



NAP News

April 2024



Do you have news you'd like to have included? Send submissions to adminoffice@napcusa.org by the 25th of each month.

What's Inside this Month

Project Regeneration	1
Executive Presbyter Letter	2
Digital Webinars for your Church	2
Info for Clerks & Treasurers	2
Important Dates to Remember	3
Being Matthew 25	4
Presbyterian Women	5
Presbyterian Men	5
Montreat Middle School Conf.	6
Montreat Youth Conf.	6
Summer at Camp Maranatha	7



Project Regeneration

Write your church's next chapter

You may be wondering if your church is being called to new ministries, or if the ministry you were doing prior to the pandemic is still sustainable.

What is God calling your church to do?

It's a big question, and it's one that takes time, prayer and discernment to answer. An outside point of view is helpful – and that's why we're here. We've worked with hundreds of churches just like yours. As church financial experts, we offer a financial analysis, followed by listening sessions. We can share with you how we've worked with other congregations. While every congregation is unique, you can learn from the experiences of other churches and ministries. Whether your challenges revolve around property, giving, membership, or mission, we're ready to help you write your church's next chapter.

North Alabama Presbytery Staff

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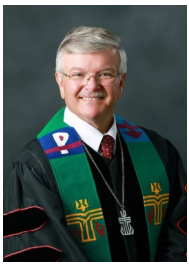


Presbyterian FOUNDATION



To learn more about Project Regeneration, visit www.presbyterianfoundation.org/project-regeneration

You'll hear more about Project Regeneration in future newsletters and at the June Stated Meeting!



**From our Executive Presbyter,
Dr. Tom Lovell...**

Dear Partners in Ministry,

Greetings in the name of our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, whose resurrection from the dead has given us new birth into a living hope (I Peter 1:3). Hope is what our celebration of Easter is all about. It is hope that motivates us to believe that there is more to life than what we have seen or experienced. Hope convinces us that even when life is hard, even when struggles come, even when the evidence is to the contrary, God is and will always be with us. As the Apostle Paul proclaimed to the Corinthians, *“If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.”*

As God’s Easter people, we are called to embrace the hope of God’s promise of new life not only for ourselves, but also for the life and ministry of our church. The message of Easter is one of new birth, new beginnings, and new life. It is no secret that being the church is difficult today and it has been difficult for the past couple of decades. Numerous studies over the past several years have documented the decline in membership within mainline Christian denominations. Unfortunately, we Presbyterians are not immune from that trend. Over the past two years I have served as your Executive Presbyter, I have had numerous conversations with Pastors, Sessions, and church members who shared their concerns about the future of their church’s ministry.

Yes, there are ample reasons for us to be concerned about the future of the church today, but in the midst of our concerns, this season of new life, new birth, and new beginnings we call Easter beckons us to place our hope for the future of the church as a whole, and our hope for the future of our particular congregation in the power and presence of the one who defeated death and rose to new life on that first Easter morn. There are those who fear that the church is dying, and I can understand that sentiment. However, I do not agree with it, for I believe in the living hope that Christ’s resurrection gives to us. While the traditional ways of being church may be slowly fading away, there are a myriad of examples of how the church is being given new life. As author and co-founder of *RootedGood*, Shannon Hopkins, writes, *“The church isn’t dying. It’s being remade. As the 1950s model declines, new ways of being the church are popping up all over, and gospel truths are now being found in new containers.”*

I firmly believe that if our congregations are going to be faithful witnesses to the good news of Christ’s gospel in the coming years, we must break free from the traditions and vestiges of the past which have entombed us for far too long and embrace the living hope of the future God has planned for us. Fortunately, there are numerous resources such as *“Project Regeneration”* available to assist us as we seek to discern and embrace God’s future for our Presbytery and our congregations. Over the next few months, I will be sharing some of these resources with you as well as scheduling small group learning and discussion opportunities. I look forward to sharing this adventure with you and rejoicing in the new life God will provide for our congregations and our Presbytery.

**Grace & Peace,
Tom**

Dr. Lovell’s Schedule
April 7-14 Next Church Gathering, Falls Church, VA
April 21— Hope, Huntsville
April 28—First, Ft. Payne
April 29-May 1 Board of Pensions Conference, Philadelphia, PA

Two Webinars from Presbyterian Outlook

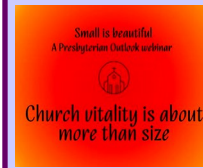
Given the need for these conversations in the church, the *Presbyterian Outlook* is offering these webinars in the “pay what you can” format. We don’t want financial constraints to stand in the way of accessing valuable information and resources. All are welcome



**90-minute webinar with Q&A
April 4, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. CST**

Join Outlook Editor/Publisher Teri McDowell Ott in a conversation with skilled, experienced digital communicators about what it looks like to speak love effectively in a digital world.

