark. It is hoped that prior to General Assembly another individual will be elected to fill the position vacated by Reverend Jim McGuire.

**Discipleship Ministry Team (DMT)** elected member, Joanna Wilkinson, completed three terms. DMT and the Ministry Council are grateful for her creativity and generous spirit. The term of Reverend Christian Smith is complete and he has asked not to be re-elected due to work demands. We thank Christian for his thoughtful insights and wonderful team attitude. At its February 2018 meeting, the Ministry Council re-elected Rachel Cook who has completed two terms. The Council also elected Ean Taylor to replace Joanna Wilkinson and Candy Barr to replace Reverend Christian Smith.

**Missions Ministry Team (MMT)** elected member Sherry Poteet completed three terms. MMT and the Council appreciates the energy and enthusiasm she imbued into the work of the MMT. At its February

2018 meeting, the Council elected Margie Shannon to replace Sherry Poteet, and re-elected Reverend Cardelia Howell-Diamond and Melinda Reams who both completed two terms. The Council also elected Ollie McClung to serve on the MMT.

The Council re-elected Reverend Duawn Mearns who completed two terms on the **Pastoral Development Ministry Team (PDMT)**. Reverend Linda Snelling completed three terms on PDMT. The Council is grateful for her wisdom and vision for the work of PDMT. The Council elected Reverend Lisa Anderson to replace Reverend Linda Snelling and Paul Earheart-Brown to replace Reverend Drew Hayes who resigned due to work demands.

The Ministry Council elects Ministry Team members in accordance with General Assembly requirements that individuals have current personal data forms and recommendations from their presbytery (clergy) or pastor (laity) on file with the Stated Clerk prior to General Assembly. A complete list of Ministry Team members appears at <https://cpcmc.org/mc/>.

**Staff Team Members** are employees of the Ministry Council:

- **CMT:** Senior Art Director Sowgand Sheikholeslami and CMT Leader Mark J. Davis.
- **DMT:** Coordinator of Resource Development and Distribution Matt Gore; Coordinator of Adult Ministry Cindy Martin; Coordinator of Children and Family Ministry Jodi Hearn Rush (Nashville, Tennessee office); Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministry Reverend Nathan Wheeler; and DMT Leader Reverend Elinor S. Brown. The Ministry Council, DMT staff and elected members mourned the loss of Shipping Clerk Greg Miller who died in December 2017. Greg was a familiar affable face at the CP Center, having worked here for longer than any other employee. Hired by Pat Owen when she was bookstore manager, Greg worked for Pat Owen, Pat White, Brenda Hooks, Frank Ward, and Elinor Brown, much of that time under the supervision of Matthew Gore. Greg will certainly be missed by the Center family as well as his many devoted friends.
- **MMT:** Coordinator for Women's Ministry and Congregational Ministry Reverend Pam Phillips-Burk; Cross-Culture Immigrant USA Ministry Reverend Johan Daza; Manager, Finance and Administration Jinger Ellis; Evangelism and New Church Development Reverend T. J. Malinoski; Bilingual English/Korean Administrative Assistant Julie Min; Director Global Missions Reverend Lynn Thomas (Birmingham, AL office); and MMT Leader Reverend Dr. Milton Ortiz.
- **PDMT:** PDMT Leader Reverend Charles R. "Chuck" Brown resigned in April 2017 for health reasons. The Ministry Council appreciates Chuck's passion for nurturing clergypersons and those considering their call to varied forms of ministry.

**3. The Global Ministries Leadership Team (GMLT)** is made up of the four Ministry Team Leaders and Director of Ministries. This body works together to apply the vision/mission of the MC to the many varied programs and resource materials planned and produced by the Ministry Teams, coordinating ministries in a unified, collaborative manner. GMLT meets monthly and minutes are disseminated to all members of the MC and Ministry Teams.

**4. Administration:** Director of Ministries Edith Busbee Old gives executive leadership to the MC in accomplishing duties defined by its Bylaws and supervises the GMLT. The Director of Ministries is under direct employment of and is responsible to the Ministry Council. The Council is grateful that Edith is globally minded without neglecting the stateside church and for her creative and consistent approach to inviting cooperation instead of conflict. Due to budget constraints, the Assistant to the Executive Director position remains vacant.

## B. GENERAL INFORMATION

**1. Meetings:** The MC met twice in regular session since the 187th General Assembly. A Summary of Action for meetings appears at <https://cpcmc.org/mc/soa/>.

**2. Future Meeting Dates:** August 16, 2018 (Thursday) – Orientation for newly elected MC and newly elected Ministry Team Members at the Denominational Center, Cordova, Tennessee.

August 17–18, 2018 (Friday and Saturday) – MC and Teams meet concurrently at Faith Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Bartlett, TN (10 minutes from the Denominational Center).

February 16–17, 2019 (Saturday and Sunday) – MC Corporation Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors with Team Leaders and Director of Ministries at the Denominational Center.

**3. Elected member accountability and training:** Elected MC members and Ministry Team members receive orientation prior to their first MC/MT meeting. In 2016, we introduced a mentoring approach, partnering current MC members with newly elected members. Each year, all elected members sign a Covenant reinforcing their commitment to answering the call to serve God through service to the Church. Elected members set individual annual goals and complete annual self-evaluations reflecting on their service. These tools serve as metrics to help guide the MC and Ministry Teams. The MC Covenant may be seen at <https://cpcmc.org/mc/covenant/>.

**4. Human Resources:** When a staff position becomes vacant, the MC invests time in a thorough revision of that job description. Input is gathered from elected members, GMLT and relevant staff. Since the 187th General Assembly, the Council has prayerfully considered current and future ministries for all of its four ministry teams. Two of its teams, Communications and Pastoral Development, experienced staff changes resulting in the need for the Council to painstakingly review and revise job descriptions. The PDMT Leader position was vacant following the aforementioned resignation in April 2017. The Council worked with PDMT elected members and surveyed pastors at the 187th General Assembly to gather ideas for PDMT future ministry. At the February 2018 meeting the MC approved a revised job description and authorized the position to be advertised. It is hoped that the PDMT position will be filled prior to this General Assembly. At that same Ministry Council meeting, CMT Leader Mark J. Davis announced his plans to retire effective June 1, 2018. The Council incorporated ideas from the CMT elected members and revised the CMT Leader job description to focus on technology and also created a new CMT position, that of Publications Manager/Editor. As of this writing, applications are being accepted and it is hoped that both CMT positions will be filled prior to the 188th General Assembly.

**5.** The Ministry Council expresses its gratitude to Mark J. Davis for the leadership he provided in establishing the Ministry Council website, and its ongoing enhancements. Mark is to be commended for his constant efforts to ensure CPs around the world had access to current information relate to the Ministry Council and its many programs, resources and events. The Ministry Council and its staff wish blessings to Mark and his family as he begins writing this new chapter and he explores retirement.

**6. Unification:** The 187th General Assembly instructed boards and agencies listed in the Unification Task Force's revised plan to provide a report to the next General Assembly (188th) asking these boards and agencies to provide: 1.) Their ideas with respect to the best ways to implement unification within their board or agency, 2.) Their assessment explaining if their board or agency needs structural changes as part of unification and what those changes should be, and 3.) What the board or agency anticipates will be the approximate costs implementing unification and or restructure of their board or agency.

In mid-September 2017, the Ministry Council sent a communication to the Unification Task Force with questions regarding the proposed Revised Plan for the Union of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America. Unfortunately, when the Ministry Council met in mid-February 2018, the UTF had not yet met and thus, hadn't responded to the Council's questions which are included as **Appendix A.**

**7.** The 187th General Assembly submitted the following questions to the Ministry Council to address, sample the local congregations, and report the results to the Ministry Council Committee of the 188th General Assembly and publish for the denomination to view for visioning on all church levels: 1) Where are the greatest opportunities for our congregations to thrive in the future that you see? 2) What do you see as the greatest threat(s) to continued, effective ministry in and through our congregations? 3) What can we do individually, collectively and institutionally to overcome these dangers?

The Ministry Council decided to collect the data through an online survey to increase responses and aid in data collection. We believe, for the most part, it was a good choice. We did however encounter some unexpected problems: there were a handful of people who apparently completed the survey more than once (duplicates were removed), the answer options had to be complex to allow for a variety of perspectives, but this also made analyzing the results complicated. The biggest problem was that the data between the various languages was not easy for us to combine and for that reason our report gives percentages for the English version and highlights the findings for Spanish, Korean and Japanese translations. A total of 366 responses were received: 286 English language responses, 76 Spanish and 4 Japanese. Two English language churches assisted individuals in their congregations to complete the survey on paper, sent those paper responses in and they were included in the 286 received. **The complete English language survey and results appear as Appendix B.**

The survey was translated into Japanese, Korean and Spanish and along with the English version made available on the MC website. Four individuals completed the Japanese translation, 76 individuals completed the Spanish translation and likely due to errors on our part, we did not collect data for the Korean translation. We noticed some statistical differences between respondents of the Spanish translation survey compared to those of the English translation.

1) According to respondents of the Spanish translation, the greatest opportunity that Cumberland Presbyterians currently see before them is small groups/Bible studies/Sunday school with more than 81% of respondents seeing an opportunity there. Three other items that were recognized as opportunities were leadership development, worship services, and personal evangelism which all with each receiving more than 71%. What this reveals is that discipleship and spiritual maturity are seen as essential elements to growing the church. As leaders develop more leaders the hope is more and more people can be reached. The most significant difference between the Spanish language respondents to English respondents is the opportunity of leadership development. English translation respondents did not identify it as being as great an opportunity. Japanese language survey respondents saw the greatest opportunities in small groups, Sunday worship and special services, 75% of respondents identifying these as opportunities. This indicates a belief that consistent discipleship with the right mix of special events will be beneficial to the local church.

2) **Do you believe that the churches in your area are effective ministerially?** This is essentially an approval rating of how churches in a particular area are doing when it comes to their effectiveness in ministry. When asked if they believe the churches in their area are ministerially effective, 81% felt like the churches in their area were at least somewhat effective. This is very encouraging news and means that there is a high degree of confidence and potential for these churches in the view of congregational leadership and membership. One concern is that only 14% of people felt like their congregations were absolutely effective with 43 % feeling they were mostly effective. These results should give us hope and also reveal a need for growth. The Japanese language survey respondents also believed the churches in their area were at least somewhat effective with 100% of respondents believing this. But only 25% felt like the churches in their area were absolutely effective. Going forward, these results should increase as we encourage churches to make use of the opportunities around them. It would be wise for all church leaders to ask their congregations specifically about ministerial effectiveness in order to better understand the feelings of their church. If people do not believe their church is ministerial effective they will most likely not be energized for evangelism and will eventually leave. If on the other hand, they believe their church is effective they cannot help but invite others to come and take part in its ministries!

3) **What do you think are the greatest threats to achieve effective ministry in your area?** (Respondents could select up to seven) By far the biggest threat identified by respondents in the Spanish language survey was the resource limitations of time with 75% of respondents seeing this as a threat. The next closest threats were the resource of limitations of money with 67% of respondents seeing this as a problem and spiritual development with 63% feeling this is a threat. When you have money and time concerns it becomes difficult to develop people spiritually because you end up having to focus on other things. It is worth noting that the English language respondents' major concern of an aging congregation was not much of a concern for the Spanish language survey respondents. The concern over resources discussed above was not seen as a significant threat for the English language respondents. This indicates that the threats identified are unique to the locations of participants and this should be acknowledged as solutions are developed. But we should remember that where challenges arise so does the opportunity for a daring faith which relies on God as we minister in these times.

4) **What can we do as individuals, congregations and a denomination to address the threats we face?** The three main solutions that were offered to help address the threats that we face were pray, develop leaders, and engage members in ministry. Of these three prayer and engaging members in ministry both scored high with 88% respondents identifying prayer and 79% identifying developing leaders as potential solutions. Another 72% believed involving more members was a solution. These results are very similar to the English and Japanese language surveys. The only difference is the continued identification of the need for leadership development. This reveals a desire for congregations to seek God's aid in ministry and to develop stronger leaders capable of doing this. There were also many other options chosen and they have been listed above and would benefit from closer examination. These results speak to the strain respondents feel as they serve and have an ever increasing number of responsibilities coming their way. These results should cause every church to consider how they best might provide help to their leaders and members who are giving so much of their time and talents to the kingdom of God.

Although we completed it imperfectly we believe making the survey available in the four most common languages of Cumberland Presbyterians was the best choice and would encourage the denomination to do the same for any future surveys. Having the survey online also allowed a large variety of people to respond and effectively eliminated expenses.

Ministry Council elected members Reverend Kenny Butcher ([pastorkenny@brushhillchurch.org](mailto:pastorkenny@brushhillchurch.org)) and Reverend Troy Green ([petersburgpreacher@att.net](mailto:petersburgpreacher@att.net)) were survey managers and are glad to discuss the survey and its results with anyone might want to look at the original data or have questions.

## II. MINISTRIES

### A. PARAMETERS

The MC created “**Parameters to Guide the Work of Our Ministry Teams**” as a standard for all work done by the Ministry Teams. Parameters appear on the MC website <https://cpcmc.org/mc/mt-work-params/>.

### B. CMT

The Communications Ministry Team continues to explore ways to use technology not only as a means to support our denomination’s connectional nature, but in an effort to ensure that we are being the best stewards of our resources that we can be. Working in partnership with the other ministry teams, CMT provides support for website management, audio/visual services, social networking platforms, and web-based application support and consulting. In addition to its responsibilities around editing and publishing THE CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN magazine and the annual Program Planning Calendar, the team also manages the dissemination of time-sensitive news and information via News of the Church. The team’s Senior Art Director, Sowgand Sheikholeslami, provides layout and design support for numerous projects and programs related to the ministries of the church.

### C. DMT

The Cumberland Presbyterian Constitution recognizes that “God has given different gifts to ministers of the word and sacrament and the Church recognizes various types of ministry ... not only as pastors of particular churches but as teachers of religion in various kinds of schools, editors of religious publications, chaplains to the military forces and to various types of institutions, missionaries, evangelists, counselors, administrators of church programs and institutions, directors of Christian education in particular churches and as leaders in other fields of service directly related to the church.” (2.64 Constitution, *Confession of Faith*)

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church has a long-standing history of helping people to discern their calls. There is a need to recognize that “pulpit ministry,” or “lead pastor in charge,” are not the only calls to Christian ministry. Calls to ministries with youth, calls to Christian Educators, calls to serve as Associate Pastors, calls to serve in urban ministries or to social justice, calls to serve as missionaries are all unique and valid calls and within those calls there are times when these ministers are called to serve the sacraments and to have a voice in the Church’s judicatories.

The Constitution 6.34 gives presbyteries a means to allow individuals to serve the Church more effectively and with excellence. It also provides individuals who feel called to receive biblical and theological training, knowledge of Cumberland Presbyterian structure and resources, skill development, support, and accountability.

The Constitution 6.34 can help the CPC better recognize that an individual who has a particular call, is willing to serve Christ’s Church and has made a commitment to fulfill the required standards for academic training, experience, and continuing study needed to serve with excellence in a particular area of ministry is also a minister of Word and Sacrament.

The late Phyllis Tickle asserted that every 500 years or so the Church has a “rummage sale.” Historically, every 500 years there is a critical change or shift in history that necessitates the Church “going through its ‘stuff’” and reevaluating what it keeps and what it lets go. The Church is shifting. The need for pulpit ministers is still very real; but as the Church shifts so too must we see the ministry of Word and Sacrament in a broader way than when the Digest interpreted Constitution 6.34 more narrowly. The Cumberland Presbyterian Church offers two routes to ordination: a Master’s of Divinity and a certificate from the Program of Alternate Studies. Interpreting the Constitution to include this third route to ordination would encourage persons called to ministry outside of the pulpit and would enrich the Church by equipping persons in various specialized areas of ministry to serve. It would also recognize the shift of paradigm in the Church and our desire to shift with it.

**RECOMMENDATION 1: That the 188th General Assembly interpret the phrase “a degree in a graduate school of theology” Constitution 6.34 to be inclusive of Master’s degrees in other forms of Christian ministry (for example MA Youth Ministry, MA Christian Ministry) and not restricted to Master of Divinity.**

### D. MISSIONS

The purpose of the Missions Ministry Team is to serve and equip Cumberland Presbyterian congregations and judicatories in pursuing God’s mission of redemption and reconciliation. Specifically, MMT facilitates those

phases of the Church's mission that are concerned with outreach in terms of evangelism and the establishing of congregations, and other means of Christian witness in the US and around the world.

MMT focuses on five areas: Women's Ministries, Evangelism and New Church Development, Cross-Culture Immigrant Ministries, Global Missions, and Compassion and Advocacy Ministries.

Last year a modification of MMT's meeting was made to provide the necessary time for elected members and staff to work in two areas: Global Missions and Church Development Innovation (US). MMT is one team, but its meetings are divided into two groups/sections.

Global Missions consists of four "ordained" people (there must be at least one ordained elder and pastor in the global group) elected by the Ministry Council (nominated by staff) and assigned by MMT to global missions. They function as the mission committee (presbytery judicatory) and as a brainstorming and discussion group. Its members are expected to be knowledgeable about missiological concepts. They gather to learn missiological concepts, hear reports, discuss concerns, act on judicatory needs, provide counsel and insights, hear about missionary needs and challenges, brain-storm, discuss fund raising for missions, etc. MMT invites liaisons and other people from outside the US to attend the Global Missions group meeting to provide information.

Church Development and Innovation (US) consists of four people elected by the Ministry Council (nominated by MMT staff) and assigned by MMT to Church Development and Innovation (US). They function as a brainstorming and discussion group. Its members are expected to be knowledgeable about church development and innovation concepts. They gather to learn about successful development of new and existing churches, hear reports, discuss concerns, provide counsel and insights, hear about needs and challenges, brain-storm, discuss fund raising for church development, etc. MMT invites church planters, liaisons, and other people to attend the Church Development and Innovation (US) group meeting to provide additional information.

Both groups/sections have joint MMT meetings where all present hear reports on different MMT programs, staff reports, or shared event planning meetings. However the two groups spend most of their time in their separate meetings. MMT retreats and workshops will use the two group format. Obviously there should be flexibility and the two groups can spend more time in joint meetings as needs dictate. Communications about global issues and judicatory actions is only with the global mission group, not the entire MMT. The global group can have global group meetings when necessary at a time and place determined by the MMT Leader, including video conferencing.

### III. FUNDING

Since the inception of the "new structure" in 2007, the Ministry Council and its Ministry Teams have shared in planning new and ongoing ministries. Each year the collegial environment has grown stronger, enabling the reality of a truly comprehensive budget. Funding sources include Our United Outreach, donations, grants, Investment Loan Program (ILP) and endowments (listed within Board of Stewardship section of the preliminary minutes). The endowment program is an important part of our funding, though endowments do not generate usable funds until they reach sufficient size to generate interest payments that can be used.

Ministry Council and Ministry Teams hope donors will contribute directly to programs of the Church, thus providing much needed funds to meet immediate programming needs.

### IV. MINISTRY COUNCIL CONCLUSION

The 52 MC/Ministry Team elected and advisory members and 17 staff members are committed to serving as conduits of information to and from the Council. We remain committed to serving God through the CPC and ask that the Church remain in prayer for our collaborative work.

We are thankful for the sustaining guidance of the Holy Spirit as we work to enhance and implement ministries that draw people to Christ. We encourage 188th General Assembly Commissioners and guests to visit the MC booth. We encourage you to pick up materials to share with your congregation, groups and presbytery. MC/Ministry Team staff and elected members serve as booth hosts and are eager to listen to your ideas and answer questions.

Not unlike other denominations, ours is an aging denomination. We yearn to see Cumberland Presbyterians of all generations serving in leadership roles throughout the Church. We yearn for Cumberland Presbyterians everywhere to commit to actively sharing in the work of the Church, for leaders to rise up from across the globe to further the work of the Church around the world as we say together, Send Me.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Ministry Council of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church

Reverend Mike Wilkinson, President

Reverend Donny Acton, First Vice President

Ken Bean, Second Vice President

Victory Davidsmeier Moore, Secretary

Edith B. Old, Director of Ministries/Treasurer

## MINISTRY COUNCIL APPENDICES

### (Appendix A)

#### Questions for the Unification Task Force from the Ministry Council of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church regarding the proposed Revised Plan for the Union of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America

##### Names:

If the current Plan for Union is enacted, the Ministry Council of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church (hereafter referred to as simply the Ministry Council) is uncertain if we will be legally dissolved or if the chartered and legal name of the Ministry Council will merely be changed to the Mission Program Agency of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church United.

The same uncertainty exists about the current Ministry Teams of the Ministry Council; will each team be legally dissolved or merely have their names legally changed (Discipleship Ministry Team to Christian Education and Nurture; Missions Ministry Team to Missions; Pastoral Development Ministry Team to Clergy Care and Development; and, Communications Ministry Team to Communications)?

***Question #1: Can the Unification Task Force clarify the two-abovementioned issues before submitting a final Plan for Union?*** Their resolution is not merely a preference of name, but could require a new charter from the State of Tennessee and possibly an additional charter from the State of Alabama and other states given the creation of three to five new regional office sites instead of a singular denominational center.

The Ministry Council is concerned that by calling all the work of the new Church missions — as implied by the name Mission Programing Agency—that the distinctive and traditional emphasis on missions, outreach, cross-culture ministries, church growth, and church planting will be gradually diluted. Our concern is that when all things become “missions”, nothing becomes missions.

***Question #2: Before submitting a final Plan for Union, will the Unification Task Force consider changing the name of the new programing/ministry agency to Ministry Program Agency thus giving distinction of purpose to the newly created Missions entity?***

##### Board Makeup:

The Ministry Council currently has fifteen (15) elected/voting members—three (3) from each of the five (5) Synods of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church elected by General Assembly—and five (5) advisory members—the sitting Moderator of the General Assembly, the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, and three (3) Youth Advisory Members elected by General Assembly. If the current Plan for Union is enacted, it calls for sixteen (16) members (one staff employee from each ministry entity (i.e., Missions); one elected member from each ministry entity—assumed by the Ministry Council to mean from the elected Ministry Team members of each ministry entity, though these positions are not mentioned specifically anywhere in the current Plan for Union; and one elected member from each of the eight Synods of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church United—assumed to mean elected by General Assembly; to serve as its governing board. (Ministry Council members are elected by General Assembly; Ministry Team members are elected by the Ministry Council.)

The Ministry Council is concerned about the proposed new structure because it would mean that staff would be serving on the governing board that has oversight of the work of the staff and is responsible for the hiring of staff. This is one of the reasons behind dissolving the General Assembly Council of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and establishing the current Ministry Council back in 2007.

**Question #3:** *Before submitting a final Plan for Union, will the Unification Task Force consider changing the membership makeup of the governing board of the Mission (preferred Ministry) Program Agency to reflect that no staff member/employee of the new united denomination be allowed to serve as an elected/voting member on its governing board while they are employed by the new denomination?*

**Question #4:** *Before submitting a final Plan for Union, will the Unification Task Force consider changing the membership makeup of the governing board of the Mission (preferred Ministry) Program Agency so that it consists of sixteen (16) elected members—two (2) from each of the eight newly created Synods—and six (6) Advisory Members—the sitting Moderator of the new General Assembly, the Stated Clerk of the new General Assembly, the Associate Stated Clerk of the new General Assembly, and three (3) Youth Advisory Members elected by General Assembly?*

**Question #5:** *Before submitting a final Plan for Union, can the Unification Task Force clarify as to whether or not the new programming/ministry entities will continue to have elected Ministry Team members. If the answer to this question is “yes”, then the Ministry Council requests that before submitting a final Plan for Union, the Unification Task Force clarify the new role of these elected Ministry Team members. If the answer to this question is that there will be no more elected Ministry Team members, then in order to increase representation of the Church-at-large in the programming/ministry of the new denomination, that our previous question be amended to read: Before submitting a final Plan for Union, will the Unification Task Force consider changing the membership makeup of the governing board of the Mission (preferred Ministry) Program Agency so that it consists of twenty-four (24) elected members—three (3) from each of the eight newly created Synods—and six (6) Advisory Members—the sitting Moderator of the new General Assembly, the Stated Clerk of the new General Assembly, the Associate Stated Clerk of the new General Assembly, and three (3) Youth Advisory Members elected by General Assembly?*

#### **Denominational Staff and Personnel:**

The current Plan for Union both calls for the elimination of the position of Director of Ministries and for the creation of the new position of Ministry Coordinator. The Ministry Council assumes that this is a name change only and that the Ministry Coordinator will be an employee of the Mission (preferred Ministry) Program Agency. The current Plan for Union states that duties and parameters of the Ministry Coordinator “and the corresponding selection process will be determined during the Implementation Phase and detailed in the Standing Rules.” If the new Mission (preferred Ministry) Program Agency is to be legally chartered in the either of the State of Tennessee and/or the State of Alabama, the executive head of the Mission (preferred Ministry) Program Agency must be hired by its governing board and not elected/selected by the new General Assembly. At least, that was the legal advice given at the time of the formation of the current Ministry Council.

**Question #6:** *Before submitting a final Plan for Union, will the Unification Task Force consider including language that clearly states that the Ministry Coordinator is hired by and reports to the Mission (preferred Ministry) Program Agency of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church United?*

#### **Cumberland Presbyterian Digest:**

The “Cumberland Presbyterian Digest” and “Summary of Actions” consist of General Assembly advisories and interpretations containing to the *Constitution*, *Rules of Discipline*, and *Rules of Order* for both the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America. The current Plan for Union states that both of these compilations will continue serve as “resource tools” for the new united denomination and that “A new *Digest* will begin with the formation of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church United.” With due respect to the Unification Task Force, the Ministry Council would prefer stronger wording regarding previous General Assembly rulings and interpretations.

**Question #7:** *Before submitting a final Plan for Union, will the Unification Task Force consider including a statement that says that all previous General Assembly ruling and interpretations currently contained in the “Cumberland Presbyterian Digest” will remain valid for the new united denomination until and unless a future General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church United renders a new ruling and/or interpretation on a previous ruling and/or interpretation?*

**Question #8:** *Before submitting a final Plan for Union, will the Unification Task Force consider including language that says that all previous theological statements/opinions issued by General Assembly of either*



*denomination will remain valid for the new united denomination until and unless a future General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church United issues a different theological statement/opinion?*

**Funding:**

The current Plan of Union does not address the funding of the new Missions (preferred Ministry) Program Agency of the newly created Cumberland Presbyterian Church United. With the addition of a staff position within the Office of General Assembly, how might *Our United Outreach* percentages for all remaining denominational entities be affected?

***Question #9: Before submitting a final Plan for Union, will the Unification Task Force include details regarding the method of funding for the work of the newly created Mission (preferred Ministry) Program Agency of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church United.***

Respectfully submitted,  
Reverend Mike Wilkinson  
President of the Ministry Council of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church

After the Ministry Council approved the above questions, they were submitted to our Ministry Teams Leaders and the Director of Global Cross-Culture Missions Program Lynn Thomas to obtain insight from those “on the front line” of ministry. Their comments/questions may be helpful to the Unification Task Force; hence, their inclusion in this document.

***Comment #1: A Board of 30 people is BIG. Too Big?***

This comment relates to above listed Question #5 under Board Makeup. The Ministry Council’s preference is for structure of the elected Ministry Teams to remain intact and the makeup of the new board be the one listed in Question #4 (16 elected members and 6 advisory members) under Board Makeup.

