

**112<sup>TH</sup> Stated Meeting  
of  
Foothills Presbytery**

**February 18, 2020**

**Central Presbyterian Church  
Anderson, SC**

**\*\*\*\***

**Supplement**

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## **Report of the Stated Clerk Supplement February 18, 2020**

The Stated Clerk **reports:**

1. Has received the report of the Commission to Ordain and Install Lauren Slingerland to serve as Associate Pastor at Westminster Church, Greenville, and found it to be in order, and so was approved. (see attachment #3).

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Foster, Stated Clerk

Foothills Presbytery  
Report of the Commission to Ordain and Install Sarah Lauren Slingerland  
Sunday, February 2, 2020  
11:15 AM  
Westminster Presbyterian Church  
Greenville, South Carolina

Report of the Commission to ordain and install Sarah Lauren Slingerland, as Minister of the Word and Sacrament (Teaching Elder) called to be the Associate Pastor for Children at Westminster Presbyterian Church of Greenville, SC.

The Commission met on Sunday, February 2, 2020 at 10:20 am at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Commission members present were:

Mary Kathleen Duncan  
*Associate Pastor, Westminster Presbyterian, Greenville*  
Debbie Foster  
*Executive Presbyter, Stated Clerk, Foothills Presbytery*  
Lydia Kellett  
*Elder, Westminster Presbyterian*  
Raenota Merrill  
*Elder, Fort Hill Presbyterian, Clemson*  
Ken Schafer  
*Elder, Greer First Presbyterian, Greer*

Guests of the commission present were:

Katie Owen Aumann  
*Associate Pastor, Covenant Presbyterian, Atlanta, Georgia*  
Matt Frease  
*ThD Candidate, Columbia Theological Seminary, Atlanta, Georgia*

Rev. Debbie Foster, Moderator of the Commission, welcomed the commission members and opened the meeting with prayer. Rev. Mary Kathleen Duncan was elected to serve as Secretary for the Commission. Lauren Slingerland reviewed the order of worship and the sanctuary arrangements. Motion was made by Mr. Andy Ackerman and approved by the Commission to entrust the minutes to be completed by the Secretary, reviewed by the Moderator, and accepted by the Commission as such, with the worship benediction serving as the closing prayer of the Commission. The Commission then recessed for the Ordination and Installation Service.

The Moderator presided. The service was opened with welcome and greeting by the Rev. Ben Dorr, Sr. Pastor at Westminster Presbyterian Church. He also led the Call to Worship. The

Rev. Leigh Stuckey, Associate Pastor at Westminster, led the prayer of confession. Elder Raenota Merrill from Fort Hill Presbyterian Church led the Prayer for Illumination and OT Reading. Rev. Matt Frease, guest of the commission, preached on Matthew 5:1-12. Elder Ken Schafer from First Presbyterian Church of Greer led the Affirmation of Faith. The Rev. Ben Dorr led the Prayers of Thanksgiving, Intercession, and the Lord's Prayer, along with the invitation to offering. The Rev. Amos Workman, Parish Associate at Westminster, led the Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Debbie Foster, Executive Presbyter of Foothills Presbytery, gave the Statement of Purpose for the Ordination and Installation Service and asked the Constitutional Questions of the candidate and these were answered in the affirmative. The Rev. Mary Kathleen Duncan, Associate Pastor at Westminster, asked the Constitutional Questions to the congregation, and these were answered in the affirmative. She also led the Prayer of Ordination. The Rev. Katie Owen Aumann, guest of the commission, then gave the charge to the newly ordained pastor. Lydia Kellett, Elder at Westminster, gave the charge to the congregation.

Following the closing hymn, the Rev. Lauren Slingerland pronounced the benediction and the Commission was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Mary Kathleen Duncan  
Secretary of the Commission

## Committee on Ministry Supplement February 18, 2020

The Committee on Ministry reports:

1. Teaching Elder Charlie Blakely (HR) was approved as Moderator of the Piedmont Session, and Teaching Elder Trish Gwinn (Grace Covenant) was approved as Moderator for Fountain Inn.
2. Reports that the vote of the Belton Congregation to disband the PNC and to support CRE Sarah Cornell during her seminary time was unanimous. (See item #13 in the Main COM Report)
3. Reviewed the proposed Stated Supply Contracts for the Limestone and Simpsonville Sessions and found them to be in good order.
4. Voted to transfer Jon Van Deventer to North East Georgia Presbytery where he has taken a Call to the Monticello Church, Monticello, Georgia.
5. Approved to recommend to Presbytery that Teaching Elder Frank Strickland be Honorably Retired as of May 1, 2020.
6. Reviewed the Triennial visit with the Roberts Session.
7. Approved Ruling Elder Jeff Motes (Faith Church) to enroll in the CRE Track at the Lay School.

Respectfully submitted,

Nath Briley, Chair

**Committee on Shared Ministry Report**  
**February 18, 2020**

2020	2021	2022
Pressley Cox 2 (C)	Beth Burris 1	Craig Foster 2
Jane Frost 2	Mary Kathleen Duncan 1	Peggy Hayes 1
Ralph May 2	David Ellenburg 1	Aaron Ochart 2
Pat Shufeldt 2	Joseph Gaston 1	Jackie Putnam 1
Ken Schafer 2	Jessica Meggs 1	Noelle Read 1
Debbie Foster (Ex-Officio)	Audrey Reese 1	Natalie Schwartz 1
	Cassie Wolfe 2	Peggy Swann 1

Mission: To equip, connect, and nurture the churches of Foothills Presbytery.

Core Values: We will celebrate an adaptive environment where grace abounds while striving to strengthen our connectional church and share mission in a spirit of experimentation.

How: We will explore our mission by offering opportunities for faith formation, gatherings, fellowship, service, encouragement, resources, and support.

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Since the November 2019 meeting of Presbytery, the Committee on Ministry reports:

**The Committee on Shared Mission and Ministry met on November 21, 2019** and reports:

**Leadership Development**

- Recommendation and approval of eight scholarship applications for Christian Educators registering for the annual APCE (Association of Presbyterian Christian Educators)
- The sub-committee reported on the Sustainable Young Adult Ministry event. Jackie Putnam, Chad Wright-Pittman, and Leslie Lang help to organize it and are currently looking at next steps for engaging young adults.
- Conversation around church safety and how best to come alongside churches who are looking at ways to design and implement safety best practices.
- Heard updates about the Worship Committee's hope to focus on "the child" in the February Presbytery meeting.

**Mission and Outreach**

- A report from the six member delegation from four Foothills congregations was made. (Exodus conference in Agua Prieta, Mexico Nov 8-10). The event was in recognition and celebration of thirty years of PC(USA) border ministry. After a presentation at Presbytery we asked participants to share some of their experiences in blog posts. The group has offered to be available for presentations to groups and classes of Foothills congregations.

- Gratitude was expressed to Jim Kirk (PDA) for his leadership in worship and four workshop presentations at the Nov Presbytery meeting.
- The sub-committee is looking into ways of working more closely with PDA in helping congregations with disaster preparedness, readying volunteers and increasing awareness of the various aspects of PDA's ministry.

#### **Hospitality, Peer Ministry, and Joys and Concerns**

- Joys and Concerns- There have been questions about people no longer connected to the Presbytery. The subteam is working on setting the parameters for the emails.

#### **Communications**

- The sub-committee is working with Worship Times on the pilot project for creating websites with small churches. The sites for Westminster (Westminster) and Mt. Zion are underway.

