

**Governance Task Force FINAL PROPOSAL**  
Presbytery of Great Rivers | August 2025

The Presbytery of Great Rivers will be structured with a Leadership Council, six standing Commissions, three committees required by the Book of Order, and three teams to provide specialized service in the event of crises. ***The goal of this structure is to make manifest the connectional nature of our church and to help us better align our outward behavior, structure, and expression with our internal values and mission—community, communication, connection, cooperation, compassion, consistency, collegiality, and commitment to the gospel of Jesus Christ.***

**Leadership Council** (16-22 members): Develop, evaluate, and recommend to the Presbytery Assembly the ongoing vision, priorities, and actions for the Presbytery of Great Rivers

**Commission on Pastoral Leadership** (12 members including moderator/co-moderators): Foster the faith and vitality of and provide support for persons discerning calls to the ministries of Commissioned Pastor and Minister of Word and Sacrament and, after ordination, at all other stages and types of ministry

**Commission on Transitions** (6 members including moderator/co-moderators): Assist and guide congregations and Sessions through times of pastoral leadership changes

**Commission on Congregational Life** (12 members including moderator/co-moderators): Promote and nurture healthy, faith-filled relationships within and among congregations and the Presbytery of Great Rivers

*A Ministry Coordination Group will ensure regular and ongoing communication among the Commission on Pastoral Leadership, Commission on Congregational Life, and Commission on Transitions. Consists of moderators/co-moderators of CPL, CCL, and COT; Stated Clerk; and Lead Presbyter.*

**Mission Commission** (6 members including moderator/co-moderators): Promote and nurture the missional action of the Presbytery of Great Rivers

**Operations Commission** (9 members, including two co-moderators from different classes, to ensure continuity): Provide organizational support to the daily operation of the Presbytery of Great Rivers, to hold the Presbytery accountable to its members, and to comply with all state-mandated not-for-profit organizational requirements.

**Permanent Judicial Commission** (no fewer than 7 members): Consider and decide cases of process for the Presbytery according to the Rules of Discipline [G-3.0109a]

**Committee on Accessibility, