NAP NEWS

November 2026

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What's Inside this Month

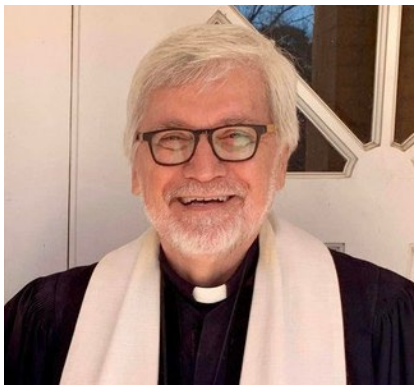
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As November arrives, remember to give thanks for God's many blessings and to share His love with others. Believe God's grace, mercy and faithfulness are with us through every season of life. As we gather with family, friends, and our church community for Thanksgiving, we are reminded to have grateful hearts, care for those in need, and show kindness to everyone. Reflect on God's goodness and remember that every day is a gift. May we continue to walk in faith, hope, love, and thanksgiving.



WE ARE A MATTHEW 25 PRESBYTERY
Actively Engaged in the World



Executive Presbyter, Reverend Bob Phelps

A word from our Executive Presbyter,

From our Executive Presbyter: Grace and Gratitude

We've turned the page to November, and all that awaits us between now and the end of the year stares us straight in the face. I joked with a friend recently that I won't be called on to preach much between now and the end of the year. All our pastors will be busy crafting budgets, being thankful, and celebrating Advent and Christmas, so I'll get to visit around most of the rest of this year's Sundays. That's as it should be.

November brings Thanksgiving which, for most of us, comes with images of families and friends gathering around bountiful tables, being either genuinely thankful for or tolerant of one another for a day or two, watching football (including the Iron Bowl for most of us in these parts), and enjoying a long weekend of travel or receiving guests. Some of our congregations will hold special times of worship and enjoy meals and other activities together to celebrate the season. Others might participate in community inter-denominational or inter-faith celebrations.

Thanksgiving is not a major festival day on the lectionary calendar that guides our worship and celebration. That bothers some of us, but another way to think about it is that thanksgiving is central to our worship every time we gather. Gratitude is a particular emphasis for us as Reformed Christians. This is not to say that other Christians and people of other faith traditions are not as thankful as we are, but grace and gratitude go hand in hand for us as Presbyterians.

We experience peace and hope because of God's grace made known to us most clearly in the presence of Jesus Christ in our lives. Because we have experienced this grace and the transformation it brings to our lives, we respond to God with gratitude every day. Whatever good we are able to do in response to God's grace we do as acts of gratitude and not obligation or as a way to guarantee that God will continue to love us. Gratitude, like repentance, is not a one-time response, but a life-long, daily commitment to be thankful for God's unmerited provision and care for us.

It is good for us to have a day and a season to focus on thanksgiving, but, as Christians, thanksgiving is lifestyle, not a celebration.

I hope that your celebrations, whatever form they take, are filled with joy and reminders of our call to be thankful every day. I'll be making dressing for our bunch. Lots of sage. One of the most memorable Thanksgivings I remember when our boys were both home came when a member of our church experienced some unexpected life changes one year and faced Thanksgiving alone. We invited her to have Thanksgiving with us. Our boys were not happy at first when they heard she was coming. For them, Thanksgiving had always been a day for family and not only the same foods every year, but the same foods served from the same dishes every year. They were more gracious than they wanted to be in welcoming our unfortunate friend, and, largely because of that day, they became friends and shared many other happy times together. If you're aware of someone who might be alone this Thanksgiving, you may experience unexpected blessings from reaching out. It's another place at the table and another mouth to feed, but it might also be another opportunity to be thankful for the ability to care for others.

Happy Thanksgiving!
Grace and Peace,
Bob

Welcome New Ministers

Among all the other celebrations in our Fall Meeting, North Alabama Presbytery welcomed three new ministers to our family.

The Rev. Susan Parker is well known to most of us. She has probably preached in more North Alabama PCUSA pulpits than most of our ministers have. She has done transitional service at the former Trinity Church in Huntsville and at Westminster Church in Florence. She is currently serving as transitional pastor at the Copeland Church. She has preached in many of our congregations. She transfers her membership from Hope Presbytery of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. She served in several roles in the Cumberland Church including a stint as interim President at Memphis Theological Seminary. We are happy to welcome Susan as a member of North Alabama Presbytery.