***Comment #2: The ministry agency would initially be chartered where? As new offices are opened in other states, would those offices be chartered in those states? Typically, such charters require boards within those specific states - multiple boards?***

These questions relate to above listed Question #1 under Names.

***Comment #3: The ministry agency board would need representation from the mission field under the care of the MMT -- whose synod is the Permanent Judiciary Committee.***

This question is not covered in the above listed questions, but relates to the proposed Constitutional Amendment being recommended by the Permanent Judiciary Committee.

***Comment #4: The ministry agency will need a director as well as the ability to establish the teams it determines are needed to conduct the ministry of the church. These teams will have team leaders. Teams will need to be formed and dissolved as needed.***

This question relates to Question #6 under Denominational Staff and Personnel

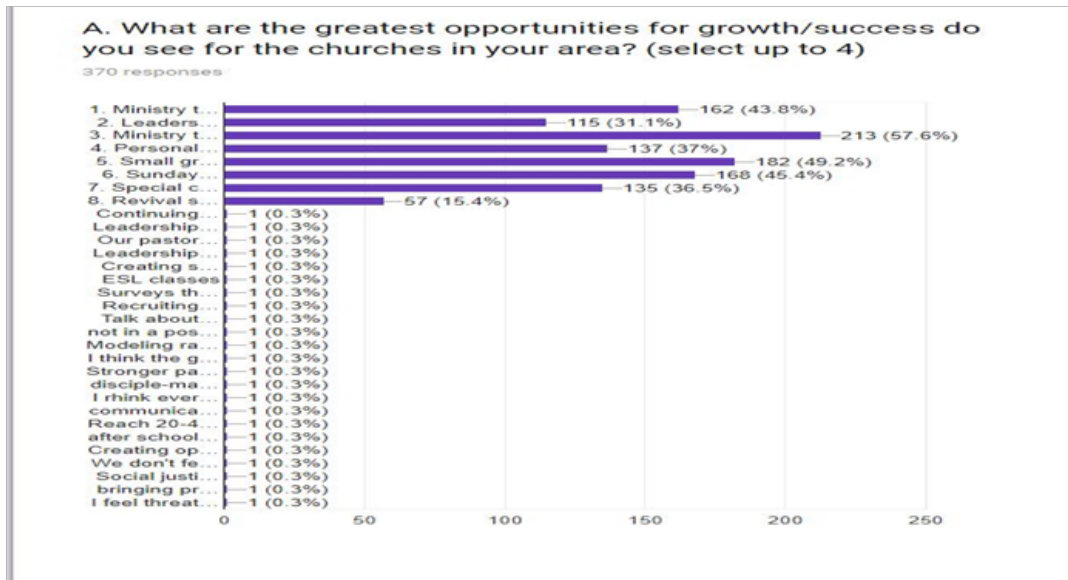
**SURVEY OF OPPORTUNITIES AND THREATS BEFORE  
THE CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**(Appendix B)**

**A. What are the great opportunities for growth or success that you see in the churches in your area?**

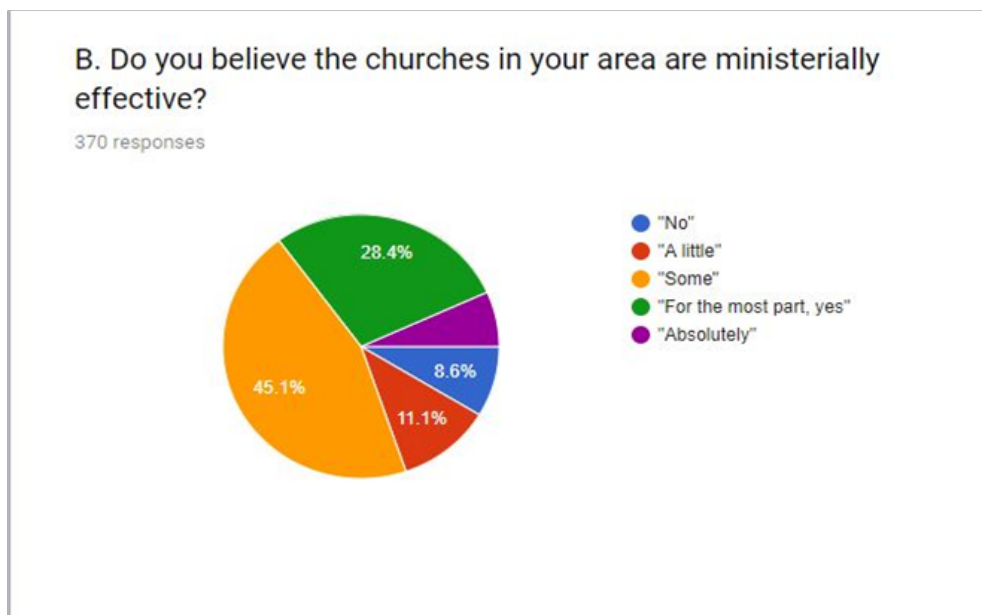
Ministry for special needs groups (children, the elderly, people with disabilities)	162	43.8%
Leadership development	115	31.1%
Ministry with communities in need	213	57.6%
Personal evangelism	137	37.0%

Small groups/Bible studies/Sunday school	182	49.2%
Worship services/preaching	168	45.4%
Special events	135	36.5%
Revival services or evangelism	57	15.4%



(Respondents could select up to four) The greatest opportunity that Cumberland Presbyterians who completed the English version currently see before them is Ministry to community needs with more than 57% of respondents choosing it. The second greatest opportunity identified was small groups/Bible Studies/Sunday school with almost 50% of respondents seeing an opportunity there. Two other items that were recognized as opportunities were ministry to special needs groups and Sunday worship services/preaching with each receiving more than 43%. What this reveals is that the majority of people see value in ongoing ministry that meet real life needs, grows disciples, and brings people to Christ. Revivals, special church events, leadership development, and personal evangelism all had a significant showing as well but when taken together it is clear that intentional discipleship within the church and on-going ministry to the community is where most people see the largest opportunities going forward.

<b>B. Do you believe that the churches in your area are effective ministerially?</b>	Of a total of 366 total respondents
No	8.6%
A little	11.1%
Most, yes	28.4%
Some	45.1%
Absolutely	6.8%



This is essentially an approval rating of how churches in a particular area are doing when it comes to their effectiveness in ministry. When asked if they believe the churches in your area are ministerially effective, 80.3% felt like the churches in their area were at least somewhat effective. This is very encouraging news and means that there is a high degree of confidence and potential for these church in the view of congregational leadership and membership. One concern is that the largest number of people felt like their congregations were only somewhat effective with 45.1% feeling this way. Only 6.8% felt like the congregations near them were absolutely effective and 28.4% felt they were effective for the most part. This means that of the 366 respondents, only 35% believe the congregations near them are for the most part effective. These results should concern us but also give us hope. As we encourage churches to make use of the opportunities around them going forward these results should increase. It would be wise for all church leaders to ask their congregations specifically about ministerially effectiveness in order to better understand the feelings of their church. If people do not believe their church is ministerial effective they will most likely not be energized for evangelism and will eventually leave. If on the other hand, they believe their church is effective they cannot help but invite others to come and take part in its ministries!

**C. What do you think are the greatest threats to achieve effective ministries in your area?**

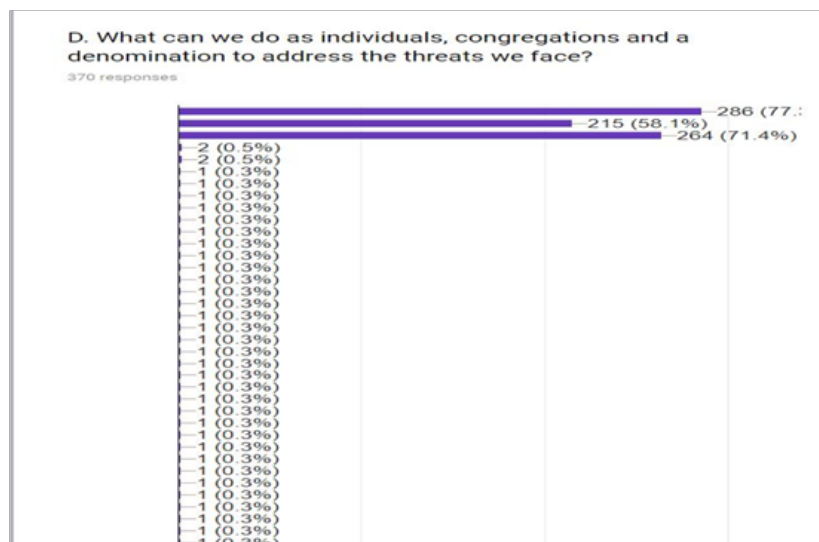
	<u>Results</u>	
Demographic problems limited or descending population	69	18.6%
Demographic problems of economic disruption	35	9.5%
Demographic geographical location problems	36	9.7%
Demographics: contrast between the membership and the surrounding community	101	27.3%
Resources: limited money	116	31.4%
Resources: few facilities	37	10.0%
Resources: people have no time	125	33.8%
Membership: aging membership	254	68.6%
Membership: disinterest towards ministry outside the church	118	31.9%
Membership: poor spiritual development or Christian maturity	68	18.4%

Membership does not use the spiritual gifts	90	24.3%
Membership not involved in the ministry	148	40.0%
Leadership: inadequate vision of the ministry	60	16.2%
Leadership without passion or motivation	68	18.4%
Leadership without planning or organization	40	10.8%
Leadership involved in ethical problems	21	5.7%
Leadership: insufficient leadership for the tasks of the churches	83	22.4%
Leadership changed or burned out	98	26.5%
Cultural disinterest in God or faith	97	26.2%
Cultural moral relativism, points of view that resist the belief in absolute truths	59	15.9%
Cultural materialism, yearning for prosperity	55	14.9%
Cultural government restrictions	4	1.1%
Cultural negative vision of the concept of church	95	25.7%

(Respondents could select up to seven) By far the biggest threat identified by respondents in this survey was membership issue of an aging membership with more than 68.6% of respondents seeing this as a threat. The next closest threat was members not being engaged in ministry with 40% of respondents seeing this as a problem. It seems that these two issues are connected because aging congregations lead to less member engaging in ministry because of natural limitations that come with age. This is a very troubling trend that and one that if left unaddressed will have a major negative impact on the denomination as a whole. There were a number of other threats that compile these problems such as resource limitations (33.8%) which come from shrinking congregations and demographic contrast (27%) between membership and the community. All of these lead to the same results of an aging and shrinking congregation. This also has led to another threat of members becoming less interested in people outside of the church which 32% of respondents reported. This has also led to another danger that has been reported which is burnout. These taken together with the cultural threats of a culture less interested in God/faith and a negative view of the church could discourage even the most optimistic person, but where challenges arise so does the opportunity for a daring faith which relies on God and ourselves as we minister in these times.

**D. What can we do as individuals, congregations, and a denomination to address the threats we face?**

	<u>Results</u>	
Pray	286	77.0%
Develop Leaders	215	58.1%
Involve more members in the ministry	264	71.4%



The three main solutions that were offered to help address the threats that we face were pray, develop leaders, and engage members in ministry. Of these three prayer and engaging members in ministry both scored high with more than 71% of respondents identifying these as potential solutions. Another 58% believed developing leaders was a solution. This reveals a desire for congregations to seek God’s aid in ministry and to seek the aid of their fellow church members. Both of these speak to the strain respondents feel as they serve and have an ever increasing number of responsibilities coming their way. These results should cause every church to consider how they best might provide help to their leaders and members who are giving so much of their time and talents to the kingdom of God.

# THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP, FOUNDATION, AND BENEFITS

S/E

## I. GENERAL INFORMATION

### A. BOARD MEETINGS AND ORGANIZATION

The Board of Stewardship, Foundation and Benefits under the direction of its officers, President Randy Davidson, Vice-president Mike St. John, Secretary Debbie Shelton, and Treasurer Robert Heflin, met two times in regular session.

### B. BOARD MEMBERS WHOSE TERMS EXPIRE

Members whose terms expire at the 2018 General Assembly, with their years of service, are as follows: Jim Shannon, three years and Mike St. John, six years. Board member Andy Frazier passed away in October 2017, and board member Sue Rice, decided to resign. Jim Shannon and Mike St. John are eligible for another term and have agreed to serve. We want to thank them for their service and dedication to the Board of Stewardship, Foundation and Benefits. We would also like to thank Andy Frazier for his service and remember his family.

### C. BOARD REPRESENTATIVE TO THE 187TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The board's representative to the 187th General Assembly is Randy Davidson.

### D. STAFF

Kathryn Gilbert Craig serves as Administrative Assistant, Mark Duck serves as Coordinator of Benefits and Robert Heflin serves as Executive Secretary.

### E. 2019 BUDGET

The 2019 line-item budget has been filed with the Office of the General Assembly. (see page 118)

### F. 2017 AUDIT

Certified copies of the 2017 audit reports from Fouts and Morgan will be filed with the Office of the General Assembly in compliance with General Regulations E.5. and E.6. The 2017 audit will be printed in the audit section of the 2018 minutes.

## II. FINANCIAL FOUNDATION DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT

### A. PURPOSE

One area of work of the board is in financial foundation development and management. The purpose of this program is as follows:

To secure a firm financial undergirding for the ongoing ministry of congregations and the agencies of presbyteries, synods, and the General Assembly as they bear witness to the saving love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship and communion of the Holy Spirit.

### B. 2017 IN REVIEW

The year 2017 was an eventful year. U. S. equity markets surged to new highs in December. There was also growth in global markets including emerging markets. Higher oil prices also contributed to the

uptick in the economy. Jerome Powell was nominated to succeed Janet Yellen as chair of the Fed. The good news encouraged the Fed to increase rate hikes three times in 2017.

The Cumberland Presbyterian Endowment Fund, Retirement Fund and the Investment Loan Program benefitted from the growth in the domestic and international markets. The balance in the Endowment Fund ended the year at an all-time high of \$62,548,692 including loans. The balance in the Investment Loan Program was also at an all-time high of \$25,608,257.

While we can enjoy the success of 2017, we need to continue to be cautious about looking too far down the road. Sentiment and emotion rule the short term. The first quarter of 2018 is one example of the volatility investors can experience. We are confident that our investment manager, Gerber/Taylor can continue to help us navigate the turbulent ups and downs of the market. Since October 1981, Gerber/Taylor has done a wonderful job for the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

### **C. BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP**

The Board of Stewardship ended 2017 with an unrestricted surplus of \$142,208. We are ever mindful of expenses incurred and try to be good stewards of what has been entrusted to the Board. We are grateful for the faithful support from congregations and individuals through their contributions to Our United Outreach.

### **D. MANAGEMENT OF FUNDS**

At the end of 2017 the Endowment Fund portfolio was under the co-management of Gerber/Taylor Management, RREEF America II, Clarion, Tortoise, Headlands Capital and Eagle MLP. The funds of the Retirement Program were co-managed by Gerber/Taylor Management, RREEF America II, Tortoise, Headlands Capital and Eagle MLP.

The church loan portion of the endowment portion of the endowment portfolio and the investments of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church Investment Loan Program, Inc. were under the management of board staff with the help of Hilliard Lyons.

## **III. ENDOWMENT PROGRAM**

Since 1836, the board and its corporate predecessors have sought to be faithful trustees of the funds given into their hands to provide a permanent financial foundation for the work of congregations, presbyteries, synods, and General Assembly agencies. The work of the Endowment Program is the oldest responsibility of the board and fulfills a portion of that task to which all Cumberland Presbyterians are called: "Christian stewardship acknowledges that all of life and creation is a trust from God, to be used for God's glory and service."—Confession of Faith for Cumberland Presbyterians 6:10.

### **A. COMMUNICATION**

The Endowment Program report will be distributed to all endowment program participants, general assembly board members, churches, and individual contributors.

Agencies, other participants, and interested parties received quarterly detailed reports on the postings to all their endowments. With the addition of names supplied by the agencies during the year, the number of persons receiving these reports continues to expand. In addition, special reports were made as requested.

### **B. ASSETS, INVESTMENT MIX, AND PERFORMANCE**

#### **1. Assets and Investment Mix**

The assets of the Endowment Fund totaled \$59,134,640 for 2017 at market value. The following table provides a breakdown of the investment mix:

**Investment Mix**

Securities & Investments		
15.1%	US Equity	\$ 8,929,331
12.0%	Real Assets	\$ 7,096,157
9.7%	Fixed Income	\$ 5,736,060
16.7%	Hedged Equity	\$ 9,875,485
16.8%	Multi-Strategy	\$ 9,934,620
3.6%	Opportunistic	\$ 2,128,847
14.4%	International Stocks	\$ 8,515,388
8.5%	Emerging Markets	\$ 5,026,444
2.0%	Private Equity	\$ 1,182,693
<u>1.2%</u>	<u>Cash</u>	<u>\$ 709,615</u>
100.0%	Total	\$59,134,640

**2. Performance of the Endowment Fund**

The Endowment Fund generated \$6,766,232 in investment earnings during 2017. Net contributions and withdrawals (including income distributions) were a negative \$2,652,152. The change in market value was a positive of \$4,114,080.

With the combining of the Growth/Income Fund and the Total Return Fund in January 2013, we also began paying out 5% (annualized) to the congregations, presbyteries and agencies. Previously agencies had difficulty in preparing budgets because of the unknown amount they would receive from endowment income. Now, they realize they will receive 5% in endowment income over a twelve-month period. With this information, they have a better idea how much endowment income they can expect. Earnings paid to congregations, presbyteries and agencies totaled \$1,400,256 for 2017.

**3. Total Rate of Return for the Endowment Fund**

The following table gives the annualized rates of return as contained in the report from Gerber/Taylor Associates for year end 2017:

	<b>One Year Period</b>	<b>Five Year Period</b>	<b>Since Inception</b>
	<b>01/01/17-12/31/17</b>	<b>01/01/13-12/31/17</b>	<b>09/30/81-12/31/17</b>
Endowment Fund	12.4%	7.8%	9.9%

**C. ESTABLISHING AN ENDOWMENT AS A LEGACY**

The Board of Stewardship, Foundation and Benefits manages 825 endowments established for the benefit of congregations, presbyteries, synods, agencies and other special ministries of the Cumberland Presbyterian denomination. Many of these endowments were established by individuals as a legacy to continue to benefit long after they are no longer with us. Some of the endowments were established by congregations, presbyteries and synods to help further their specific ministries. Some of the endowments were started with very little. Through the years these endowments have grown and the beneficiaries are reaping the gifts of the endowment income and using it in ministry in their local area or worldwide. Please consider establishing an endowment.

**D. ENDOWMENT PROGRAM LOANS****Historical Review**

Through investing up to 40% of the assets of the Endowment Program in the witness of the Church, the message of good news concerning Christ is strengthened both in the United States and overseas. A survey of old files in the Historical Foundation and in the vault of the Board of Stewardship reveals the important role played by this aspect of the investment policy. Over the past sixty-five years from 1944 to 2009, 841 loans were made to congregations, presbyteries, and synods. From 2010 through 2017 an additional 17 loans have been made. Through these loans, \$42,714,405 has been provided in financing for expansion of facilities and extension of witness.

A look at the different periods during which loans have been made provides a picture of growing endowments (and of post-World War II inflation!).



<b>Period</b>	<b>Loans</b>	<b>Total Loaned</b>	<b>Average</b>
1944-49	35	\$ 145,755	\$ 4,164
1950-59	171	\$ 1,360,441	\$ 7,955
1960-69	208	\$ 3,056,891	\$ 14,697
1970-79	166	\$ 3,609,084	\$ 21,741
1980-89	101	\$ 4,349,120	\$ 43,061
1990-99	102	\$ 14,440,837	\$ 141,577
2000-09	58	\$ 10,571,723	\$ 182,271
2010-17	17	\$ 5,180,554	\$ 304,738

While looking at the table, it should be noted that the Cumberland Presbyterian Church Investment Loan Program began January 1, 2001. Since its creation most of the larger loans are made through the Investment Loan Program. At the end of the year the Endowment Loan Balance was \$2,119,345.

Down through the years, donors to endowments have found satisfaction in the knowledge that the prudent investment of their gifts strengthened not only the work of particular churches, institutions, and causes which they designated to receive the income but also the broader witness of the Church.

#### **E. OTHER CHURCH LOANS**

In addition to loans from the Investment Loan Program and the Endowment Program there is another source available to the board for loans to churches.

##### **1. Small Church Loan Fund**

This fund, formerly known as the Revolving Church Loan Fund, was created through an endowment established by Lavenia Cole and gifts to the "Into the Nineties" Capital Gifts Campaign. All interest earned by the loans is added to the fund to increase the amount available for loans. There were five loans from the Small Church Loan Program at the end of 2017 totaling \$135,820.

The rate of interest for the Small Church Loans made during 2017 was based on the loan rate established by the Cumberland Presbyterian Church Investment Loan Program at the beginning of each quarter. These loans are generally small loans of \$70,000 or less and most are amortized over five years.

#### **IV. CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH INVESTMENT LOAN PROGRAM, INC.**

In 1976, the board began a program to provide an opportunity for flexible investment of current temporary cash assets of congregations and agencies of the church. The primary purpose of the program is to provide income to participants as a foundation for ministry. On January 1, 2001, the assets of the original program, Cash Funds Management, were transferred to the new Cumberland Presbyterian Church Investment Loan Program, Inc.

For the year ending 2017, the assets for the Investment Loan Program were \$25,608,257 compared to \$22,407,583 in 2016. This is a 14% increase in assets in one year and over 57% in five years. There were 323 individual, congregation and agency accounts. At year end, deposits on account totaled \$19,338,543. The total loans were \$6,269,714 at year end.

For 2017, the corporation complied with the regulatory requirements in the states of Tennessee and Kentucky and was able to offer investment opportunities to individual Cumberland Presbyterians in the states of Tennessee, Kentucky, Texas, Missouri and New Mexico.

The board of directors is composed of the following: Mike St. John, president; Jim Shannon, vice-president and Debbie Shelton, secretary, and Gary Tubb. Robert Heflin serves as Treasurer and Executive Secretary. During the past year, the board met twice in regular session.

In order to simplify administration and focus on the strengths of the Investment Loan Program, the board took action to limit the offering of notes and depository accounts to "ready access accounts." All note holders (individuals) and depository account holders (churches and church agencies) with funds invested in these "on demand" accounts participated in the \$622,498 which the program paid in interest. For 2017 the interest rate paid to account holders was 3%. The interest rate paid to account holders can fluctuate from one quarter to the next. In recent years there has been renewed interest for congregations to open new accounts because the interest paid is higher than current CD rates.

The table below provides a breakdown of the investment mix.

<b>Investment Loan Program</b>		
Securities & Investments		
20.6%	Cash Equivalents	\$ 3,899,818
9.9%	Preferred Stocks	\$ 1,783,695
0.9%	Mutual Funds	\$ 1,386,711
<u>68.6%</u>	Taxable Fixed Income	<u>\$12,556,599</u>
100.0%		\$19,626,823

At the end of 2017 there were 22 loans to congregations made through the Investment Loan Program. The loan balance was \$7,019,714. Every accountholder is investing in the future ministry of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church as well as receiving interest on that investment.

## **V. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION AND RESEARCH**

### **A. PURPOSE**

The second of two broad areas of the work of the board is in employee benefits administration and research. The purpose of this program is as follows:

To support the lay and ordained employees of the church as they venture to be faithful under the call of Christ and the Church to the daily demands of providing leadership to congregations and Church agencies whom are the incarnation of the Body of Christ, the family of God at work in the world.

### **B. VISION**

The board has a vision of uniform benefits for all Cumberland Presbyterian clergy, including group health insurance, group long-term disability coverage, and participation in the General Assembly's retirement plan. Ministers would then know what to expect when they are called to another church. No longer would some ministers have to do without what is considered in the secular world to be basic employee benefits. No longer would ministers and their families have to settle for being relegated to second class status. The reality is, as several General Assemblies have recognized, that this is possible if we work together in much the same manner that we send out missionaries and do a lot of other ministry. Good employee benefit plans are in place and they would be healthier and stronger if used and supported by all employees of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

## **VI. RETIREMENT PROGRAM**

Since 1952, the board has provided a retirement program open to all church employees of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. The program gives opportunity for churches and their employees to provide a source of retirement income based on voluntary contributions. In 1987, a new Cumberland Presbyterian Retirement Plan No. 2 was established as a qualified 403(b) defined contribution plan and in 1990 the General Assembly amended the plan to include the churches and employees of the Second Cumberland Presbyterian Church, now known as the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America.

### **A. PLAN AMENDMENTS**

As new needs arise or deficiencies in the original plan document for Cumberland Presbyterian Retirement Plan No. 2 become apparent, the General Assembly has the authority under Article IX Section 9.01 of the Plan to amend the same. In 2012 a revised plan document was approved by the General Assembly. Recently the IRS has adopted a pre-approved program for 403(b) plans, thus we have restated the plan to take advantage of the new regulations. At this time we are also able to make updates to the plan. The only update made, is the ability to contribute up to the IRS deferral limit each year. In 2018, this amount is \$18,500 and may change in the coming years with no need to amend the plan. Below is the amended portion:

*“As a Participant, you may elect to defer a percentage of your compensation each year instead of receiving that amount in cash. There are two types of pre-tax contributions that you can make under the plan: basic contributions and elective contributions. You may defer up to 5% of your pay as a basic contribution. Once you have reached the contribution limit for the basic contribution, you may defer an additional percentage or dollar amount of your pay as an elective contribution. However, the total deferrals that you can elect to defer from your pay in any taxable year may not exceed certain dollar limit which is set by law. The limit for 2018 is \$18,500.”*

**RECOMMENDATION 1: That the General Assembly approve the amended plan and updates of the Cumberland Presbyterian Retirement Plan #2.**

## **B. YEAR END REPORT**

On December 31, 2017, there were 309 active participants in the Retirement Plan. There were 15 receiving direct monthly payments as a result of their elections. In addition to these participants, there were 13 persons who were receiving annuity payments purchased through the Plan and for whom the Plan issues 1099-R's.

During 2017, \$1,638,563 was dispersed to or for participants, an increase of 3.8% over 2016's \$1,578,924. Contributions totaled \$799,189 and were up 16.3 % over 2016's \$686,942. Realized and unrealized gain on investments totaled \$2,736,328 compared to 2016 gain of \$1,256,899. The rate of return credited to the accounts for the year was 12.5% compared to 6.5% for 2016. (Comparative annual rates of return for: previous three years +6.1%, previous five years +7.5%, and from the beginning of professional management in March 1982, +9.4%.)

Effective January 1, 2011, Gerber/Taylor Management was retained to manage our stock portfolio. We have continued our relationship with Met West, a bond manager, and RREEF, a private real estate investment trust manager. Matt Robbins and Stacy Miller of Gerber/Taylor continue to be very helpful with keeping the board updated on market conditions and investment strategies.

## **VII. MINISTERIAL AID PROGRAM**

### **A. MINISTERIAL AID**

#### **1. Full Benefit Recipients**

As of March 2018, there are 6 Cumberland Presbyterian Church recipients of the full benefit of \$531 (adjusted for inflation yearly) per month (increased from \$300 on July 1, 2010), and 3 that receive partial benefits due to them having more income than the threshold established. The monthly total of these payments is \$4,056.00; annually, \$48,672.00 is paid. Beginning May 1, 2015, the method of distributing funds to overseas presbyteries was revised with the help of the Missions ministry team. Ministerial aid will now be offered in overseas presbyteries on an individual basis. Presently there are 6 recipients in Cauca Valley Presbytery and 5 recipients in Andes Presbytery that are receiving aid in the amount of \$300 a month, for a total of \$3,300 a month or \$39,600 annually.

