

The Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky
Stated Meeting
Saturday, August 29, 2026
Cedar Ridge Camp
AGENDA

Moderator: Teaching Elder Joel Weible
Vice-Moderator: Ruling Elder Betty Muse
Interim Stated Clerk: Teaching Elder Jenny Edlin
Recording Clerk: Teaching Elder Andrew Hartmans

9:30 a.m. Registration Opens + Light Breakfast

A light breakfast will be provided by the Hispanic Latino Ministry Committee in celebration of the Preston Highway Ministry's 15th anniversary.

10:00 a.m. Gathering All Together Moderator, Rev. Joel Weible

- Welcome to first time members, commissioners, and guests
- Welcome and seating of any corresponding members
- Welcome from Cedar Ridge Camp
 - Land Acknowledgement
- Declaration of a quorum and approval of the docket

10:05 a.m. Consent Agenda

- Approve the minutes of the May 18, 2026 meeting

10:10 a.m. Greetings from the Office of Innovation PL&W DeEtte Decker
Rev. Samuel Son

10:20 a.m. 227th General Assembly Reflection Rev. Dr. Angela Johnson,
TE Commissioner

10:30 a.m. Worship at The Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky

- Preaching: Rev. Joanna Kim, General Presbyter
 - Preston Highway Ministries
- Offering: Cedar Ridge Camp Scholarship Fund

11:30 a.m. Coordinating Commission Report RE Betty Muse

- The Dissolution Service for Portland Ave. Presbyterian Church, celebrating 171 years of faithful ministry in the Portland neighborhood, will take place on **Sunday Sept. 13, 2026 at Portland Ave. Presbyterian Church at 3pm** (3126 Portland Ave. Louisville, KY 40202)
- Update from UKirk Ministries
- Update from Mission Committee (Rev. Mary Nebelsick)
- Update from Hispanic Latino Committee (Rev. Tom Vandergriff)
 - Preston Highway Ministries Celebrates 15 YEARS!!!!

11:45 p.m. Announcements
Please keep announcements to one minute or less

11:55 p.m. Lunch & Christian Education Committee Workshops
Please grab a box lunch and head to a workshop!

- **Innovation Labs Without The Implosions: Small Experiments Towards Congregational Change**
 - Hosted by the Church Growth & Transformation Committee; Led by DeEtte Decker and Rev. Samuel Son from Presbyterian Life and Witness (PL&W)
 - Location: Hopkins Hall
- **Doing Justice Together: Understanding Our Racial Justice Policy and Moving Toward Faithful Action;**
 - Led by the MKP Racial Justice Committee
 - Location: Chapel
- **Clerks of Session Training**
 - Led by Rev. Jenny Edlin, MKP Interim Stated Clerk
 - Location: Whitetail Lodge

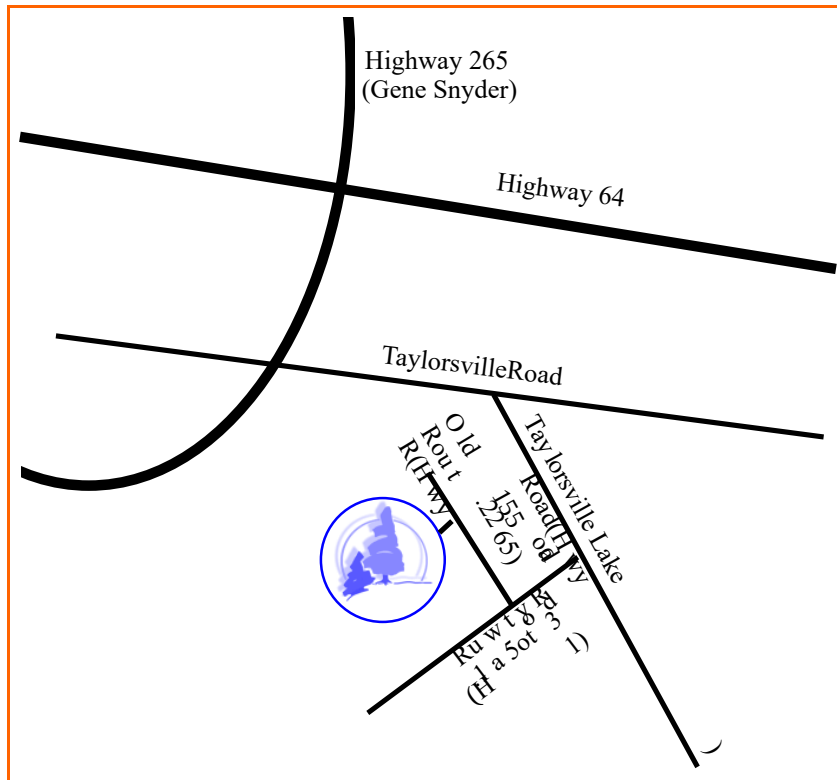
1:30 p.m.	Commission on Ministry ● Orderversaries ● Minimum Effective Salary 2027	Rev. Marissa Galvan-Valle
1:40 a.m.	Commission for Preparation on Ministry ● New Inquirer Introduction – Jonathan Sutphin	Rev. Andrew Bowman
1:50 p.m.	Personnel Committee ● FOR ACTION: Presentation and election of Rev. Jenny Edlin to serve as Stated Clerk for a three year term (2027-2029). ● FOR ACTION: Presentation and re-election of Michael Purintin to serve as treasurer of the Presbytery of Mid-KY for a three year term (2027-2029)	Rev. Candi Cubbage
1: 55 p.m.	Nominations and Representation ● FOR ACTION: Elect Rev. Andrew Hartmans to serve as the Recording Clerk for a three year term (2027-2029).	Rev. Pam Clinger RE Sara Sutphin
2:00 p.m.	New Business	
2:05 p.m.	Interim Stated Clerk Report	Rev. Jenny Edlin
2:15 p.m.	Adjourn and Prayer	RE Betty Muse

Upcoming Presbytery Meetings:

- *Saturday Nov. 13 & 14; Tri-Presbytery Meeting @ Nazareth Retreat Center; Bardstown, KY.*
- *Saturday Feb. 20, 2027 @ Beechmont Presbyterian Church*
- *Tuesday May 10, 2027 @ The PC(USA) Center*
- *Saturday August 28, 2027 @ Bethel First Presbyterian Church, Campbellsville, KY*



Directions to Cedar Ridge



Cedar Ridge Camp is located at 4010 Old Routt Road, Louisville, Kentucky.