#### **Curriculum and Resources**

- A book sale and giveaway was held during late October. Around 100 items were sold.

#### **Outdoor Ministry**

- With transitions to the CSM committee, we are without leadership in Outdoor Ministry.

#### **Youth Ministry**

- PYC 2019-2020 were commissioned at the May 2019 Presbytery meeting. We held an organizational meeting that day and elected officers for the new year. PYC is made up of 18 youth and 6 adults.
- PYC meets the 3rd Sunday of each month. Our first retreat, for middle school youth, was held at Bonclarken October 18-20. Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane was our Keynote speaker. Our theme was, "Relationship Status...Loved". We had 178 in attendance. We collected an offering for Camp Courage, a camp that supports children with childhood cancer.

#### **Campus Ministry**

- A Zoom videoconference was held on December 11, 2019 among the Foothills Presbytery campus ministers and CSM representatives. Robert Bannan, Erin Farry, Craig Foster, Debbie Foster, Landon Hammett, and Michael Sanchez were in attendance.
- Common threads among the campus ministries seemed to be an increased need for pastoral care/counseling among students, and the challenge of balancing that individual care with broad relational and administrative responsibilities.
- There was interest in more frequent connections and gatherings in-person, and a meeting was scheduled for January 15, 2020 at 10am in Greenville.
- Continued conversation about a one day event for campus ministry leaders is underway.

#### **Presbyterian Women**

- There were 6 women from Foothills Presbyterian who attended the PW Synod retreat at St. Simons Island in November.
- Natalie Schwartz (Seneca church) was elected to serve as the Justice and Peace Representative on the PW Synod Coordinating Team.

**The Committee on Shared Mission and Ministry met on Tuesday, January 21, 2020** at Eastminster Presbyterian in Simpsonville for a four-hour meeting. The committee reports:

Craig Foster was elected Vice-Chair. Peggy Swann was elected to serve as Secretary. Ann Coleman and Audrey Reese were elected to serve on the Examinations Commission.

The committee spent the morning reflecting on the work of the various ministries and making plans for the future.

Manella Calhoun shared about the work and mission of Critters and More. This non-profit organization offers hands-on, experimental activities for schools, churches, clubs, festivals, and other events within the boundaries of South Carolina. Manella requested a table for the February 18<sup>th</sup> Presbytery meeting and would like to explore the possibility of being present and speaking at the May Presbytery meeting.

### **Leadership Development**

- The College and Vocation Discernment Team is exploring grant options to help fund the Summer Intern Program for 2021.
- John Roberto (Vital Faith) will be the keynote speaker for SC5 Leader of Leaders Event on March 24, 2020, Columbia SC.
- Ten Educators, Ministers, and volunteers from our presbytery will attend the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators (APCE) Annual Event in Little Rock, AR, Jan 29-Feb 1. The CSM granted scholarships to eight of those participants. The 2020 event will be in Little Rock, AR, Jan. 29-Feb. 1.
- There will be an SC Minister/Educator Retreat October 26-28 in Montreat. The keynote speaker will be Samuel L. Adams, Professor of Biblical Studies at Union Presbyterian Seminary. More information can be found at <https://montreat.org/events/south-carolina-presbyteries>

### **Mission and Outreach**

- The two cents meal offering from Foothills congregations of \$5,633.85 was distributed between 14 area ministries working to alleviate hunger.
  - Project Host (Greenville)
  - Spartanburg Soup Kitchen
  - Daily Bread Ministries (Oconee County)
  - South Main Chapel and Mercy Center (Anderson)
  - United Ministries of Greenville
  - Oconee Presbyterian Service Fund
  - Clemson Community Care
  - AIM (Anderson)
  - Harvest Hope Food Bank
  - SHINE
  - Salvation Army of Gaffney
  - Faith Presbyterian Church Food Bank
  - Operation Hope (Landrum)
  - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance



- In response to a proposal from Westminster Presbyterian Church (Greenville), Greenville area congregations were contacted about partnering to build a Habitat home in the spring of 2020. At the present time, nine congregations have expressed interest in partnering to provide both finances and volunteers to enable a build. Work on this collaborative effort continues.
- The subcommittee continues to work on a list of regional missions and ministries with which Foothills congregations are working. It is hoped this resource will help make connections between congregations and with area agencies and ministries to better utilize financial and volunteer resources.
- Contact has been made with the large area food banks about participating in special food donation and distribution events, this is ongoing work.
- The subcommittee continues to look into ways of working more closely with PDA in helping congregations with disaster preparedness, readying volunteers and increasing awareness of the various aspects of PDA's ministry

### **Hospitality, Peer Ministry, and Joys and Concerns**

- *Hospitality* - The CSM strives to welcome ALL incoming/new teaching elders, CREs Christian educators, and youth directors into Foothills Presbytery. Teaching elders and CREs are welcomed after approval by the Examinations Commission. For other positions the committee relies on the church to notify presbytery staff of the new hire. Please help us welcome these people coming into our presbytery by letting the presbytery staff know about new hires. Since our last meeting, we have welcomed Barry French, Indy Dennis, Lauren Slingerland, and Robert Bannon.
- The following **peer groups** are active in our presbytery and supported by the CSM:
  - Lake Panera Group- Western Region (Clergy)
  - 7% Lunch bunch – Under 40ish pastors
  - Women's Clergy Group – 8 Women Clergy met for brunch at the Rev. Deborah Broadwell's home on Friday, January 24.
  - Large Church Children's Educators (The Children's Educator group met at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Greenville on Thursday, January 16. Nine gathered for lunch and to share their best Lent/Easter ideas/programs, discuss VBS options for 2020 and generally for fellowship and support. Our future meetings will be March 12 and May 7.)
  - Youth Leader Roundtable: First Tuesday of each month
  - Church Music Directors/Leaders
- **Joys and Concerns**- For more info contact Mary Kathleen Duncan (Westminster)

### **Communications**

- The communications team oversaw the project to assist two smaller churches with developing websites. See small church connections for more information. The Communications Team would be open to working with other small churches in developing websites for their congregations.

### **Outdoor Ministry**

- Camp Fellowship will host a Christian Educators and Youth Ministry Professionals Sabbath and Lunch on Thursday, April 16.

- There will be a \$25 incentive for the first 30 campers from Foothills. Need-based scholarships are also available. Please contact the Foothills Presbytery office for more details.

#### **Youth Ministry**

- PYC celebrated the New Year with dinner and fun at the home of Chris and Joan Jones on January 11.
- We are currently in the planning stages for our spring High School retreat at Montreat, March 20-22. Our keynoters are Rev. Pressley Cox and Sarah Dianne Jones. Our theme is “Joy”. Our offering will, again, support Camp Courage. Saturday nights recreation event will include a variety show.
- During the month of March, information will go out to our churches about the application process for PYC for 2020-2021. We hope to welcome many new youth and adults for the upcoming year.

#### **Campus Ministry**

- All three Foothills campus ministries attended the Montreat College Conference on January 2-5. All three campus ministries were invited to take pictures and submit stories to the Covenant Connections blog.
- Assistance from Foothills Presbytery is requested to encourage congregations and youth leaders to communicate with campus ministries when students from their congregations go to one of the colleges where our campus ministries are active. The presbytery office will assist with this communication.