In October 2005, the board decided to distribute 75% of the previous year's surplus to the state side recipients. The Board of Stewardship has approved a cap of a maximum of \$4,000 in lieu of large distributions that may have a negative effect on other benefits received, such as SSI, or state assistance.

#### **2. Basic Requirements**

The new basic requirements and amount for stateside recipients for the Ministerial Aid program were approved at the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in June 2010. The poverty levels have been updated to the latest available figures. They are as follows:

### Full Benefit of \$531 a month for State Side Recipients

1. Minimum age is full retirement age set forth by the Social Security Administration.
2. Minimum years of service to the church - 15.
3. Can qualify for aid if a participant in the Cumberland Presbyterian Retirement Plan if income is below poverty level as established by the US Census Bureau.
4. Physical and/or mental disability (doctor's statement required) at any age, however, a minimum of ten years of service is required if less than 60 years of age.
5. Individuals' income cannot exceed federal poverty guidelines set forth for the year by the US Census Bureau. Poverty level is \$12,140 a year or \$1,012 a month for 2018.
6. Couples income cannot exceed federal poverty guidelines set forth for the year by the US Census Bureau. Poverty level is \$16,460 a year or \$1,372 a month for 2018.  
(The GA Board of Stewardship is authorized to look at each case in light of unusual financial hardship; thus, application may be made even if income levels exceed the ceiling.)
7. Presbytery obtains information and approves (approval can be given by the committee or board charged by presbytery with this responsibility); certification of approval is sent to the General Assembly Board of Stewardship.
8. Surviving spouse is eligible if above items 2, 3 and 4 have been met.

**\*\*Note:** Recipient is responsible to verify if receiving Ministerial Aid would affect his or her SSI, Social Security or other benefits.

Cumberland Presbyterian Church applicants must submit to the Board a listing of assets and liabilities, so the net worth can be determined. The board urges presbyteries to maintain contact with persons under the Ministerial Aid Program who live within their bounds. Should there be serious unmet needs, the presbytery is urged to contact the board so that it may determine how the Ministerial Aid program can be of assistance in meeting those needs.

### 3. Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America

The CPCA currently has 3 participants who receive monthly payments. On June 1, 2015, the aid amount increased from \$109 a month to \$510 a month and the CPCA contributes 50% of the yearly aid and the CP Ministerial Aid Endowments 50%. The current amount received monthly per participant is \$531. The CPCA normally pays its share in June or July following their General Assembly.

### 4. Ministers in Overseas Presbyteries

Since May 1, 2015, with the help of the Missions Ministry Team, Aid is available to those in overseas presbyteries who qualify on an individual basis. The Cumberland Presbyterian Church is present in 13 different countries and each country presents its unique legislation of how they manage pension plans according to laws and standards for salaries. The Mission Ministry Team will be the liaison between the Board of Stewardship and the Presbyteries outside of the United States aiding the Board in identifying the needs overseas and interpreting pension laws and standards for salaries. At present, aid is being sent to the Cauca Valley Presbytery and Andes Presbytery in Colombia, South America.

## B. SPECIAL FINANCIAL NEEDS AID

At the Spring 2014 Board of Stewardship meeting, the Board approved the use of funds from the Ministerial Aid Cash Fund ILP to be used in special situations where illness has caused a financial hardship for those that are not eligible for Ministerial Aid. At present there are four individuals who have received payments.

## VIII. INSURANCE PROGRAMS

The insurance programs of the board have been assigned by the General Assembly beginning in the middle of the previous century. Dental and Vision Insurance is the newest, begun in December 2008. Property and casualty insurance is the oldest, begun in 1951. While all of the insurance programs are important, group life and health insurance, begun in 1961, touches many lives in a personal way and often at times of deep anxiety. In all, about 202 men, women, and children depend on this program to meet their health care needs.

## **A. PROPERTY & CASUALTY INSURANCE**

The Board of Stewardship, Foundation and Benefits secures property and casualty insurance coverage against accidental loss for the General Assembly Corporation, Board of Stewardship, Discipleship Ministry Team, Missions Ministry Team, Ministry Council, Communications Ministry Team, Pastoral Development Ministry Team, Memphis Theological Seminary, and Historical Foundation.

Our broker is Lipscomb & Pitts of Memphis, Tennessee. For 2018, Travelers Insurance carries our Property & Casualty policy and \$2,500,000 in earth quake coverage, Evanston Insurance Company provides an additional \$16,551,482 in earthquake coverage. Philadelphia carries our Directors & Officers coverage and Hanover carries our General Liability, Professional Liability, Crime, Automobile, and Umbrella policies. Beginning October 23, 2014, Workers Compensation coverage has been with Bridgefield Casualty.

## **B. GROUP LONG TERM DISABILITY INSURANCE**

The presbyteries of Arkansas, Columbia, Covenant, Cumberland, del Cristo, East Tennessee, Missouri, Murfreesboro, Nashville, North Central, Red River, Robert Donnell, Trinity, West Tennessee and The Center have now established non-contributory long term disability programs insured currently through Cigna. This leaves only four stateside presbyteries (Choctaw, Hope, Grace and Tennessee Georgia) without a program. The quarterly rate applied to participant's salaries is .45 per \$100 of salary.

There are three primary reasons for ministers to want the coverage and for presbyteries to want to provide the protection. The group rate is significantly lower than individual policy rates and does not require a large cash outlay to cover all full-time ministers in a presbytery; housing allowance and/or the fair rental value of a manse is included in the definition of salary for ministers; and, there is no medical qualification requirement in order to enroll. These advantages over individual policies make this coverage very attractive, especially to those who have previously purchased their own policies. In addition, a provision was negotiated with Cigna by the Board's consultant, whereby ministers, upon leaving a participating presbytery to serve in a non-participating presbytery, may continue the coverage if he or she so desires. The new employing church is then billed for the quarterly premium. There are now 10 ministers and two employees who are receiving or have received benefits from this insurance program. There are 170 participants as of January 1, 2018.

## **C. GROUP TRAVEL ACCIDENT INSURANCE**

This policy provides twenty-four hour coverage on "named employees" for accidental death, dismemberment, or loss of sight while on business travel. The maximum benefit is \$50,000 and there is also a \$1,000 medical benefit. The annual premium is \$900. We renew this policy every 3 years. Thirty-one named positions are covered under this policy.

## **D. GROUP HEALTH & LIFE INSURANCE**

The board has used a fully-insured, managed care approach to provide group health insurance for Cumberland Presbyterian clergy and lay employees since March 1, 1999. Blue Cross / Blue Shield of Tennessee is our insurance carrier in 2018. In 2016, the group plan was split into 4 separate community rated groups which provided more competitive rates. For 2018, the plans realized a 2.5% increase due to premium increase of 5.4% and more funds being used from the Premium Stabilization Reserve due to higher returns of the endowments. Lipscomb & Pitts, a Memphis based insurance company, is our insurance broker, and Craig Wright, our agent.

### **1. Premiums**

Efforts to maintain affordable premiums and comprehensive coverage are the biggest challenges we face. Premiums for 2018 are listed below and reflect the assistance from the Premium Stabilization Reserve. The goal for 2018 is to utilize approximately \$167,000 from the Premiums Stabilization Reserve to help reduce the premiums participants pay for health insurance. In 2017 we utilized \$123,521 from the Premium Stabilization Reserve.

**Health Insurance Premiums for 2018**

	Option 1	Option 2
Employee Only	\$ 700	\$ 564
Employee & Spouse	\$1,385	\$1,111
Employee & Child(ren)	\$1,280	\$1,027
Family	\$1,977	\$1,586

The Health Plans are on a calendar year as far as deductible and pricing is concerned. It is our objective with the new community rated plans to have the renewal pricing by no later than October 1, so presbyteries and agencies can have the figures for their fall meetings and better plan their budgets for the coming year. Periodically we seek bids from other carriers in an effort to keep premiums competitive. When this is done, we may not have the new premium information by October 1.

Open enrollment period is the month of December. It is during this time that an employee can enroll or change their health insurance coverage unless there are special circumstances.

**2. Participation**

As of February 1, 2018, 120 employees and 82 dependents for a total of 202 people depend on the Cumberland Presbyterian Church Health Insurance Program. A breakdown of family units by size at February 1, 2018 is listed below.

**FAMILY UNITS BY SIZE**

	<u>Number of Units</u>	<u>Total</u>
Emp. Only	77	77
Spouse Only	0	0
E & 1	2	4
E & 2	5	15
E & 3	0	0
E & S	19	38
Families of 3	6	18
Families of 4	6	24
Families of 5	4	20
Families of 6	1	6
<u>Families of 7</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	120	202

The following table shows the enrollment figures from January 2017 to December 2017. As one can see the numbers fluctuate from month to month.

**MONTHLY GROUP INSURANCE  
ENROLLMENT**

	<u>EMPLOYEE COVERAGE</u>	<u>DEPENDENT COVERAGE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
January	75	50	125
February	76	49	125
March	76	46	122
April	76	46	122
May	75	46	121
June	74	45	119
July	73	45	118
August	74	43	117
September	75	44	120
October	78	43	121
November	77	44	121
December	76	43	119

### **3. Premium Stabilization Reserve (Formerly Emergency Reserve)**

The Premium Stabilization Reserve is invested in the Endowment Program Fund account which had a balance of \$1,972,095 as of December 31, 2017. The Emergency Health Insurance Reserve was established in compliance with the 1992 General Assembly directive to be used in “emergency” situations to match presbyterial emergency fund disbursements. The 1998 General Assembly approved the Board’s recommendation to allow the Board to use the Emergency Reserve to maintain the stability of the group health and life insurance plan. This allows these funds to be used for purposes outside of the original scope of the reserve. In 2017, the Board of Stewardship used \$123,521 to help offset some of the cost of the health insurance premiums and have estimated that approximately \$167,000 will be used in 2018 to help in reducing premiums for the health insurance participants.

### **4. Dental and Vision Insurance**

On December 1, 2008, we began offering Dental and Vision insurance, on a voluntary basis, for anyone working at least 30 hours or more for any Cumberland Presbyterian Church, its agencies, boards, and institutions. Peter Whitely is the agent of record. At present there are 79 participating employees.

### **5. Jessie W. Hipsher Health Insurance Endowment**

The Jesse W. Hipsher Health Insurance Endowment was created as the first step in the board’s goal to raise \$10,000,000 in endowments for the support of the Cumberland Presbyterian Health and Life Insurance Program. The endowment was established on March 6, 2004. At its establishment \$11,450 had been raised. The balance of the endowment as of December 31, 2017 was \$50,507.19.

### **6. Health Education / E-Mail Newsletter**

To further educate participants in matters concerning healthcare, participants receive a monthly e-newsletter entitled, TopHealth, published by Oakstone Publishing. The monthly e-newsletter is full of health related tips that can be easily implemented by readers. The two page newsletter can be read within a matter of minutes. Also initiated in 2008 is the E-Mail newsletter that is designed as an information tool to help the participants of the Health and Retirement programs stay on top of happenings within the Board of Stewardship.

### **7. Wellness Program**

Blue Cross offers a Preventive Health Guide and the Blue 365 discount program for a range of item from fitness, healthy eating, personal care and wellness and even information on financial health. Also offered are the Nurse chat 24/7/365 and Physician Now where you can speak to a physician on call.

Respectfully submitted,  
Randy Davidson, Board Member  
Robert Heflin, Executive Secretary

# THE REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

C/HF

## I. GENERAL INFORMATION

### A. OFFICERS OF THE BOARD

The officers of the board are as follows: Pat Ward, president; Reverend Mary Kathryn Kirkpatrick, vice-president; and Michael Fare, secretary. Susan Knight Gore is the director and treasurer of the Historical Library and Archives.

### B. BOARD REPRESENTATIVES TO THE CPC & CPCA GENERAL ASSEMBLIES

The board's representative to the 188th General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the 143rd General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America is Reverend Lisa Oliver. The alternate is Pat Ward.

### C. MEMBERSHIP AND MEETINGS OF THE BOARD

The board is currently composed of the following members: from the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America—Jackie Cooper, Dorothy Hayden, Reverend Joe Howard III, Willie Lynk, and Pat Ward, from the Cumberland Presbyterian Church—Michael Fare, Robin McCaskey Hughes, Reverend Mary Kathryn Kirkpatrick, Ashley Lindsey, Lisa Oliver, and Sidney Swindle.

The Board of Trustees met, September 15, 2018, and February 23, 2018.

### D. MEMBERS WHOSE TERMS EXPIRE

The first term of Reverend Lisa Oliver expires with the 2018 meeting of the Cumberland Presbyterian General Assembly, and she is eligible for reelection. The third term of Sidney Swindle expires with the 2018 meeting of the Cumberland Presbyterian General Assembly, and he is not eligible for reelection.

### E. STAFF

Susan Knight Gore serves as the Archivist of the Historical Foundation. Missy Rose is the archival assistant for the Foundation.

## II. ASSEMBLY REPORTING

As a matter of official structure, relative to the CPC, there is a Board of Trustees composed of members from both the CPC and CPCA, and relative to the CPCA, there is a committee composed of members from the CPCA.

## III. PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

### A. HISTORY INTERPRETATION AND PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

#### 1. The 1810/1874 Circle

In order to enlist the financial support of interested members of our churches in the work of the Foundation, the 1810/1874 Circle was created. Membership is based on a financial contribution of \$25 or more per year. Income through such gifts enables the Foundation to meet expenditures and is vital to the continued work of the Foundation.



We appreciate the support given to the Foundation by all members of the 1810/1874 Circle and encourage other members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America to join this donor group.

**RECOMMENDATION 1: That the General Assembly instruct presbyteries to make congregations aware of the 1810/1874 Circle and encourage new members to support this endeavor annually.**

### **2. Patrons**

Persons who contribute \$100 or more to one of the endowments of the Historical Foundation become patron members and receive a certificate. Patron memberships may also be given in honor or in memory of an individual.

### **3. Heritage Churches**

Congregations contributing a minimum of \$1,000 to an endowment of the Historical Foundation become Heritage Churches and receive a framed certificate. There are six categories of recognition and churches can move from one level to another.

Heritage Church \$1,000 - \$4,999  
 Silver Heritage Church \$5,000 to \$9,999  
 Golden Heritage Church \$10,000 to \$24,999  
 Platinum Heritage Church \$25,000 to \$49,999  
 Diamond Heritage Church \$50,000 to \$99,000  
 Jubilee Heritage Church \$100,000 and up

### **4. Presbyterian Heritage Committees/Presbyterial Historians**

To promote interest in the work of the Foundation and to nurture work in history on the presbyterial level, the Historical Foundation seeks to work cooperatively with the Presbyterian Heritage Committees/Presbyterial Historians of both general assemblies. The brochure, *Suggestions for Heritage Committees and Presbyterial Historians*, is available from the Foundation. The board expresses its appreciation to the presbyteries that have Heritage Committees/Presbyterial Historians.

### **5. Denomination Day Offering**

The 2018 Denomination Day Offering was designated to fund the conversion of fragile and deteriorating analogue media to digital formats in order that it might better be preserved.

The Foundation expresses appreciation to congregations and others groups who received special offerings for the work of the Historical Foundation on Denomination Day. This special offering provides an opportunity for congregations to directly contribute to the support of the Historical Foundation as well as the Foundation supplying educational materials to each congregation.

**RECOMMENDATION 2: That the General Assembly instruct presbyteries to encourage their congregations to have a special offering on the Sunday designated as Denomination Day to help support the special project designated for that year.**

## **B. PUBLICATIONS**

### **1. Promotional Materials**

The Historical Foundation provides promotional materials describing its purpose and work, the various means of financially supporting this work, and listings of available publications and prints for sale through the Foundation. These materials are available on the Foundation's website.

## 2. Publication Series

The Foundation has a number of titles and prints available for purchase. Income from the sale of these items goes into the Historical Foundation Trust, a permanent endowment supporting the Foundation's work. Titles available are:

*1883 Confession of Faith.*

*1895 Cumberland Cook Book.*

*Cumberland Presbyterianism and Arminianism Compared/Contrasted on Selected Doctrines* by Joe Ben Irby.

*Faith Once Delivered; Some Indispensable Doctrines of the Christian Faith* by Joe Ben Irby.

*Family of Faith: Cumberland Presbyterians in Harrison County [Texas], 1848-1998* by Rose Mary Magrill.

*God So Loved* by Roy Hall.

*History of East Side Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Memphis, Tennessee, Memphis Tennessee: 1926-1986*, by the Historical Committee.

*History of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church* by B. W. McDonnold.

*Jerusalem Cumberland Presbyterian Church: A Documentary and Pictorial History* by Anne Elizabeth Swain Odom.

*Legacy of Grace: Louisiana and Texas Cumberland Presbyterian People & Places of Trinity Presbytery* by Rose Mary Magrill.

*Life and Thought of Finis Ewing* by Joe Ben Irby.

*Life and Thought of Milton Bird* by Joe Ben Irby.

*Life and Thought of Reuben Burrow* by Joe Ben Irby.

*Life and Thought of Robert Verrell Foster* by Joe Ben Irby.

*Life and Thought of Stanford Guthrie Burney* by Joe Ben Irby.

*Life and Times of Finis Ewing* by F. R. Cossitt.

*Soundings* by Morris Pepper.

*Theological Snippets* by Joe Ben Irby.

*This They Believed* by Joe Ben Irby.

*What Cumberland Presbyterians Believe* by E. K. Reagin.

*Women Shall Preach: Celebrating 125 Years of Ordained Women in Ministry in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.*

Prints of the *Samuel McAdow Home* and the *First Meeting of Cumberland Presbytery*.

These items are available for sale from Cumberland Presbyterian Resources.

**RECOMMENDATION 3: That the General Assembly make presbyteries aware that the Historical Foundation is interested and has funds to publish books on topics concerning the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, and instruct them to share this information with the churches and individuals of their presbytery.**

## 3. Denomination Day Resources

*All the Past is but the Beginning of Beginning* (Denomination Day resource) is available on the Foundation's web site under the Resources section:

<http://www.cumberland.org/hfcpc/resource/>

It includes eight dramas intended to present the birth of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America. A hard copy may be requested from the Foundation office.

## 4. Online Promotion

Recognizing the increasing value of emerging social media, the Historical Foundation employs a Facebook group, "Historical Foundation of the CPC & CPCA," to engage an expanding audience of Cumberland Presbyterians in denominational history and heritage. By showcasing collection acquisitions, the Foundation expands the knowledge of those materials sought for preservation as well as the nature of

archival development. The Foundation also employs a Facebook Page. The Facebook Page is somewhat more informal and is ideal for announcements.

### C. HISTORICAL FOUNDATION AWARDS

#### 1. Award in Cumberland Presbyterian History

The Foundation encourages the writing and publication of papers on all aspects of the history of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. One means of promoting such writing is the Historical Foundation Award in Cumberland Presbyterian History. A \$300 prize is awarded to the author entering the best paper on any CPC or CPCA history subject which meets in form and content the requirements set by the Board of Trustees and judged by the board appointed awards committee. All manuscripts submitted to the competition become property of the Foundation and are added to the Historical Library and Archives.

The contest follows the calendar year, and entries for the 2018 competition are encouraged. All entries will be accepted through December 2018 for this year's contest. Any entries received following the deadline of December 31st will be automatically entered in the 2019 competition.

Guidelines and entry forms for submitting manuscripts to the competition are available from the Foundation office as well as on the internet, <http://www.cumberland.org/hfpc/Awards.htm>. The Historical Foundation appreciates the participation of past and future CPCA and CP historians in this program.

The 2017 Award went to William R. Black of Bartlett, Tennessee for the paper "A Neutral Church?: Cumberland Presbyterians and the Problem of Slavery."

#### 2. Awards of Recognition

Awards of recognition are certificates given to organizations or individuals in recognition of historic events or contributions to the preservation of our heritage as Cumberland Presbyterians. Appropriate applications for the award are: particular churches celebrating anniversaries of their organization; any judicatory or agency celebrating publication of a written history; celebrations of history or historic event in a creative or unusual manner; individuals who have provided continued service for 50 years or more as members of a local congregation or presbytery; individuals who have served for 40 years or more in a continuing leadership role (including pastors) within a local church. Individuals, churches, or presbyterial heritage committees may make application for the issuing of an award by contacting the Foundation office. Application forms are supplied by the Foundation office as well as the internet, <http://www.cumberland.org/hfpc/Awards.htm>.

### D. RELATIONSHIPS

#### Presbyterian Historical Society of the Southwest

The Presbyterian Historical Society of the Southwest is an agency of The Synod of the Sun, Presbyterian Church (USA) and Cumberland Presbyterian Churches in Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas. Members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church who serve on the board of this organization are Reverend Norlan Scudder, Reverend Perryn Rice, and Doctor Rose Mary Magrill.

## IV. HISTORICAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

### A. RESEARCH SERVICE

The Foundation's main research commitment is to the agencies, local congregations, and members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Churches. Since the Historical Library and Archives of the Historical Foundation serves as the official repository for the Cumberland Presbyterian General Assemblies, this is our focus. Although the separation of research into two types designated by their mode of access has been rapid and dramatic, both the traditional and "cyber" mode contribute to and enhance the other.

### 1. Traditional/Physical Access

Hands on access to primary source material remains the vital heart of historic and theological research. Rather than being diminished by increased electronic resources, traditional research has broadened due to heightened awareness of primary sources in an expanding information age. The Foundation receives research requests by personal visitors, mail, e-mail, and telephone. As time permits, requests are researched. Responses are sent to the requestor, as well as pertinent information on ministers, congregations, presbyteries and synods being placed on our website for future researchers.

### 2. Electronic Access

The Foundation's website continues to expand in order to provide greater access to the materials in the Historical Library and Archives. As well as being a research tool, the internet provides an invaluable and inexpensive means of promotion for the physical collections of the Historical Library and Archives, the activities of the Historical Foundation, and for the greater community of faith called Cumberland Presbyterians. Information at the site includes: general information about the Foundation, entire texts of important historical documents, historical information on particular congregations, ministers, presbyteries, and synods. Beginning in 2018, the Foundation added a YouTube Channel for historic films documenting the faith-life of Cumberland Presbyterians. The gateway URL to the Foundation's website is <http://www.cumberland.org/hfcpc/>. The YouTube Channel can be accessed directly at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTk4Wnc8b1T96d0L8Vkt4lg> or through the gateway URL.

## B. ACQUISITIONS

The Historical Library and Archives regularly receives items published by the two denominations, *Minutes of the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church*, *Preliminary Minutes of the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church*, *Yearbook of the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church*, *The Cumberland Presbyterian*, *Missionary Messenger*, *Minutes of the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America*, *Preliminary Minutes of the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America*, and *The Cumberland Flag*. Synods and presbyteries deposit four copies of their printed minutes in the Historical Library and Archives. In addition, books, pamphlets, theses, dissertations, records and publications of general assembly, boards, agencies, institutions, and task forces; records and publications of synods and presbyteries, session records and other materials of particular churches, biographical material of Cumberland Presbyterian and Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America ministers, photographs, audiovisual materials, and museum items were among the accessions received. The 2017 Accession List closed with 174 accession groups.

Some of the highlights added to the collection in 2017 include:

#### Audiovisual Items

Camp Lowrie. Fort Worth, Texas. Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Film 16mm. *Camp Lowrie. History of Campsite 1949-1950.*

Rev. Roy Tinsley. Cassette Tape. Ohio Valley Presbytery.

#### Books

American Sunday-School Union. *The Gospel Story; or, The Story of Christ for the Young*. Revised by the Committee of Publication. Nashville, Tennessee: Cumberland Presbyterian Publishing House, 1887.

Kennedy, Nancy Wardlow. *New Bethel Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Brief History: Register of Elders, Deacons, Members, Adult Baptisms & Death 1870 to 1950.*

Lyle, John. *The Diary of the Rev. John Lyle 1801-1803; Together With a Narrative of J. Lyle's Mission in the Bounds of the Cumberland Presbytery During the Year 1805.* Bound typescript from the originals.

Morrison, James D., Joy Culbreath, and Kathy Carpenter. *Schools for the Choctaws*. Durant, Oklahoma: Ameba Publishing, 2016.

Wilson, Levin. *A Declaration of Principles and Church Policy, of the Independent Presbyterians*. Evansville, Ind.: A. N. Sanders, Printer, Daily Journal Office, 1855.

**Periodicals**

*Cumberland Pearl*. June 2 and 9, 1929.

*Our Lambs*. February 18, 1900, and October 6, 1902.

*Senior Quarterly: An Aid to the Study of International Sunday School Lessons*. 1905.

**Institutions**

Bethel College. McKenzie, Tennessee. Senior Token. A Presentation of the Class of '37.

Cumberland University. Lebanon, Tennessee. Program. Dedication of the Chapel of Memorial Hall. Visit of the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church to Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tennessee, May 23, 1903.

Waynesburg College. Waynesburg, Pennsylvania. Commencement Announcement. The Thirty-Seventh Annual Commencement of Waynesburg College, Thursday, June 28th, 1888, 9 A.M., in College Chapel. Compliments of the Class.

**Museum Items**

Philadelphia Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Limestone, Washington county, Tennessee. Commemorative Plate. 150th Anniversary. Erected 1847.

Sulphur Springs Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Dardanelle, Yell County, Arkansas. Time Capsule.

Texas Synodic Encampment. Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Lathem Springs, Aquilla, Texas. August 23-30, 1938. Ribbon.

Waukon Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Waukon, Allamakee county, Iowa. Commemorative Spoon.

**Other Congregational Records**

Edgefield Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Nashville, Tennessee. *A Book of Favorite Recipes*. Ladies Bible Class, 1963.

Jefferson Avenue Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Evansville, Indiana. Pastor's Aid Society and Ladies Aid Society. Minutes. January 29, 1897-January 22, 1904.

Knoxville, First Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Knoxville, Knox county, Tennessee. Board of Deacons. Minutes. 1947-1978.

Lewis Memorial Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Tampa, Florida. Church Directory. 1967.

**Photographs**

General Assembly. Cumberland Presbyterian Church. May 15, 1930. Olney, Texas.

Oakesdale Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Oakesdale, Whitman county, Washington. Rev. John C. Templeton, 1856-1934. Photograph of building and pastor. 1891.

Rev. Clement Ester Wilkins. (1917-1982).

YPGA. Young People's General Assembly. 1946. Photographs from an album.

**Postcards**

Birthplace Shrine. Montgomery Bell State Park, Dickson County, Tennessee. McAdoo Spring. 1910.

Cleveland Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Cleveland. Tennessee. About 1912.

Elmira Chapel Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Longview, Texas. Bible School. July 27-August 1, 1942.

General Assembly. Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Eightieth General Assembly, One Hundredth Anniversary. Dickson, Tennessee. 1910.

**Presbyterial Records**

Brazos River Presbytery. Colored Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Brazos River Presbytery. Colored Cumberland Presbyterian Church in the United States of America and Liberia, Africa.

Brazos River Presbytery. Colored Cumberland Presbyterian Church in the United States.

Brazos River Presbytery. Second Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Sunday School Convention. Minutes. July 3-4, 1925-July 24, 1986.

Clarksville Presbyterial Missionary Society. Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Minutes. March 28-29, 1944 in Clarksville, Tennessee. Also contains the minutes of September 26, 1944 at Mt. Denson in

Springfield, Tennessee.

Logan Presbytery. Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Minutes. April 4-5, 1892 and April 6-8, 1898.