To get here, take the Gene Snyder Freeway (Hwy. 265) to Exit 23 (Taylorsville-Jeffersontown). Go east, away from the city, approximately 2 miles. At the stoplight, follow the bend in the road and go about one more mile up the hill.

Turn right (will be 1st right after the light) on highway 1531, also called Routt Road.

Go two-tenths of a mile, turn right on highway 2265 (Old Routt Road). Cedar Ridge Camp is one-half mile down the road on the left-hand side.

The Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky Educational Workshops August 2026

Innovation Labs Without The Implosions: Small Experiments Towards Congregational Change

Hosted by the Church Growth & Transformation Committee; Led by DeEtte Decker and Rev. Samuel Son from Presbyterian Life and Witness (PL&W)

Location: Hopkins Hall

DeEtte Decker helps congregations and mid councils discern faithful futures. Drawing on more than 25 years of experience in faith-based leadership—including Christian education, pastoral ministry, entrepreneurship, and strategic consulting—she brings together theological reflection, strategic foresight, and practical tools to help leaders navigate change, reimagine ministry, and discover new possibilities for serving their communities. DeEtte creates spaces where leaders can ask better questions, experiment with new ideas, practice faithful innovation, and learn alongside one another. Through consulting, workshops, cohorts, learning communities, and innovation labs, she equips leaders to reimagine property and land stewardship, cultivate social enterprise, lead adaptive change, and build the capacity needed for a changing world. Her work extends across the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and alongside ecumenical and nonprofit partners, connecting leaders to a broad network of practitioners, resources, and collaborative relationships that expand what is possible. Through her work with the Office of Innovation, Futuring, and Discernment, DeEtte helps cultivate a culture of curiosity, courage, and faithful imagination for the future of the Church.

Samuel Son serves in the Office of Innovation of Presbyterian Life & Witness. He helps leaders and ministries navigate change through coaching, innovation, and adaptive leadership practices. He also helps lead the church's work around artificial intelligence, developing resources, learning experiences, and ethical frameworks that support responsible AI adoption in ministry. His work brings together innovation, storytelling, and emerging technology to help the church imagine and live into God's future of Shalom. He preaches and moderates at Shawnee Presbyterian Church, his spiritual community that keeps him grounded and where he witnesses how work at all levels of the presbyterian church intersect.

Workshop Description

Our Reformed tradition reminds us that faithfulness is not static; it continually takes fresh expression in response to what God is doing in the world. In this interactive workshop, we'll tap into our capacity for innovation by practicing the Innovation cycle: Listen, Act, and Share. Through fun, hands-on micro-experiments, you'll discover how small steps can move congregations from anxiety and resistance toward curiosity, courage, and meaningful change. You'll leave ready to exercise your innovation muscles and with a taste of the practical, Spirit-led learning offered through the six-session Innovation Lab cohort.

Doing Justice Together: Understanding Our Racial Justice Policy and Moving Toward Faithful Action

Hosted and led by the MKP Racial Justice Committee - Rev. Dr. Perzavia Praylow (Chair), Rev. Candi Cabbage, Mr. Vince Patton, Ms. Sandra Posey, Mr. Doug Welch, and Ms. Cordia Pickerill
Location: Chapel

Workshop Description:

What does our Presbytery's commitment to racial justice mean for our congregations? This interactive workshop will reintroduce the Mid-Kentucky Presbytery Anti-Racism Policy, explore the commitments and reasoning behind it, and consider how the policy can serve as a framework for congregational racial justice work. Participants will consider where their congregations currently are, explore how to begin conversations about developing a congregational racial justice policy, and identify faithful next steps toward action.

Clerks of Session Training

Led by Rev. Jenny Edlin, MKP Interim Stated Clerk
Location: Whitetail Lodge

Jenny Edlin serves as the Interim Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky. In this role, she supports the presbytery's councils, commissions, committees, congregations, and clerks by providing guidance on polity, process, and shared decision-making. Her work is grounded in the connectional nature of the Presbyterian Church and a commitment to helping the presbytery carry out its ministry faithfully and in good order.

Workshop Description

Clerks of Session are invited to this training and gathering designed to provide practical guidance, helpful resources, and space for questions and conversation. This time will also offer an opportunity to connect with each other and strengthen our shared work of supporting our congregations and the larger church community.



Innovation Lab

A cohort-based learning experience equipping ministry leaders with the habits, courage, and tools to lead faithfully in a changing world.

Office of Innovation | Presbyterian Life & Witness | Serving God's Mission in the World

What is an Innovation Lab?

The Innovation Lab is a six-session cohort experience for congregational and mid council leaders who want to practice faithful, Spirit-led innovation in their ministry contexts. Rooted in Reformed theology — “Reformed and always reforming” — it blends current studies of innovation frameworks with the spiritual disciplines of listening, acting, and sharing. This is not a theory-heavy training. It is a hands-on, relational practice space where leaders learn by doing, experiment in their own settings, and grow together in community.

THE SIX SESSIONS

SESSION 1

Leading Faithful Innovation

Innovation as an act of faithfulness — practicing the cycle of Listen → Act → Share as a spiritual discipline rooted in Scripture

SESSION 2

The Innovator's DNA

Mastering five innovation habits: Associating, Questioning, Observing, Networking, and Experimenting — practiced as spiritual postures.

SESSION 3

Strategic Foresight

Using proven tools from 55 years of futures research, this session cultivates the mindset and skillsets to identify emerging imperatives and develop strategies that move from anxiety to imagination.