The Rev. J. David Randolph came to First Presbyterian Church, Huntsville earlier this summer. He most recently served as pastor of Colonial Heights Church in Holston Presbytery in East Tennessee. Prior to that, he served as Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Oxford, Mississippi. David comes to Huntsville in the midst of extensive building renovations and some unexpected repairs, and has helped to guide those processes. David's installation is set for January 10, but he has wasted no time settling into his new role at First Church. We look forward to working alongside David and First Church, Huntsville.

The Rev. Jeff Welch comes to us as a minister at large from Giddings-Lovejoy Presbytery, which includes the greater St. Louis area. Jeff served a church in Western Illinois until he experienced some health issues that required him to take a disability leave. He is originally from Huntsville and was a member of the youth group at Faith Church before college and seminary. He and his family have returned to Huntsville to be near family. We look forward to getting to know them better and finding ways for us to serve together.

In addition to these, Trey Suey, temporary supply pastor at Westminster, Florence, has moved from Inquirer to Candidate status in recognition of his movement toward completion of his seminary work and continuing preparation for ordination. Trey is a student at Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. He is completing his degree there after the closure of Memphis Theological Seminary earlier this year. Trey preached at Presbytery and is enrolled for classes this term in addition to his work at Westminster, Florence. He is on target to complete his education in a year or so. Please keep Trey and his family and the Westminster Church in your prayers as this busy stage of life continues.

Save the Date!

Presbytery Retreat at Maranatha to Focus on Mission.

Friday, January 8-Saturday, January 9, 2027
We'll have more information about schedule, cost, and registration soon.
You can reach out to Jim Truesdell in Athens (205-441-3513) or Kim Mitchel at Big Cove (240-731-4699 for more information.

Bob Phelps
Executive Presbyter
North Alabama Presbytery
601-996-9656



A word from the Stated Clerk:

Greetings from your stated clerk!

We want to thank all those who helped make our North Alabama Presbytery meeting at Maranatha such a success! How good and pleasant it is when all God's people live together in unity!

What a joy it is to welcome new minister members into our Presbytery! We welcomed Reverend Dr. Susan Parker transferring from the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. We welcomed Reverend Jeff Welch transferring from Giddings-Lovejoy. We welcomed Reverend David Randolph from Holston Presbytery, serving at First Presbyterian in Huntsville. And Reverend Trey Suey moved to candidacy and brought the word. And we always enjoy hearing from our ministry partners— It was a wonderful day! Thank you to all who made the day so special.

Now a bit of business… If your Church has not yet completed its session minutes review, I can continue to help you through that process over the next few weeks. Please reach out and let me know where you are in the process and how I can help.

Thanks for all you do to make this Presbytery a wonderful place to live and work and do ministry!

Grace to you and peace,
Jaina Glaze,
Stated Clerk

Please let us know if you have anything special coming up!

Executive Commission (EC)

Rev. Greg Bentley
2026 NAP Moderator
Anita Raby
EC Moderator &
2025 NAP Immediate Past Moderator
Dr. Randy Pettus
2026 NAP Vice Moderator
Carol Copeland
COM Moderator
Rev. Michael Bowe
CORN Moderator
Randy Pettus
BAPT Moderator

Business Affairs & Personnel Team (BAPT)

Randy Pettus,Moderator
Robert Peagler
Rev. Tripp Brogdon
Carol Mebane
Parker Moore
Dag Rowe

Commission on Ministry (COM)

Carol Copeland, Moderator
Rev. Kip Lasxon
Wes Stubblefield
Cindy Sasseen
Kelly Elmore
Rev. David Kling
Ted Dixie
Julie Rice
Rev. Tripp Brogdon
Rev. Robin Palmer
Joyce Pettis-Temple
Rev. Micheal Bowe

Committee on Representation & Nominating (CORN)

Rev. Michael Bowe, Moderator
Jerry Witt
Mary Mitchell
Rev. Traci Loveman
Bill Valentine

Permanent Judicial Commission (PJC)

Rev. Peggy McClure
Tonya Gaines
Keith Fraser
Rev. Rosemary McMahan
Christi Robinson

Presbyterian Women

Linda Faulk Moderator
Barbara Allen Past Moderator
BJ Breeding, Secretary
Karen Madison, Treasurer

PresbyterianMen

Ted Dixie,President

Our Staff

Rev. Bob Phelps **Executive Presbyter**	**Rev. Jaina Glaze** **Stated Clerk**	**Sheila Gilliam** **Administrative Assistant**

NAP Events

Executive Commission

Anita Raby Moderator

Monday, November 16, 2026
10am

Commission on Ministry

Carol Copeland, Moderator

Thursday, November 5, 2026, 6pm

Business Affairs Team

Randy Pettus, Moderator
Thursday, November 13, 2026
4pm

2026 Important Dates

Presbytery Retreat
January 8-9, 2027
Camp Maranatha
1091 Jeffery Rd.,
Scottsboro, AL

Winter Stated Presbytery Meeting
Saturday, February 27, 2027



Do you have a story to share about a special ministry in your congregation?