Ohio Valley Presbytery. Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America. Minutes. October 16-17, 2015.

### **Sermons**

Rev. Larry Chester Bagby (1940-2017)

Rev. La Royce Brown (1935-2006)

### **Session Records**

Bethlehem Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Union City, Obion county, Tennessee. October 4, 1884-August 5, 1990.

Campbellsville Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Campbellsville, Taylor county, Kentucky. June 30, 1915-September 3, 1962.

Christ Church. Huntsville, Madison county, Alabama. October 17, 1999-December 9, 2012.

Clark's Grove Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Maryville, Blount county, Tennessee.

Session Records. April 3, 1955-February 18, 1996.

Cookeville, First Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Cookeville, Putnam county, Tennessee. 1908-February 5, 1934; August 6, 1957-December 11, 1966; January 8, 1968-December 21, 1975; January 15, 1983-November 28, 1999.

El Paso, First Cumberland Presbyterian Church. El Paso, El Paso County, Texas. December 7, 2008-December 14, 2014.

Humboldt, First Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Humboldt, Gibson county, Tennessee. January 18, 1956-November 20, 2002.

Joywood Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Murfreesboro, Tennessee. November 28, 1984-December 1, 2005.

Knoxville, First Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Knoxville, Knox county, Tennessee.

Session Records. January 14, 1959-December 6, 1967; January 7, 1970-December 11, 2005.

### **Synodical Records**

Texas Synod and Auxiliaries. Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America. Minutes. August 8-11, 2007, Desoto, Texas; August 8-10, 2012, Tyler, Texas.

Synod of the Southeast. Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Stated Clerk Files. 1 box.

In all judicatories, from the session of the congregation through presbytery, synod, and the General Assemblies of both the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, minutes form the legal record of the judicatory. Without these records there is often nothing to document persons joining the church, ordination as elder and clergy, disciplinary actions, etc. It is important to be aware that legally original minutes are always the property of the judicatory for which they are created. Should that judicatory cease to exist, the next higher judicatory becomes custodian responsible for securing and preserving the records of the extinct body. It can be difficult to convince persons that records kept by their relative are not family property but the General Assemblies of both denominations have ruled the only legal repository for the records of extinct judicatories is the Historical Foundation.

## **V. BIRTHPLACE SHRINE**

The Birthplace Shrine located at Montgomery Bell State Park near Dickson, Tennessee was dedicated June 18, 1960. This site consists of the Memorial Chapel and a replica of the Reverend Samuel McAdow's log house. Since 1994, the Foundation has been responsible for the preservation and promotion of the Birthplace Shrine. Four endowments provide funds for maintenance and repairs: the Grace Johnson Beasley Birthplace Shrine Fund, the Birthplace Shrine Fund, the Henry Evan Harper Endowment for Cumberland Presbyterian History, and the P.F. Johnson Memorial Endowment. Gifts to these endowments provide for the continued preservation of the Birthplace Shrine. Interested donors are encouraged to contact the Foundation office. Another means of support are the fees collected from couples who use the chapel

for their wedding ceremony. These funds are added to the Birthplace Shrine Fund and earnings are used for maintenance and special projects. The Board encourages individuals and groups to visit the Birthplace Shrine as an act of remembering our heritage and envisioning our future as Cumberland Presbyterians.

Recognizing the recognition and visibility that the Birthplace Shrine provides for the Cumberland Presbyterian denominations, the Foundation both sponsors and regularly participates in three activities at the Birthplace: Denomination Day, Easter Sunrise Service, and Christmas at the Bell. Both the Denomination Day and Christmas at the Bell events are costume re-enactments which interactively interpret denominational history for both Cumberland Presbyterians and other park visitors.

Groups and individuals are encouraged to contact the Foundation to set up work days and special projects. The Foundation thanks the Heritage Committee of Nashville Presbytery and the Charlotte Cumberland Presbyterian Church for their continuing volunteer upkeep of the property.

## VII. FINANCIAL CONCERNS AND 2019 BUDGET

### A. BUDGETS

The 2019 line-item budget of the Historical Foundation has been filed with the CPC General Assembly Office. (see page 120)

### B. ENDOWMENTS

Anne Elizabeth Knight Adams Heritage Fund  
 Rosie Magrill Alexander Trust  
 Paul H. and Ann M. Allen Heritage Fund  
 Grace Johnson Beasley Birthplace Shrine Fund  
 Ethel Beal Benedict Heritage Fund  
 Birthplace Shrine Fund  
 James L. and Louise M. Bridges Heritage Fund  
 Mark and Elinor Swindle Brown Heritage Fund  
 Sydney and Elinor Brown Heritage Fund  
 Centennial Heritage Endowment  
 Walter Chesnut Heritage Fund  
 Lavenia Campbell Cole Heritage Fund  
 Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America Heritage Fund  
 Cumberland Presbyterian Women Archival Supplies Endowment  
 Bettye Jean Loggins McCaffrey Ellis Heritage Fund  
 Samuel Russell & Mary Grace (Barefoot) Estes Endowment  
 Family of Faith Endowment  
 Gettis and Delia Snyder Gilbert Heritage Fund  
 James C. and Freda M. Gilbert Heritage Fund  
 James C. and Freda M. Gilbert Trust  
 Mamie A. Gilbert Trust  
 Henry Evan Harper Endowment for Cumberland Presbyterian History  
 Ronald Wilson and Virginia Tosh Harper Endowment  
 Historical Foundation Trust  
 Donald and Jane Hubbard Heritage Fund  
 Cliff and Jill Hudson Heritage Fund  
 Robert and Kathy Hull Endowment  
 Into the Nineties Endowment  
 Joe Ben Irby Heritage Fund  
 P. F. Johnson Memorial Endowment  
 Irene A. Kiefer Endowment

Chow King Leong Endowment  
Dennis Lawrence & Elmira Castleberry Magrill Trust  
J. Richard Magrill Heritage Fund  
Joe Richard and Mary Belle Magrill Trust  
Gwendolyn McCaffrey McReynolds Heritage Fund  
Jimmie Joe McKinley Heritage Fund  
Edith Louise Mitchell Heritage Fund  
Lloyd Freeman Mitchell Heritage Fund  
Snowdy Clifton and Lillian Walkup Mitchell Heritage Fund  
Rev. Charles and Paulette Morrow Endowment  
Virginia Sue Williamson Morrow Heritage Fund  
Anne Elizabeth Swain Odom Heritage Fund  
Martha Sue Parr Heritage Fund  
Florence Pennewill Heritage Fund  
Morris and Ruth Pepper Endowment  
Publishing House Endowment  
Mable Magrill Rundell Trust  
Samuel Callaway Rundell Heritage Fund  
Paul and Mary Jo Schnorbus Heritage Fund  
Roy and Mary Seawright Shelton Heritage Fund  
Shiloh CPC Ellis County Texas Endowment  
Hinkley and Vista Smartt Heritage Fund  
John William Sparks Heritage Fund  
Irvin Scott and Annie Mary Draper Swain Heritage Fund  
F. P. Waits Historical Trust

Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Ward, President  
Susan Knight Gore, Archivist



# THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF MEMPHIS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

HE/ CPCH
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## Introduction

Memphis Theological Seminary is the only seminary of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Our history is traced back through the Cumberland Presbyterian Theological Seminary in McKenzie, Tennessee to the organization of the graduate School of Theology at Cumberland University and the Theological Department at Bethel College, both of which began in 1852. Those two schools of theology continued the legacy begun in the work of founder Reverend Finis Ewing, who educated candidates for the ministry in his home, and many other ministers, who trained young candidates in homes, churches, and on the trail. For one hundred sixty-six years, Cumberland Presbyterians have been providing formal theological education for the church's ministers. For two hundred years, the Cumberland Presbyterian Church has valued the importance of an educated ministry.

With the denomination's decision to move its seminary to Memphis, Tennessee in 1964, Memphis Theological Seminary of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church began to serve a larger and more diverse student body. Though students from other denominations were admitted during the McKenzie years, the move to a major metropolitan area opened the opportunity to attract more students from more denominations. Today, Memphis Theological Seminary has one of the most diverse student populations, in terms of denomination and race, of any seminary in the United States. This theological and denominational diversity provides a rich environment for educating pastors, chaplains, Christian educators, and other leaders for the church of Jesus Christ. The sign on our campus that faces Union Avenue reads: "Memphis Theological Seminary: an Ecumenical Mission of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church." Every Cumberland Presbyterian can be proud of the mission our seminary fulfills of educating our own church leaders, and leaders from more than 25 other denominations.

We, the trustees and administration of Memphis Theological Seminary, are privileged to be a part of this legacy, born out of and guided by the ecumenical and evangelical spirit of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. We look forward to what God has in store for our ministry in the future. With gratitude for God's grace, guidance and provision in the past year, we make the following report to the 188th General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, meeting June 17-21, 2018, in Norman, Oklahoma.

## I. BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### A. OFFICERS

The following officers were elected by the Board of Trustees to serve during the past academic year: Moderator – Reverend Jennifer Newell (Cumberland Presbyterian minister, Tennessee-Georgia Presbytery); Vice-moderator – Reverend Nancy Cole (United Methodist minister, North Alabama Conference); Secretary – Mrs. Sondra Roddy (Cumberland Presbyterian elder, Clarksville, Tennessee); Treasurer – Mrs. Cassandra Price-Perry (Vice President of Operations and CFO, MTS). Jennifer Newell resigned from office and from the Board in January for personal reasons, and Reverend Nancy Cole assumed the office of Moderator. At the February meeting, Reverend Dr. Anne Hames was elected Vice-Moderator for the remainder of this academic year.

### B. BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

Reverend Kevin Brantley, Cumberland Presbytery, was elected to serve as the Board's representative to this meeting of the General Assembly. Reverend Kip Rush, Nashville Presbytery, was elected alternate.

### C. MEETINGS

The Board of Trustees has met twice since the last meeting of General Assembly: September 28-30, 2017 and February 8-9, 2018. The Board is scheduled to meet one more time before the meeting of General Assembly, on May 10-11, 2018. In addition to full Board meetings, standing committees meet on a regular schedule between Board meetings, usually by conference call.

Members of our Board of Trustees devote significant time and resources to their work on behalf of the seminary. By rule of the General Assembly, thirteen of the twenty-four members are Cumberland Presbyterians. The other eleven members of the Board represent five different denominations.

#### **D. EXPIRATION OF TERMS**

The terms of eight of twenty-four members of the Board of Trustees expire each year. Four of the eight whose terms expire this year are eligible to succeed themselves and have agreed to serve another three year term: Reverend Linda Howell (Cumberland Presbyterian, Keller, Texas); Ms. Sondra Roddy (Cumberland Presbyterian, Clarksville, Tennessee); Reverend Doctor Melvin Charles Smith (Baptist, Memphis, Tennessee), and Ms. Latisha Towns (Baptist, Memphis, Tennessee). All have served faithfully and contributed greatly to the life of the seminary. We are grateful for their willingness to continue serving if re-elected.

One trustee who was eligible to serve for another term resigned in 2017 after it was too late for him to be replaced, Reverend Dr. Kevin Henson (Cumberland Presbyterian, Keller, Texas).

Two other trustees resigned during the year because of family and work obligations that made it impossible for them to serve. Reverend Jennifer Newell (Cumberland Presbyterian, Chattanooga, Tennessee), and Mr. Craig White (Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, Huntsville, Alabama) both of the class of 2020, will need to be replaced. Those resignations have been communicated to the Office of the General Assembly and the Nominating Committee.

Three trustees who complete their terms this year are ineligible for re-election, having been re-elected twice. Reverend Kevin Brantley (Cumberland Presbyterian, Sacramento, Kentucky), Mr. Mark Maddox (Cumberland Presbyterian, Dresden, Tennessee), and Mr. Takayoshi (Ted) Shirai (Cumberland Presbyterian, Yokohama, Japan), have served faithfully and well. We are grateful to God for all who have served in this important role on behalf of MTS and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

**RECOMMENDATION 1: That the General Assembly express its gratitude to trustees Henson, Newell, White, Brantley, Maddox, and Shirai for their faithful service to Memphis Theological Seminary and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.**

#### **E. WORK OF THE BOARD**

In May, the Board adopted a new Strategic Plan to guide the work of the seminary over the next 3 to 5 years. The plan is organized around three strategic goals: Growing, Engaging, and Sustaining.

Memphis Theological Seminary Strategic Plan Imperatives are to:

1. Strengthen our ministry to the real world by growing our educational opportunities, our student body, our faculty, our ecumenical partnerships, and our facilities.
2. Create a culture of service that is engaging all barriers to community through intentional diversity, intentional multicultural educational experiences, and intentional internal and external communication.
3. Create a fiscal foundation for sustaining MTS today and into the future through enhancing existing revenue streams, creating new revenue streams, and balanced budgets.

These three broad, strategic imperatives cross all departments. Developing the objectives to reach these imperatives will necessitate collaboration and compromise. There will be need to be objectives for increasing enrollment, eliminating work silos, improving marketing, distance learning, and many others. Each department at MTS has developed goals and objectives to support the three imperatives and will track its progress toward attaining its goals on a regular basis.

#### **F. “MINISTRY FOR THE REAL WORLD”**

The 183rd General Assembly approved a recommendation from our Board granting us permission to engage in a major capital campaign for Memphis Theological Seminary. After two years in the quiet phase, the Board authorized a comprehensive campaign, titled, “Ministry for the Real World,” which was launched publicly in October of 2015. The Board authorized a goal of \$25 million to be raised through 2020, with approximately \$10 million committed to operations, \$10 million to capital improvements, including the construction of a new chapel, and \$5 million for endowments.

As of the writing of this report, we have secured approximately \$17 million in gifts and pledges toward the goal. Work has begun on the construction of Hamilton Chapel, and should be completed by June of 2019. What follows is the case statement for the campaign.

**MINISTRY FOR THE REAL WORLD**  
**Scholarship, Piety and Justice**  
**MEMPHIS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

March 24, 2014

**MINISTRY FOR THE REAL WORLD**  
**TWO CENTURIES OF MAKING A DIFFERENCE.**

“Academic scholarship is a major hallmark of Memphis Theological Seminary. The school feeds both the minds and spirits of its students. Rigorous scholastic study and intellectual discussion of the Bible from different points of view are encouraged. . . The goal is to foster informed critical thinkers. It is not to promote the agenda of Memphis Theological Seminary. When students graduate, they have the knowledge and practical tools to be effective ministers. They live their lives according to the teachings and values of the Bible. Graduates are well prepared to positively impact individuals, congregations and society.” – Mrs. Ruby Wharton, Esq., Trustee.

In 1821, a pastor’s dedication to theological education and inclusiveness gave rise to the first theological school west of the Mississippi. Thirty years later, out of the same Spirit, a theological department was established at Bethel College (now Bethel University) in McKenzie, Tennessee, an institution of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Over one hundred years later, in 1964, in order to reach more ministers for the Gospel, the seminary was moved to Memphis, Tennessee and renamed Memphis Theological Seminary. It was intentionally opened as an ecumenical seminary that welcomes men and women of all faiths, cultures and ages. The philosophy and values of the seminary are as meaningful today as they were two centuries ago. The school focuses on scholarship, piety and justice. Inherent in these three words are powerful concepts that differentiate MTS from other seminaries.

- Scholarship implies disciplined, traditional study, but it also involves becoming a discerning critical thinker. Graduates are compelling spiritual servant leaders and thoughtful ministers. They are able to explain Biblical passages within both their historical context and their relevancy in today’s world—and in such a way that lives are transformed.

- Piety involves our heart-felt devotion to God. True piety leads to compassion, selflessness, universal love and respect for all of God’s creation. As Doctor Martin Luther King Jr. described so eloquently when he wrote, “Our goal is to create a beloved community, and this will require a qualitative change in our souls as well as a quantitative change in our lives.”

- Justice does not refer to civil law. It is much more. Without the practice of justice as described in the Bible, love, liberty and even life cannot flourish. Love alone does not ensure equality. Biblical justice involves care for the poor and powerless and leads to inclusiveness, understanding and compassion. It is respecting all people, even those who are very different from you. It is actively participating in righting wrongs whenever and however they present themselves.

Our student population is very diverse and reflects the real world. There are no age, gender, economic, cultural, theological or racial barriers here. Our graduates will be ministering to many different populations and denominations. Their experience at MTS helps them understand how to work toward a beloved community.

Some of the most respected and influential ministers in the Mid-South are graduates of Memphis Theological Seminary. They are acknowledged for their depth of Biblical and religious knowledge and their ecumenism. They are respected for their ability to influence both religious and secular communities.

Wherever our graduates serve, they impact the lives of those they touch. They are formed to be ministers in the real world.

Our graduates touch thousands of lives in their chosen ministry. They become pastors, youth ministers, educators and chaplains in hospitals, prisons and the military.

For over fifty years, the seminary has occupied the magnificent turn-of-the-century Newburger Mansion in midtown Memphis, Tennessee. We have worked hard to maintain the original beauty of this grand home. Warmth and intimacy are created by cascading stairways, arched doorways, and handcrafted woodwork. It is the beautiful face we show to the public. In more recent years, we have added two adjoining mansions in response to a growing student body and the faculty and staff hired to serve them.

The three homes have served us well, but with enrollment reaching 325 students, we have outgrown them. Because of the reputation and impact of our graduates, our enrollment continues to grow. We believe we can reach an enrollment of 450 students in the not-too-distant future. Together students will represent over 30 denominations, several states and a few countries.

The Newburger Mansion's prized Ballroom is our makeshift chapel. Unfortunately it can only seat one-fifth of our student body. We are grateful to have resided in the homes on beautiful East Parkway during our time of growth. We will always maintain them. They will continue to serve us well as library space, offices and intimate gathering spaces for small discussion groups. But it is urgent that we expand our campus and construct a chapel and an academic building. We have acquired property adjacent to our campus for both structures. Now we must build. Our future depends on it.

### **PREPARING FOR ANOTHER TWO HUNDRED YEARS OF MINISTRY FOR THE REAL WORLD**

The Board and administration of Memphis Theological Seminary have thought long and hard about the future of the seminary. We have prayed for God to guide us in our decision making. In order to ensure our future, we must undertake three important and much-needed projects without delay.

1. A new chapel is a top priority. We have made do with a small converted ballroom for too long.
2. We need a building to house our new, groundbreaking Methodist House of Studies. Methodists represent the single largest contingent of students at MTS. With faculty offices and meeting space, the Methodist House of Studies will relieve pressure on MTS's limited academic facilities.
3. Significantly increasing our endowment and underwriting an important faculty chair will enable MTS to prosper and grow. It will help us become financially stable and ready to withstand any potential financial crises for the next two hundred years. Like most seminaries, we are tuition dependent. At last report our endowment was \$9.2 million. This does not generate sufficient interest income to meet the growing demands of our expanding student body. It is crucial that we double the endowment immediately. It will allow us to meet the increasing need for scholarships and financial aid. And it will be a cushion to protect MTS from unforeseen emergencies.

While MTS serves a variety of denominations, its' roots extend back to the Cumberland Presbyterian tradition. By fully endowing the Baird-Buck Chair in Cumberland Presbyterian Studies, we will ensure that our Cumberland Presbyterian students are fully prepared to serve the congregation to which they are sent.

Successfully completing these projects will enable MTS to aggressively pursue its mission well into the twenty-first century: To educate men and women for ordained and lay Christian ministry in the church and the world by shaping and inspiring lives devoted to scholarship, piety and justice.

#### **Project One: Construct a new free-standing chapel**

We are blessed to have already received two wonderfully generous gifts designated for our new chapel. The first is an extraordinary cash donation of \$1 million. The same donors gave an additional \$2 million in 2017 to help the project get started. These significant gifts are a vote of confidence in Memphis Theological Seminary. It recognizes the difference our graduates make in the world.

The second is one of the oldest and finest pipe organs in the South. It was donated to us by the Union Avenue United Methodist Church. It is an acknowledgement of the role we play in preparing strong spiritual leaders. The pipe organ was manufactured in 1924 by the M.P. Moller Organ Company. In today's dollars, it is estimated to be worth \$550,000—a valuable and prestigious gift. Moller pipe organs are also installed in the chapels at Camp David and Lincoln Center.

Both gifts are true blessings and will enable MTS to construct a chapel that:

- Reflects our identity, purpose and excellence.
- Is large and adaptable enough for different denominations within the seminary to conduct worship services reflective of their cultures and expressions of faith.
- Provides a place of worship that will accommodate our entire student body.
- Replicates in a small way the churches in which graduates will preach. This will give students the experience of speaking from a real pulpit rather than a small podium.
- Has the proper acoustics to showcase the beautiful Moller pipe organ.
- Will allow us to offer certificates or degrees in church music and organ music.

### **Project Two: Construct a home for the Methodist House of Studies**

There has long been a perceived gap between “the academy” and “the church.” We at MTS have become convinced that such a binary way of thinking is deeply flawed. The relationship between seminary and church ought to be marked by an organic, mutually beneficial partnership. Within that partnership, it is the seminary’s calling to be in service to the church—preparing women and men for pastoral leadership and resourcing the current ministry needs of pastors and congregations.

We at MTS believe that there is a point of intersection between the mission of the seminary and the mission of the church. Our commitment is to focus our resources and attention at that point of intersection. We are planning a major new initiative in the life of MTS—the Methodist House of Studies. Under the direction of faculty member Doctor Andrew C. Thompson, the Methodist House of Studies will serve as a “community within a community” where our Methodist students can take advantage of the best in Wesleyan theological formation within MTS’ richly ecumenical context. The House of Studies will also serve as a vehicle for connecting the resources of MTS with the needs of the wider church. This link will offer pastors and congregations new avenues and contexts for mission and ministry.

The proposed building will house professors’ offices and provide meeting space for this groundbreaking program. Given our facilities limitations, the additional space will contribute to the success of this important program.

The ecumenical partnership between Memphis Theological Seminary and the United Methodist Church goes back for decades. And from a strong foundation we believe a vital future can be cultivated and grown. At this crucial juncture in the life of both seminary and church, we are excited to anticipate advancing the relationship between the two with the creation of a home at MTS for the Methodist House of Studies.

### **Project Three: Significantly increase our endowment including fully endowing the Baird-Buck Chair in Cumberland Presbyterian Studies.**

Without a larger endowment, we cannot fully execute our mission. Cassandra Price-Perry, Vice President of Operations/CFO, explains this very well.

“I am here to use my financial skills to help students respond to their call by God to ministry. Because of our small endowment, the number and size of our scholarships and financial aid packages are limited. We are not able to enroll as many highly qualified and motivated students as we would like because they can’t afford the cost of attendance—books, fees, travel, food and other miscellaneous expenses.”

Our tuition is certainly not exorbitant, but nor is it cheap. Many students find it difficult to fund the entire three years required to receive a degree.

Sadly, this compromises our commitment to being an ecumenical school that welcomes everyone who meets our academic requirements. We have cut our operating expenses to the bone during the economic downturn. Still, we can only offer financial assistance to just a portion of the students who apply. Only with philanthropy will it be possible to provide financial assistance to the many motivated and qualified students who are called to serve.

Founded by the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Memphis Theological Seminary has proclaimed the inclusiveness of the Gospel message for more than 150 years. A fully endowed Baird-Buck Chair in Cumberland Presbyterian Studies will ensure that the vibrant tradition which has guided MTS for eight generations will inspire seminarians for many years to come.

## **MAKING A REAL DIFFERENCE: MINISTRY FOR THE REAL WORLD**

The graduates of Memphis Theological Seminary proclaim and embody God’s message of redemption, justice and peace in service to others. Our graduates guide people in their faith and help them understand why they believe. This is powerful. They ignite people’s hearts in love for Jesus Christ and support them in walking in His way. They model Christ-like behavior, and in doing so they transform the lives of those they touch—in church, in the grocery store, on a bus or in prisons. They shatter prejudice. They stand in the face of desperation and offer hope. They provide for those with nothing, and they teach others to do the same. The world is a better place because of their real world ministry—a ministry that is persuasive, practical and purposeful.

“Today, mainline religions are grappling with retaining membership. Our emphasis is on academics, practical application and an inclusive approach to theology. This prepares our graduates to be relevant and meaningful ordained and lay ministers in the real world today. This is the only way they can serve and

embody God's mission of redemption, justice and peace in service to the New Creation of Jesus Christ. "My father attended this seminary, so it was only natural that I followed in his footsteps. Now that I am president, I am blessed to be leading the initiative to bring our facilities into the twenty-first century. We cannot wait. Our campus must reflect the extraordinary academic excellence within its walls." – Dr. Daniel J. Earheart-Brown, President

Angel, must I give again, I ask in dismay. And must I keep giving and giving and giving it away? Oh no, said the angel, his glance pierced me through. Just keep giving 'til the Lord stops giving to you.

### **THIS MINISTRY FOR THE REAL WORLD CAMPAIGN IS NOT REALLY ABOUT NEW BUILDINGS**

It is about the people.

It is about the highly qualified professors who work inside them. It is about the committed and passionate students who are following God's call to ministry. Sometimes they leave successful careers. Their families make significant economic and lifestyle changes. They do this to serve God, humanity and all of creation. Their lives are transformed. And as a result, our lives are changed. And the world is a better place because of them. Adequate classrooms and a student center will support students on their rigorous academic and spiritual journey. They deserve a real chapel in which to pray, preach, meditate and seek God's further counsel. A chapel filled with the music of a real pipe organ. And joyous voices joined in praise. Finally, Memphis Theological Seminary deserves facilities that truly reflect the excellence of its high academic standards. Its commitment to forming extraordinary ministers for the real world must be celebrated with quality facilities.

You have the power make a real and powerful difference. Your support ensures the success of our campaign. It also secures the future of Memphis Theological Seminary. With your support we will be able to continue to graduate outstanding ministers for the real world. Prayerfully consider your role in supporting our important undertaking. And as you do, please consider the wisdom of this poem. It reflects the insights of a very generous philanthropist.

### **YOUR SUPPORT HAS A POWERFUL RETURN**

A donation to Memphis Theological Seminary means that your investment will be leveraged in extraordinary ways.

A message from Tim Orr, former Chair of the Board Trustees, Memphis Theological Seminary:

Dear Friends,

As you consider your participation in the Ministry for the Real World Campaign, you can rest assured that your investment will be leveraged in extraordinary ways. The check I write to Memphis Theological Seminary is multiplied many times over. I am not just writing a check for the seminary. My donation impacts global society.

Here is what I mean. People come here because they are called to ministry. MTS forms them into leaders—Christian leaders with Christian values. Their lives are changed forever. But it doesn't stop there. Everyone touched by one of our graduates is changed also. MTS prepares ministers to be relevant and compelling in the real world. In a world that is spiritually bankrupt, they are effective in their congregation and in all of society. Their lives are transformed, and they are given the tools and skills to transform the spirit of our global society—and they do. I ask you, 'what investment has this powerful a return?'

I hope you will join me at this turning point in the life of Memphis Theological Seminary. Your prayers and generosity will ensure that MTS continues to prepare men and women for transformation ministry to the real world.

Faithfully,  
Tim Orr

**RECOMMENDATION 2: That the General Assembly encourage individuals, churches, and groups across the Cumberland Presbyterian Church to consider investing in the development of future leaders through the "Ministry for the Real World" campaign.**

## II. ADMINISTRATION

### A. PRESIDENT

Daniel J. (Jay) Earheart Brown, Ph.D., became the seventh President of Memphis Theological Seminary August 1, 2005. Jay had served on the faculty of MTS since August, 1997, having previously served as a pastor in Nashville, Tennessee, and Lexington, Kentucky. He is a life-long Cumberland Presbyterian and son of a Cumberland Presbyterian minister. He is a graduate of Bethel College (B.A.), Memphis Theological Seminary (M.Div.), and Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Virginia (Ph.D.). He will complete his thirteenth year in this position at the end of the current academic year.