#### **Small Church Connections**

- The Mt Zion and Westminster websites are now functioning. Westminster has trained a web administrator will oversee the website.

#### **Presbyterian Women**

- The sub-committee is working on a Presbytery gathering.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pressley Cox- Chair

# Foothills Presbytery Coordinating Council Report Supplement

February 18, 2020

The Coordinating Council met for a Called Meeting on February 4, 2020 and **reports** the following:

1. Upon the recommendation of the Transition Think Tank and the unanimous approval of the Personnel Committee approved the finalized job descriptions for the new Presbytery Staff positions: Associate Stated Clerk and Associate for Mission and Ministry.
2. Upon the recommendation of the Transition Think Tank and the unanimous approval of the Personnel Committee, approved the recommendation to increase the hours for the Associate for Mission and Ministry from 20 hours a week, to 32 hours a week. The additional costs for this increase will come from the proceeds from the returns on Presbytery's investments.

The Coordinating Council recorded the unanimous approval of the following items (email vote on January 30, 2020) and **recommends** the following:

1. That Melinda Gilreath (Fountain Inn) and Doug Kroske (John Knox) be elected to serve on the Foothills Presbytery Investment Committee, Class of 2022.
2. That Presbytery give final approval to the Foothills Presbytery Investment Policy. (The Policy was put before Presbytery for the First Reading at the Stated Meeting on November 13, 2018. Subsequently it was reviewed by our attorney. Slight language edits were made, but there were no substantive changes. See attachment.)
3. That Presbytery approve the recommendation of the Finance & Stewardship Committee to designate the following funds from Presbytery's Investments:
  - A. \$600,000 for "the Future Church" work of Presbytery. Expecting an average annual return of 5%, this will generate approximately \$30,000 a year for this work. (Of note: In 2014, Presbytery voted to safeguard the monies from the failed Riverside New Church Development (presently \$469,022.16) until such time as the Discernment Task Force completed

their work, and when Presbytery had a plan for faithful use of these monies. This forms the base of the \$600,000 amount, with the rest coming from the sale of Camp Buc.)

- B. \$250,000 for “the Scholarship Fund.” Expecting an average annual return of 5%, this will yield approximately \$12,000 a year for scholarship assistance for our Seminarians, for those seeking to become CREs, and for those seeking to become Certified Christian Educators.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Hoyt, Chair

**Investment Policy & Investment Committee**  
Finance & Stewardship Team  
Foothills Presbytery  
January 30, 2020

**1. Purpose**

The purpose of this Investment Policy is to form and guide the Investment Committee of Foothills Presbytery in effectively and prudently managing, monitoring, and evaluating an investment portfolio for the purposes of sustaining the ministries and mission of Foothills Presbytery (hereafter, the “**Presbytery**”) and the church of Jesus Christ. The investment portfolio consists of all funds (hereafter, the “**Fund**”) managed by the Investment Committee.

**2. Creation of the Investment Committee**

The Investment Committee (the “**IC**”) is created through the adoption of this policy. The IC shall consist of six (6) term members, all qualified by experience or vocation in financial investments and two (2) at-large members. The IC is tasked with the administration of the Fund. The term members will be nominated and elected by the Finance & Stewardship Team (the “**F&S Committee**”) of Foothills Presbytery as follows:

- The term members of the IC will be composed of qualified persons nominated and elected and approved by the F&S Committee and the initial term members will serve staggered terms of one (1) to three (3) years (as set forth below). In addition to the six term members, there shall be two at-large members who serve terms of two (2) years. The at-large members will be elected and approved on a biannual basis (or more frequently if a vacancy occurs) by the term members of the IC.
- Any serving term member is eligible to continue service for one additional two-year or three-year term, after which they must rotate off committee for at least one year.
- The committee will welcome as *ex officio* (non-voting) members:
  - the Stated Clerk and
  - the Moderator of Presbytery.

The term members of the IC shall be composed of three (3) classes of two (2) members each, two members being elected each year to terms of three (3) years, and the at-large members, as above.

- In order to establish the rotation upon its initial formation, the initial term members of the IC shall be designated and assigned the following terms:
  - two (2) representatives serving one (1) year,
  - two (2) representatives serving two (2) years, and
  - two (2) representatives serving three (3) years.
- Succession and term limits will follow as above.

- Unanticipated vacancies will be filled through a special election by the F&S Committee or, in the case of at-large members, the term members of the IC as outlined above in order to complete the designated term.

Each year, the IC will elect a chair and a recording secretary from among its members and inform the F&S Committee annually of such election.

The IC is charged by the F&S Committee and the Presbytery with the responsibility of formulating and implementing the investment policies of the cash, designated funds, and undesignated funds for the purpose of sustaining the mission and ministries of the Presbytery, creating an investment fund.

In managing the Fund, the IC will:

- Establish investment guidelines in furtherance of those policies;
- Oversee the investment assets of the Fund;
- Monitor the management of the Fund’s assets for compliance with the investment policies and guidelines; and
- Faithfully seek to meet performance objectives over time stated herein.
- The IC will review the implementation of this Investment Policy monthly and report its performance quarterly to the F&S Committee and annually to Presbytery.

The F&S Committee will nominate and elect the term members of the IC annually consistent with the requirements stated above. The initial terms for those elected term members are shown above. Ordinarily, only two qualified persons with three-year terms would be elected each year following the initial formation of the IC. The at-large members with two-year terms and elected by the term members would be elected on alternate years, or as needed for vacancies.

Additionally, the F&S Committee will:

- Receive reports quarterly from the IC on performance and summary activity of the Fund.
- Report to Presbytery annually on the status and performance of the IC and the Fund.

### **3. Investment Principles and Guidelines**

The IC is responsible for contracting and overseeing the relationship with an outside investment agency, that is a fully FINRA-approved investment group, representative investment agent (RIA), broker-dealer, or similarly appropriate independent investment institution, such as the Presbyterian Foundation (the “**Investment Agency**”), to whom it delegates investment and management authority for the Fund, as defined in an Investment Management Agreement between the IC, as representative of Presbytery, and the Investment Agency, as defined above.

In addition, the IC will:

- Act in good faith and with the care of an ordinarily prudent person in a like position in selecting, continuing, or terminating the investment institution, establishing the scope and terms of engagement, and monitoring the investment institution's performance and compliance with the scope and terms of the agreement.
- Meet at least semi-annually with the investment institution, or more frequently as required by the IC. The Investment Agency will provide monthly reports on all investments and its performance relative to appropriate benchmarks.

In all meetings of the Investment Committee:

- A simple majority of the IC shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of ordinary business of the IC, and
- The act of a majority of the members of the IC present at any meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the entire IC.

#### **4. Standard of Care**

In exercising its responsibilities, the IC and its members will act in good faith as stated in paragraph 3 (above) in accordance with the South Carolina Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (SCUPMIFA) and within the by-laws and guidelines of the Presbytery and the *Constitution* of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

#### **5. Standards for Prudent Investing**

In investing and managing the Fund, the IC will consider both the purposes of the designated and non-designated funds under its supervision and the purpose of any specific institutional fund. Management and investment decisions about an individual asset will be made, not in isolation, but rather in the context of the Fund as a whole and as part of an overall investment strategy having risk and return objectives reasonably suited to the Fund.

In managing the portfolio and Fund, the IC will incur only those costs that are appropriate and reasonable in relation to the portfolio or any specific institutional fund, the purposes of the Fund, and the skills available to the IC, its members, and the investment institution. At all times, the IC will use reasonable efforts to verify facts relevant to the management and investment of the portfolio or any specific institutional fund.

