

WHAT DOES THE PRESBYTERY DO FOR US?

The mission of the Presbytery of New Hope is to build relationships, equip and serve together as the body of Christ with congregations and communities to move all toward God's vision of love, justice, hope and peace.

Our presbytery is more than just the office in Raleigh and staff. The Presbytery of New Hope is composed of 111 churches, three new worshipping communities, and a vast array of other validated ministries in the northeastern and central part of North Carolina. The presbytery encompasses churches from Efland to the Outer Banks. The presbytery is an inclusive and diverse body of Reformed Christians committed to a deepening devotion to Jesus Christ, living in response to the good news of the gospel. We are committed to fostering relationships among individuals and congregations in the presbytery. There are many parts to the presbytery and these parts are expanded in this report.

All committees and commissions of the Presbytery of New Hope are composed of volunteering teaching and ruling elders of the Presbytery that are supported by presbytery staff.

The Coordinating Body functions like a session does for a congregation, with members serving as trustees and legal officers of the presbytery. The Coordinating Body plans, recommends and coordinates the work and programs of the presbytery; sets broad and overall goals and priorities; oversee the personnel functions of the presbytery through the personnel committee; receives and approves the annual mission budget and presents it to the gathering of the presbytery; and brings recommendations for approval of administrative committees to the presbytery.

The Commission on Ministry handles call and vacancies; handles conflict resolution; provides counseling and coaching to teaching elders; provides Healthy Boundary training to teaching and ruling elders; receives candidates for call once they have passed through the Examinations Subcommittee; and oversees congregations without ministers. Member of this commission currently serve as liaisons to five to six churches in the presbytery.

The Commission on Preparation for Ministry provides care, guidance and oversight for all inquirers and candidates for ordained ministry; provides care, guidance, and oversight for all persons seeking certification as church educators; serves as a shepherd to inquirers and candidates; evaluates and assesses candidates' progress during their period of candidacy; organizes and participates in annual consultations; and functions as a bridge between seminaries and candidates when needed.

The Campus Ministry Committee is responsible for supporting the ministers of the five campus ministries in our presbytery. These campus ministries are Duke Campus Ministries, NCCU Campus Ministries, PCM Raleigh (serving NCSU and Meredith College), UKirk of East Carolina Ministries, and UNC Campus Ministries. The budget of New Hope Presbytery provides substantial financial support for these ministries to our young adults.

The Church Development and Evangelism Committee provides opportunities to churches to deepen their commitment to evangelism; supports new church startups; and oversees church development grants. The church development grants are a specific line item in the presbytery mission budget.

The Nominations and Representation Committee, which is selected by the Coordinating Body, is responsible for nominating persons for Presbytery approval for the following positions: Vice-moderator; members of committees and commissions; Commissioner and Youth Advisory Delegates to the General Assembly; Commissioners and Youth Advisory Delegates to the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic; and presbytery representative to ecumenical boards and agencies.

The Personnel Committee proposes personnel policies for the presbytery and assures compliance with these policies; proposes performance review procedures for presbytery staff; assures reviews are conducted according to established procedure and conducts reviews for specified exempt positions; proposes salary schedules for all presbytery employees; and consults with and advises appropriate entities and staff regarding personnel functions, standard and dealing with sensitive matters.

The Finance and Property Committee is responsible for financial and property matters referred by the Coordinating Body to the committee. In addition, the Finance and Property Committee reviews and advises on matters of encumbrance, purchase, or sale of congregational property; oversees management of presbytery funds, investments, debt retirement, and expenditures; conducts annual budget development process; and submits an annual budget proposal for the Coordinating Body's consideration, review and approval.

Besides the commissions and committees of the presbytery there are multiple **networks and task groups** working to fulfill our mission. These are also led by ruling and teaching elders of the presbytery. These are: the Peacemaking Team; the Black Caucus Ministry; the Older Adult Ministry; the Fiscal Sustainability Task Group; retreat and educational opportunities; Youth Ministries; Outdoors Ministries – Camp Albemarle; emergency response coordination and assistance; support of interfaith prison ministries; Presbyterian Women; and Passion Driven Ministry Grants.

The work of these commissions, committees, networks, and task groups further the mission of the presbytery and is done by many volunteering members of the presbytery along with the presbytery office staff. In summary the mission of the Presbytery of New Hope is supported by the time, talents, and treasures from the congregations of the presbytery.