### B. VICE PRESIDENT OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS/DEAN

Reverend R. Stan Wood, D.Min., retired in July, 2017 as Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean. The entire seminary community is grateful for the faithful service of Doctor Wood to the MTS community. In February, 2017, after a national search, Doctor Peter Gathje was elected by the Board of Trustees to become Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of the Seminary upon Doctor Wood's retirement.

Doctor Gathje served previously as Professor of Ethics at MTS and Associate Dean of Curriculum and Instruction. He is a lay Roman Catholic and is deeply committed to the mission of Memphis Theological Seminary, having taught on our faculty for the past ten years.

### C. VICE PRESIDENT OF ADVANCEMENT

In October 2014, Doctor Keith Gaskin began work as Vice President of Advancement, coming to MTS after over twenty years of experience in development work for higher education, including service at Mississippi State University and the University of Alabama. He is a layman in the Presbyterian Church (USA). Keith holds a Ph.D. in higher education leadership from Mississippi State University.

Keith has brought to his work at MTS a proven track record of higher education fundraising, a commitment to the mission of MTS, and the ability to manage and build on the efforts of those who have gone before him. He has worked well with faculty and staff to encourage participation across the seminary in the work of development.

### D. VICE PRESIDENT OF OPERATIONS/CFO

Ms. Cassandra Price-Perry began work with MTS in August 2010 as Vice President of Operations and Chief Financial Officer. She is a Certified Public Accountant with over 20 years of experience in business and accounting. Cassandra is an active laywoman in her Roman Catholic Church in Southaven, Mississippi. She has received high praise from our auditors and our Board for her work over the past almost seven years.

## III. INSTRUCTION

### A. DEGREE PROGRAMS

Memphis Theological Seminary offers five degree programs and three certificate programs, including the certificate offered through the Program of Alternate Studies. The Master of Divinity is the basic degree program for persons preparing for ordained ministry in many denominations. It continues to be our largest degree program, with over 70% of students enrolled. The M.Div. requires 84 semester hours and takes three years of full-time study to complete.

The Master of Arts (Religion) degree is an academic degree for persons seeking to pursue further graduate studies. The MAR requires 36 semester hours and takes two years of full-time study to complete. The faculty launched a major revision to the MAR in the fall of 2015 to clarify its role as an academic degree.

The Doctor of Ministry degree is a professional degree designed for pastors and other ministers who have at least three years of full-time work in ministry after their M.Div. and who want to engage in further theological reflection on the practice of ministry. The D.Min. is designed around five two-week residencies, in January and July, and the implementation of and report on a major project in ministry. It usually takes 3-5 years to complete.

In the spring of 2013, we awarded our first new degree in many years: the Master of Arts in Youth Ministry (MAYM). Through our partnership with the Center for Youth Ministry Training in Brentwood, Tennessee, and the new certificate program in youth ministry through the Cumberland Presbyterian Church,

we have over 40 students enrolled in this degree program. MTS currently has, we believe, the largest master's program in youth ministry in the United States.

In the spring of 2016, we were approved by our accrediting bodies (The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada) to offer a new degree, the Master of Arts in Christian Ministry (MACM). This degree program began in the fall of 2016 with concentrations offered in Christian Education, Urban Ministry, and Social Justice Ministry. The MACM is a 42 hour degree for persons interested in pursuing specialized ministries. We plan to offer additional concentrations in the future (possibly rural ministry, counseling, etc.)

At Commencement in May of 2017, Memphis Theological Seminary awarded the Master of Arts in Youth Ministry degree to twelve graduates. Three persons were awarded the Master of Arts (Religion) degree. Three persons received the Master of Arts in Christian Ministry degree. Thirty-eight persons were awarded the Master of Divinity degree, and fourteen were awarded the Doctor of Ministry degree. Of these seventy graduates, fourteen were Cumberland Presbyterians.

Cumberland Presbyterian Master of Divinity graduates were:

Christopher Shane Anderson, Arkansas Presbytery  
 Deborah A. Chall-Hutchinson, Nashville Presbytery  
 Aaron Andrew Craig, East Tennessee Presbytery  
 Daniel Hopkins, Covenant Presbytery  
 Matthew Benjamin Ingram, Grace Presbytery  
 Leanne Rose Kerner, Murfreesboro Presbytery  
 Nathaniel Clay Mathews, Nashville Presbytery  
 Lacey Abigail Prevost, Hope Presbytery  
 Emily Claire Trapp, West Tennessee Presbytery  
 Kevin McKinley Twilla, Murfreesboro Presbytery  
 Paul Micah Watson, Murfreesboro Presbytery  
 Neal Wilkinson, Nashville Presbytery

Cumberland Presbyterian Master of Arts (Religion) graduate:

Rusuko Matsumoto, Japan Presbytery

Cumberland Presbyterian Doctor of Ministry graduate:

Choil Ma, Nashville Presbytery

## **B. CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS**

In addition to the five degree programs, MTS offers the following certificates:

Program of Alternate Studies of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church  
 Drug and Alcohol Addiction Counseling Graduate Certificate  
 James Netters Certificate in Ministry  
 Certificate in Wesleyan Studies

## **C. FACULTY**

For the current academic year, Memphis Theological Seminary has fifteen full-time teaching faculty and two administrative faculty members who teach part-time. In addition, the seminary curriculum is greatly enhanced by the work of ten to fifteen adjunct professors, most of whom are active in pastoral or other ministries.

Members of the MTS faculty continue to publish books and articles both for the academy and the church. Many faculty members preach in area churches on a regular basis, deliver lectures for local churches and judicatories, deliver papers at academic conferences, and write articles for a wide range of readers.

Under the leadership of VP/Dean Gathje, the faculty implemented our new M.Div. curriculum in the fall of 2016. Under the new curriculum, there will be greater emphasis on integration of learning for pastoral leadership. It will also continue to strengthen our focus on the practice of ministry as imaginative leadership drawing from the resources of scripture and tradition in particular cultural contexts.

## **D. ENROLLMENT**

Total enrollment in Memphis Theological Seminary for the fall term of 2017 was 288, including all degree and certificate programs. We continued to see a drop in enrollment in our largest degree program,



the Master of Divinity. Declining enrollments led again to painful budget adjustments during the year, including the elimination of several part-time and full-time positions. Our largest number of students comes from the United Methodist Church, with 23.6% of total enrollment. Cumberland Presbyterians are the second largest denomination represented in the student body with about 12.3% of all students.

We continue to work to recruit Cumberland Presbyterian students, and to lift up the call of God to ordained ministry in the church. We call on all Cumberland Presbyterians to pray that God will continue to call men and women to the office of ministry, and that they will be well prepared through our educational institutions to lead growing and vibrant congregations in the ministry of Jesus Christ to the world.

**RECOMMENDATION 3: That the General Assembly encourage all probationers to consider Memphis Theological Seminary and the Program of Alternate Studies as their first options for meeting educational requirements for ordained ministry.**

#### **D. PROGRAM OF ALTERNATE STUDIES (written by Doctor Michael Qualls, Director)**

The Program of Alternate Studies currently has three foci:

1. Preparing for ministry those who are practically hindered from pursuing traditional theological education. We are working to provide integrity to the ordination process.

2. Delivering the denominational studies that enable persons with a Master of Divinity degree from an institution other than MTS to meet the constitutional requirements for ordination in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

3. Providing the critical education necessary for assimilation of potential Cumberland Presbyterian pastors in the expanding global church.

We are working to expand in a fourth area:

4. Becoming a reliable resource for foundational education of lay persons interested or involved in congregational leadership in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

MTS administration has approved a reduced tuition rate of \$200 that would allow those not seeking ordination to take any of our online or face-to-face courses.

#### **SES 2018**

The 2018 Summer Extension School will be held on the Campus of Bethel University July 7-21. PAS Graduation will be July 7th at 11:00 am in Odom Hall.

#### **ONLINE CLASSES**

We held a class last summer that included in-class and remote students with live interactivity, debuting the new technology MTS is now employing from Academic Platforms. PAS is thrilled to be able to continue to develop our online offerings and find more students are accessible for the short-term intensive courses we offer when remote participation is an option. Most of our three online course offerings this winter have been asynchronous (at student's own schedule allows). Recently, a live synchronous online class was well received. Our instructors are now encouraged to use the tools available to enhance their learning outcomes.

#### **PARTNERS IN MISSION**

The opportunity to assist the global outreach of the Cumberland Presbyterian church has become an important aspect of PAS in recent years. Working with MMT personnel and PAS-Colombia we developed an experimental "distance" curriculum for a group of provisional pastors in Cuba. Doctor Stan Wood, retired academic dean of MTS, recently accompanied me to Haiti to complete the last course in the preparation for a group of six aspiring pastors from the Haiti Council of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. I am extremely grateful for the gifts from several Cumberland Presbyterians to help defray the travel expense. This kind of ministry is done because the need is great, with no expectation that the students could pay tuition. I would like to call attention to the reality that there has been no increase from OUO for many years. Our tuition has continued to rise, sometimes working hardship on students and presbyteries, so that we will be able to meet the essential needs of the program without relying on MTS to make up shortfalls.

#### **CPCA/CP COOPERATIVE WORK**

The PAS Advisory Council approved the director to work out a plan for a reciprocal relationship of students in either PAS or the CPCA Certification program. This takes us one step closer to a synchronous mutual relationship.

### **SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

We express appreciation to the planners of the 2018 General Assembly for a brief moment to make a presentation honoring the life and ministry of Reverend Dale Gentry, one of the last of the “circuit riding” pastors. An endowment has been inaugurated in his name with the income from the fund going to support the work of the Program of Alternate Studies. All who were impacted by Reverend Gentry’s life and ministry are encouraged to contribute to this fund in his memory. A fuller narrative of his life will be shared at the MTS/PAS Luncheon on Wednesday.

It remains my great joy to serve in this vital ministry of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. I covet your prayers for the continued success of our program. Please help us promote throughout the church the many ways that PAS can benefit individual clergy, lay persons, and congregations.

Respectfully,  
Michael Qualls, Director

### **E. NEW ACADEMIC INITIATIVES**

In the spring of 2016 we received word from our accreditors that we have been approved for a new degree program, the Master of Arts in Christian Ministry. This degree is designed for persons who are called to ministries other than ordained pastoral ministry. The new two-year degree will begin enrolling students in the fall of 2016. Students will choose between concentrations in Christian Education, Urban Ministry, and Social Justice. Additional concentrations to be added may include Children and Family Ministries, Rural Ministry, and other specialized ministries.

Our Master of Arts in Youth Ministry degree is, we think, now the largest graduate degree program in youth ministry in the United States. We continue to cooperate with the Center for Youth Ministry Training in Brentwood, Tennessee to offer a graduate residency in youth ministry.

In the fall of 2016 we implemented a major revision to our Master of Divinity curriculum. The revised curriculum will provide more opportunity for team teaching and cross-disciplinary work focused on integration of theology and practice for ministry.

With assistance from Bethel University leaders, we are planning to expand significantly our distance education offerings in the 2017-2018 academic year. New classroom technology was provided through a generous gift from one of our major donors and will provide educational services far beyond our geographic base. We are currently in the application process for approval for a hybrid online Master of Divinity degree using a cohort model of education. The application should be acted upon by the Association of Theological Schools in June of 2018.

### **F. ACCREDITATION**

Memphis Theological Seminary holds dual accreditation by the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada (ATS), and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). Every ten years, member schools go through an extensive process of re-accreditation review.

We completed our on-site visits from both accrediting bodies in March of 2018. Both bodies recommended reaffirmation of accreditation, with notations for areas of needed improvement, including financial stability, strategic planning and evaluation, and evaluation of educational outcomes in degree programs.

## **IV. FACILITIES**

### **A. LEADERSHIP**

Since the fall of 2015, our facilities and safety department has been ably led by Mr. Greg Spencer and a dedicated staff of facilities technicians. Mr. Spencer has more than twenty years of experience in construction and facilities management. He served in this role for two years previously, and after a brief stint in facilities management in corporate environment, Greg returned to our MTS leadership. We are grateful for his service.

### **B. DEBT ON PROPERTY**

In 2015 we were able to secure a commercial loan to repay our debt to the Board of Stewardship for the purchase of properties adjacent to our campus. That long term debt now stands at approximately \$2 million, less than half of our annual operating budget. This low debt allows us to operate as efficiently as possible.

### C. COMMUTER HOUSING

MTS began to convert its student housing from individual rentals to commuter housing in 1998. Currently, MTS provides commuter housing, with very reasonable nightly rates, for about fifty students each week of the regular term. The need for such commuter housing has continued to grow, as has income from such rentals. Our ability to serve students from about a 250 mile radius around Memphis, through block scheduling of classes and provision of affordable commuter housing, has had a significant impact on the growth of the student body over the past ten years.

### D. CAMPUS WORK GROUPS

We have been blessed in recent years by adult and youth work groups who have come to MTS during the summer months to help repair and maintain our campus housing. Groups have come from Trilla, Illinois, Greeneville, Tennessee, Florence, Alabama, Bowling Green, Kentucky, and Collierville, Tennessee, and the youth from West Tennessee Presbytery to volunteer their time in a variety of areas. We encourage work groups who would be willing to help the seminary in this way to contact Mr. Greg Spencer in the Facilities Office of the seminary.

### E. SAFETY

The Office of Safety of MTS continues to explore ways to enhance the safety of our students in the context of our urban campus. Through the use of lighting, security officers, secure locks, and well articulated safety plans, the seminary seeks to provide a safe environment for students and visitors to our campus.

During the past seven years, MTS has contracted with a local security company to provide regular patrols around our neighborhood. This additional safety measure has been well received by our students and by our neighbors. We continue to seek ways to provide a safe environment for our campus community.

## V. ADVANCEMENT AND FINANCE

### A. BUDGET

Our Board of Trustees will approve a budget for the 2018-2019 academic year at its May meeting. Copies of that budget will be provided at the meeting of General Assembly.

Like seminaries across the country, we continue to face budget challenges from declining enrollments. The Board of Trustees in its February 2018 meeting imposed new budget discipline on the seminary to ensure the closing of our operating deficit over the next three years.

### B. SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

We continue to cultivate relationships with foundations whose mission closely aligns with ours. The following grants for scholarships and other projects have been received in recent years:

#### 1. The Eli Lilly Endowment, Inc. – “Thriving in Ministry”

In December 2017, MTS was notified that it had been selected to receive a grant of \$1 million dollars from the Lilly Endowment, Inc., for use over five years to fund a Center for Pastoral Formation, Imagination, and Leadership at Memphis Theological Seminary. Working with partners including the Methodist Healthcare Clergy Coaching Network, the Center for Transforming Communities, the Cumberland Presbyterian Pastoral Ministry Development Team, and the Memphis Annual Conference of the UMC, the work of the Center will focus on supporting and sustaining clergy in their first five years of ministry post seminary. The new Center at MTS will provide services to our graduates to help them develop networks of support, encouragement, and spiritual depth to help them understand and survive the challenges of pastoral ministry in our time.

#### 2. The Evelyn Alexander Scholarship

This scholarship is given annually to a PCUSA student. The scholarship fund is administered by First Presbyterian Church of Paragould, Arkansas.

#### 3. The Kemmons Wilson Family Foundation

The Kemmons Wilson family, founders of the Holiday Inn hotel chain and noted philanthropists in Memphis, has renewed funding of the Wilson Scholarships at \$15,000 for this year.

#### 4. The H.W. Durham Foundation

In 2013, the Memphis-based H.W. Durham Foundation renewed its gift of \$5,000 to provide 5 \$1,000 scholarships for students who are 55+ years of age. These Durham Scholars will represent much of our student body who are second-career students.

## C. ENDOWMENTS

### 1. The Reverend Dr. Stan Wood Endowment for Doctor of Ministry Students

Upon his retirement as Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of MTS, several friends of Doctor Stan Wood donated to begin an endowment in his honor. The Stan Wood Endowment, when it reaches a significant corpus, will provide D.Min. scholarships in gratitude for Stan's long and faithful service as Director of the D.Min. program at MTS.

### 2. The Young Kim Family Endowment for Excellence

Established by Doctor Yoong Kim and his wife, Ann, the \$1 million commitment will provide unrestricted income to support areas of greatest need at the discretion of the President, including, but not limited to: operations, student and faculty support, technology, and campus infrastructure upgrades.

### 3. The James T. Freeman Endowed Scholarship

Established with gratitude for the life and ministry of MTS graduate, Reverend James T. Freeman, by MTS alumnus Doctor Randolph Meade Walker and the West Tennessee Baptist Missionary and Educational Association, the Freeman Scholarship will support African American Baptist students wishing to study at MTS. Rev. Freeman was a long-time pastor in the Memphis area who made regular trips to Kenya, West Africa, to dig wells, build schools and churches, and to provide support for some of the poorest communities in Kenya. Reverend Freeman was among the first African American students to enroll in MTS after the move to Memphis in 1964.

### 4. The Hughston R. and Lorraine Peyton Endowment

Reverend Hughston R. Peyton was a native of Hopkinsville, Kentucky. He grew up in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and attended Bethel College. He went on to serve as a minister in the Presbyterian Church USA and as Field Director of Christian Education for the Synod of Southern California until his death at 100. Income from this endowment will support operations for the seminary.

### 5. The Baird-Buck Chair of Cumberland Presbyterian Studies

Doctor Clinton Buck, Professor Emeritus of Christian Education at MTS, knowing the need for more focused teaching in CP Heritage, has converted an existing endowment that was originally begun with the hopes of endowing a chair in Christian Education. Subsequent to Doctor Buck's decision, the late Mrs. Thalia Baird, widow of former President and Professor Doctor Colvin Baird, converted an endowment they had designated for general operations. Together with The Reverend J.T. Buck Scholarship Endowment Fund established in 1979 to provide scholarship assistance for Cumberland Presbyterian students at Memphis Theological Seminary, the new endowment was established with an initial principal balance of approximately \$112,000. To-date, the fund has grown to almost \$450,000 thanks to generous contributions from many Cumberland Presbyterians. The purpose of this endowment is to strengthen the Cumberland Presbyterian Church by establishing an endowed professorship with a primary focus of teaching Cumberland Presbyterian history, theology, church administration and the practice of ministry that is particular to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. The goal is to raise \$1.5 million to fully fund this endowed chair.

### 6. Reverend Hillman and Lorene Moore Endowed Scholarship Fund

Hillman Moore established this endowment fund on October 10, 2013, to be funded with a future gift of a bequest from his estate. We note with sadness and gratitude his passing in March of 2018. The endowment will be used to provide scholarship funds for training Cumberland Presbyterian students at Memphis Theological Seminary.

### 7. Wes and Susan Brantley Endowment

On October 15, 2013, the Brantley family of Ada, Oklahoma, was deeply saddened by the death of Susan Brantley, wife of former MTS trustee Wes Brantley, and mother of current trustee Kevin Brantley. In her memory, Wes has established the Wes and Susan Brantley Endowment to support general operating expenses of the seminary.

### 8. The Davis/Winston Scholarship for National Baptist Students

In the waning days of the spring semester 2013, one CP and one United Methodist student listened as three fellow students talked about the struggles they have in paying their seminary tuition. For these two students, all or most of their tuition is paid by their denomination. For the others, all National Baptists, humble servants with sweet spirits, the story is completely different.

Moved by the Holy Spirit through their student colleagues, they sought a way to establish a scholarship to help future National Baptist students. In recognition of the blessing received when seminary education is paid in full or in part by scholarship and/or denominational assistance, and in honor of exemplary and invigorating teaching by professors Doctor Christopher B. Davis and Doctor Eric Winston, they established a scholarship to support National Baptist students at MTS.

### 9. Reverend David and Leota Watson Scholarship Endowment Fund

A new endowment has been established to honor the ministry of the late Reverend David Watson.

His widow, Mrs. Leota Watson, has chosen to direct the endowment earnings to support scholarships for Cumberland Presbyterian students attending MTS. Those who knew and loved Reverend Watson and appreciate his and Leota's ministry are invited to send a gift to fully establish the Reverend David and Leota Watson Scholarship Endowment Fund. Every gift matters.

**10. Rev. Walter (Pete) Palmer Endowment for the Program of Alternate Studies**

This endowment was funded from a significant bequest from Reverend Palmer. The endowment will provide program support for the PAS summer extension school and scholarship aid for needy students.

**11. Paul Blankenship Endowed Scholarship**

Mrs. Nancy Blankenship, widow of former MTS Professor Doctor Paul Blankenship, has given a generous gift to endow a new scholarship for a United Methodist student in the Master of Divinity program, with preference to a student from the Memphis Annual Conference.

**12. Rev. Henry Logan Starks Endowment**

The Starks Endowment supports African American scholarships for students studying in the Masters level programs at MTS. Each year MTS holds a major fundraising luncheon to raise funds to build the Endowment.

**13. Other Endowment funds**

Many Cumberland Presbyterians and others continue to support endowments that have been established through the years to fund our work. Currently, the total MTS endowment, managed by the Board of Stewardship of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, is just over \$11 million. The Advancement Office and President are available at any time to discuss endowment gifts with potential donors.

**D. ESTATE GIFTS**

We continue to have conversations with friends and donors about the importance of remembering MTS (and their local churches, and other ministries they care deeply about) in their estate plans. We publish a list of those who have informed our office that they have included MTS in their will. That group is known as the Heritage Society. The Heritage Society is listed in every issue of The Lamp, our magazine for alumni and friends.

In the past year we have been notified of bequests from:

- Mrs. Edna Russell Jackson of Clarksville, Tennessee, a faithful member of the Clarksville Cumberland Presbyterian Church.
- Mrs. Alta Hensley, widow of Elder Floyd Hensley, former Moderator of the General Assembly. The Hensleys were long-time members of the Liberty Cumberland Presbyterian Church near Campbellsville, Kentucky.
- Reverend Hillman Moore, native of Jackson, Tennessee, retired Cumberland Presbyterian minister from Covenant Presbytery, who had lived for many years in the Paducah, Kentucky area. At the time of his death, Reverend Moore was living near his son, Morris, in the Austin, Texas area.

We are deeply grateful for the generosity that faithful Cumberland Presbyterians exhibit in remembering MTS, and other denominational ministries, in their estate planning. The MTS Advancement Staff and President are available to present programs on Planned Giving to churches, groups of churches, or presbyteries to encourage our members to remember their local churches and denominational ministries that are important to them in their wills and other planned giving vehicles.

**F. SEMINARY/PAS SUNDAY**

We have many churches in our denomination, and in other denominations we serve who recognize Seminary Sunday in their local churches. This provides time for education of members about the work of MTS and the Program of Alternate Studies and provides an opportunity for members to make a special one-time gift to support the work of the seminary. Please contact the seminary for more information on how you can recognize Seminary Sunday in your local church, and to request a speaker for the occasion.

**RECOMMENDATION 5: That the third Sunday in August, (August 19, 2018 and August 18, 2019) be included in the General Assembly Calendar as Seminary/PAS Sunday, and that the General Assembly encourage all churches to share information about MTS and PAS and receive a special offering on that day, or on a more convenient day of the session's choosing.**

**G. ANNUAL FUND**

Memphis Theological Seminary could not operate without the faithful contribution of its alumni and friends. Annual Fund contributions help us keep the cost of tuition down, so that students do not leave

seminary with a large burden of debt to have to pay during their early years in ministry. Annual Fund contributions have grown steadily over the past fifteen years, as income from Our United Outreach has declined.

MTS friends and alumni are encouraged to consider joining the “1852 Society,” a group of persons who pledge to give at least \$18.52 per month to help support the work of the seminary. Information on the “1852 Society” is available at the MTS display table during the week of General Assembly, and can be accessed through our website: [MemphisSeminary.edu](http://MemphisSeminary.edu).

In some respects, the income we receive from OUO puts us in a better position than many theological seminaries, whose income from denominational sources has declined significantly over the past twenty years. Our income from OUO has remained relatively steady over that time period. However, as a percentage of our total income, OUO has fallen from almost 20% to about 3% of our operating budget. We are grateful for the commitment of Cumberland Presbyterians to the ministry of MTS, and all our common ministries, expressed so tangibly through giving to Our United Outreach.

At the same time, we do not expect income from denominational contributions to increase significantly in the future. This means that we are required to put more time and energy into fund raising than ever before. We are grateful for the many alumni who have made a financial contribution to our ministry this year. We are also grateful for all the faithful laypersons who have given to the Annual Fund because they know the importance of an educated ministry to the life and health of our denomination.

## H. AUDIT REPORT

The auditing firm of Zoccola Kaplan, P.C. has audited the books of Memphis Theological Seminary for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. The audit was unqualified. Copies of that report have been filed with the office of the Stated Clerk.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Cole, Moderator of the Board of Trustees  
Daniel J. Earheart-Brown, President  
Memphis Theological Seminary

## THE REPORT OF THE OUR UNITED OUTREACH COMMITTEE

S/E

The 2009 General Assembly established a denominational Our United Outreach Committee to be made up of 12 voting representatives, one from each Synod and the rest from the church programs and institutions. Executives from the church programs and institutions participate on the Committee as advisory members. This Committee meets annually unless there is a needed called meeting.

A goal of the Our United Outreach Committee is to encourage ALL churches to contribute to Our United Outreach. Approximately 30 percent of the churches do not give anything with a high percentage of other churches not giving at the 10 percent level. This past year, 2017, the budgeted goal for Our United Outreach was \$2,800,000 – 86.89% giving was achieved. While this was an admirable achievement, the percentage is down from the 89% of 2016. The Committee seeks to involve ALL churches with Our United Outreach giving and at a greater level of giving.

### I. OUR UNITED OUTREACH FUNDS ALLOCATION

The Our United Outreach Committee met March 2, 2018, to allocate the Our United Outreach funds for the 2019 year. The Our United Outreach allocation basis for 2019 is \$2,600,000.

A line item of \$25,000 for Legal Fees, \$35,000 for Unification Task Force, and \$92,044 for the OOU Development Coordinators have been approved as guaranteed amounts and are deducted from the goal amount prior to allocation purposes.

**RECOMMENDATION 1: That General Assembly adopt the following Our United Outreach allocations for 2019:**

<b>The allocation is to be as follows:</b>	<b>\$2,600,000.00</b>	
<b>Development Coordinator Office and OOU Committee</b>		<b>92,044.00</b>
<b>Unification Task Force</b>		<b>35,000.00</b>
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>127,044.00</b>	
<b>(Amount to be allocated)</b>	<b>2,472,956.00</b>	
<b>Ministry Council</b>	<b>\$ 1,236,478.00</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Bethel University</b>	<b>123,648.00</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>Children's Home</b>	<b>74,189.00</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>Stewardship</b>	<b>148,377.00</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>General Assembly Office</b>	<b>197,836.00</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>Memphis Theological Seminary/ Program of Alternate Studies</b>	<b>173,107.00</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>Historical Foundation</b>	<b>74,189.00</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>Shared Services</b>	<b>408,038.00</b>	<b>16.5%</b>
<b>Contingency</b>	<b>12,365.00</b>	<b>.5%</b>
<b>(Next four items total 1%)</b>		
<b>Comm. on Chaplains</b>	<b>9,570.00</b>	<b>.387%</b>
<b>Judiciary Committee</b>	<b>9,026.00</b>	<b>.365%</b>
<b>Theology/Social Concerns</b>	<b>3,363.00</b>	<b>.136%</b>
<b>Nominating Committee</b>	<b>2,770.00</b>	<b>.112%</b>
	<b>2,472,956.00</b>	
<b>Our United Outreach Goal</b>	<b>\$2,600,000.00</b>	

From the agencies listed above, all should be self-explanatory except maybe Shared Services. Maintenance, utilities, mowing, trash pick-up, pest extermination, and custodial are all examples of Shared Services for agencies sharing the Cumberland Presbyterian Center.