Is TikTok worth the time and investment? Should my church revamp our Facebook page? How do I grow my nonprofit’s followers on Instagram? Should the goal of online ministry be in-person gathering? If I want my church to attract more young people, do we need to be on social media? We’re covering all these topics and more. Come and join us!



**90-minute webinar with Q&A
April 16, 2024, at 6:00p.m. CST**

The January 2024 edition of the *Outlook* was dedicated to small church vitality. Within days, our extra copies of the magazine sold out and articles from the issue, such as “The future of the PC(USA) is pastorless, and that’s ok” by Catherine Neelly Burton, went viral. We heard from many readers that practical thoughts, ideas and conversations about the ministry of small churches are important.

Join us for a webinar to continue the conversation our “Small is beautiful” issue started.

Together, the panel assembled, will discuss some of the troubles facing small churches, the strengths of these worshipping communities, and practical examples of small churches thinking in creative ways to continue their ministry.

Attention: Clerks
The **2024 Terms of Call Forms** for Pastors and Temporary Pastors are available on the NAP website. These are due ASAP.
Send to: adminoffice@napcusa.org

Attention: Treasurers
Please return your **Per Capita Apportionment** and your **2024 NAP Pledge Form** ASAP so our Business Affairs and Personnel Team can meet NAP’s financial obligations for 2024.
Send to: adminoffice@napcusa.org

Attention: Treasurers
The **Annual Church Debt Reporting** form is available on the NAP website. Please complete this form and submit it to our Business Affairs and Personnel Team ASAP.
Send to: adminoffice@napcusa.org

April NAP Events

Business Affairs and Personnel Team

Parker Moore, Chair

Monday, April 1 @ 4:00pm
via zoom

Commission on Ministry

Carol Copeland, Moderator

Thursday, April 4 @ 6:00 pm
via zoom

NAPMA Trash Pandas Night

Michael Bowe, President

Saturday, April 13 @ 5:30 pm
Toyota Field
(details on page 5)

Executive Commission

Robin Palmer, Moderator

Monday, April 15 @ 10:00 am
via zoom

Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering

Barbara Allen, Moderator

Saturday, April, 20 @ 9:00 am
Location: First PC, Athens



**The PC(USA)
226th General Assembly
will be meeting
June 25—July 4, 2024
In Salt Lake City, Utah**

North Alabama Presbytery is blessed to be sending the following people as Commissioners:

Teaching Elder—Rev. Tom Lewis
(Copeland, Athens)

Ruling Elder—Mark Icenogle
(Covenant, Huntsville)

Youth Advisory Delegate—Avy Elmore
(Westminster, Decatur)

Executive Presbyter, Rev. Dr. Tom Lovell will be attending the plenary sessions June 30-July 4.

Commissioner Training is April 21st via zoom

Please keep our Commissioners and all who are involved in the planning of this bi-annual meeting in your prayers.



Important Dates

NAP Summer Stated Meeting

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Faith Presbyterian Church, Huntsville

226th General Assembly

June 26—July 4, 2024

Salt Lake City, Utah

NAP Fall Stated Meeting

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

Maranatha Camp & Conference Center
Scottsboro, AL

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

2024 Calendar with Liturgical Colors

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING SPECIAL OFFERINGS HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

February 14 - March 31, 2024

PENTECOST SPECIAL OFFERINGS CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

April 1 - May 19, 2024

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS SPECIAL OFFERINGS PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

September 1 - October 6, 2024

CHRISTMAS JOY SPECIAL OFFERINGS CHURCH LEADERS—PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

December 1 - December 22, 2024

JANUARY						
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DECEMBER						
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specialofferings.pcusa.org
special.offerings@pcusa.org
800-728-7228, ext. 5047



Faith Presbyterian Church, Huntsville, wishes to bless the larger community with an amazing heart for mission. It was such a joy and blessing and a whole lot of fun to partner with Progressive Union Missionary Baptist Church to pack hygiene bags for men and women in the Madison Co Jail, Limestone, and Tutwiler Prisons. 200 bags were packed on March 17th by an energetic group of volunteers.