SESSION 4

Resistance & Resilience

Adaptive leadership for new contexts — building the courage and flexibility to lead through uncertainty and change without losing your footing.

SESSION 5

Sharing Transformative Stories

Learning to reflect on, shape, and tell stories of innovation in ways that inspire and equip others to step into their own faithful creativity.

SESSION 6

Learning from Our Lab

Innovation is the posture of learning — every experience holds something to build on. We reflect on our experiments and the full lab journey, iterating toward what God is calling us into next.



CORE PRACTICE The Innovation Cycle



LISTEN



ACT



SHARE

WHAT LEADERS TAKE HOME

- ▶ A practical Innovation Playbook for their ministry context
- ▶ Five actionable innovation habits grounded in spiritual practice
- ▶ Tools for adaptive leadership in times of change
- ▶ Strategic-foresight frameworks to move from anxiety to imagination
- ▶ Skills to tell transformative stories that inspire others
- ▶ A lasting peer network of fellow innovators

PROGRAM DETAILS

Format: Monthly cohort sessions (Zoom) + kick-off in-person retreat

Commitment: 2-hour monthly session + 30–35 min of pre-work

Cost: No financial commitment — investment of time, energy, and relationship

Facilitators: Office of Innovation



Interested?
Scan to sign up

pcusa.org/innovation | DeEtte.Decker@pcusa.org | Samuel.Son@pcusa.org

Racial Justice Committee Report to the Presbytery

Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky

Report Date: July 31, 2026

Presbytery Meeting Date: August 29, 2026

Committee/Commission Name: Racial Justice Committee

Committee/Commission Chair: Rev. Dr. Perzavia Praylow

Committee Members:

Rev. Dr. Perzavia Praylow (**Chair**)

Rev. Candi Cubbage

Mr. Vince Patton

Ms. Sandra Posey

Mr. Doug Welch

Ms. Cordia Pickerill

Purpose of the Committee

The Racial Justice Committee supports the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky's commitment to racial justice, anti-racist ministry, and equitable participation throughout the Presbytery. The committee works to support implementation of the Presbytery's Anti-Racism Policy, provide educational and training opportunities, strengthen accountability, and resource congregations seeking to deepen their racial justice commitments.

Recent Activities

May–June 2026 Committee Work

The Racial Justice Committee met during May and June 2026 and continued its work related to the Presbytery's Anti-Racism Policy and 2026 racial justice priorities.

During these meetings, the committee focused particularly on two areas:

1. August 29 Presbytery Racial Justice Workshop

The committee discussed and planned a racial justice workshop for the **Saturday, August 29, 2026 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery at Cedar Ridge Camp & Retreat Center**.

The workshop is titled: **Doing Justice Together: Understanding Our Racial Justice Policy and Moving Toward Faithful Action**

The workshop will reintroduce the Mid-Kentucky Presbytery Anti-Racism Policy and help participants consider what the Presbytery's commitment to racial justice means for our

congregations and shared ministry. Participants will be invited to reflect on where their congregations currently stand in relation to racial justice and anti-racism work and to identify faithful next steps toward strengthening congregational policies, practices, and ministries.

The workshop presenters will be members of the Racial Justice Committee:

- Rev. Dr. Perzavia Praylow (Chair)
- Rev. Candi Cabbage
- Mr. Vince Patton
- Ms. Sandra Posey
- Mr. Doug Welch
- Ms. Cordia Pickerill

2. Presbytery-Wide Anti-Racism Training

During May and June, the committee also reviewed proposals from **two prospective racial justice training vendors/facilitators**.

Following review and discussion, the committee identified a **preferred facilitator** for future Presbytery-wide anti-racism training. We are hopeful that this partnership will allow the Presbytery to offer a substantive anti-racism training opportunity during **Fall 2026 or, if necessary, January 2027**.

Potential dates currently under consideration include:

- Saturday, October 3, 2026
- Saturday, November 7, 2026
- January 2027, if a fall date is not feasible

Additional information will be shared with the Presbytery once the facilitator, date, format, and other logistics are confirmed.

July Sabbath

The Racial Justice Committee observed **July 2026 as a Sabbath month** and did not hold a regular committee meeting.

This Sabbath period provided committee members an opportunity for rest and renewal before resuming our work in August and preparing for the August 29 Presbytery meeting and workshop.

Items Requiring Presbytery Attention

There are **no items requiring formal Presbytery discussion or vote at this time**.

The committee does, however, encourage commissioners, pastors, ruling elders, and congregational leaders to participate actively in the August 29 racial justice workshop and to continue engaging the Presbytery's Anti-Racism Policy within their congregations and ministries.

The committee will provide additional information regarding Presbytery-wide anti-racism training as plans are finalized.

Upcoming Dates & Opportunities

Monday, August 17, 2026

Racial Justice Committee Meeting

Preferably in person

Saturday, August 29, 2026

Stated Meeting of the Presbytery

Cedar Ridge Camp & Retreat Center

Racial Justice Committee Workshop:

Doing Justice Together: Understanding Our Racial Justice Policy and Moving Toward Faithful Action

Fall 2026 / January 2027

Proposed Presbytery-wide anti-racism training with an external facilitator. Final date and details forthcoming.

Requests for Prayer or Support

The Racial Justice Committee asks the Presbytery to pray for:

- Wisdom and discernment as we continue implementing the Presbytery's Anti-Racism Policy.
- The committee as we prepare to lead the August 29 racial justice workshop.
- The development of meaningful Presbytery-wide anti-racism training that equips congregations and leaders for faithful action.
- Congregations seeking to develop or strengthen racial justice and anti-racism practices.
- Continued growth in racial and cultural diversity, equitable leadership, accountability, reconciliation, and justice throughout the Presbytery.