## II. OUR UNITED OUTREACH COMMITTEE REQUESTS

In order to serve as better stewards of the funding that is guaranteed to the Unification Task Force and the Development Coordinator Office of OUO, our committee believes it would be helpful to have an accounting of these funds.

**RECOMMENDATION 2: The OUO committee meeting in an executive session requests General Assembly to direct the Unification Task Force and Development Coordinator Office of OUO to account for expenditures to this committee.**

Our committee believes that many across our denomination may not fully understand the ministry of OUO in supporting, and making possible, the many ministries of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. We feel there is much work to do in educating individuals, congregations, and churches how their support of OUO makes a difference in the life of our church. We are searching for new ways to share the message, and promote the ministries that OUO makes possible in our denomination.

**RECOMMENDATION 3: The OUO Committee request that General Assembly challenge churches to invite an OUO Representative or member of the OUO Committee to speak in their congregations.**

## III. OUR UNITED OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The Our United Outreach Committee is made up of individuals who possess the leadership abilities to identify the focus of the entities of the denomination. The denominational nominating committee always strives to find the best candidate for vacancies on denominational boards and agencies. The existing committee would like to express appreciation to Randy Weathersby- Synod of the Southeast, for his dedication and support of the goals of the Committee.

The Our United Outreach Committee members are enthusiastic in their approach to the development of total participation in this program of the church.

Respectfully submitted,  
Reverend Bruce Hamilton, Chairperson  
Randy Weathersby, Vice-Chairperson  
Robin Wills, Secretary  
and the Our United Outreach Committee



## THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON MILITARY CHAPLAINS AND PERSONNEL

C/HF

The General Assembly Commission on Military Chaplains and Personnel is made up of three members, each serving terms of three years on the Commission. Those people are Reverend Tony Janner (2018), Reverend Cassandra Thomas (2019) and Reverend Charles McCaskey (2020). They can serve up to 9 years (3 three year terms). These three, along with the Stated Clerk, Reverend Michael Sharpe, are also members of the joint Presbyterian Council for Chaplains and Military Personnel (PCCMP), whose office is located at 4125 Nebraska Avenue NW, Washington DC. Other denominations that are a part of the PCCMP include the Presbyterian Church (USA), the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, and the Korean Presbyterian Church Abroad.

### I. SUPPORT OF THE PCCMP

Financial support for the Presbyterian Council for Chaplains and Military Personnel (PCCMP) is received from the four member denominations and individuals, church judicatories and individual churches. The constant decrease of financial support is an issue that the PCCMP is constantly dealing with. The Cumberland Presbyterian Church has a budget line in the denominational budget to support the PCCMP. The Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the individual churches have traditionally received an offering on Memorial Day Sunday with those offerings being given directly to the PCCMP for its budget. However, other special days may be considered to receive this special offering in the individual churches – the Sunday nearest Veterans day, “Four Chaplain’s Sunday” (the first Sunday in February), the Sunday nearest the 4th of July or some other Sunday as a witness to support the men and women who have or are serving in the military, the Federal Bureau of Prisons, The Veterans Affairs and the Civil Air Patrol. These offering should be sent to the General Assembly Stated Clerk and are forwarded to the PCCMP for the outreach, mission, and maintenance of the PCCMP.

**RECOMMENDATION 1: That each Cumberland Presbyterian Church provide an opportunity for their congregations to receive an offering on the last Sunday of May, or another special day, to support our ministry through the PCCMP.**

**RECOMMENDATION 2: That the budget line item of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church designated for the PCCMP be increased by 2 % beginning in 2020.**

The PCCMP provides ecclesiastical endorsement for chaplains of the United States Armed Forces from the four member denominations who are serving on active duty or serving the Reserves/ National Guard. The PCCMP also endorses Ministers of Word and Sacrament who serve as chaplains in the Federal Bureau of Prisons and the Civil Air Patrol. The PCCMP also provides special training to chaplains and pastoral support to chaplains and their families who are endorsed for those positions from the four member denominations. The PCCMP provides an influential voice for the member denominations to the National Council on Ministry to the Armed Forces in matters relating to the ministry and welfare of the endorsed chaplains. The PCCMP also promotes a closer communications between chaplains and their denominational bodies.

**RECOMMENDATION 3: That individual congregations of the Cumberland Presbytery determine and designate special days through the year to hold up the chaplains and their families in the service to which they have been endorsed.**

### II. MEETINGS AND DIRECTOR

The PCCMP, and the representatives of the member denominations normally meets at least once a year. This past year, the annual meeting was held at the denominational headquarters of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America in Huntsville, Alabama. The 2018 meeting is scheduled for California and is to be hosted by the Korean Presbyterian Church Abroad.

The PCCMP has just completed a director change. The new director of the PCCMP is retired Navy Chaplain Lyman M. Smith (CAPT, CHC, USN). His office is located in Washington D.C but his location is many times traveling to minister to the endorsed chaplains at their duty stations all over

the World. He replaces retired chaplain Lawrence (Larry) Greenslit who retired as the director of the PCCMP this past year. The present chair of the PCCMP is the Reverend Cassandra Thomas (CP), the Vice-Chair is the Reverend John Kim (KPCA), the secretary is Army Daniel, Jr. (CPCA) and the treasurer is Kelly Wadsworth (PCUSA). Other Cumberland Presbyterian members Reverend Doctor Tony Janner and Reverend Doctor Charles McCaskey serve on various committees of the PCCMP. All three of the Cumberland Presbyterian members of the PCCMP are retired military chaplains. All member denominational Stated Clerks also serve as a member of the PCCMP – Reverend Michael Sharpe, the Cumberland Presbyterian Stated Clerk is a constant attender and valuable member of the PCCMP.

There are approximately 20 Cumberland Presbyterian Ministers of Word and Sacrament serving as military and federal chaplains. These chaplain's name and addresses are included in the Yearbook of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Information concerning the process of becoming a chaplain may be obtained by visiting the PCCMP website: [www.pccmp.org](http://www.pccmp.org).

Several meetings of the Endorsement Committee of the PCCMP is scheduled throughout the year to meet and endorse individuals who are applying for positions as chaplains.

Submitted:

Members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Commission on Chaplains and Personnel

Cassandra Thomas

Tony Janner

Charles McCaskey

## THE REPORT OF THE PERMANENT JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

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The Judiciary Committee met February 16, 2018 in Huntsville, Alabama. Present were Pam Brown, Annetta Camp, Harry Chapman, Andy McClung, Jan Overton, and Bill Tally. Also present were Mike Sharpe, stated clerk, and Jaime Jordan, legal counsel. Rachel Moses, Geoff Knight, and Kimberly Silvus were excused.

### I. ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMITTEE

Annetta camp was elected chairperson, Jan Overton vice-chair, and Andy McClung secretary.

### II. MEMORIAL

A memorial from Arkansas Presbytery regarding The Encounter curriculum was found to be properly formatted and therefore will be placed before General Assembly.

### III. JOINT COMMITTEE ON AMENDMENTS

This committee elected Pam Brown and Jan Overton as representatives to serve on the Joint Committee on Amendments.

### IV. GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVES

Pam Brown will serve as this committee's representative to the 188th General Assembly. Andy McClung is the alternate.

### V. PROPOSED AMENDMENT, PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION

The growth of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church outside of the United States is something to be celebrated. This committee has been informed that outside of the United States it is sometimes difficult to strictly apply the Cumberland Presbyterian Constitution, as different countries have different laws and social systems than that of the United States, in which our Constitution was formed. Therefore, this committee makes the following recommendation:

**RECOMMENDATION 1:** That the Preamble to the Constitution be amended by inserting the following paragraph between the first and second existing paragraphs: “Cumberland Presbyterian congregations are found around the world. While the mission of the church is the same everywhere, the forms and structures of the Constitution do not always fit seamlessly with the cultures, traditions, and legal systems of some countries. In countries other than the United States the provisions of the Constitution should be applied so far as possible, but the Constitution is, at its heart, a document which exists to promote spiritual objectives. If there are instances in which the letter of the Constitution cannot be applied without compromising the mission of the church and the spiritual objectives identified in the *Confession of Faith*, it is the spirit of the law, rather than the letter, which must prevail.”

### VI. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS, CONSTITUTION

Some of the language in our Constitution does not adequately reflect the intent of our structure or the actual practice of our judicatories in exercising pastoral care and authority between judicatories. Therefore, this committee recommends the following amendments to the Constitution (changes italicized):

**RECOMMENDATION 2:** That Constitution 3.03 be amended from “The authority of each level of church government is limited by the stated provisions of the church’s constitution. Although each judicatory exercises exclusive original jurisdiction over all the matters specifically belonging to it, the lower judicatories are subject to the review and control of the higher judicatories in regular gradation.” to read “The authority of each level of church government is limited by the stated provisions of the *Constitution*. Although each judicatory exercises exclusive original jurisdiction over all the matters specifically belonging to it, the lower judicatories are subject to the review *and appellate authority of the next higher judicatory.*”

This change clarifies the referenced constitution is the Constitution of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church/Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, and that higher judicatories exercise their “review and control” of lower judicatories through appellate authority.

**RECOMMENDATION 3:** That Constitution 3.35 be amended from “A particular church shall not sell, nor lease its real property used for purposes of worship, nurture or ministry, without the written permission of the presbytery in which the particular church is located, transmitted through the session of the particular church.” to read “A particular church shall not sell, *convey, lease, pledge, mortgage, or encumber* its real property used for purposes of worship, nurture, or ministry without the written permission of the presbytery in which the particular church is located, transmitted through the session of the particular church. *In granting its permission, the presbytery does not become a party to the church’s agreement, nor a guarantor of any indebtedness.*”

**RECOMMENDATION 4:** That Constitution 7.06, which refers to the relationships of pastor, assistant/associate pastor, stated supply, and interim pastor, be amended from “A person shall enter into one of these relationships with a particular church only with the approval of the presbytery in the bounds of which the particular church is located. *The presbytery may authorize its board of missions to act on its behalf in examining the call and to give tentative approval to a relationship between a particular church and a minister, licentiate, or candidate, subject to formal approval at a meeting of the presbytery.*” to read “A person shall enter into one of these relationships with a particular church only with the approval of the presbytery in the bounds of which the particular church is located. *The church session shall bear responsibility for the selection of the person, and the presbytery’s approval shall relate to the person’s ministerial credentials, commitment to the theology and government of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church/Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, and standing in his or her current presbytery, if any.* The presbytery may authorize its board of missions to act on its behalf in examining the call and to give tentative approval to a relationship between a particular church and a minister, licentiate, or candidate, subject to formal approval at a meeting of the presbytery.”

The following recommendation deals with the responsibilities of synod.

**RECOMMENDATION 5:** That Constitution 8.5(f) be amended from “In general, to order with respect to the presbyteries, sessions, and churches under its care according to the government of the church, whatever may seem to edify the church;” to read “In general, to order with respect to the presbyteries, sessions, and churches under its care according to the government of the church, *whatever pertains to their spiritual welfare and the edification of the church;*”.

This change recognizes the existing practice that synods do not become directly involved in the governance or operations of the local church, and that any authority of the synod over the local church is spiritual and ecclesiastical in nature.

The following three recommendations (6-8) deal with the responsibilities of General Assembly.

**RECOMMENDATION 6:** That Constitution 9.4 (d) be amended from “Institute and oversee the agencies necessary in its work;” to read “Institute and *review the work of denominational entities;*”.

This change clarifies that the General Assembly's right to oversee the work of denominational commissions, committees, and incorporated entities is a right of review, and not necessarily a right to direct or control. The GA's relationship with committees and incorporated entities is not the same. Denominational entities are identified in GA Bylaw 10.01.

**RECOMMENDATION 7:** That Constitution 9.4(g) be amended from "Take care that the lower judicatories observe the government of the church and redress what they may have done contrary to order;" to read "Take care that the lower judicatories observe the government of the church and exercise its review and appellate authority to redress what they may have done contrary to order;".

This change recognizes that the General Assembly, like other judicatories, exercises its authority over lower judicatories through its power of review and appellate authority.

**RECOMMENDATION 8:** That Constitution 9.4(m) be amended from "Oversee the affairs of the whole church;" to read "*Keep watch over the affairs of the whole church;*".

This change indicates a relationship which is more pastoral than controlling, and clarifies the current overstatement of the relationship between the General Assembly and the other judicatories and denominational entities, as Merriam-Webster defines "oversee" as "to watch over and direct... in order to ensure a satisfactory outcome or performance: supervise." That is an overstatement in the church.

## VII. AMENDMENT, GENERAL ASSEMBLY BYLAW

This bylaw deals with the composition of the Board of Trustees of Memphis Theological Seminary. This proposed change is only to clarify confusing and conflicting wording.

**RECOMMENDATION 9:** That Bylaw 10.07 of the General Assembly Corporation be amended from "The corporation shall elect the twenty-four (24) directors of Memphis Theological Seminary as provided in its charter. The corporation shall elect the directors in such a manner that, immediately following any election, there shall be at least eleven (11) directors who are members of ecumenical partners of the Seminary." to read "The corporation shall elect the twenty-four (24) directors of Memphis Theological Seminary as provided in its charter. The corporation shall elect the directors in such a manner that, immediately following any election, there shall be eleven (11) directors who are members of *denominations other than the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.*"

## VIII. REVIEW OF SYNOD MINUTES

The 2017 minutes of Synod of the Midwest and Synod of the Southeast were reviewed and found to be in good order.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Judiciary Committee

## THE REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee consists of a minister and a lay person from each synod, preferably from different presbyteries. Members may serve a three year term, but cannot succeed themselves. Cumberland Presbyterian members of any board or committee can be re-elected to the same board after a two year absence. Ecumenical representatives may be re-elected to the same board after a one year absence. With the exception of the Nominating Committee any person elected to serve on a denominational entity may serve three consecutive terms. Filling an unexpired term counts as one term, thus members of any entity do not always serve nine years before completing eligibility on a board/agency.

The members of the various Ministry Teams are no longer elected by the General Assembly, but are to be appointed by the Ministry Council.

The Committee submits the following list of nominees:

### I. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY CORPORATION

#### (Members whose terms expire in 2021)

- (2) MS. CALOTTA EDSSELL, 7044 Woodsong Cove, Germantown, TN 38138, First Church Olive Branch Congregation, West Tennessee Presbytery, to succeed herself for a three-year term.
- (2) REV. NORLAN SCRUDDER, 29688 S 534 Road, Park Hill, OK 74451, Red River Presbytery, to succeed himself for a three-year term.

### II. MINISTRY COUNCIL

#### (Members whose terms expire in 2021)

- (3) MR. KEN BEAN, 1035 Stonewall Street N, McKenzie, TN 38201, West Tennessee Presbytery, Synod of Great Rivers, to succeed himself for a three-year term.
- (2) REV. KENNY BUTCHER, 4608 Cather Court, Nashville, TN, 4608 Cather Court, Nashville, TN 37214, Brush Hill Congregation, Tennessee Synod, Nashville Presbytery, for a three-year term.
- (2) REV. PHILLIP LAYNE, 10699 Griffith Highway, Whitwell, TN 37397, Tennessee-Georgia Presbytery, Synod of the Southeast, to succeed himself for a three-year term.
- (3) REV. RON MCMILLAN, 675 Kimberly Drive, Atoka, TN 38004, West Tennessee Presbytery, Synod of Great Rivers, to succeed himself for a three-year term.
- (2) MS. VICTORY MOORE, 17388 Chandlerville Road, Virginia, IL 62691, Shiloh Congregation, North Central Presbytery, Synod of the Midwest, to succeed herself for a three-year term.

#### (Members whose terms expire in 2019)

#### YOUTH ADVISORY MEMBERS

(shall be between the ages of 15 and 17 years of age, elected for a one year term and is eligible for an additional one term)

- (1) MS. SYDNEY HOLDER, 6589 County Road 747, Cullman, AL 35055, Welti Congregation, Hope Presbytery, Synod of the Southeast, for a one-year term.
- (1) MS. MADISON HOLLAND, 565 County Road 17, Scottsboro, AL 35768, Scottsboro Congregation, Robert Donnell Presbytery, Synod of the Southeast, for a one-year term.
- (2) MS. LEIGHANNE MORGAN, 1468 Williams Cove Road, Winchester, TN 37398, Goshen Congregation, Tennessee Synod, Murfreesboro Presbytery, to succeed herself for a one-year term.

### III. TRUSTEES OF HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

**(Members whose terms expire in 2021)**

- (2) REV. LISA OLIVER, 110 Allen Drive, Hendersonville, TN 37075, Murfreesboro Presbytery, Tennessee Synod, to succeed herself for a three-year term.
- (1) MS. KELLY SHANTON, 3932 W Beaver Creek Drive, Powell, TN 37849, Presbytery of East Tennessee, Synod of the Southeast, for a three-year term.

### IV. TRUSTEES OF MEMPHIS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY OF THE CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**(Members whose terms expire in 2021)**

- (2) REV. LINDA HOWELL, PO Box 80050, Keller, TX, 76244, Red River Presbytery, Mission Synod, to succeed herself for a three-year term.
- (3) MS. SONDRAL RODDY, 2583 Hedgerow Lane, Clarksville, TN 37043, Nashville Presbytery, Tennessee Synod to succeed herself for a three-year term.
- (3) +REV. MELVIN CHARLES SMITH, 1263 Haynes Street, Memphis, TN 38114, to succeed himself for a three-year term.
- (3) +MS. LATISHA TOWNS, The Med, 877 Jefferson Avenue, Memphis, TN 38103, to succeed herself for a three-year term.
- (1) REV. DANIEL BARKLEY, 2732 Rexford Street, Hokes Bluff, AL 35903, Grace Presbytery, Synod of the Southeast, for a three-year term.
- (1) REV. RON FELL, 212 Ouachita 54, Camden, AR 71701, Arkansas Presbytery, Great Rivers Synod, for a three-year term.
- (1) DR. YOONG KIM, 225 Bayswater Drive, Suwanee, GA 30024, Tennessee-Georgia Presbytery, Synod of the Southeast, for a three-year term.
- (1) REV. RIAN PUCKETT, 55 Ham Street, Batesville, AR 72501, Arkansas Presbytery, Great Rivers Synod, for a three-year term.

**(Members whose terms expire in 2020)**

- (1) +MS. VANESSA K MIDGETT, 118 Thunderbird Drive, Huntsville, AL 35749, to fill an unexpired two-year term.
- (1) REV. JASON MIKEL, 410 Ramblewood Lane, Nolensville, TN 37135, Columbia Presbytery, Tennessee Synod, to fill an unexpired two-year term.

### V. STEWARDSHIP, FOUNDATION AND BENEFITS

**(Members whose terms expire in 2021)**

- (1) MS. DEBBIE SHANKS, 3997 N 100th Street, Casey, IL 62420, North Central Presbytery, Synod of the Midwest, for a three-year term
- (2) MR. JAMES SHANNON, 2307 Littlemore Drive, Cordova, TN 38016, Germantown Congregations, West Tennessee Presbytery, Great Rivers Synod, to succeed himself for a three-year term.
- (3) MR. MICHAEL ST. JOHN, 324 Carriage Place, Lebanon, MO 65536, White Oak Pond Congregation, Missouri Presbytery, Great Rivers Synod, to succeed himself for a three-year term

**(Members whose terms expire in 2019)**

- (1) REV. KEN BYFORD, 23716 Highway 9 N, Piedmont, AL 36272, Grace Presbytery, Synod of the Southeast, for an unexpired one-year term.

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSIONS:

### VI. MILITARY CHAPLAINS AND PERSONNEL

**(Members whose terms expire in 2021)**

- (2) REV. TONY JANNER, 104 Northwood Drive, McKenzie, TN 38201, West Tennessee Presbytery, Great Rivers Synod, to succeed himself for a three-year term.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES

### VII. JUDICIARY

**(Members whose terms expire in 2021)**

- (3) REV. ANNETTA CAMP, 2303 Mill Creek Road, Halls, TN 38040, West Tennessee Presbytery, Great Rivers Synod, to succeed herself for a three-year term.
- (2) MR. BILL TALLY, 907 Tipperary Drive, Scottsboro, AL 35768, Scottsboro Congregation, Robert Donnell Presbytery, Synod of the Southeast, to succeed himself for a three-year term
- (1) REV. JIM RATLIFF, 13 Hernando Drive, Cherokee Village, AR 72529, West Tennessee Presbytery, Great Rivers Synod, for a three-year term.

### VIII. NOMINATING

**(Members whose terms expire in 2021)**

- (1) MR. ETHAN MORGAN, 119 Mountain Top Lane, Cookeville, TN 38506, Murfreesboro Presbytery, Tennessee Synod, for a three-year term.
- (1) REV. RANDY SHANNON, 30282 Highway H, Marshall, MO 65340, Missouri Presbytery, Great Rivers Synod, for a three year term.

### IX. OUR UNITED OUTREACH COMMITTEE

**(Members whose terms expire in 2021)**

- (1) MS. GWEN RODDY, 3728 Wittenham Drive, Knoxville, TN 37921, Beaver Creek Congregation, Presbytery of East Tennessee, Synod of the Southeast, for a three-year term.
- (3) MS. ROBIN WILLS, 4607 E Richmond Shop Road, Lebanon, TN 37090, Jerusalem Congregation, Murfreesboro Presbytery, Tennessee Synod, to succeed herself for a three-year term.

### X. UNIFIED COMMITTEE ON THEOLOGY AND SOCIAL CONCERNS

**(Members whose terms expire in 2021)**

- (1) REV. MITCH BOULTON, 80 Topsy Lane, Savannah, TN 38372, West Tennessee Presbytery, Great Rivers Synod, for a three-year term.
- (1) REV. MICHAEL QUALLS, 5355 June Cove, Horn Lake, MS 38637, West Tennessee Presbytery, Great Rivers Synod, for a three-year term.
- (1) MS. MELISSA WILSON, 107 Hillwood Drive, Dickson, TN 37055, Nashville Presbytery, Tennessee Synod, for a three-year term.

\*Ecumenical Representative

+Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America



## THE REPORT OF THE PLACE OF MEETING COMMITTEE

S/E

The Place of Meeting Committee consists of the Moderator, a representative of the Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry, and the Stated Clerk who serves as the chairperson. The representative of the Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry is the Convention Coordinator.

The 165th General Assembly, "authorized the committee to select meeting places up to five years in the future and that preference be given that keeps, insofar as possible, the General Assembly and the Convention of Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry, and guest rooms in one facility. It is recognized that these places are hard to find and may cost some additional monies. The place of meeting committee will use its best judgment." The 173rd General Assembly approved exploring the use of college campuses and very large conference centers in addition to hotels/convention centers. When the Office of the General Assembly receives an invitation from a congregation or a presbytery, the Stated Clerk makes a site visit. If adequate facilities are discovered, a follow up visit is made by the Stated Clerk, the Assistant to the Stated Clerk, and the Convention Coordinator of the Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry.

Unless the General Assembly sets aside Bylaw 14.02 Standing Rules 1 to allow for a different meeting time, the annual meeting is the third or the fourth week of June.

Commissioners, delegates to Conventions, and visitors are encouraged to stay at the General Assembly/Convention hotel, to assure meeting the contracted room block. Hotel contracts also include a commitment on food and beverages, thus it is important for boards/agencies to continue to sponsor special meal functions. The luncheons/dinners provide opportunities for the sponsoring agencies/boards to keep the church informed about their respective programs, thus enhancing support.

### I. INFORMATION ABOUT FUTURE GENERAL ASSEMBLIES

Continued discussions with the leadership of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America regarding joint meetings of the General Assemblies in 2019 and 2020 may impact future meeting locations.

It is helpful to continue scheduling a few years in advance of the meeting to assure that adequate hotel/convention space is available and to negotiate a good rate. If a congregation or a presbytery is interested in hosting the General Assembly/Convention, the Office of the General Assembly will provide information on hosting responsibilities. Hosting the General Assembly/Convention is a service to the Church, allowing the Church to celebrate the good ministries occurring within a particular presbytery, and provides persons within a presbytery the opportunity to participate more fully in the annual meeting.

In the event that no invitation is received in a particular year or a situation arises requiring a change of venue for a particular year, the Corporate Board will be responsible for selecting a place of meeting.

The Office of the General Assembly has received an invitation from the Presbytery East Tennessee to host a future meeting of the General Assembly.

### II. SCHEDULE OF FUTURE GENERAL ASSEMBLIES

189th	Huntsville, Alabama	June 10-14, 2019
(co-hosted by Robert Donnell Presbytery and Huntsville Presbytery CPCA)		

### IV. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS BY PRESBYTERIES

The following schedule shows the annual meetings and the year that the General Assembly last met in the bounds of a particular presbytery.

Grace	2017	Red River	2004
Nashville	2016	East Tennessee	2003
Cauca Valley & Andes	2015	Covenant	2002
TN/GA	2014	del Cristo	2001
Murfreesboro	2013	Cumberland	2000
Hope & Robert Donnell	2012	Tennessee-Georgia	1998
Missouri	2011	Robert Donnell	1996
Nashville	2010	Nashville	1995
West Tennessee	2009	North Central	1980
Japan	2008	Trinity	1969
Arkansas	2007	Hope	1961
Grace	2006	Murfreesboro	1956
Columbia	2005		

Respectfully submitted,  
 Michael G. Sharpe  
 Pam Phillips Burk  
 David Lancaster

# THE REPORT OF THE UNIFIED COMMITTEE ON THEOLOGY AND SOCIAL CONCERNS

TSC/ UTF
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## I. MEETING AND OFFICERS

The Unified Committee on Theology and Social Concerns (UCTSC) met in Memphis, Tennessee on September 29-30, 2017 and by teleconference February 17, 2018. The following officers were elected during the fall meeting: Reverend Edmund Cox (CPCA) and Reverend Shelia O'Mara (CPC) Co-Chairs; and Reverend Nancy Fuqua (CPCA), Secretary.

## II. EXPIRATION OF TERMS

The Committee notes that the terms of service for Reverend Shelia O'Mara, Reverend George Estes and David Phillips-Burk all expire in 2018. Each member is eligible to be reelected. All three members have declined to serve another term.

## III. GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVE

The Committee elected Reverend Richard Morgan (CPC) to serve as the representative to the meeting of the CPC/CPCA General Assemblies in Norman, Oklahoma. Reverend Doctor Nancy Fuqua (CPCA) was elected as the alternate.

## IV. GENERAL ASSEMBLY REFERRAL

The 142nd CPCA General Assembly memorial on "Why Union" was referred to the UCTSC. The Committee believes that the theological basis for union was addressed in the paper "Reflections on A Divided Church" and the opening paragraph in the 2016 Revised Plan for Union. If additional information/response is needed the Committee suggests that the Memorial be referred to the Unification Task Force.