Faith has a had a heart for mission since its inception in 1958 and their desire to bless their community has not faded over the last 65 years!



Engage
Nurture
Bless





North Alabama Presbyterian Women

Spring Gathering

Saturday, April 20, 2024

First Presbyterian Church
112 South Jefferson Street, Athens, AL

Registration/Coffee Meet-N-Greet

9:15-9:50 a.m.

With Rev. Christie Ashton

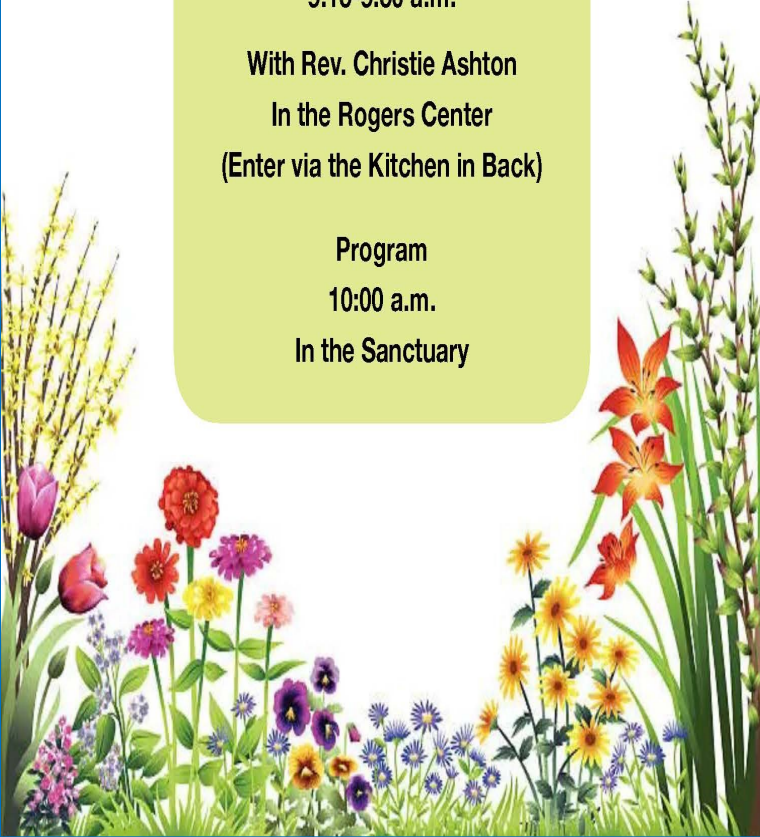
In the Rogers Center

(Enter via the Kitchen in Back)

Program

10:00 a.m.

In the Sanctuary



The Spring Presbyterian Men's Association Meeting

is April 13th @ 5:30 pm

at Toyota Field

Trash Pandas v. Barrons

It has been worked out with the Trash Pandas to provide us with a picnic table, an all you can eat buffet so we can enjoy fellowship and a wonderful game.

The cost is \$39.24 per person

Pre-paid parking is \$6.75 per car

This will be a fun event. However, I need your help! Typically, we have to guess who is going to attend. However, tickets need to be paid for.

I have to have a final number by March 29th.

I have reserved 20 tickets, but we can buy more.

In fact, if we get 50 in attendance, we can elect someone to throw the first ceremonial pitch! Wives are invited, Significant other's are invited, kids are invited. Let's all have some fun.

So I need everyone to RSVP if you will be attending and we can work out how to get your ticket paid for.

The Men's Association is a mission arm of the Presbytery. **So, Doug Marshall, from the Presbyterian Children's Home, has been invited to attend.**

Any questions call or email me: Michael Bowe, President
(256) 503-0288 or mbowe@presby.org



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN of
NORTH ALABAMA PRESBYTERY

April 17, 2024

Come See Columbia Day
Decatur, GA

August 8-11, 2024

PW National Gathering
St. Louis, MO

How is your
congregation
connecting
your
community?



Send Krista your stories and pictures so the wider community of North Alabama Presbytery can celebrate with you AND learn from your experiences!

For Youth who will complete 5th-8th grade by summer 2024!



MONTREAT MIDDLE
SCHOOL CONFERENCE
July 17-21, 2024
montreat.org/msc-24

The Middle School Conference is a great introduction to Montreat Conferences for younger youth and their adult leaders!