The Racial Justice Committee remains grateful for the Presbytery's support as we continue working together toward faithful, sustained, and actionable commitments to racial justice.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dr. Perzavia Praylow, Chair

Racial Justice Committee

Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky

July 31, 2026

Rev. Thomas A. Lamb III

8800 Kings Lynn Lane, Louisville, KY 40220

(740) 403-7155

Lamb.thomas37@gmail.com

Professional Summary

Retired pastor with 40 years of service to the PCUSA. Experienced in preaching, teaching, pastoral care, visitation, mentorship and guiding congregations through transitions. Serving in the PCUSA as Pastor/Head of Staff, Solo Pastor, and Associate Pastor.

Ministry Experience

Pastor/Head of Staff - February 2012 – December 2024

Grace Presbyterian Church, Temple, TX

Installed yet served as a de facto “transitional pastor” at the outset. Guiding the congregation through a mission study, restructuring Session committees/programs, and reforming orders of worship and church bylaws to comply with PCUSA standards. Led the Assimilation of First PC, Temple into Grace PC Temple as a unified congregation. Key Experience: Preaching, teaching, Spiritual disciplines,

Associate Pastor – September 2003 – December 2011,

First Presbyterian Church, Granville, OH

General Associate duties with a focus on College Ministry at Denison University, where I served as the Adjunct Chaplain for Presbyterian Students. Key Experience: College Ministry, Preaching, teaching and pastoral care.

Pastor, Head of Staff - May 2000 – August 2003

The First Presbyterian Church, Marysville, OH

Extremely difficult call, with the congregation being led by a former pastor. Key Experiences: Presbytery intervention, humility, and discernment.

Pastor, Solo - 1993 – 2000

The Peekskill Presbyterian Church, Peekskill, NY

Associate Pastor for Youth and Young Adult Ministry - 1989 – 1993

The State College Presbyterian Church, State College, PA

Assistant/Associate Pastor for Youth - 1985 – 1989

The Twelve Corners Presbyterian Church, Rochester, NY

Service to the Presbytery/PCUSA

Commissioner to the General Assembly – 2024

Moderator, Grace Presbytery Council (One Year)

Member Grace Presbytery Council (5 Years)

Personnel Committee – Grace Presbytery (3 Years)

Moderator, Committee on Preparation for Ministry (6 Years)

Administrative Commission – Gatesville PC, 2014

Special Investigating Committee – Highland Park PC, 2015

Administrative Commission – Kileen PC, 2016

GenOn Ministries, Youth Summit 1993 – 2026 (A week long summer conference for High School youth).

Curriculum Writer 2026

Conference Manager 2025-2026

Conference Director 2001, 2006-2009, 2018-2019, 2022-2024

Worship Coordinator 2013

College Program 2010-2012

Vespers Leader

Education/Ordination

Ordination in the PCUSA – Genesee Valley Presbytery, June 1985

Master of Divinity – Pittsburgh Theological seminary, Pittsburgh PA, 1985

Bachelor of Arts – Whitworth University, Spokane, WA, 1980

Retired PCUSA in good standing December 31, 2024

Continuing Education

Seminar: How do we find hope in hard times? With Jon Batiste, Carmen Acevedo Butcher, and Cole Arthur Riley; The Center for Action and Contemplation, March 2026.

Synod of the Sun Boundary Training, September 2024

Credo Conference (Late Career) 2023

Merton's Palace of Nowhere, Dr. James Finley (8 Session Course)

The Center for Action and Contemplation, 2021

The Eight Questions – Rev. Thomas A. Lamb III

1. What events or persons have significantly affected your ministry?

It is a tale of three mentors. The first was the late Rev. Harvey Throop who I worked for as a youth director prior to entering seminary. Harvey helped me to uncover a deeper call to pastoral ministry by treating me as a colleague in ministry. He helped me through setbacks and failures to see that they were in fact moments of grace, that would lead ultimately to healing and growth. He continued to be a friend and colleague until he passed.

In seminary I worked for two years as a seminary intern under the Rev. Richard Goss. To this day I use the benediction he taught me: “Go in Peace. May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God that will never let you go and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all, now and forever. Amen.” He modeled to me grace and peace and helped me to clarify my own call to ministry.

Finally, in my first call I served as an assistant pastor and associate pastor under the tutelage of the Rev. Dr. Joseph D. Small. He taught me more in the first year than I had learned in seminary. His didactic style of teaching had an impact on my ministry, and eventually as a mentor in ministry. He taught me the value of theological reflection as part of my spiritual discipline, often telling me that you can tell when a pastor graduated from seminary by looking at their library. He has remained a theological mentor to this day, constantly challenging me to continue reading and reflecting theologically.

2. What theological beliefs have emerged as critical to your practice of ministry?

It is hard to narrow down, but I would venture to say that grace has emerged as a central theological issue today. Increasingly, we live in a “graceless” world. Rooted in the incarnation of Christ, God’s unimaginable grace is made visible to us through the teachings, compassion, death and resurrection of Christ. In a world where other voices call for vengeance, retribution and hateful diatribes, the Spirit calls us to live into the grace of Christ which demands forgiveness, turning the other cheek and actions done in love. Grace is a gift from God that demands followers of Christ to extend that same grace as a sign of God’s love and forgiveness to all we encounter. We must also accept this grace for our own sake. This is clearly counter-culture and proclaims with our actions God’s sovereignty in our lives.

3. What experiences have challenged or affirmed your faith?

The one experience that stands out came when I accepted the call to serve a congregation following a Pastor who had been there for 35 years. I was warned to stay away from that call, but in my own arrogance, I told myself that it wouldn’t be a problem for me. In less than six months the former pastor along with his loyal following began to hold court in his house. Rumors were dispersed about me and my family in an attempt to bring me down. I was lost, angry and spent energy debunking the rumors. I was engaged with a spiritual director at the time as well as a therapist. I was ready to leave the ministry altogether. The breakthrough came when my spiritual director made it clear that I needed to stop seeing what others were doing and look within. He prescribed for me a careful read through the passion accounts in the gospels. As I did so, I came to the scene where those who were crucifying Jesus were gambling for his clothes. In that moment I had an awakening. Jesus’ first thought was verbalized in an act of grace, “Father forgive them for they know not what they are doing.” Forgiveness wasn’t even on my radar. Looking within I saw my own ego, arrogance and ultimately my anger stood in the way of offering forgiveness. That began a new and vital spiritual journey that led from arrogance to humility, and ultimately my own spiritual redemption.