The following factors must be considered by the IC and the Investment Agency in managing and investing the investment portfolio, including any specific institutional funds:

General economic conditions;

- The possible effect of inflation or deflation;
- The expected tax consequences, if any, of investment decisions or strategies;
- The role that each investment, or course of action, plays within the Fund's overall investment portfolio;
- The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments;
- Other resources of the Fund;
- The needs of the Fund and a given institutional fund to make distributions and to preserve capital; and,
- An asset's special relationship or special value, if any, to the purpose of the Fund.

## **6. Return Objectives**

The long-term investment objective of the Fund and the IC is to preserve the appreciated assets and useful post-inflation value of the Fund, so that it will continue for the purposes of sustaining the ministries and mission of the Presbytery and the church of Jesus Christ. On an annual basis, portfolio returns will be compared to appropriate benchmarks determined by the F&S Committee.

## **7. Risk Considerations**

Only prudent risk will be used in guiding investment decisions, consistent with modern portfolio theory and sustainable growth.

Risk will be modified through a prudent diversity of asset categories for investment to include stocks, bonds, U.S. Treasury issues, selected international securities, and hybrid securities, such as mutual funds and Exchange Traded Funds (ETF).

No additional risk or leverage is allowed in the investment strategies, to include but not limited to: options, leveraged commodity contracts, and non-regulated financial instruments (such as CDO's and other derivative instruments).

## **8. Liquidity**

Under normal circumstances, sufficient cash will be kept on hand to fund obligations to the operating budget of the Presbytery and outlays of specifically designated funds for a period of at least three (3) months, but not to exceed twelve (12) months.

## **9. Strategies**

The Fund will be diversified across asset classes and managers including, but not limited to, domestic equity, international equity, emerging markets, alternative equity, private equity, and fixed income.

## **10. Asset Allocation**



One of the most important components of an investment strategy is the portfolio asset mix, or the allocation among the various classes of securities and investment strategies available to the long-term investment pool for investment purposes. For this reason, the asset allocation policy calls for a long-term “target” allocation as well as a range around that target, or goal. The targets and ranges will be determined by the IC in consultation with the Investment Agency.

- The IC and the Investment Agency will set the long-term asset allocation targets and ranges. The current status of these will be reported to the F&S Committee at least annually.
- The Investment Agency will diversify investments among asset classes in a manner consistent with the investment policy, providing a balance with the goal of enhancing the total return of the portfolio while attempting to avoid undue risk concentration.
- Decisions regarding the allocation targets or the inclusion of new asset classes will be made when such action is expected to increase the expected return and/or reduce the risk of the portfolio or when deemed appropriate by a super majority of two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) of the entire IC.
- Expected return, risk, correlation, and these characteristics’ overall impact on the portfolio, will be analyzed before any new asset class can be included.
- The asset allocation should allow for:
  - A diverse portfolio without undue concentration in any single asset class, and-
  - Enough flexibility to adapt to various market environments.

The IC is authorized to revise the targets and ranges from time to time by a supermajority vote of two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ). As both the targets and ranges are long term in nature, it is expected that they will change infrequently.

## **11. Rebalancing**

An asset class is considered to be within an acceptable range if the current allocation remains within the lower and upper bands as discussed above. The actual allocation will be reviewed quarterly but may be adjusted at any time (as long as allocations are within acceptable ranges) based on judgment of the investment institution as approved by a majority of the Investment Committee.

The Investment Committee should work with the investment institution at all times to minimize portfolio expenses.

## **Reporting**

In order to ensure that the IC is able to fulfill its duties with respect to prudent management of the portfolio, the Investment Agency will provide detailed reports monthly to the IC. Such reports shall include, though not be limited to, performance of the Fund's investment portfolio, actions taken with respect to the Fund, and expected changes in investments.

The Chair of the IC, or other designated IC member, will report quarterly to the F&S Committee of the Presbytery on the status of the investment portfolio of the Fund. The Chair of the IC will provide a report annually to the Presbytery.

### **12. Conflicts of Interest**

The IC will address all actual or potential conflicts of interest involving any member of the IC or any other participant of the F&S Committee or the Investment Agency. These must be disclosed and resolved pursuant to the Presbytery's Conflict of Interest Policy and the *Constitution* of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

### **13. Liability**

In view of the responsibilities incumbent on the serving members of the IC, they will comply with the directives and requirements for coverage against errors and omissions through the current insurer for Officers and Directors Insurance the Presbytery or, if required and appropriate, through separate E & O Insurance coverage as recommended by the insurance advisors and counsel of the Presbytery.

**Nominations Committee Report  
February 18, 2020**

<b>Committee on Ministry (COM)</b>	
Beth Meyer (Fourth)	Class of 2020 (1)
<b>Committee on Preparation for Ministry</b>	
Rev. David Howell (John Knox)	Class of 2022 (1)
<i>Ordination Readers 2020:</i>	
Rev. Terri Price (Providence)	
Bill Burns (First, Spartanburg)	
<b>Committee on Shared Ministry (CSM)</b>	
Chris Brown (St. Andrews)	Class of 2022 (1)
Rick Turner (First, Greer)	Class of 2022 (1)
Minnie Thomas (Fourth)	Class of 2020 (1)
<b>Finance &amp; Stewardship Committee</b>	
Rev. Justin Cazel (Member-at-Large)	Class of 2022 (1)
<b>SC Inn in Montreat Board</b>	
Stephen Price (Central)	Class of 2022 (1)

*For Member Information. Not elected by Presbytery:*

**Examinations Commission**

*Committee on Ministry:*

Ann Broom (Eastminster)  
Rev. Julie Schaaf (Nazareth)  
Scott Berry (Limestone)

*Bills & Overtures:*

Rev. Amos Workman (Westminster, Greenville)  
Nan Jones (Fort Hill)

*Committee on Shared Ministry:*

Rev. Audrey Reese (Westminster, Westminster)  
Ann Coleman (Eastminster)