"There is one, holy, universal, apostolic church. She is the body of Christ, who is her Head and Lord" (*Confession of Faith* 5.01). "The church is one because her head and Lord is one, Jesus Christ. Her oneness under her Lord is manifested in the one ministry of word and sacrament, not in any uniformity of covenantal expression, organization, or system of doctrine" (5.02). "The church, as the covenant community of believers who are redeemed, includes all people in all ages, past, present, and future, who respond in faith to God's covenant of grace, and all who are unable to respond, for reasons known to God, but who are saved by his grace" (5.06). It is on this belief that the Unification Task Force recommends the union of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America (CPCA) and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church (CPC). We are one in Christ by the grace of God and the power of the Holy Spirit! We believe that becoming one will strengthen our witness as Christian believers in the world, and that together we will be able to accomplish more for the glory of God. United together in Christ by faith, we are united to one another in love. In this communion we share the grace of Christ with one another, bear one another's burdens, and reach out to all other persons (*Confession of Faith* 5.10). [Revised Plan for Union June 2016]

"We can no longer accommodate ourselves to a comfortable religion at the expense of our souls being lost by our unwillingness to act. Cumberland Presbyterians must not merely **speak** of unity but **insist** on unity. As we were reminded by Martin Luther King, Jr. 'Either we learn how to live together as brothers and sisters, or die as fools.'" [Reflections on a Divided Church]

## V. STUDY PAPERS

The Committee is currently reviewing a paper submitted by Reverend Chris Warren entitled "A Theological Statement on Inclusion of the LGBTQIA Community in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church." The Committee expects to complete its review this year for submission and recommendation to the 2019 General Assemblies.

## VI. WORKS IN PROGRESS

The UCTSC has developed guidelines for a theological/social concerns panel made up of representatives of the CPC/CPCA to address emerging issues in a more timely way. Panel responses would not have the official sanction of the CPC or CPCA, but would provide useful reflections for persons in our two churches. The Committee expects to launch the panel during 2018. Communications announcing the panel and its work will be distributed to both churches.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Unified Committee on Theology and Social Concerns

# THE REPORT OF THE UNIFICATION TASK FORCE

TSC/ UTF
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## I. MEETING AND OFFICERS

The Unification Task Force (UTF) of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America (CPCA) and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church (CPC) met once since the last meeting of the General Assemblies: April 5-6, 2018 in Nashville, Tennessee. Officers elected were Steve Mosley (CPC) and Elton Hall (CPCA), co-chairs; Craig White (CPCA) and Jay Earheart-Brown (CPC), secretaries. Other members of the UTF from the CPCA are Leon Cole, Lynne Herring, William Robinson, and Mitchell Walker. Other members of the UTF from the CPC are Perryn Rice, Robert Rush, Michael Sharpe, Gloria Villa-Diaz, and Joy Warren.

Joy Warren and Mitchell Walker were elected to serve as representatives of the Task Force to this meeting of the General Assemblies.

Pam Phillips-Burk submitted her resignation from the Task Force in early 2018. She has been a faithful and dedicated member of the Task Force, and has taken many leadership roles during her time of service. We will miss her contributions to our work.

**RECOMMENDATION 1: That the General Assembly of the CPC accept, with gratitude for her faithful service to the Unification Task Force, the resignation of Pam Phillips-Burk from the UTF.**

## II. PROPOSED PLAN OF UNION

The 2014 General Assemblies, in concurrent session at Chattanooga, Tennessee, approved for study a Proposed Plan of Union. That plan has been distributed widely across both denominations, and has generated a great deal of discussion and feedback. For almost four years the plan has been studied. We are grateful for all the responses the Task Force has received, both positive and negative. The Task Force has carefully studied the responses, from the table discussions at Chattanooga, to the surveys distributed at Presbytery meetings and on-line, to individual letters received by the GA offices and by members of the Task Force. On the basis of all the responses to the proposed plan, and several meetings attended by members of the Task Force, we voted in our November meeting not to ask for a formal vote on the plan at the 2016 meetings of the General Assembly, which would have been the earliest possible date for such a vote.

We, instead, spent significant time revising the Proposed Plan of Union, and presented it to the concurrent meetings of the two General Assemblies in 2016, with the recommendation that the revised plan be approved for study in the two churches. At the 2017 General Assemblies, meeting concurrently near Tampa, Florida, we proposed that 2017-2019 both churches devote two years to relationship building and continued study of the Plan of Union. We then suggested that the plan be put to a vote at the concurrent General Assemblies meeting in Huntsville, Alabama in June of 2019. If approved by both Assemblies, the Plan of Union would be sent to the Presbyteries of both churches for approval of the Plan between the 2019 and 2020 Assemblies. If approved by a majority of Presbyteries of both churches, the 2020 Assemblies would meet briefly to finalize their business, adjourn sine die, and organize the new Assembly of the United Church.

While we do not know what the outcome of such a vote at next year's assemblies will be, we on the Task Force are convinced that the time is right for both churches to decide if we are ready to move forward with our union or not. If now is not the time, then we do not need to continue the work of the Task Force at the present, but put our energies into our cooperating when and where we can as brothers and sisters in Christ. It is our sincere desire as members of the Task Force to see this union happen, and we have been deeply enriched by our work together on this project for the past six years. But ultimately it is the churches who must decide this matter.

We urge the commissioners to the 2018 General Assemblies to read the Plan carefully and make any proposed amendments the Assemblies would like to see incorporated into the plan this year, so that the Task Force will have time to incorporate those changes before next year's vote. Of course, the 2019 Assemblies will have the opportunity to amend the Plan before approving it, but amendments made next year will have to be dealt with in a well-structured manner in order to receive consideration by both Assemblies.

At our April meeting, we decided to write, with consultation from our attorneys, draft Bylaws, Standing Rules, and Constitutional Amendments that will be circulated to both churches prior to the vote in 2019, so that there are as few details left hanging as possible. We hope to have those documents ready to distribute at least two months prior to the 2019 General Assembly meetings, so that commissioners and others will have ample time to study them prior to the vote.

With thanksgiving to God for the relationships we have developed as we have worked together for the past six years, and in hopes that all Cumberland Presbyterians may one day live and work together in one church, the UTF submits the following Proposed Plan of Union.

### **Proposed Plan for Union of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America**

“There is one, holy, universal, apostolic church. She is the body of Christ, who is her Head and Lord” (*Confession of Faith* 5.01). “The church is one because her head and Lord is one, Jesus Christ. Her oneness under her Lord is manifested in the one ministry of word and sacrament, not in any uniformity of covenantal expression, organization, or system of doctrine” (5.02). “The church, as the covenant community of believers who are redeemed, includes all people in all ages, past, present, and future, who respond in faith to God’s covenant of grace, and all who are unable to respond, for reasons known to God, but who are saved by his grace” (5.06). It is on this belief that the Unification Task Force recommends the union of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America (CPCA) and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church (CPC). We are one in Christ by the grace of God and the power of the Holy Spirit! We believe that becoming one will strengthen our witness as Christian believers in the world, and that together we will be able to accomplish more for the glory of God. United together in Christ by faith, we are united to one another in love. In this communion we share the grace of Christ with one another, bear one another’s burdens, and reach out to all other persons (*Confession of Faith* 5.10).

#### **1.00 Mission Statement for the New Church**

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church United affirms the great commission of Christ: “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, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember I am with you until the end of the age” (Matthew 28:19-20). We celebrate our oneness in faith. As disciples, we seek through worship, global witness, and service to be the hands and feet of Christ and to live out the love of Jesus Christ to the glory of God.

#### **2.00 The Confession of Faith and Government**

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church United will use the *Confession of Faith and Government* of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, approved by both General Assemblies of the former denominations in 1984 as its system of faith and government.

*NOTE: It should be noted that in the Constitution (4.6, 5.6p) the CPC allows for a session to request permission from Presbytery for a designated elder to be trained and granted permission to serve communion for a one year period of time. This is an exception, NOT A RULE for general practice, for those presbyteries that have difficulty supplying each church with an ordained minister. The responsibility lies with presbytery for proper training and oversight of the designated elder. Again, is this an EXCEPTION. No presbytery is required to apply this exception.*

**2.01** The Cumberland Presbyterian Church United will use the *Catechism for Cumberland Presbyterians* (2008) for instruction in the faith and will include it in an updated edition of the *Confession of Faith and Government of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church United*.

**2.02** The CP *Digest* (CPC) and Summaries of Actions (for both denominations) will continue to serve as resource tools. A new *Digest* will begin with the formation of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church United.

#### **3.00 The Presbyteries and Synods**

3.01 In an effort to make union something more than just an idea on paper, and to engage the grassroots in creating the new church, we recommend a restructure of the synod boundaries to create eight synods for the new church, with the following presbyteries in each –

<b>Synod A*</b>	<b>Synod B*</b>	<b>Synod C</b>	<b>Synod D</b>
Brazos River	Angelina	Covenant	Cleveland, Ohio
Del Christo	Arkansas	Missouri	Cumberland
Red River	Choctaw	New Hopewell	North Central
Hong Kong	East Texas	Purchase	Ohio Valley
Japan	Trinity	West Tennessee	
	Andes		
	Cauca Valley		

<b>Synod E</b>	<b>Synod F</b>	<b>Synod G</b>	<b>Synod H</b>
Columbia	East Tennessee	Florence	Birmingham
Elk River	Hiawassee	Hope	Grace
Murfreesboro	Tennessee-Georgia	Huntsville	South Alabama
Nashville	East Coast Korean	Robert Donnell	Tuscaloosa
	Tennessee Valley		

For relationship building during the first six years, all synods will be encouraged to hold an annual general meeting (*Constitution 8.2*) as opposed to a delegated meeting. Synods may petition General Assembly at any point for a change in boundaries.

*\* NOTE: There are plans for organizing a new presbytery in Central and/or South America in the near future, as well as dreams for organizing a third presbytery in Asia. As soon as it is practical to do so, whether before or after union, two additional synods should be constituted. Synod I would include Andes, Cauca Valley, and any other presbyteries organized in Latin America. Synod J would include Hong Kong, Japan, and any other presbyteries organized in Asia.*

**3.02** Presbyteries will remain as they are constituted at the time of union. During the first six years of the new church's life, synods will be encouraged to study the most beneficial presbyterial boundaries within their jurisdiction to fulfill of the mission of the church. Presbyteries may petition their synod at any time for a change in boundaries.

#### **4.00 Commissioners and Youth Advisory Delegates to the General Assembly**

##### **4.01 Commissioners to the General Assembly**

Each Presbytery will be entitled to send 2 minister commissioners and 2 elder commissioners to the General Assembly.

*NOTE: If presbytery boundaries remain as currently constituted at the time of unification, this will allow for a total possible membership in the General Assembly of 152 commissioners. Of these potential commissioners, 60 would come from former presbyteries of the CPCA, and 92 would come from the former CPC.*

##### **4.02 Youth Advisory Delegates**

Each presbytery will be entitled to send up to two Youth Advisory delegates to the General Assembly.

#### **5.00 Moderator and Vice Moderator of General Assembly**

**5.01** The moderator/vice moderator will be elected each year during the first six years with the two offices alternating between persons from the two former denominations.

**5.02** The moderator and vice moderator of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church United will reflect its diverse nature, to include international representatives. The church expects the moderator and vice moderator to travel within the denomination, sharing and gathering information among its local churches. Expenses and particular duties will be detailed in the Standing Rules of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church United.

#### **6.00 Stated Clerk and Associate Stated Clerk of the General Assembly**

**6.01** The new church shall employ a Stated Clerk and an Associate Stated Clerk. Both positions will be full-time jobs. During the first six years of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church United, the Stated Clerk will serve six years and the Associate Stated Clerk will serve four years, after which each would be elected for a four-year period. One position will be filled by a former CPCA and the other position filled by a former CPC during their first terms. The subsequent election of each position will allow for continuity during transitions. Particular duties and responsibilities of the Stated Clerk and Associate Stated Clerk will be detailed in the Standing Rules of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church United.

#### **7.00 Boards and Agencies of the General Assembly**

**7.01** Each church has programs in various stages of planning and implementation that are the result of commitment to ministry through the church. Insofar as possible, these plans and programs will be continued without interruption for a period of three years. The Cumberland Presbyterian Church has covenantal relationships with the Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home in Denton, Texas and Bethel University in McKenzie, Tennessee. These covenantal relationships will remain in effect as they exist at the time of Unification, to be renewed every four years. The Cumberland Presbyterian Church United will continue ecumenical partnerships, such as with the World Communion of Reformed Churches.

### **7.02 Institutional Boards**

The General Assembly shall have the following institutional boards: Trustees of Memphis Theological Seminary to include the Program of Alternate Studies and School of Continuing Education Committee, and Trustees of the Historical Foundation. Representation on each Board of Trustees will remain as they are constituted at the time of union.

### **7.03 Administrative Boards**

The General Assembly shall have the following administrative Boards: The Board of Stewardship, Foundation and Benefits and The Board of Directors of the General Assembly Corporation. During the transition period, each of these boards will have equal number of members from each of the former denominations.

### **7.04 Commission**

The General Assembly shall have the following commission: Chaplains and Military Personnel. Representation on the commission will be merged as they are constituted at the time of union until natural rotation occurs.

### **7.05 Standing Committees**

The General Assembly shall have the following standing committees: Theology and Social Concerns, Judiciary, Our United Outreach, Nominating, and Multi-Cultural Ministry.

Committee representation on the Theology and Social Concerns Committee will remain as constituted at the time of union until natural rotations occurs.

Judiciary and Nominating committees in both denominations will each be merged at the time of union.

Committee representation for Our United Outreach will be expanded to include two elected representatives from each new synod (one voting representative from each of the former denominations until natural rotation occurs).

The Committee on Multi-Cultural Ministry is a new committee that will reflect the diversity of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church United. This committee will be comprised of eight (8) elected persons that will reflect the celebrative understanding of humanity in the areas of culture, language, heritage, and experience in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church United. Believing that all have been created in God's image, this committee works to answer the question of our sameness in God's image lived out in diverse ways.

**7.06** The Cumberland Presbyterian Church United will have a Mission Programming Agency to provide coordination and oversight for those ministries formally planned and implemented by the two former denominations. After the three-year period, the new programming and denominational structure will consist of the following ministries and entities –

- Christian Education & Nurture (Youth Convention & National Sunday School Convention)
- Missions (Evangelism, Missionary Auxiliary, Women's Ministry)
- Clergy Care & Development
- Communications (Cumberland Flag, Cumberland Presbyterian Magazine, Missionary Messenger, website)

Composition of each ministry entity will include equal number of persons from each of the former denominations in the new church at the time of union. Composition of the new Mission Programming Agency will include one staff person and one elected member from each ministry entity, along with one elected member representing each of the synods. The elected members will be equally representative of the two former denominations for the first six years. A Ministry Coordinator would provide executive leadership for the Mission Programming Agency.

### **8.00 Denominational Staff & Personnel**

Currently, the CPCA employs two full time staff members; the CPC employs twenty-five staff members.

**8.01** The new organizational structure will discontinue the positions of Administrative Director (CPCA) and the Director of Ministries (CPC) and will create the positions of Associate Stated Clerk and Ministry Coordinator. The Stated Clerk and Associate Stated Clerk will be elected during the General Assembly of 2018. The Implementation Task Force will make recommendations to the 2018 Assembly about the transition in staffing to be complete by the 2019 Assembly. The Ministry Coordinator will be employed by the Mission Programming Agency.

**8.02** Staffing for the Cumberland Presbyterian Church United will reflect the diversity of the new church. As new staff positions become available, equal opportunity employment practices will prevail.



### **8.03 Denominational Offices**

During the first six years, steps are to be taken to assure that regional sites be located in a minimum of three and a maximum of five locations. Thus, neither the Center in Huntsville nor the Center in Memphis will be designated as “the denominational center.” By placing regional sites in a variety of locations this will assure that all areas of the church will be served equally. These regional sites can make use of offices in existing churches, or in homes of regional staff persons. Possible regional locations could be Memphis, Huntsville, Louisville, Texas, South America, Asia, etc.

### **8.04 Global Staff**

There will be endorsed missionaries and partner missionaries in the new church. The new church will continue to support current and future missionaries and global work. Current missionaries include – Beth Wallace (Colombia, SA), Glenn Watts (Hong Kong), Anay Ortega (Guatemala), Phanor & Socorro Pejendino (Guatemala), Daniel & Kay Jang (Philippines), Kenneth & Delight Hopson (Uganda), Lawrence and Loretta Fung (Asian ministry USA), Carlos and Luz Dary Rivera (Mexico), Missionaries in undisclosed (6), CP missionaries supported by their presbyteries – Iwao Satoh and Keishi and Kazuko Ishitsuka

### **9.00 Stewardship and Finance**

**9.01** Legal control of assets of both churches will be transferred to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church United through appropriate legal transaction. The intent of all designated gifts and endowments will be honored.

**9.02** The Cumberland Presbyterian Church United will develop an approach to the financing of the programs of the church that reflects the stewardship understanding of the new constituency. Such a unitary approach will be developed as soon as possible after formation and no later than the end of the first six years.

### **10.00 Recognition of Ordination**

All ordinations, both clergy and lay (elders and deacons), of both denominations will be recognized by the Cumberland Presbyterian Church United. All future ordinations will be governed by the conditions specified in the Constitution. Persons who are recognized by their respective presbyteries as candidates and licentiates at the time the new church is formed will fulfill the requirements as specified by presbytery at the time they became probationers.

### **11.00 The Name of the New Denomination**

The name of the denomination shall be the Cumberland Presbyterian Church United.

### **12.00 The Logo of the New Church**

A new logo will be fashioned by the new church.

## **III. DETAILED TIMELINE FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE PLAN OF UNION**

- **2018 General Assemblies** – Meeting concurrently in Norman, Oklahoma, the assemblies propose any changes to the Plan of Union that will need to be incorporated before the vote at the two General Assemblies in 2019.

- **2018-2019** – The Task Force makes final revisions to the Plan of Union, writes Draft Bylaws, Standing Rules, and Constitutional amendments based on the final version of the Plan to be distributed for study in April 2019.

- **2019** – Meeting concurrently in Huntsville, Alabama, the two assemblies vote on approving the Plan of Union, Bylaws, Standing Rules, and Constitutional Amendments, pending approval of a majority of presbyteries of the two churches. Any Constitutional amendments are sent to the Joint Committee on Amendments for review and preparation of final wording.

- **2019-2020** – If approved by a majority of both assemblies, the Plan is sent to the Presbyteries of both churches for approval.

- **2020** – The two Assemblies, meeting concurrently, announce the vote of their Presbyteries, and if approved by a majority of both, vote on final approval of Bylaws and Standing Rules for the General Assembly of the new church (2/3 vote of approval necessary). Constitutional amendments reviewed and prepared by the Joint Committee on Amendments are approved (3/4 vote of approval necessary to refer amendments to Presbyteries for approval, and 3/4 of presbyteries, voting by simple majority, needed to approve amendments). If both assemblies approve Bylaws, the two assemblies vote to adjourn sine die, and immediately meet to organize the new Assembly of the united Church. The Unification Task Force is

dismissed, and an Implementation Task Force is elected to guide the transition for the first few years to the new denomination.

**RECOMMENDATION 2: That the General Assemblies of the CPCA and CPC approve the proposed timeline for action.**

#### IV. COOPERATIVE WORK

The Task Force continues to be encouraged by cooperative work being done in many areas of our two denominations. At the General Assembly level, both churches cooperate in the work of the Historical Foundation, the Unified Committee on Theology and Social Concerns, the Cumberland Presbyterian Youth Conference and Presbyterian Youth Triennium, and the Presbyterian Council for Chaplains and Military Personnel. At the local and presbyterial levels, we continue to receive good reports from joint programs of camping and youth events, revivals, Vacation Bible Schools, joint worship and community meals. We encourage persons engaged in joint ministries to report those events to the Cumberland Presbyterian magazine, and on the Facebook page of the Unification Task Force.

The UTF will make available at its display table during the week of General Assembly a list of suggested activities that individuals and churches can try in their local areas, along with other materials to help promote the work of unification. All commissioners and visitors to the meeting of GA are encouraged to make use of these resources.

We are grateful for many volunteers who have worked as Unification Advocates, organizing joint meetings, praying for the work of Unification, and promoting deeper relationships between members of our two churches.

#### V. UNIFICATION SUNDAY

The 2017 General Assembly approved Unification Sunday as an official event on the calendars of our two churches. In 2018, that observation was scheduled for the fourth Sunday of June (June 24, 2018).

**RECOMMENDATION 3: That the fourth Sunday in June 2019 be recognized in the CPC and the CPCA as Unification Sunday, and that all churches be encouraged to pray for our unity in Jesus Christ, and for discernment as we seek to express our unity more fully in the future.**

#### VI. FINANCIAL REPORT

Our United Outreach Income in 2017:		\$35,000.00
Expenditures in 2017:		
• Committee Expense	\$ 6,514.63	
• 2017 GA Expense	\$ 2,431.07	
• Communications/Printing	\$ 3,401.00	
• Legal Fees	<u>\$ 405.60</u>	
	\$12,752.30	
Total Fund Balance as of 12/31/17:		\$22,247.70

Note the balance of any funds not used by the Unification Task Force is held in an Investment Loan Account with the denominational Board of Stewardship and will be applied to any future costs associated with unification (e.g. legal fees).

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Unification Task Force  
 Steve Mosley and Elton Hall, co-chairs

## THE REPORT OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BETHEL UNIVERSITY

HE/ CPCH
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The Bethel University Board of Trustees is honored again to be able to report to the 2018 General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Bethel University is now in its 176th year of existence and is the only university of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Our heritage has been rich and we are prayerfully hopeful for our future. We value our Cumberland Presbyterian connections as we move forward.

Our current Board of Trustee officers are as follows: Judge Ben Cantrell, Chair; Bill Dobbins, Vice-Chair; and Jeff Amrein, Secretary.

Bethel University in our covenant relationship with the General Assembly Corporation of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church has committed to no less than a majority of its total membership be active members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Today, our Board of Trustees has 20 members of which 13 are active members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and 2 are active members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America.

The current Bethel University Board of Trustees are: Ben Cantrell, Nashville, Tennessee; Bill Dobbins, Nashville, Tennessee; Jeff Amrein, Prospect, Kentucky; Charlie Garrett, Jackson, Tennessee; Reverend Elton C. Hall, Sr., Hewitt, Texas.; Dewana Latimer, Jackson, Tennessee; Doctor Ray Morris, Norcross, Georgia.; Steve Perryman, Rogersville, Missouri; Scott Conger, Jackson, Tennessee; Doctor Army Daniel, Huntsville, Alabama.; Doctor Robert Low, Springfield, Missouri; Doctor Brock Martin, Huntingdon, Tennessee; Doctor Nancy Bean, McKenzie, Tennessee; Lisa Cole, Nashville, Tennessee; Chet Dickson, Houston, Texas; Reverend Nancy McSpadden, Memphis, Tennessee; Doctor Ed Perkins, McKenzie, Tennessee; Ken Quinton, Sturgis, Kentucky; Tommy Surber, McKenzie, Tennessee; and Reverend Robert Watkins, Sun City, Arizona.

Since the General Assembly met in 2017 at Palm Harbor, Florida, our Board of Trustees have met on November 10-11, 2017, and April 6-7, 2018. Our next scheduled meeting will be July 20-11, 2018 in McKenzie, Tennessee. At this July meeting, we will set our budget for the fiscal year of August 1, 2018 to July 31, 2019.

With this report we have enclosed our Fiscal Year Audit for the ending date of July 31, 2017. Bethel University had another balanced budget (5th in a row) of \$447,929.00.

Yearly the Board of Trustees sets and approves the University's budget, selects its audit firm and receives the audit presentation every November, approves or rejects any new capital expenditures, reviews the mission of the University, approves policies, assesses the performance of the President and the Board among its many responsibilities.

The Board of Trustee members serve on various committees that include the: Executive Committee; Missions; Strategic Planning and Development Committee; Policy Committee; Finance and Budgeting Committee; Investment Committee; Committee on Trustees; and the By-Laws Committee.

At the 2017 meeting of the General Assembly we had just found out that our accrediting agency, SACSCOC, had removed us from probation for one item – the definition of online credit hours. We were able to satisfy SACSCOC in the shortest time possibly of 6 months.

We also reported last year that the Tennessee Board of Education in July, 2016, said they were removing Bethel University's ability to license teacher candidates. We felt this was unjust and carried it to Chancery Court in Davidson County, Tennessee. On June 13, 2017, Bethel presented its case and the Chancery Court ruled in Bethel's favor and overturned the Tennessee State Board of Education's decision. The State of Tennessee did appeal the decision to the middle Tennessee Court of Appeals and that case was heard on February 13, 2018. As of this writing, a decision has not been rendered, but Bethel University is able to grant licensure for qualified teacher applicants during the appeal.

2018 marks the year for our current reaccreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). Every 10 years schools in the SACSCOC jurisdiction must be examined and thoroughly vetted. Our official visit was in March and we will get the results in December of 2018. We are very optimistic.

This 2017-2018 school year has been another success for us. Our August 2017, December 2017 and May 2018 graduates watched 1,064 students walk across the stage and receive a Bethel University diploma.

U.S. News and World Reports recognized Bethel University as one of the five fastest growing private universities from 2000-2015.

Bethel University's fall enrollment 2016-2017 was 5513. That number includes both graduate and undergraduate enrollment.

Bethel University employs approximately 530 staff and faculty and is the second largest employer in Carroll County, Tennessee.

Our athletic teams have again received the highest possible ranking in the NAIA Champions of Character competition. This ranking included student grades, students and coach's public service work and other categories not related to wins and losses. We are in a very elite group for this honor.

Whether in the classroom, at plays, at concerts, or with the adult learner, Bethel University continues to be a leader in higher education.

Now in our 176th year, it is important to remember our Cumberland Presbyterian heritage that dates back to 1842 in McLemoresville, Tennessee. Bethel University treasures its Cumberland Presbyterian Heritage and its covenant relationship with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

We hope you will continue to pray for us and send us prospective high school students and possible adult online learners.

**RECOMMENDATION 1: That the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church encourage churches and individuals to pray for Bethel University and send names of prospective students (both high schoolers and adults) to Bethel University.**

The current Administration is:

President – Doctor Walter Butler

Vice President for Finance – Doctor David Huss

Vice President for Development – Doctor Dale Henry

Vice President for College of Arts and Sciences – Ms. Cindy Mallard

Vice President for College of Professional Studies – Doctor Kimberly Martin

Vice President for Health Sciences – Doctor Joe Hames

Chief Academic Officer – Doctor Phyllis Campbell

Special Assistant to President for Strategic Initiatives – Ms. Michelle Mitchell

Finally, it has been an honor this year to have one of our very own faculty, Doctor David Lancaster, to serve as the Moderator of the General Assembly. Dr. Lancaster represents all that is good and great at Bethel University.

# THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHILDREN’S HOME



## Introduction

Because of the life-giving grace through Jesus Christ, we at Cumberland Presbyterian Children’s Home serve God by serving others. We accept individuals as they are and help them through their journey. We build relationships with those we serve through strength-based love and support. We want our children and families to be empowered as we strive to achieve excellence through our mission work. Our mission statement is:

*In response to Christ’s love and example,  
we serve children and families  
by providing healing and hope.*

Cumberland Presbyterian Children’s Home (CPCH) was established in 1904. Our ministry has continually focused on serving children and families for over 114 years. We use our guiding principles of faith, acceptance, care, and excellence in all we do at CPCH.