4. What is your view of the sacraments in practice of your ministry?

One of the things I love about being Presbyterian is that our sacraments are communal rituals. Central to reformed theology is the centrality of the sacraments. At the center of our worship, we gather at the font to celebrate our union with Christ. Dying to our old self and rising with Christ to new life. In infant

baptism a covenant is made between God, the parents and the congregation to nurture that child into discipleship. At the table we gather with Christ as our host sharing in the promise of God's redemption. It is as the invitation states, a joyful feast of victory for our God...celebrating Christ's victory over death. When we partake of the bread and wine we offer our lives once again as disciples of Christ, united as one as the body of Christ. In both baptism and The Lord's Supper we acknowledge God's grace for us and for the world.

5. What is your view of the government of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in light of your practice of ministry?

I have always tried to be a good presbyter, living into my ordination vows to serve the larger church. Active participation in the mid and upper judicatories has always been a priority for me.

6. How do you envision your ministry advancing the mission of God's people and sharing the good news to the world?

To continue, even in retirement to discern God's call in my life. To continue to identify needs where the gifts God has given me may be used to the glory of God.

7. How do you anticipate becoming involved actively with the work of Presbytery and in one of its congregations?

My wife and I have been regular attenders at Springdale PC. She is now in the process of joining the church. I have found the congregation to have a strong focus on mission and a desire to be a welcoming, open and accepting congregation. In addition, I meet regularly with the pastor for coffee and to help support him in his ministry.

8. Do you understand and agree that your ministry is to be carried on in accountability for its character and conduct to the Presbytery and is to be reviewed annually (unless you are honorably retired)?

Of course. Accountability is vital and I would willingly accept the guidance of the presbytery in accordance with my ordination vows.

Statement of Faith – Rev. Thomas A. Lamb III

With a sense of awe, I consider in all humility, the vast, loving and sovereign rule of God. I marvel at the work of the creator in our midst. The presence of God is ever apparent in the natural world. In quiet sunrises, in raging storms and in the stillness of a winter night, the Creator is revealed. The presence of God emerges in unlikely places. Inside the daunting walls of a prison cell or in the lonely confines of a nursing home, the God of love emerges. The presence of God rings out in the celebration of worship. When God's people gather to pray, sing and listen for God's word, the presence of the living God fills our hearts with joy. The presence of the Spirit of God is hope in the midst of disillusion; it is peace in the face of confusion; it is love expressed in the face of hatred. The hand of God is an ever present touch of assurance in the midst of doubt, fear and crisis.

Jesus' presence in the world has given us a glimpse of the eternal. Jesus reinterpreted the law and the prophets of the Hebrew Scriptures for a changing world. That law, once written in stone, is now transcribed on our hearts. Jesus' presence is God's love revealed to us. Jesus taught with authority, healed with compassion and spoke out against the injustice perpetrated by the religious establishment. Jesus' presence among us has revealed God's grace. As Jesus went to the cross, he did so to close the gap of separation between us and God, to win a victory over death. No matter how far we run away from the presence of God, no matter how we have turned away from God's love, in Jesus Christ, God awaits our return with open arms offering us unconditional forgiveness, a grace unimaginable. Jesus' presence among us revealed God's full intention for humanity. By raising Jesus from death to life, God has extended to us the promise that not even death can separate us from the love of God.

God's presence continues to be revealed among us in the wind of the Holy Spirit. Jesus' promise to send an advocate, a comforter is fulfilled. Through God's spirit we are made one as the Body of Christ. As we gather together in community, the Holy Spirit, like an unpredictable wind, moves us to respond to God's call. The call to serve Jesus Christ comes with the surprising gifts given to us. We acknowledge this presence through the sacraments. In baptism, we offer our lives both as believers and for the nurture of our children. In community we acknowledge the commitments made by adults and those made on behalf of our children, bound in the grace of Christ. We acknowledge the presence of the Spirit, the very presence of Christ, when we gather together at the table. With Jesus as our host we break bread and share wine as we receive the sustenance we need for the journey of faith. We are fed by the presence of the Holy Spirit in the Scriptures, God's word to us. This Word is central to our life together and by the Spirit reveals a tapestry of God's sustaining love throughout time.

Through the Presence of God, the grace of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit we can be a light to a world cast in darkness. Empowered by grace, we witness to the love of God as we share the good news of Jesus Christ with a world in need.

Spiritual Journey – Rev. Thomas A. Lamb III

I was baptized in the Presbyterian Church as an infant. As a child, we were dropped off at church, as my parents did not attend. I sang in the “Cherub Choir” and went to Sunday School until it became my choice in the seventh grade, and I walked away from the church.

In early high school, some home trauma found me back in the church. In this place I discovered a family that was affirming and held me accountable for my journey of faith. In the youth group I was surrounded by youth who embraced me and welcomed me. Around that time, I began to pray under the guidance of a youth pastor. It was a defining time, as he encouraged me to consider the ministry. By the age of 16 I knew that would be the path for my life.

During College I simply went through the motions, went to church and often would distance myself from any kind of regular spiritual discipline. It was time of spiritual wilderness. I majored in Philosophy and found a cynical edge when it came to religion. I stopped going to church and invested in work and school. After college, in what Meister Eckhart referred to as the dark night of the soul, God intervened and through a series of events and I found myself back at my home church as a youth director.

My call to ministry was affirmed and I began to study the Bible and basic reformed theology under the guidance of the pastor. Prayer became part of my journey. During this time, I was accepted into seminary and three weeks following my marriage moved across the country for a new adventure.

In seminary, after reading Henri Nouwen’s Book, The Wounded Healer, and Out of Solitude it led to a more disciplined life of reflection and prayer. In addition, I engaged in Spiritual Direction for the first time. I discovered wealth in reading Merton, Keating and the desert fathers. There was a growing sense of peace and an ongoing affirmation of the call to ministry.