**2020 Nominations Committee**

*Chair: Dick Christopher*

Class of 2020

Rev. Kathy Chamlee  
Mr. Russell Harris  
Mrs. Carol Kendall

Class of 2021

Mr. Dick Christopher  
Jeff Gilstrap, CRE  
Rev. Aaron. Ochart

Class of 2022

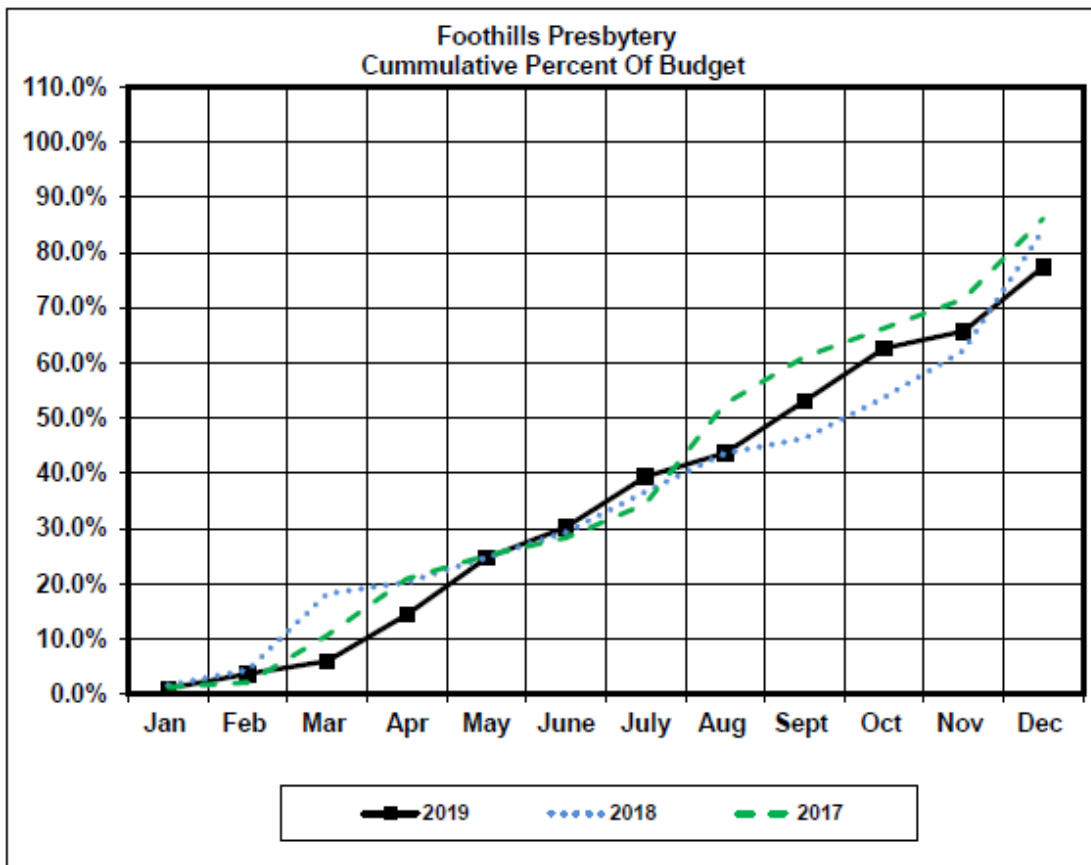
Ms. Fran Bagwell  
Mr. Jimmy Cheeks  
Rev. David Howell

*Presbytery Staff:*

Rev. Gordon Raynal  
Rev. Debbie Foster  
LeAnne White

**FOOTHILLS PRESBYTERY ANNUAL COMMITMENT**

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
TOTAL BUDGET	\$595,046	\$513,559	\$534,142
From Prior Year Budget % Change	1.8%	-13.69%	4.01%
End of Year Over/(Under) Bud	-\$82,289	-\$81,576	-\$120,632
End of Year % Budget Received	86.17%	84.12%	77.42%



	2017 Budget		2018 Budget		2019 Budget	
	Cumulative	Percent	Cumulative	Percent	Cumulative	Percent
January	\$ 7,632	1.3%	\$ 8,440	1.6%	\$ 5,872	1.1%
February	\$ 12,737	2.1%	\$ 22,936	4.5%	\$ 19,795	3.7%
March	\$ 63,676	10.7%	\$ 93,614	18.2%	\$ 32,149	6.0%
April	\$ 124,679	21.0%	\$ 104,344	20.3%	\$ 77,163	14.4%
May	\$ 149,821	25.2%	\$ 127,299	24.8%	\$ 132,018	24.7%
June	\$ 168,448	28.3%	\$ 150,519	29.3%	\$ 161,842	30.3%
July	\$ 205,360	34.5%	\$ 188,466	36.7%	\$ 210,542	39.4%
August	\$ 313,079	52.6%	\$ 224,086	43.6%	\$ 233,353	43.7%
September	\$ 363,803	61.1%	\$ 238,064	46.4%	\$ 283,790	53.1%
October	\$ 394,656	66.3%	\$ 276,067	53.8%	\$ 334,846	62.7%
November	\$ 426,057	71.6%	\$ 320,058	62.3%	\$ 351,220	65.8%
December	\$ 512,757	86.2%	\$ 431,983	84.1%	\$ 413,510	77.4%

**Foothills Presbytery**  
**Selected Financial Information**  
**Revenue and Expenditures**  
**For the Year Ended December 31, 2019**

	<u>YTD</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Budget</u>
<b>Revenue</b>		
Unified Giving - from Foothills churches	413,510	534,142
Other-PYC fees, MIS trip, Hunger Prog, COM Emgncy, etc.	89,643	35,000
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<u>503,153</u>	<u>569,142</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Committee on Shared Ministry <sup>1</sup>	82,249	73,150
Committee on Preparation for Ministry	5,772	15,500
Council <sup>2</sup>	457,685	476,492
Committee on Ministry	731	4,000
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<u>546,437</u>	<u>569,142</u>
<b>Net</b>	<u><u>(43,284)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>

**Notes:**

1 - Includes Mission Expense, Youth Council, Resource Library, Leader Training, etc.

2 - Office staff and facility expense

**FOOTHILLS PRESBYTERY**  
**Annual Commitment to Presbytery**  
**As of December 31, 2019**

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Unified Giving Report Sorted by Column "A"	Reported Church Members 2018	\$ Per Member Year End 2018	Unified Giving Year End 2018	\$ Per Member Year End 2019	Unified Giving Year End 2019	\$ Per Member Circle Up 2020	Circle Up Annual Commitment 2020
Belton	123	55.28	6,800	40.98	5,040	40.98	5,040
Bethel	31	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	
Bethesda	19	9.80	186	9.32	177	0.00	
Carmel	11	36.36	400	45.45	500	45.45	500
Central Anderson	654	51.99	34,000	47.66	31,169	0.00	
Covenant	50	27.16	1,358	0.00	0	0.00	
Easley	861	5.81	5,000	5.81	5,000	0.00	
Eastminister	157	5.75	902	11.21	1,760	0.00	
Fair Play	75	92.00	6,900	92.00	6,900	63.20	4,740
Faith	69	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	
First Anderson	686	21.87	15,000	21.87	15,000	0.00	
First Greer	546	30.30	16,542	25.64	14,000	25.64	14,000
First Simpsonville	65	30.83	2,004	36.92	2,400	43.94	2,856
First Spartanburg	2335	32.55	76,008	31.73	74,100	0.00	
First Woodruff	60	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	
Flat Rock	26	47.88	1,245	46.31	1,204	0.00	
Florence Moore	29	37.93	1,100	38.28	1,110	0.00	
Fort Hill	686	14.58	10,000	14.58	10,000	18.95	13,000
Fountain Inn	185	59.46	11,000	59.46	11,000	54.05	10,000
Fourth	720	62.50	45,000	70.83	51,000	70.83	51,000
Glenn Springs	145	35.86	5,200	35.86	5,200	0.00	
Good Hope	48	20.83	1,000	20.83	1,000	0.00	
Grace Covenant	213	42.25	9,000	42.25	9,000	42.25	9,000
Honea Path	69	21.74	1,500	21.74	1,500	0.00	
Inman	43	6.98	300	0.00	0	0.00	
John Knox	679	14.73	10,000	11.78	8,000	0.00	
Landrum	41	25.61	1,050	17.07	700	34.15	1,400
Liberty	36	0.00	0	14.33	516	0.00	
Limestone	112	22.32	2,500	35.71	4,000	0.00	
Mattoon	30	6.83	205	0.00	0	0.00	
McCarter	45	22.22	1,000	22.22	1,000	22.22	1,000
Midway	85	35.29	3,000	36.47	3,100	0.00	
Mt. Zion	63	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	
Nazareth	221	46.15	10,200	46.15	10,200	0.00	
Nicholtown	15	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	
North Anderson	65	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	
Pendleton	130	1.92	250	0.00	0	0.00	
Pickens	275	10.91	3,000	0.00	0	0.00	
Piedmont	48	93.75	4,500	45.00	2,160	45.00	2,160
Providence	138	7.25	1,000	7.25	1,000	14.49	2,000
Richland	11	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	
Roberts	84	11.90	1,000	11.90	1,000	0.00	
Rock Hill	8	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	

