

# FOOTHILLS PRESBYTERY MISSION AND STRUCTURE

## **MISSION:**

The identity, mission and ministry of Foothills Presbytery is rooted in the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA):

1. G-3.03 “The presbytery is responsible for the government of the church throughout its district, and for assisting and supporting the witness of the congregations to the sovereign activity of God in the world, so that all congregations become communities of faith, hope, love and witness. As it leads and guides the witness of its congregations, the presbytery shall keep before it the marks of the Church (F-1.0302), the notes by which Presbyterian and Reformed communities have identified themselves through history (F-1.0303) and the six Great Ends of the Church (F-10304).

In light of this charge, the presbytery has responsibility and power to:

- a. provide that the Word of God may be truly preached and heard;
  - b. nurture the covenant community of disciples of Christ;
  - c. provide that the Sacraments may be rightly administered and received.
2. G-2.0201 Diaconal ministry “as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service sharing the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures or anyone in distress.”

As the Council of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America for the congregations in the six Upstate Counties in South Carolina, by the Grace of God we gather to joyfully celebrate this Calling.

## **STRUCTURE:**

### • **Foothills Coordinating Council (FCC):**

Council serves to oversee, coordinate and review all commissions, committees and work groups in Foothills Presbytery. The FCC is composed of the FCC Chair, the Presbytery Moderator and the Moderator-elect, and the Chairs of the following committees:

#### Constitutional Committees

- Committee on Ministry
- Committee on Preparation for Ministry
- Nominations
- Bills and Overtures
- Representation and Review

#### Non-constitutional Committees

- Equipping the Saints
- Finance and Stewardship
- Personnel
- Racial Ethnic Cabinet
- Worship

Ex-officio: Executive Presbyter, Associate Executive Presbyter, Treasurer, Parliamentarian

## STRUCTURE continued

- **The Permanent Judicial Commission**
  
- **Three Regional Diaconal Clusters**
  1. Anderson
  2. Greenville
  3. Spartanburg
  
- **Presbytery Staff:**
  - \$300,000: Personnel**
    - Executive Presbyter
    - Associate Executive Presbyter
    - Office Administrator /Bookkeeper
    - Administrative Assistant
  
  - \$100,000: Operating Expenses**
    - Facility maintenance and operations
    - Day-to-day operations; office expenses
    - Operating Reserve; Contingency Fund
  
  - \$100,000+: Ministry**
    - Core Constitutional Committees
    - Non-constitutional committees; shared ministries
    - Regional Expenses

## PLANNING RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. *Three-year plan (2017-2019) with evaluation in 2019.*
  - a. *Executive Presbyter and Associate Executive Presbyter Positions: 3 year term (subject to renewal) during Foothills Presbytery structure changes and development of Manual.*
  - b. *During this three period Council will evaluate and recommend whether the Executive Presbyter and Associate Executive Presbyter positions will be called positions or positions hired by Council at the end of those three years.*
  - c. *The Stated Clerk and Associate Stated Clerk role(s) are elected by Presbytery.*
  
2. *Develop alternate methods of funding campus ministries and seminary scholarships.*
  
3. *Increase marketing of PC(USA) churches in Foothills Presbytery, emphasizing our identity and message, as well as opportunities for service and personal growth.*

## **PRESBYTERY COMMITTEES:**

**Committee on Ministry:** The COM serves as pastor and counselor to the ministers, Commissioner Ruling Elders (CRE) and Certified Christian Educators (CCE) of Foothills Presbytery; facilitates relations between congregations, ministers and presbytery, and settles difficulties on behalf of presbytery wherever possible. The subcommittees of COM:

- a. Pastoral Concerns
- b. Triennial Visits
- c. Temporary Pastoral Relations
- d. Certified Ruling Elders (CRE)
- e. Certified Christian Educators (CCE)
- f. Work of the Minister and Terms of Call
- g. Church Relations

In addition, the Examinations Commission and the Sexual Ethics and Child Protection Committees report to COM.

**Committee on Preparation for Ministry:** The CPM provides direction for those who are to be ordained as Teaching Elders. The committee enters into covenant relationship with those preparing to become ministers and is engaged in such relationship through the phases of inquiry and candidacy. The subcommittees of CPM:

- a. Financial Aid
- b. Education
- c. Career and Professional Development
- d. Ordination Exam Readers

**Nominations Committee:** The NC nominates persons to fill all vacancies on the continuing councils, committees and working groups that require election by presbytery. It is suggested the Regional Diaconal Clusters be asked to help in filling these vacancies.

**Bills and Overtures Committee:** The B&O Committee receives all overtures which have been referred to Presbytery and provides advice to the Presbytery regarding the action on such overtures.

**Representation and Review Committee:** The R&R Committee advises Presbytery with respect to its membership and of all its bodies by making sure that the principles of participation and inclusiveness are met (see G-3.0103), and in addition, it is responsible for the review and control of Sessions and congregations.

## **PRESBYTERY COMMITTEES** continued

**Equipping the Saints Committee:** The EtS Committee serves to equip, nurture and connect faithful leaders for the ministry of the church, congregations, and the Regional Diaconal of Foothills Presbyteries. EtS engages in, but is not limited to, the following:

- a. Leadership Development
- b. Shared Mission
- c. Pastoral Support and Peer Groups
- d. Technology and Communication
- e. Hospitality
- f. Curriculum and Resources
- g. Outdoor Ministry
- h. Youth Programs
- i. Campus Ministry

**Finance and Stewardship Committee:** The F&S Committee provides financial planning and fiscal oversight for the Presbytery. It promotes stewardship in the congregations and interprets the budgets of Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly.

**Personnel Committee:** The PC provides oversight, support, and recommendations to council for ordained and non-ordained personnel in regards to hiring/dismissal, annual evaluations, personnel wages and expenses.

**Worship Committee:** The WC provides planning and oversight of the Presbytery Worship Celebrations.

**Racial Ethnic Cabinet:** The REC serves as an advocate and interpreter for racial ethnic opportunities and concerns to Presbytery.

### **Regional Diaconal Clusters:**

The Regional Diaconal Clusters are organized and gather to promote shared Diaconal Ministry between and among the congregations in their district. Possible, but not limited to, areas of focus:

- a. Children, youth and education and nurture events
- b. Family support events
- c. Worship and fellowship events
- d. Clerk, Ruling Elder, Deacon, Treasurer training events
- e. shared local, national and world missions