Once ordained, I struggled with the demands of ministry and my own Spiritual life. Upon the recommendation of a Spiritual Director, I engaged in a quarterly retreat. It was these retreats that helped me to maintain a balance between the practical aspect of ministry and what it meant to be a spiritual leader, guided by faith.

While I have not always been consistent, I have maintained a daily discipline that includes silence, solitude and centering prayer. The connection to the Spirit for me is deeply manifested in silence, listening and reflecting on the very presence of Christ.

Mission and SDOP Committee
Commission Report to the Presbytery
Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky

Committee Name:

Mission and SDOP Committee

Presbytery Meeting Date:

August 29, 2026

Committee Members:

Jim Boswell, Mark Eldred, Patty Etherege, Mary C. Nebelsick (Chair), Jonathan Sutphin, Faye Fedlam (SDOP-MKP Liaison), Joanna Kim (MKP Staff Liaison, MKP General Presbyter)

Purpose of the Committee:

1. Encourage appropriate, effective mission presbytery-wide and within the presbytery's congregations and worshipping communities.
2. Maintain the status of the presbytery's Self-Development of People efforts and promote its program in the presbytery.
3. Foster vitality in the ecumenical and mission partnerships the presbytery commits to the committee's care.

Recent Activities:

1. Promotion of the PDA Hygiene Kit Drop-Off and Assembly date. Please see attached.
2. Completion of the PPT of MKP mission initiatives and MKP congregations' mission initiatives.
3. Completion of the MKP Mission Initiatives database.

The database includes:

1. A list, sorted alphabetically, of MKP congregations and their mission initiatives – also sorted alphabetically.
2. A networking database, sorted alphabetically according to overarching mission initiatives identified by MKP congregations. In addition, column d lists the number of ministries in a category while column e lists the number of congregations engaged in a mission initiative. A congregation might engage in more than one ministry initiative in a particular category.
3. The chart data used to create the bar graphs and pie chart.
4. The bar graph of the number of congregations engaged in a mission initiative. It is sorted by the greatest number of congregations engaged in a particular mission initiative.
5. The bar graph of the percentage of MKP congregations engaged in a particular mission initiative. It is sorted by the greatest percentage of congregations engaged in a particular mission initiative.

6. The pie chart of the percentage of MKP congregations that engage in a particular mission initiative.

Items Requiring Presbytery Attention:

I would like to present this database to the presbytery on behalf of the Mission & SDOP Committee at the coordinating committee and August 29, 2026, presbytery meetings.

Upcoming Dates & Opportunities:

PDA Kit Drop Off and Assembly:

PDA Kit drop-off date is September 14, 2026, at Beulah Presbyterian Church

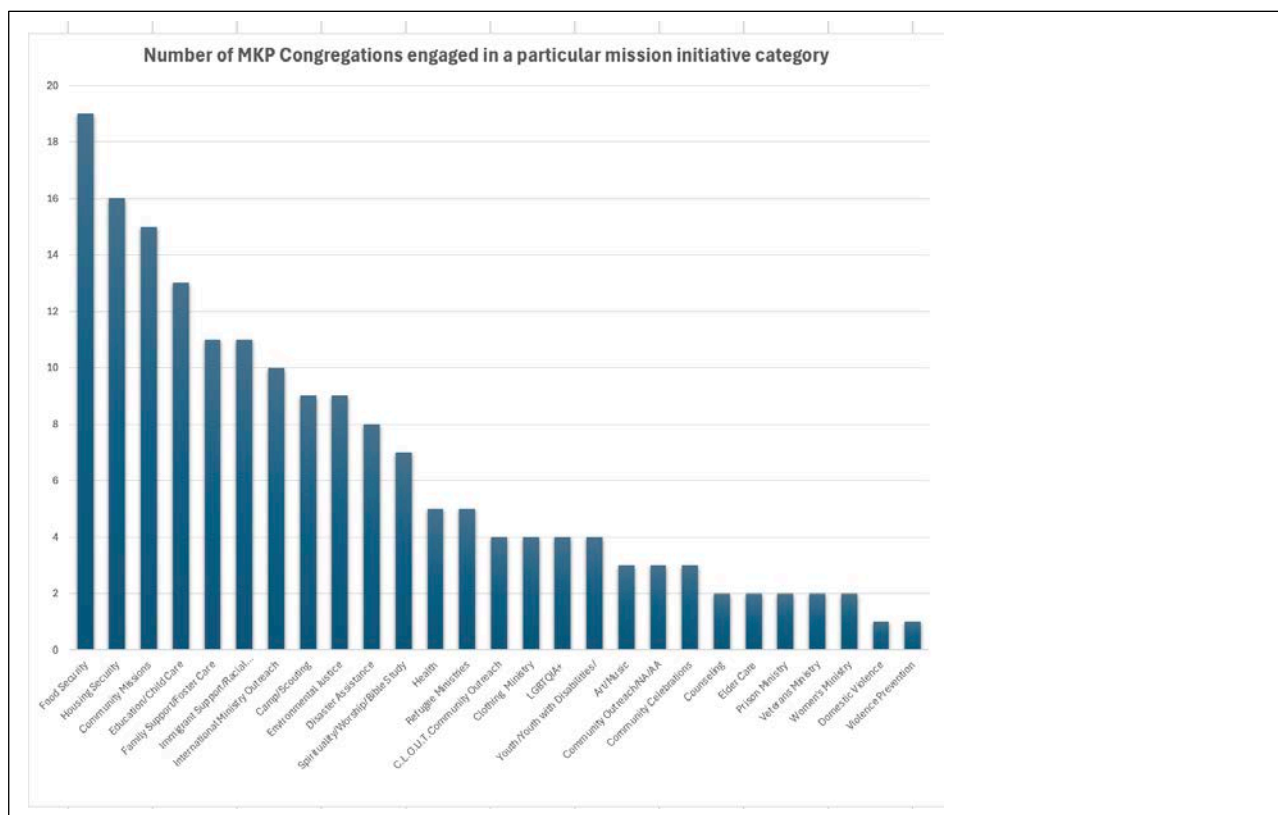
PDA Kit assembly is on September 19, 2026, at Beulah Presbyterian Church