**FOOTHILLS PRESBYTERY**  
**Annual Commitment to Presbytery**  
**As of December 31, 2019**

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Unified Giving Report Sorted by Column "A"	Reported Church Members 2018	\$ Per Member Year End 2018	Unified Giving Year End 2018	\$ Per Member Year End 2019	Unified Giving Year End 2019	\$ Per Member Circle Up 2020	Circle Up Annual Commitment 2020
Salem	22	7.27	160	7.27	160	0.00	
Second Sptbg	187	32.09	6,000	32.09	6,000	42.78	8,000
Seneca	320	61.80	19,777	53.98	17,275	0.00	
St. Andrews	169	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	
St. Giles	341	62.00	21,142	57.28	19,531	0.00	
Townville	46	54.35	2,500	54.35	2,500	47.83	2,200
Trinity	423	5.21	2,204	3.67	1,553	0.00	
Tyger River	170	2.94	500	20.59	3,500	44.12	7,500
Unity	27	66.67	1,800	66.67	1,800	0.00	
Varennes	62	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	
Walhalla	81	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	
Walkers	26	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	
Westminster Gvl	1804	41.57	75,000	41.57	75,000	0.00	
Westminster Sax	24	41.67	1,000	41.67	1,000	0.00	
Westminster West	76	42.76	3,250	42.76	3,250	0.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,770</b>	<b>30.61</b>	<b>421,483</b>	<b>29.80</b>	<b>410,305</b>	<b>9.76</b>	<b>134,396</b>
Individuals			0		3,205		
Westminster Fwd			10,500		0		
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>10,500</b>		<b>3,205</b>		
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>			<b>431,983</b>		<b>413,510</b>		

## **Foothills Presbytery Bills & Overtures Committee**

### **February 18, 2020**

#### **We Report:**

We have received an overture from Manella Calhoun, the Presbytery's Stewardship of Creation Enabler. The overture calls for the PC(USA) and its entities to divest from the fossil fuel industry. The overture originated with the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship in partnership with Fossil Free PC(USA), two organizations that are concerned with the environment.

#### **We Recommend:**

By email vote, the Bills and Overtures Committee decided to **not** recommend this overture to the Presbytery for approval. A member of the B&O Committee had served on the environmental committee at the 2018 General Assembly which had decided it was better to stay at the table with corporations to support change rather than simply selling the stocks and opting out.

**B&O Committee Members:** Bill Lancaster, HR, chair; Cyndi Banks, RE Pickens; Barbara Stoop, TE Westminster Greenville, Nancy Blakely HR; George Harper, HR; Bill Fuller, RE Westminster Greenville; Beverly George, RE Eastminster; *Ex Officio*, Deborah Foster, Stated Clerk and Gordon Raynal.

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#### **The Overture:**

### **Fossil Free PC(USA) Divestment Overture 2019**

#### **Recommendation:**

The Presbytery of \_\_\_\_\_ overtures the 224th General Assembly to:

1. Recognize that fossil fuels have been used by humans to create a better world for many people and that the time of their usefulness is now over.
2. Recognize that divestment from fossil fuels is a viable approach to the climate emergency, which thousands of other institutions have used to hold the fossil fuel industry accountable for their inadequate responses to this emergency.
3. Commend Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) for their ongoing work with shareholder engagement to hold these industries accountable to the just and equitable values that Presbyterians seek to uphold.
4. Call on the PC(USA), The Presbyterian Foundation, the Board of Pensions, and Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program to divest from the fossil fuel industry, using the Carbon Underground 200 and the S&P Global Industry Classification Standard's list of publicly-traded companies engaged in coal, oil and gas exploration, extraction, and production as the criteria to identify which companies are considered to be fossil fuel companies.
5. Proscribe (stop) any new investments in fossil fuel industry securities.



6. Instruct MRTI to correspond through form letter to all fossil fuel companies and presbyteries in which they are headquartered of the action and the theological and moral rationale for this decision.
7. Encourage the Board of Pensions and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Foundation to actively seek out and invest in securities of companies whose predominant focus is in renewable and/or energy efficiency.
8. Direct MRTI to monitor the Board of Pensions and Presbyterian Foundation on actions to divest/invest and to report to the 225th General Assembly on their progress in implementing recommendations 4-7.

## **Rationale**

Presbyterians, and all people of faith, are always called to serve the earth. This is God's call for all humanity from the very beginning (Genesis 2:15). While fossil fuels have allowed us to create a better world for many, we now know its impact on creation and future generations is threatening the life we know and cherish. As we confess that failure, we must listen to and engage with the people in frontline communities who are already experiencing climate change, to better understand the human toll climate change has taken and will continue to take on God's children.

Here are just a couple of their voices:

"Every time there's an investment in fossil fuels, we in Africa have never been the winners of that investment. So yes this fight is about climate change but it's about decolonization and survival too." - Coumba Toure of Trust Africa

"There's 5.9 hours of sunlight on average every day in Puerto Rico [which is a lot]. But there's no [infrastructure for] solar or wind. Fossil fuel companies want to make money from oil here—and that's colonialism." - Dr. Ediberto Lopez of el Seminario Evangélico de Puerto Rico

Everything else we do as people of faith to rationalize the need for immediate and categorical divestment takes root in this context and the way our church already acts in the rest of the world. To that end, we offer the below rationale for divestment from fossil fuels from frontline communities, according to the science, and in line with previous Presbyterian policy.

We cannot continue to invest in the past while at the same time investing in the future.

### ***Moral Rationale***

*Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" "I don't know," he replied.*

*"Am I my brother's keeper?" Genesis 4:9*

*'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, I you did it to me.'* Matthew 25:40

"The moral rationale that undergirds the divestment movement is driven by this logic: climate change is harming our planet and many who inhabit it; fossil fuels are a large driver of the climate problem; and alternatives to fossil fuels exist that can provide the core energy requirements of modern societies. Therefore, profiting from products that drive this damage is morally wrong, and divesting from these products is a moral obligation."<sup>[1]</sup>

This quotation is from a 2019 statement in favor of divestment by GreenFaith, an international and interfaith environmental nonprofit that has been the lead on faith-based divestment movements. This is the moral foundation of the movement to divest from fossil fuels that has been present in the PCUSA since 2013. This morality is guided by the biblical call that we humans are created by God to serve the earth and other people as a way to love God. We are called to love God with our whole hearts. Where our treasure is there our heart will be also (Matthew 6:21).

We have watched as MRTI has faithfully sat at the table of fossil fuel companies, speaking boldly to companies that have lied to the world about climate change and fossil fuels. Still, their faithful witness has garnered slow promises that do not yet address the suffering and injustice implicit in climate change.