Email your article and pictures to adminoffice@napcusa.org by the 25th of the month to be included in the next newsletter!

Attention Treasurers!

Thank you for your generous support of our Presbytery in 2025!

If you have not paid your Per Capita— please do so immediately as NAP is required to pay the full amount regardless of what it receives from churches.

Attention Clerks!

GA Per Capita rates are going up!

2026 GA Per Capita—$11.26(based on 2024 membership)

SO…….NOW IS THE TIME

to take a good look at your membership rolls to ensure that your numbers reflect your active membership! The Statistical Reports that you file in January 2026 will be used for your 2027 Per Capita.

If you have any changes in your church staff, please email us at Rev.Jainaanderson@gmail.com

Fall Stated Meeting October 20, 2026





















FUN TIMES WITH FRIENDS AT THE NORTH ALABAMA STATED PRESBYTERY MEETING OCTOBER 20, 2026

THANK YOU ALONDA CROSSLIN FOR THE PICTURES

WHAT'S HAPPENING!

IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING SPECIAL HAPPENING PLEASE LET US KNOW!



Pictured are logos handmade by Mel Strain, honorably retired. Please email him if you would like to order.The one on the left is made out of cherry wood. The one on the right is Bolivian Rose-wood. The dimensions are 2 1/2" wide by 3 1/2" and 1/4" thickness. Cost is $20 per logo, or $35 for one of each wood. Cash or check will be accepted. Credit cards will be assessed a 3 per cent service charge. Contact him with questions at melandrita@bellsouth.net.

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE ANY SPECIAL EVENTS HAPPENING! Or a story tell!



"The church'sjob is not to stay in business, but to stay on mission." -Leonard sweet

DATE: JANUARY 8-9, 2027 TIME: 3:00PM-3:00 PM
LOCATION: 1091 JEFFERY RD, SCOTTSBORO, AL 35769

THERE ARE LOTS OF NEW FACES IN OUR PRESBYTERY. WE WANT THIS RETREAT TO DEEPEN OUR FRIENDSHIPS. WE WILL ALSO DISCUSS HELPING OUR CHURCHES FLOURISH AS WE ENGAGE IN MISSION.

COST: MORE DETAILS AT THE OCTOBER PRESBYTERY MEETING

MARANATHA
Camp and Conference Center

MORE INFORMATION: PLEASE REACH OUT TO JIM TRUESDELL AT (205-441-3573) OR KIM MITCHELL (240-731-4699)

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November 2026 PRAYER CALENDAR

COPELAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His .love endures forever.

PSALM 136:1



Let's commi this month to drawing closer to God through daily prayer.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Pray for our church family and lea.dmhip. ! TIMOTHY 2::1-2	**2** Pray for teacher-s, students, and all school sttaff. PROVERBS *IU*	**3** Pray for rhose in nooi in our oornrnunity. GALATIANS 6:2	**4** Pray fur wisdom in all decisions. JAMES 1:.5	**5** Pray for families to grow closer to God. JOSHUA 2-1:15	**6** Pr.1y for those who are sitl and in need of healing. JAMES 5:14	**7** Pray for our nation a nd our lesiders. I TI IOTifY 2:1-2
8 Pray for those who are grieving and give them comfort. P$/t,lM 34.:1&	**9** Pray for O\II" community and local outreach ministries.	**1** Pray for contentment in all citcumstrun. PHIl.lPPIA.NS 4:11	**1** Vete1 1m.sDay Pray for all who have served and continue to scn•.c. P'SALl-1 Sli:1	**12** Pray for familiet; and marriages to b Q iris'1-centered. EPtfESIANS S:2S	**1** Pmy for all animals an.dGoo's creation. GENESIS 1:21!	**14** Pray for bo!dn!l:SS 10 share our faith with othen.. ACTS I'.8
15, Pray for missionarks and 1he nations. MAITHEW I8:I9-I0	**16** Pray for lhQSC b:mling depression, anxi.ety,and memal healthsmiggles. PS/\LM 62:6	**17** Pray for rorgiveness and a willing hean to love others. 001.0SSIANS. 3:13	**18** pe.t.rct:roh and believers in difficuh plaa-.o;. HEBR.WS IJ:.	**19** Pray for wisdom i:n all that we do. JAMES 1:$	**2** ,Slif Pray for workplace safety and integrity in the workplace, COLOSSIANS 3:B	**21** Pray for those 11•h.oarc lonely or iwhled. !'SALM 68-,6
22 Pnray for a deeper loVe and knowledge: of God's Word. PSALM 119:105	**23** Pray for thoSill! faci.ng financial hardship. I'HIIJI'I'IA. 4:19	**24** Pray for first respo ndcr:, police, firefighters, and military. PSAI1.M 144,1	**25** Pray for revival in our church a.nd in our nation, 2 CHR0NICUS 7:14	**2** *TlranksgM1ig D.a:y* Pray fur a thankful heart and a spirit of generos.il)'. I THIIS/I. 5elS	**27** Pmy for those who ha\ lost loved ones this year 1 COR!N11UANS I:H	**28** Pray for those wh() are afraid and in need of peace. PHll'.IPI>IANS 4:6-7
29 Pray for 0111" church to be a place of !eve, truth, and hope. I COR.INTRIANS 13:4	**30** Pray for a heart that trusts God in all things. PROVERBS3:5,(;					