Adults must be fully registered and housed with their youth in campus housing. **The daily schedule includes keynote, worship, recreation, singing, small groups, and many other activities.**

The conference will be held at Maryville College, located in Maryville, TN.

Registration fees for youth and adults include conference, housing, and food.

Work Camp opportunities are also available for Senior High Students!

Fee before April 1—\$435 with a deposit of \$100 due at registration. For more information, visit www.montreat.org.

NAP would love to send a group to this conference! If you are interested in organizing a Presbytery group, please contact Jaina Glaze!

For Youth entering 9th grade through graduating seniors!

PLANTING PEACE

Montreat Youth
Conference 2024

NAP YOUTH WILL BE ATTENDING WEEK 3:

JULY 7-13, 2024

HOUSING: Reynolds Lodge

COST: \$650.00

DEPOSIT OF \$350 IS DUE ASAP!

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO NORTH ALABAMA PRESBYTERY
AND MAIL TO PO BOX 4031, HUNTSVILLE, AL 35815**

ATTENTION: KRISTA LOVELL

***Please include full name of youth/adult and their church
on the check.***

Churches are asked to pay \$150 per adult
to offset their room/board

**QUESTIONS? Contact Rev. Jaina Glaze at
rev.jainaanderson@gmail.com**

Montreat Youth Conference affirms youth in their calling to be and to shape the church of Jesus Christ. Our desire is to help youth come to know and believe that they are the beloved of God and to be a place where authenticity, community, connection, and God's truth thrive. We seek to be an inclusive space where each voice can be heard and where each heart can be molded; where change is invited, challenge is expected, and where all are embraced.

This summer, we will build an accepting community of unconditional love where every story matters. Through engaging worship, lively music, practices of gratitude and fun, we will offer youth different opportunities to cultivate their spiritual faith journeys and practice sabbath. We will provide a secure space that is loving, holy, and authentic so that we may glorify God in all that we do, inspiring and equipping a lifetime of faith.

Youth leave Montreat knowing that:

- Their faith matters.
- They are loved as they are.

They are part of a community of faith.

Montreat Youth Conference is open to rising 9th graders through graduating 12 graders.



MONTREAT
CONFERENCE CENTER



MARANATHA

camp & conference center

For over 60 years, Maranatha has served North Alabama and beyond as a safe gathering place for retreats, summer camps, and group events. It has been, and will continue to be, a place where differences are set aside and our humanity, spirituality, and commonality are re-ignited.

Nestled on the banks of the Tennessee River on beautiful Lake Guntersville, the beauty of creation provides our campers a unique chance to unplug and experience Maranatha... and find what it means to them.

Join us this year at Maranatha for the Best Summer Ever! Visit www.maranatha.camp to learn more and register!

		Programs & Days	Available Week of...						
			June 2	June 9	June 16	June 23	July 7	July 14	July 21
		Day Camp Pickup Location	Huntsville	HCove	Huntsville	Madison	Huntsville	Madison	Huntsville
Rising Into Grade	K - 3rd	Day Camp (M-F)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	4th	Day Camp (M-F)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
		Overnight Camp (Sun-F)	✓		✓		✓		✓
	5th	Day Camp (M-F)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
		Overnight Camp (Sun-F)	✓		✓		✓		✓
	6th	Overnight Camp (Sun-F)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
		Adventure Camp (Sun-F)					✓		✓
	7th	Overnight Camp (Sun-F)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
		Adventure Camp (Sun-F)					✓		✓
	8th	Overnight Camp (Sun-F)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
		Adventure Camp (Sun-F)		✓		✓	✓		✓
	9th	Overnight Camp (Sun-F)		✓		✓		✓	
Adventure Camp (Sun-F)			✓		✓				
10th	Overnight Camp (Sun-F)		✓		✓		✓		
	Adventure Camp (Sun-F)		✓		✓				
	Tiimothy Leadership (Sun-F)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
11th	Overnight Camp (Sun-F)						✓		
	Adventure Camp (Sun-F)		✓		✓				
	Tiimothy Leadership (Sun-F)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
12th	Overnight Camp (Sun-F)						✓		
	Adventure Camp (Sun-F)		✓		✓				
	Tiimothy Leadership (Sun-F)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	

Camp Fees for 2024:

Overnight Camp (for 4th-12th) - \$565 week

Day Camp (for K-5th) - \$325 week

Adventure Camp (6th-12th) - \$795 week

TLT (Timothy Leadership Training for 10th-12) - \$200 week