## I. OUR GOAL

Our goal is for children to be protected and live free from abuse and neglect while healing from the devastating impacts of past trauma. We do this by providing safe residential care to youth in foster care, so they flourish in a safe place. Our goal is for single parent families who are experiencing crisis to find a new beginning and works towards independence and healing for their family. We do this by providing a transitional housing program while they receive case management and supportive resources to help rebuild their lives. Our goal is to offer an affordable mental health counseling clinic that serves individuals, couples, families, and children. We do this by operating a mental health counseling clinic that is affordable. Our goal is to engage our community by having a flourishing volunteer program and welcoming environment for all who support us in our mission. We do this by building relationships with our community partners and individuals who wish to make a difference in the lives of children and families. We serve to bring ourselves and others closer to God.

## II. OUR VALUES

Our values of protection, preparation, prevention, education, and leadership provide a framework for our program design and are the building blocks for how we operate our ministry. The design of our programming allows us to help and support clients on a continuum; this allows us to meet clients where they are at and helps us serve a wide range of concerns and issues. This diagram is an example of our various services help clients on the continuum of our foundation values.

Continuum of Care Model



We created the Continuum of Care Model to help clients through a variety of situations and challenges. For example, we assess a family in crisis and based on our model they could be best served by taking a one of our parent education courses or they could be best served by living in our transitional housing program. Both quality interventions, but the needs of the of family varies based on the crisis the family is facing. We provide services to clients depending on their presenting needs. Providing these services places us in a unique leadership position to educate regarding the various needs and challenges faced by those we serve. The stronger our programs are; the more people we help.

### III. OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND GOVERNANCE

CPCH is a non-profit and tax exempt under IRS Code section 501(c)(3). Our board has 18 trustees and they meet twice per year in February and September. Ten of those seats must be filled by members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church or the Cumberland Presbyterian Church of America.

### IV. OUR CURRENT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chair - Mr. Richard Dean  
 Chair Emeritus - Mrs. Kay Goodman  
 Vice Chair - Mrs. Patricia Long  
 Secretary and Program Committee Chair - Rev. Joyce Merritt

Mr. Pete Carter	Rev. Melissa Knight	Rev. Dr. Perryn Rice
Rev. Duane Dougherty	Mr. Cameron Marone	Mr. Jay Thomas
Mrs. Carolyn Harmon	Mr. Brian Martin	Mrs. Guin Tyus
Mr. Charlie Harris	Mr. Knight Miller	

### V. FINANCIALS

Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home depends on denominational support, OOU, donations, grants, planned giving, investments, fee for service revenue, and endowments to operate. Relationships with our donors are essential to growing and expanding our relationships to others who wish to be involved with our mission. We need your support. We need monetary donations, gifts in kind, and benefit from annual and legacy giving. Our goal is to provide the best care and the best environment for our children and families. The following is the breakdown in revenue received in these key categories.

Based on our annual audit, in 2016 CPCH received the following in donations and revenue for our home.

- Donations, Denominational Support, Grants, and Investment Revenue 71%
- Children's Residential and Emergency Care Services, CPS Revenue 25%
- Cumberland Family Services Counseling Clinic Revenue 3%
- Single Parent Family Transitional Housing Program Revenue 1%

In 2018, CPCH is working hard to decrease costs and ensure we are being good stewards of the donations and support we have received throughout our history. Continued giving allows us to fulfill our mission and build our endowment so CPCH's legacy continues to flourish. Cumberland spends approximately 87% of all revenue on our children and families. The small reminder is spent on administrative and fundraising costs.

### VI. OUR SUCCESSES

CPCH has thousands of success stories over the course of our history. Annually, we serve approximately 150 children in our foster care programs and over 30 children and families in our transitional housing program. We serve hundreds of clients a year in our counseling clinic. We also have a growing volunteer base filled with individuals from churches, business organizations, educational institutes, and our community who wish to become involved in our ministry.

Our goal is for families to be healthy. One story of mother who worked hard to be reunited with her child is one that comes to mind as one of the biggest successes we were able to witness this past year. Christina, a single mother to a beautiful young 3 year old, has been sober for over one year and will be graduating from our program later this summer. Before coming to us, she had her child removed from her

care by Child Protective Services when she was in a domestic violent relationship and struggling with her addiction. Through hard work and determination, she worked on her sobriety and was able to receive her toddler back into her care and move into our program. She was the first to graduate from our local drug court and is flourishing in our program. This is just one example of a family situation that we can help and support. Just one of our multiple success stories with a bright future.

A teenager in our care who has been living with us for approximately two years is going to be adopted by one of her teachers who she had a strong connection with in high school. This child came to us from a residential treatment center and she was challenging and defiant. Through our dedication and relationship building, she has learned how to use healthy coping skills and end her self-destructive tendencies that kept her down. This beautiful young woman was able to find success from the love and support she has at CPCH.

## **VII. OUR MISSION**

Our mission helps others in crisis and we focus on helping them through life's most difficult challenges. Our counseling program specializes in treating trauma as healing from trauma is the gateway to finding a new-found sense of purpose and recovery. It is not often that you meet someone who has not been touched or impacted by issues related to mental health. We help clients through affordable mental health counseling, so counseling is affordable to everyone; just as it should be.

## **VIII. OUR STAFF**

Our staff is passionate about the work they do. We work each day to carry out the mission that God has called us to do. We invite everyone to come and visit. Come and join us in our work so that we can make a difference in the lives of others together. We want to continue to share the news about the amazing work we do at Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home. Thank you for making the lives of those we serve better and fulfilled. Thank you to our staff, our board, our donors, our supporters, and our friends. Please keep the Children's Home close in your prayers.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dr. Jennifer Livings, LPC-S  
Interim President

## THE REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON AMENDMENTS

J

The Joint Committee on Amendments met February 16, 2018, in Huntsville, Alabama. Representing the CPCA were Willie Cowan and Vanessa Midgett. Representing the CPC were Pam Brown and Jan Overton. Also present were Craig White (Stated Clerk, CPCA), Mike Sharpe (Stated Clerk, CPC), Jaime Jordan (legal counsel, CPC), and Andy McClung (secretary).

### I. PROPOSED AMENDMENT, JUDICATORY REPRESENTATION, CPCA

The Board of Judiciary of the CPCA will be proposing to the 2018 CPCA General Assembly an amendment to Constitution 5.4 and 8.2. The proposed change makes the representation formula for delegates to presbytery and synod consistent with the representation formula for delegates to General Assembly (9.2). If ratified, this amendment would affect only the CPCA.

### II. UNION CPCA/CPC CHURCHES

This committee celebrates the possibility of union congregations being established by the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America (CPCA) and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church (CPC). The stated clerk CPC and the administrative director CPCA will develop a step-by-step guide for the use of presbyteries in organizing or receiving such union churches.

### III. PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

The CPC representatives shared with the CPCA representatives of this committee the proposed constitutional amendments included in the Report of the Permanent Judiciary Committee. Because we share the Constitution, these amendments will go before the CPCA General Assembly as well.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Joint Committee on Amendments



## RESOLUTION

MC

**I. RESOLUTION FROM ARKANSAS PRESBYTERY  
REGARDING THE MISSION AND PURPOSE  
OF THE ENCOUNTER PUBLICATION**

WHEREAS the Cumberland Presbyterian Church is founded on the teachings of Jesus Christ as expressed in Scripture and the Cumberland Presbyterian Confession of Faith.

WHEREAS the Encounter is a publication of the Cumberland Presbyterian and as such is considered as expressing the beliefs of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

WHEREAS the Encounter is in the position to influence Christians in their understanding of scripture and belief, and thus this position places its writers in a position of authority to speak on scripture and belief.

WHEREAS the writers of the Encounter Publications have at times spoken from this position of authority in ways that might be considered as expressing views that are not supported in the *Confession of Faith*.

WHEREAS in these writings, the author's may have had the desire to promote thought, they in turn failed to express the point of view found within the *Confession of Faith*. Such a failure never gave the readers the opportunity to think about the Cumberland Presbyterian View Point. The omission could be troubling because the writers are speaking from a position of authority.

For many churches in Arkansas Presbytery, the most recent examples became quite troubling, as they see the Encounter Publication as a Cumberland Presbyterian Publication. These examples are listed below.

On page 16 of the June, July, August, 2017 *Encounter* has the following quote:

*“For Christians, Jesus is the supreme example of loving kindness. To affirm this belief does not lessen the role of Moses for Judaism, Mohammed for Islam, or Buddha for Buddhism. It does not deny the positive influence of other important religious teachers. Buddha said often, “My religion is kindness.” When anyone relates to the God of creative possibilities, transformation occurs, bringing harmony and peace. Gathering around the gentle teachings that are present in all religions offers a pathway to peace in our global, pluralistic age.”*

WHEREAS on page 17 of the June, July, August, 2017 *Encounter* has the following quote:

*“Human kindness when grounded in the kindness of God revealed in Jesus’ teachings and empowered by God’s Spirit is a healing force for good. This healing kindness is also found in the teachings of Buddha.”*

WHEREAS the above two quotes may appear to elevate the teachings of Buddha and Islam to an equal position of Christ, and also as a way of salvation separate from that of Christ. If we are all kind, however we come to that kindness, then we are doing what God asks us to do, and thus we all find ourselves in a relationship with God.

There may be issues of interpretation and intent with these scriptures, but such interpretation and intent would have been unnecessary if a reference would have been made to our *Confession of Faith*.

Our *Confession of Faith* states in

3.07, “God’s mighty act of reconciling love was accomplished in Jesus Christ, the divine Son who became flesh to be the means by which the sins of the world are forgiven.”

4.10, “When persons repent of sin and in faith embrace God’s salvation, they receive forgiveness for their sin and experience acceptance as God’s children.

5.29, “Growth is natural to the church’s life. The church is called into being and exists to reach out to those who have not experienced God’s grace in Christ, and to nourish them with all the means of grace.”

5:30, “In carrying out the apostolic commission, the covenant community has encountered and continues to encounter people who belong to religions which do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord. While respecting persons who adhere to other religions, Christians are responsible to share with them the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ.”

As Cumberland Presbyterians the “Who So Ever Will” doctrine is central to our faith, understanding, and practice as Cumberland Presbyterians. John 3:16-17 KJV states: *“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that that the world through Him might be saved.”*

It is with a want for understanding of the Mission and Purpose of the Encounter Publication that Arkansas Presbytery petitions the 2018 General Assembly to take the following action.

Arkansas Presbytery petitions the 2018 General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church to form a Committee to study the mission and purpose of the Encounter Publication in an effort to determine if this publication of the Cumberland Presbyterian is promoting a theology and understanding that supports and upholds our Confession of Faith. In an effort to gather this information the Committee will be asked to review the Adult Encounter Publications for the last 3 years. In this endeavor the Committee will also be instructed to study the subscription list of the Encounter Publication to determine how many of the Cumberland Presbyterian Churches listed in the Yearbook, subscribe to the Encounter. The Committee will also be instructed to inquire of at least 50% of the Cumberland Presbyterian Churches that do not scribe to the Encounter Material, as to why they do not.

After the Committee has completed its task, it will prepare a report to be presented at General Assembly in 2019 that includes all the information that it was asked to gather.

Respectfully submitted;  
Reverend Alan Meinzer, Arkansas Presbytery  
Reverend Gordon Warren, Arkansas Presbytery  
Reverend Jo Warren, Arkansas Presbytery

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENCIES

S/E

### I. OFFICE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

A. GENERAL ASSEMBLY OFFICE	Revised 2018	Proposed 2019
<b>INCOME</b>		
Our United Outreach	\$211,836	\$197,836
Endowments/Interest	20,000	20,000
Interest on Cash Funds Management	2,500	2,500
Sales of yearbook/digest	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b><u>\$236,336</u></b>	<b><u>\$222,336</u></b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>		
<b>ECUMENICAL RELATIONS</b>		
World Communion of Reformed Churches	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
CANAAC	2,000	2,000
Ecumenical Travel	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>
Sub-Total	<u>\$ 9,000</u>	<u>\$ 9,000</u>
<b>LIAISON WITH CHURCH</b>		
General Assembly Meeting	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Preliminary Minutes	5,000	5,000
GA Minutes/Mailing	500	500
Yearbook/Mailing	2,500	2,500
Travel/Moderator	8,500	8,500
Travel/Stated Clerk & Staff	<u>8,500</u>	<u>8,500</u>
Sub-Total	<u>\$ 35,000</u>	<u>\$ 35,000</u>
<b>OFFICE</b>		
Computer Supplies	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
Equipment/Supplies	2,500	2,500
Postage	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>
Sub-Total	<u>\$ 6,500</u>	<u>\$ 6,500</u>
<b>PERSONNEL</b>		
Salaries/Housing	\$139,420	\$139,420
FICA (Asst to Stated Clerk)	4,300	4,300
Retirement	6,800	6,800
Health Insurance	30,000	30,000
Disability Insurance/Worker's Compensation	<u>800</u>	<u>800</u>
Sub-Total	<u>\$181,320</u>	<u>\$181,320</u>
<b>STATED CLERK'S CONFERENCE/BOARD EXPENSE</b>		
Legal Fees / Clerk's Conference	\$ 1,963	\$ 1,963
Corporate Board Expense	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>
Sub-Total	<u>\$ 3,963</u>	<u>\$ 3,963</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b><u>\$235,783</u></b>	<b><u>\$235,783</u></b>
From Reserves	\$ 553	\$ 13,447
<b>B. GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES</b>		
<b>INCOME</b>		
Contingency	\$ 13,240	\$ 12,365
Nominating Committee	2,966	2,770
Commission on Chaplains	10,247	9,570
Judiciary Committee	9,965	9,026
Theology and Social Concerns Committee	3,601	3,363
Our United Outreach Committee	<u>92,044</u>	<u>92,044</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b><u>\$132,065</u></b>	<b><u>\$129,138</u></b>

	Revised 2018	Proposed 2019
<b>EXPENSE</b>		
Contingency	\$ 13,2400	\$ 12,365
Nominating Committee	2,966	2,770
Commission on Chaplains	10,247	9,570
Judiciary Committee	9,965	9,026
Theology and Social Concerns Committee	3,601	3,363
Our United Outreach Committee	<u>92,044</u>	<u>92,044</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b><u>\$132,065</u></b>	<b><u>\$129,138</u></b>

## II. MINISTRY COUNCIL

<b>INCOME</b>		
Endowments	\$ 0	\$ 15,000
Grants	\$ 0	\$ 1,800
ILP Transfers		
MMT Budget Reserve Fund: out ILP	569,264	602,868
DMT Contingency Fund: in Wells Fargo	43,662	44,062
DMT Leader Development: out ILP	0	1,852
DMT Revolving Publication Fund: out ILP	4,000	7,500
CMT: out ILP	996	996
Contributions/Gifts		
Teacher of the Year	0	0
Patron Membership (DMT)	0	0
Christian Education Season Offering	0	0
DMT - General	3,100	2,889
MC - General	5,900	3,431
Our United Outreach		
OUO Income	1,053,642	1,104,837
In lieu of Our United Outreach	6,720	6,720
Birthplace Shrine Chaplaincy	3,750	3,750
Children's Fest	9,750	9,900
Clergy Crisis	6,000	6,000
CP Magazine Subscriptions	30,000	30,000
Cumberland Presbyterians Resources	69,360	69,360
CPWM		
Convention	8,000	8,000
Convention Offering	250	250
General	3,000	3,000
Sales Merchandise	700	700
CPYC	98,165	98,165
Discipleship Blueprints	2,400	2,400
Encounter	105,640	105,640
Family Week: Brochure Fees	150	0

	Revised 2018	Proposed 2019
Family Week: Brochure Fees	\$ 150	\$ 0
Global Missions Interns and Consultants: out ILP	0	0
Kaleo	0	13,500
Leader Development	5,492	5,492
Ministers Conference	0	6,000
Missionary Setup	15,000	15,000
Missionary Support	266,968	295,373
New Church Development (NCD) Subsidies	237,174	193,174
New Exploration Initiative - NCD	11,200	26,400
NPI: Children's CP Curriculum	500	500
Presbyterian Youth Triennium	5,000	5,000
Program Planning Calendar - Sales	920	920
Stir	1,500	1,500
Third Age Ministry	500	500
Young Adult Ministry	14,300	10,700
Youth Evangelism Conference	2,350	2,350
Youth Ministry Planning Council	2,500	2,500
Youth Workers Retreat	<u>4,500</u>	<u>4,500</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b><u>\$2,592,353</u></b>	<b><u>\$2,699,818</u></b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Ministry Council Administration Salaries		
Salaries	\$ 759,473	\$ 816,645
Clergy Housing Allowance	166,104	159,604
Health Insurance	130,500	146,688
Retirement	43,310	45,944
FICA	32,468	36,498
Tax Sheltered Annuity	6,287	6,287
Insurance/Disability	4,096	4,366
Ministry Council Administration General Expenses		
Annual Credit Card Fees	\$ 3,678	\$ 3,678
Computer Equipment	0	0
Computer Software (Wufoo, Adobe, BaseCamp)	10,000	10,000
Educational Publications for Distribution	3,000	3,000
Employee Events	2,500	2,500

	Revised 2018	Proposed 2019
Employee Recognition	3,450	3,450
Foundation Directory Online	500	500
Government Fees (annual reports)	40	40
Legal	2,000	2,000
MC Supplemental Report	5,000	5,000
P & C Insurance	19,090	16,090
Staff Resource Materials	1,997	1,197
Subscriptions/Membership	2,246	2,246
Telephone/Internet	624	840
Temporary Help	19,800	12,600
MC/Elected Team Member Recognition	1,040	1,040
Office Supplies	12,000	12,000
Postage	1,800	1,800
Relocation Expense	10,000	0
Beth-El Farmworker	\$ 40,500	\$ 40,500
Birthplace Shrine Chaplaincy: Chaplain's Stipend	3,750	3,750
Children's Fest	9,750	9,900
Clergy Crisis Support: Distribution	6,000	6,000
Coalition of Appalachian Ministry	12,700	12,700
CP Magazine	54,033	54,033
Cumberland Presbyterian Resources	68,828	68,828
CPWM		
General	9,100	9,100
Sales Merchandise	2,000	2,000
Convention	11,950	11,950
Offering	250	250
CPYC	98,165	98,165
Cross-Culture Immigrant Leadership Training	4,000	4,000
Discipleship Blueprints	2,400	2,400
Ecumenical Stewardship Center	4,500	4,500
Encounter	36,812	36,812
Family Ministry	550	550
General Assembly	35,050	36,550
General Consultants	26,400	22,400
Kaleo	0	13,500
Leadership Referral Services	2,100	2,100

	Revised 2018	Proposed 2019
Leader Development	5,492	5,492
Ministers		
Conference	0	16,000
Encouragement & Recognition	3,818	3,818
Retreat	1,000	1,000
Missionary Messenger	59,480	59,480
Missionary Setup	0	30,000
Missionary Support	321,968	350,373
National Farm Worker	3,500	4,300
New Church Development (NCD) Subsidies	237,174	170,774
New Exploration Initiative	11,200	26,400
New Program Initiatives		
Children's Curriculum	1,000	1,000
CPWM Girls and Young Women Council	11,800	11,800
CP Learning Circles	0	0
DMT	0	0
PREP Staff Expenses	400	400
Presbyterian Youth Triennium	5,000	5,000
Presbyteries/Councils	129,820	144,820
Program Planning Calendar	5,150	5,150
Project Vida	8,500	8,500
Stir	5,000	5,000
Support Ministries	1,000	1,000
Third Age Ministry	500	500
Travel (includes elected member travel)	80,060	80,060
Web Development/Maintenance	2,000	2,000
Young Adult Ministry	14,300	14,661
Youth Evangelism Conference	7,350	7,350
Youth Ministry Planning Council - UBCD	2,500	2,500
Youth Workers Retreat	4,500	0
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b><u>\$2,592,353</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 2,699,818</u></b>
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 0	\$ 0

### III. BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP

#### INCOME

Contributions		
Contributions/Gifts	\$ 400	\$ 3,000
ILP Contributions	2,600	2,000
Endowment Contributions	<u>26,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b><u>29,000</u></b>	<b><u>25,000</u></b>

	Revised 2018	Proposed 2019
Our United Outreach	136,000	135,000
Investment Earnings		
Endowment Earnings	90,000	96,000
ILP Earnings	16,000	8,000
Endowment WF Income	<u>19,000</u>	<u>19,400</u>
<b>Total Investment Earnings</b>	<b>125,000</b>	<b>123,400</b>
Realized Gain/Loss - Endowment	10,000	10,000
Unrealized Gain/Loss - Endowment	<u>100,100</u>	<u>116,500</u>
<b>Total Investment Gains/Losses</b>	<b>110,100</b>	<b>126,000</b>
Service Fees		
Management Fees - Acct Coordinator	1,600	1,600
Management Fees	<u>55,000</u>	<u>61,000</u>
<b>Total Service Fees</b>	<b>56,600</b>	<b>62,600</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b><u>\$456,700</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 472,000</u></b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>		
Salaries		
Salaries	\$199,275	\$ 205,783
Housing Allowance	<u>21,000</u>	<u>21,000</u>
<b>Total Salaries</b>	<b>220,275</b>	<b>226,783</b>
Benefits		
Health Insurance	70,000	70,500
Retirement	10,746	11,339
FICA	9,630	10,117
Insurance/Disability	<u>800</u>	<u>1,000</u>
<b>Total Benefits</b>	<b>91,176</b>	<b>92,956</b>
Events		
Conference/Events	500	500
Tax Guide for Ministers	<u>3,700</u>	<u>4,100</u>
<b>Total Events</b>	<b>4,200</b>	<b>4,600</b>
Board Expense		
Board/Agency Travel	15,000	15,000
Board/Agency Recognition	<u>\$ 600</u>	<u>\$ 600</u>
<b>Total Board Expense</b>	<b>15,600</b>	<b>15,600</b>
Resource Purchases		
Subscriptions	<u>600</u>	<u>600</u>
<b>Total Resources Purchases</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>600</b>
Contracted Services		
Legal	1,000	500
Audit	0	2,100
Temporary Help	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>
<b>Total Contracted Services</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>3,600</b>
Insurance		
Insurance/Liability	<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,200</u>
<b>Total Insurance</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>4,200</b>
Professional Development		
Subscriptions & Membership	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
<b>Total Professional Development</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Payment/Subsidies		
ESC Stewardship Expense	3,500	3,500
ILP Withdrawal	2,500	2,500
Endowment Distribution	<u>98,000</u>	<u>102,000</u>
<b>Total Payments/Subsidies</b>	<b>104,000</b>	<b>108,000</b>
Equipment		
Office Equipment	800	800
Computer Equipment	2,000	2,000
Computer Maintenance	150	150
Computer Software	<u>\$ 500</u>	<u>\$ 500</u>



	Revised 2018	Proposed 2019
<b>Total Equipment</b>	<b>3,450</b>	<b>3,450</b>
Supplies		
Computer Supplies	500	500
Office Supplies	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>3,500</b>
Postage/Shipping		
Postage	1,000	1,486
Shipping	<u>167</u>	<u>325</u>
<b>Total Postage/Shipping</b>	<b>1,167</b>	<b>1,811</b>
Employee Recognition		
Employee Recognition	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,200</u>
<b>Total Employee Recognition</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,200</b>
Travel		
Staff Travel	<u>4,500</u>	<u>4,500</u>
<b>Total Travel</b>	<b>4,500</b>	<b>4,500</b>
Miscellaneous		
Miscellaneous	<u>1,032</u>	<u>1,000</u>
<b>Total Miscellaneous</b>	<b>1,032</b>	<b>1,000</b>
Organization		
Organizational Expense	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
<b>Total Organization</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b><u>\$456,700</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 472,000</u></b>

#### IV. HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

##### INCOME

Our United Outreach	\$ 72,439	\$ 73,000
Endowments	73,000	75,000
Gifts	11,000	12,000
ILP Earnings	6,000	7,000
Denomination Day Offering	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b><u>\$ 167,439</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 172,000</u></b>

##### EXPENSE

Salaries	\$ 95,088	\$ 97,128
FICA / Retirement	14,404	14,764
Insurance	10,034	10,034
Board Travel	6,000	7,000
Legal Fees	200	200
Continuing Education	2,000	2,000
Subscriptions/Memberships	2,000	2,000
Archival Equipment	2,000	2,000
Computer Supplies	500	500
Office Supplies	2,000	2,000
Postage	300	125
Acquisitions	10,313	11,649
Birthplace Shrine	8,000	8,000
Employee Recognition	600	600
Staff Travel	9,000	9,000
Denomination Day Project	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b><u>\$ 167,439</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 172,000</u></b>

## V. MEMPHIS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

	Revised 2018	Proposed 2019
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Student Tuition Fees	\$2,420,370	\$ 2,023,950
Investment	306,608	303,431
Endowment Draw		200,000
Gifts and Grants	1,731,945	1,000,000
Other Revenues	<u>128,700</u>	<u>102,009</u>
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b><u>\$4,587,623</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 3,629,390</u></b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Business Office	\$ 340,464	\$ 332,733
Dean's Office	156,616	116,412
Chapel	44,316	1,900
Educational Development Committee	15,500	15,000
Advancement Office	389,775	335,951
Doctor of Ministry	60,200	61,550
Facilities	567,204	497,531
Faculty	940,017	815,646
Summer Classes	37,600	34,800
January Classes	11,000	8,000
Financial Aid	64,084	52,659
Information Technology	142,426	190,779
Library	255,496	238,664
President's Office	261,823	261,823
Admissions	156,603	110,881
Registrar & Institutional Research	134,161	99,125
Annual Fund/Alumni Affairs	100,779	0
Student Housing	91,642	120,695
Student Services	84,943	77,476
Certificate & Continuing Education	16,950	15,950
Methodist House of Studies	37,037	24,432
Student Government	2,775	2,700
Theology & Arts	37,359	0
Scholarships	423,208	347,483
Program of Alternate Studies	130,801	123,364
Formation For Ministry	92,605	89,556
Financial Leadership Ministry	93,435	0
Communications	49,825	0
Depreciation	<u>185,891</u>	<u>197,752</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b><u>\$4,926,535</u></b>	<b><u>\$4,134,033</u></b>
Increase (decrease) in net assets	(338,912)	(504,643)

Revised 2018	Proposed 2019
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## VI. SHARED SERVICES

### REVENUE

Our United Outreach	\$ 343,420	346,967
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 343,420</b>	<b>\$ 346,967</b>

### EXPENSES

Salaries	\$ 52,286	\$ 53,332
Health Insurance	30,441	31,659
Retirement	2,614	2,667
FICA	4,000	4,080
Accounting Coordinator	1,600	1,600
Audit	21,000	22,500
Payroll Service	6,900	7,400
Bank Charges	17,500	14,000
Technology System Consultants - EMS	18,000	18,000
Software Maintenance Agreement - Blackbaud	15,700	17,000
Building & Maintenance	45,845	45,845
Pest Control	840	840
Lawn & Ground Maintenance	18,500	18,500
Lawn Treatment	1,500	1,500
Utilities - Building 1	24,650	24,650
Utilities - Building 2	18,500	17,000
Janitorial Service	8,100	8,100
Security System Monitoring	1,100	1,200
Trash Collection	1,850	2,500
Telephone/Internet	9,400	10,000
Heating & AC Maintenance Agreement	10,000	12,000
Insurance/Liability	11,844	11,844
Office Equipment Maintenance	14,000	14,000
Computer Maintenance	500	500
Computer Software	2,500	2,500
Office Supplies	2,500	2,000
Postage	750	750
Employee Events	1,000	1,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 343,420</b>	<b>\$ 346,967</b>
Surplus/Deficit	\$ 0	\$ 0