Requests for Prayer or Support:

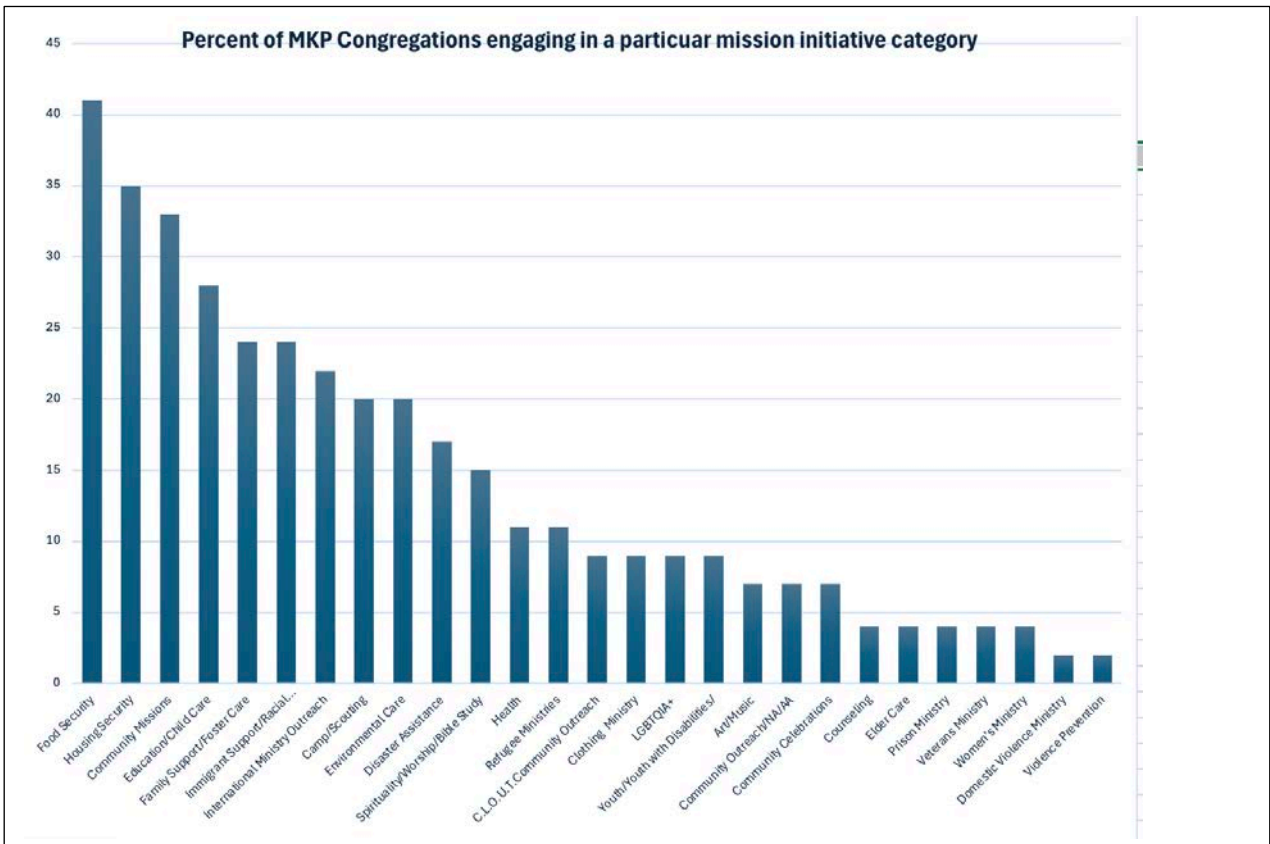
PDA Kit assembly

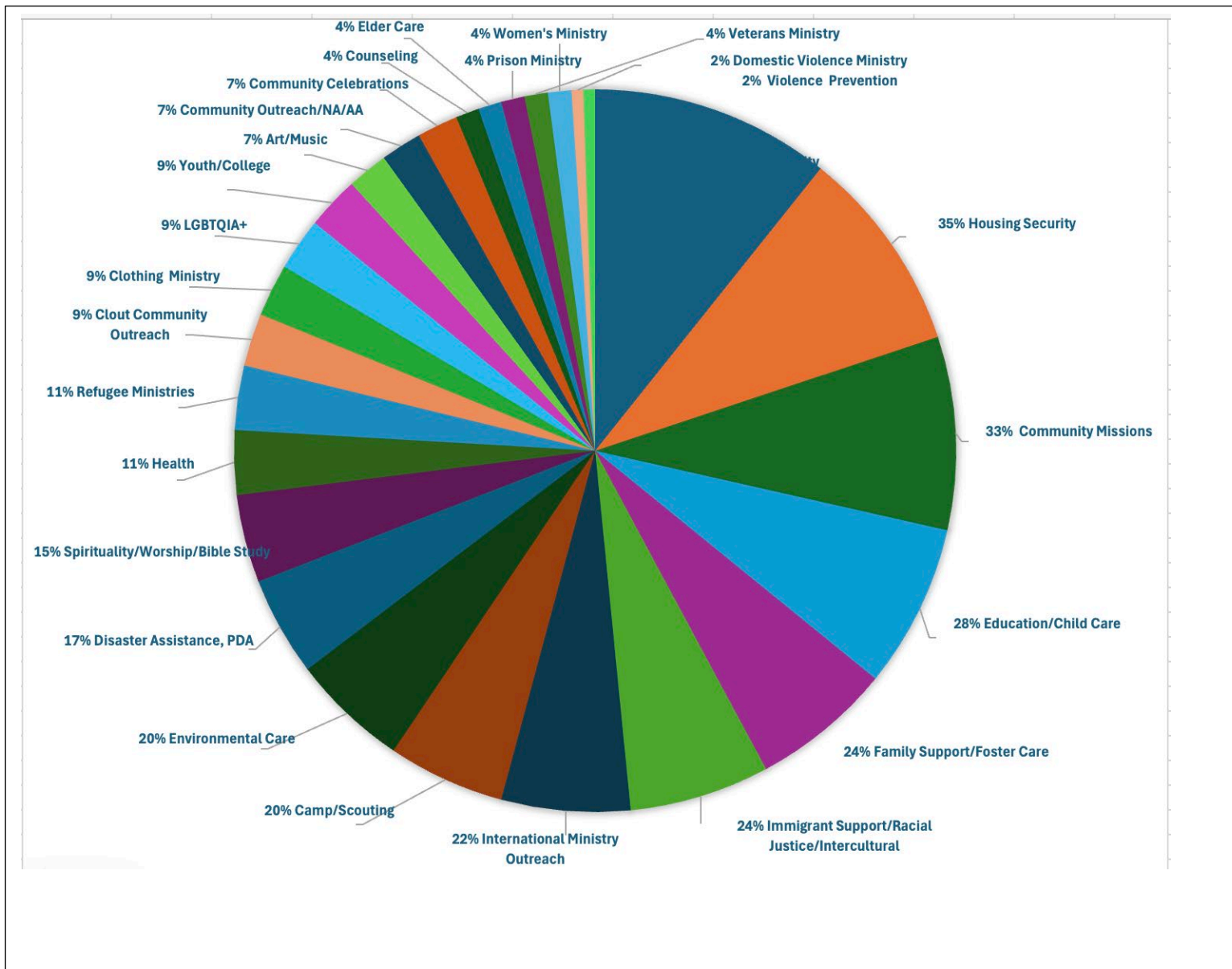
Mission and SDOP Committee Bar Graphs and Pie Chart