And so, it is our unequivocal commissioning to leave the table and divest from the fossil fuel industry, allowing us to reinvest in renewable energy and climate solutions. In doing so, we live out our chief end “to glorify God and enjoy God forever.”<sup>[2]</sup>

### ***Scientific Rationale***

Human use of fossil fuels has spurred economic and social growth, literally fueling the industrial revolution. However, burning fossil fuels has already raised the average temperature of the earth by 1°C (1.8°F). The latest report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change<sup>[3]</sup> (IPCC) shows the extent of the damage we will cause to creation if we allow the earth’s temperature to rise by 1.5-2°C, the targets agreed to by all nations of the world under the Paris Agreement of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>[4]</sup>. Even at 1.5°C of warming, we can expect to see the extinction of over 300,000 species of animals, have an ice-free Arctic in most summers, expose 14% of people to extreme heat waves (especially in the Global South), expose 250 million people to severe drought, and raise sea levels by at least 1.3 feet.

The increase in global temperature is already causing more frequent heat waves, higher sea levels, more severe droughts, and more frequent heavy rainfall events, resulting in billions of dollars in damage through flooding, wildfires, intense hurricanes, and droughts. These climate disasters have also impacted organisms and ecosystems while reducing crop yields and quality, increasing undernourishment, and damaging human health. Climate change migration is presently a fact of life for people of the Carteret Islands of Papua New Guinea, Shismaref, Alaska, and Isle de Jean Charles, Louisiana--all of whom are preparing to relocate due to the above-mentioned climate change impacts. Sea level rise is projected to reach at least 0.8 feet by the end of 2100 and as much as 6 feet if we do not take significant measures to reduce climate warming.<sup>[5]</sup>

Knowing we must keep climate to 1.5°- 2°C of warming sets limits to how much fossil fuel can be burned. We have about 10 years after GA 224 to stay within these warming limits. However, the fossil fuel industry’s own estimates<sup>[6]</sup> show that burning the proved reserves of fossil fuels will release almost three times the carbon budget at 2°C<sup>[7]</sup> and an astounding five times the 1.5°C budget – CO<sub>2</sub> that will remain in the atmosphere for hundreds of years. Despite these dire realities, oil and gas production is increasing, and PC(USA)’s money has helped allowed oil and gas companies to spend over \$114 Billion in 2017<sup>[8]</sup> to acquire new deposits of oil and gas that we can’t afford to burn.

The fossil fuel industry often places new refineries and petrochemical plants in poor communities of color who lack the resources to stand in the way. This form of environmental racism drives some of the highest rates of cancer and disease in the country. A predominantly African-American South Philadelphia community, for example, surrounds the Philadelphia Energy Solutions (PES) refinery. That plant was already Philadelphia's biggest single air polluter before it recently exploded, sending toxic fumes into the surrounding community of people who cannot afford to move away from them. A 2017 report<sup>[9]</sup> said the PES complex was responsible for 72 percent of the toxic air emissions in Philadelphia, a major factor in the city's childhood asthma rate, which is more than double the national average, as well as causing a range of other health effects including headaches and cancer.<sup>[10]</sup> Marathon Oil (one of PCUSA's GA9 investments<sup>[11]</sup>), which recently spent \$1.9 billion to expand their refinery in a Detroit suburb, purchased property from nearby white neighbors in the path of the refinery's pollution clouds, leaving communities of color to suffer.<sup>[12]</sup> While we sit at the table trying to convince these companies to change their ways, they continue to perpetuate sins against humans and all creation. We currently profit from these scientific realities and sins against our neighbor. In the face of this climate emergency, we must stand firm in a bold witness with people who have been hurt by the fossil fuel industry--we must divest.

### ***Criteria Rationale***

The criteria this overture calls upon the denomination to use to define which companies are fossil fuel companies, and thereby, which will go on the divestment and proscription list, are of vital importance. The first criterion, the Carbon Underground 200<sup>[13]</sup>, compiled and maintained by Fossil Free Indexes<sup>SM</sup>, identifies the top 100 coal and the top 100 oil and gas publicly-traded reserve holders globally, ranked by the potential carbon emissions content of their reported reserves. This is the approach that has been most commonly used by institutions seeking to divest. By identifying the publicly-traded companies with the largest reserves, divesting from these companies has the most immediate impact.

The second criterion is the S&P Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS®)<sup>[14]</sup> listing of publicly-traded companies engaged in coal, oil and gas exploration, extraction, and production. The GICS was designed in response to the global financial community's need for accurate, complete and standard industry definitions. The GICS structure consists of 11 Sectors, 24 Industry groups, 69 Industries and 158 sub-industries. Used for financial indices such as the S&P Oil & Gas Exploration & Production Select Industry Index, the GICS Industry categories Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels (101020) and Energy Equipment & Services (101010) capture the entire industry. Using this criterion prevents proscribing investment in companies selling petroleum products while still profiting from companies engaged in exploration, extraction, and production, such as oil rig producers and independent fracking companies.

The third criterion calls for divestment. The Board of Pensions has consistently argued that they cannot divest without undermining their fiduciary responsibility to pension holders. However, over 1000 institutions – who must also uphold fiduciary responsibility – have already divested, representing over \$11 trillion worldwide.<sup>[15]</sup> *Clearly it is possible*

*(and one might argue necessary) to divest from fossil fuels and still be responsible for the investments of pensioners.*

in 2017 the IPCC reported we have about 10 years after GA 224 to make major changes, including a 45% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2030 and reaching net-zero emissions by 2050 to stay within 1.5°C of warming<sup>[16]</sup>. PC(USA)'s Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) committee currently uses a set of criteria that fail to respond prophetically to the urgency of climate change. MRTI's methodical approach is unnecessarily time consuming when there is little time left to act. MRTI has carefully constructed an evaluation rubric consisting of 20 environmental metrics, 12 social metrics, and 12 governance metrics (with several subcategories in some of these). Such an environmental, social, and governance (ESG) evaluation is the cornerstone of modern socially-responsible investing. GA222 charged MRTI with identifying these metrics in 2016. GA223 approved the metrics and identified an initial list of nine companies to consider, of which only six are oil and gas companies<sup>[17]</sup>. MRTI *may* deliver a list of proposed divestments to GA224 – six years since GA221 first considered divestment. There is no certainty that MRTI will consider any additional companies post 2020 because such a move would require a mandate from General Assembly. In fact, current MRTI efforts will not even provide a clear idea which of these companies are moving towards a low-carbon future and which are not until 2023, making further significant action unlikely before the 2024 GA226 meeting<sup>[18]</sup>. Additionally, the MRTI approach includes no proscription of investment in other fossil fuel companies, so PC(USA) funds divested from one oil company could be reinvested into another. Finally, The MRTI process is too slow to make the changes we need now to protect creation.

### ***PCUSA Policy Rationale***

*He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8*

The PC(USA) has a long history of divestment and, in particular, of categorical divestment. The church has divested from five industrial categories – military-related products, tobacco companies, alcohol corporations, gambling businesses, and for-profit prisons. The church has also divested from particular corporations that have contributed to human rights abuses in specific times and places.

In 1984 when the PC(USA) adopted its policy on divestment<sup>[19]</sup> it provided for “divestment of holdings in a particular firm or class of firms is both part of the normal management of funds and potentially an occasion for Christian witness to God's call for justice and the renewal of society”. However, in its implementation of this policy, PC(USA)'s committee on Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) has developed a policy for divestment from an entire industrial category (class of firms). The paths to categorical divestment and the forms it has taken have thus diverged in each case. Such flexibility has allowed the church to appropriately respond to different industries and the various social and environmental problems each creates.