E JIU,gate4witA , and H1,s, C,OU.ltU witA f>'U11.se; tluu,h,, w,Hun and 8&s Jl14, name.

PSAIM 100:4

Please enjoy this November Prayer Calendar.

May it enrich your walk with Jesus, deepen your relationship with God, and enoourage you in your daily faith journey throughout the month.

Blessings to you!

Thank you First Albertville



The First Presbyterian Church of Albertville held a mission project for our local food pantry which is run by the Marshall County Christian Ministeries. The church collected money during the months of May, June, July and August. Our local food pantry is able to purchase food from the North Alabama Food Bank for $.14 a pound. The church raised $3,337.28 during these four months. The food pantry was able to purchase 23,838 pounds of food for needy people in the Albertville area.
The photo above shows Linda Henry, director of the food pantry, and Mission Elder Rhea Spear giving her the check.

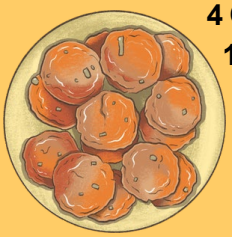
Recipes with love! Please email your favorite recipes so we can share to all adminoffice@napcusa.org



Please send me your recipes!!!

LINDY MASTIN HASHBROWN AND SAUSAGE BITES 😋😋

Ingredients



8 OUNCES SOFTENED CREAM CHEESE
4 CUPS FROZEN SHREDDED HASH BROWNS
1 POUND GROUND BREAKFAST SAUSAGE
1 ½ CUPS BISQUICK
1 ½ CUPS SHREDDED CHEDDAR CHEESE

Instructions

PREHEAT THE OVEN TO 400*
LINE A BAKING SHEET WITH PARCHMENT PAPER
IN A MIXING BOWL COMBINE THE SAUSAGE, SOFTENED CREAM CHEESE, CHEDDAR CHEESE, HASH BROWNS AND THE BISQUICK. STIR UNTIL WELL COMBINED
USING A SCOOP OR YOUR HANDS, MAKE BALLS ABOUT 1 ½ INCHES IN SIZE, PLACE ON BAKING SHEET
BAKE FOR 20 TO 25 MINUTES OR UNTIL THOROUGHLY COOKED.
ENJOY ❤

Bob Phelps Fresh Apple Cake



Ingredients:
1 ½ cups oil
2 cups sugar
2 eggs
2 ½ cups all-purpose flour
1 tsp salt
1 tsp baking soda
1 tsp baking powder
1 tsp vanilla (more to taste, depending on the quality of your vanilla)
3 cups chopped apples
(I usually use Granny Smith or Honeycrisp. Use what you like)
1 cup chopped pecans
(I add a teaspoon of cinnamon---not in the recipe as it came to me)
Mix the oil, sugar, eggs, flour, salt, soda, baking powder, and vanilla. Batter will be stiff, like dough. Add the chopped apples and pecans. Batter will remain pretty stiff, but the water in the apples will take care of that when baking.
Spread batter in a 9x13 pan.
Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes to an hour or until done.
Glaze for top:
1 cup brown sugar, packed
¼ cup milk (any variety)
1 stick butter
Mix the brown sugar, milk, and butter in a saucepan. Bring to a boil and cook over medium heat for 3 minutes. Pour over cake while still hot. Allow to set up. I usually only make a half batch of this glaze. It's awfully sweet!