Category of Mission Initiative - ordered according to the highest number of congregations engaged in a particular ministry category to the lowest number of congregations engaged in a particular ministry category	Number of Congregations
Food Security	19
Housing Security	16
Community Missions	15
Education/Child Care	13
Family Support/Foster Care	11
Immigrant Support/Racial Justice/Intercultural	11
International Ministry Outreach	10
Camp/Scouting	9
Environmental Justice	9
Disaster Assistance	8
Spirituality/Worship/Bible Study	7
Health	5
Refugee Ministries	5
C.L.O.U.T.Community Outreach	4
Clothing Ministry	4
LGBTQIA+	4
Youth/Youth with Disabilities/	4
Art/Music	3
Community Outreach/NA/AA	3
Community Celebrations	3
Counseling	2
Elder Care	2
Prison Ministry	2
Veterans Ministry	2
Women's Ministry	2
Domestic Violence	1
Violence Prevention	1



Mission Initiatives	%	Number of Congregations	
Food Security	41	19	
Housing Security	35	16	
Community Missions	33	15	
Education/Child Care	28	13	
Family Support/Foster Care	24	11	
Immigrant Support/Racial Justice/Intercultural	24	11	
International Ministry Outreach	22	10	
Camp/Scouting	20	9	
Environmental Care	20	9	
Disaster Assistance, PDA	17	8	
Spirituality/Worship/Bible Study	15	7	
Health	11	5	
Refugee Ministries	11	5	
C.L.O.U.T.Community Outreach	9	4	
Clothing Ministry	9	4	
LGBTQIA+	9	4	
Youth/Youth with Disabilities/College	9	4	
Art/Music	7	3	
Community Outreach/NA/AA	7	3	
Community Celebrations	7	3	
Counseling	4	2	
Elder Care	4	2	
Prison Ministry	4	2	
Veterans Ministry	4	2	
Women's Ministry	4	2	
Domestic Violence	2	1	
Violence Prevention	2	1	





COMMISSION ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

Report to Mid-Kentucky Presbytery

August 29, 2026

REPORT FOR ACTION:

None

REPORT FOR INFORMATION ONLY

The Commission met on May 19, 2026. Highlights include:

- **Jonathan Sutphin** (Harvey Browne) was enrolled as an Inquirer. Andrew Bowman will serve as his CPM liaison. A session orientation will be provided to Harvey Browne at a future date.
- The Commission will be providing annual grants from the **Quissenberry Fund** to enrolled seminary students who are under care of the Presbytery.
- An annual consultation was conducted with **Candidate Christiaan Faul**. The Commission acted to continue Christiaan under the care of the Presbytery.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl E. Horton

CPM Moderator

Personnel Committee Report to the Presbytery
Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky

Committee/Commission Name: Personnel

Presbytery Meeting Date: August 29, 2026

Committee Chair: The Rev. Candi Cubbage

Committee Members: The Rev. Marcia Clark, The Rev. Steve Jester, The Rev. Angela Johnson, The Rev. Brad Palmer

Purpose of the Committee/Commission

The purpose of the Personnel Committee is to build and support a skilled workforce, align worker needs with the goals of Mid-Kentucky Presbytery, and to ensure smooth daily operations of the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky.

Recent Activities

Review of Elmer Zavala, Organizing Past, Preston Hollow Hispanic Ministries

Annual Review of Michael Purinton, Treasurer

6 month Review of Jenny Edlin, Interim Stated Clerk

Review of Bryce Wiebe, Organizing Leader of Goodness Grows

Items Requiring Presbytery Attention

(Items that require discussion and/or vote of the presbytery)

Nomination of Jenny Edlin to a Three Year Term as Stated Clerk of Mid-Kentucky Presbytery, to be voted on at August 29, 2026, MKP meeting and installed at November 13/14, 2026 MKP meeting.

Upcoming Dates & Opportunities

Annual Job Reviews:

Andrew Hartmans, Recording Clerk

Mary Kutter, Office Manager

Joanna Kim, General Presbyter

Requests for Prayer or Support

Please pray for the Staff of the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky:
that they may have wisdom, strength, and the peace of the Holy Spirit as they serve in this unique work of connection, administration, and pastoral care among our churches.