The 194th General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church in the USA, for example, instructed the church to divest from corporations involved in military activities. Between 1982 and 1998, the General Assembly refined this industrial category to include (1) the five biggest military contractors to the US government, (2) companies that receive at least 50 percent of their sales from military contracts and are among the 100 highest-earning military contractors, (3) the top five earning companies engaged in foreign military sales, and (4) corporations that produce weapons that can lead to mass civilian casualties. MRTI began recommending these measures after ten years of shareholder engagement.

The General Assembly instructed the church to divest from all tobacco companies in 1990. The overture to divest called upon MRTI to “develop annually a list of corporations ‘whose primary business is tobacco and are known as such.’” In 1996, GA directed MRTI to use the Investor Responsibility Research Center, the American Lung Association, and Corporate Campaign, Inc. to define what qualifies as a tobacco company. From these guidelines, 21 corporations were identified. MRTI did not conduct any shareholder engagement prior to the GA’s decision to divest.

Neither the General Assembly nor MRTI has ever called for divestment from alcohol or gambling corporations. However, the Board of Pensions and the Presbyterian Church (USA) Foundation have their own policies, which govern divesting/proscribing investments in all domestic and international alcohol and gambling corporations.

The GA voted in 2003 to call for the abolition of all for-profit prisons, jails, and detention centers. In 2012, the GA instructed MRTI to “report on the feasibility of affecting the corporate practices of Corrections Corporation of America (CCA), the GEO Group, and any other publicly traded corporation that directly manages or operates for-profit prisons and/or detention centers.” MRTI determined, “while efforts could be made through shareholder advocacy (where stock is owned in a publicly traded company), such efforts might improve some prison conditions, but would not address the fundamental contradictions identified by the 215<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2003).” The GA therefore voted to divest from all publicly traded for-profit prison companies.

The denomination has chosen to divest from each of these entire industrial categories in the first place because the very nature of these industries has been seen as harmful to the spiritual and biological life of God’s creation.

This overture to categorically divest from the fossil fuel industry would take a prophetic stance to protect God’s creation and ensure a sustainable energy future for the church and God’s world.

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[1] Gary Gardner, for GreenFaith, 2019.

[2] Westminster Catechism, question 1

[3] IPCC, 2018: *Summary for Policymakers*. In: *Global Warming of 1.5°C. An IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty* [Masson-Delmotte, V., P. Zhai, H.-O. Pörtner,



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- [7] Richard Heede and Naomi Oreskes 2016. *Global Environmental Change*. Potential emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> and methane from proved reserves of fossil fuels: An alternative analysis. doi: 10.1016/j.gloenvcha.2015.10.005
- [8] Robert Rapier 2018. *Forbes*. [Oil Company Spending And Oil Reserves Are On The Rise](https://www.forbes.com/sites/rpapier/2018/07/27/oil-company-spending-and-oil-reserves-are-on-the-rise/#207559c54a31). <https://www.forbes.com/sites/rpapier/2018/07/27/oil-company-spending-and-oil-reserves-are-on-the-rise/#207559c54a31>
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- [11] Ibid
- [12] Rich Copely 2019. *Presbyterian News Service*. Investment group meets Detroit residents living in refinery's toxic shadow. <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/investment-group-meets-detroit-residents-living-in-refinerys-toxic-shadow/>
- [13] <https://fossilfreefunds.org/carbon-underground-200>
- [14] S&P Global 2018. *Global Industry Classification Standard*. [https://www.spglobal.com/marketintelligence/en/documents/112727-gics-mapbook\\_2018\\_v3\\_letter\\_digitalspreads.pdf](https://www.spglobal.com/marketintelligence/en/documents/112727-gics-mapbook_2018_v3_letter_digitalspreads.pdf)
- [15] <https://gofossilfree.org/divestment/commitments/>
- [16] Ibid
- [17] Ibid
- [18] [https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/mrti-shares-first-round-of-general-assembly-environmental-compliance-scores/?utm\\_source=ActiveCampaign&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=Presbyterian+Church+USA+Weekly+News&utm\\_campaign=Presbyterian+Church+USA+Weekly+News+%7C+Sep+04-10+2019&fbclid=IwAR1GsHB6vEJUlhx\\_9gGqcWN9TKrma2U8uBhF410dLP71kt6ly-xnBB3XZqc](https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/mrti-shares-first-round-of-general-assembly-environmental-compliance-scores/?utm_source=ActiveCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Presbyterian+Church+USA+Weekly+News&utm_campaign=Presbyterian+Church+USA+Weekly+News+%7C+Sep+04-10+2019&fbclid=IwAR1GsHB6vEJUlhx_9gGqcWN9TKrma2U8uBhF410dLP71kt6ly-xnBB3XZqc)
- [19] Office of General Assembly 1984. *The Divestment Strategy: Principles and Criteria*. 196<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Journal, 193-207.

# SUMMER 2020 - REGISTER TODAY!

CELEBRATING CAMPING MINISTRY SINCE 1948



## A WORD FROM THE DIRECTORS

We are so happy to welcome your camper family to Camp Fellowship this year! Camp Fellowship is committed to creating impactful relationships in an environment that fosters growth through unique experiences. We love to see campers, staff, and guests learning new skills, paddling around on the lake, singing during campfires and worship, and of course, making the yummiest of s'mores.

All of these experiences, paired with an intentional small group model allow for the perfect environment for exploring & growing in faith, and learning what it means to live in community. We can't wait for you and your camper family to join us in the rich history of Camp Fellowship!

*Kevin Carter & Emily Kinkead*  
Camp Directors



## WHY CHOOSE CAMP FELLOWSHIP?

- Well-trained & enthusiastic staff that receive extensive training in all camp activities, and also receive certifications in child protection, American Red Cross First Aid, CPR, and Lifeguarding
- A unique setting on Lake Greenwood that provides many opportunities for nature exploration, perfect sunsets, and cool waters.
- A faith-based community that welcomes & celebrates all.
- Curriculum that celebrates faith formation & growth.
- Activities that are fun, safe, and challenging for all ages

Our 2020 summer schedule & program offerings are available online & in our summer brochure. Head over to our website to learn about more opportunities to get involved! [www.campfellowship.org](http://www.campfellowship.org)



**SOUTH CAROLINA PRESBYTERIAN CONVOCATION:  
A GATHERING OF SOUTH CAROLINA PRESBYTERIANS**  
Presbyterian College and Thornwell Home for Children  
May 15-16, 2020

**SCHEDULE**

Friday, May 15

- 3:00 – 4:00pm Tours of Thornwell Campus & Presbyterian College
- 3:00 – 5:45pm Registration
- 5:00 – 6:30 pm Dinner at Presbyterian College
- 7:00 – 8:30 pm Worship & Celebration of the Lord’s Supper  
The Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II, the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the  
Presbyterian Church (USA)
- 8:45 – 10 pm Reception and Celebration of our Presbyterian Community

Saturday, May 16

- 7:00 – 8:15 am Breakfast in Greenville Dining Hall, Presbyterian College
- 8:00 – 8:30 am Registration for meetings of the five South Carolina presbyteries
- 8:30 – 9:00 am Morning Plenary
- 9:15 – 12 pm STATED SPRING MEETINGS OF SOUTH CAROLINA PRESBYTERIES
- 12 – 1:30 pm Lunch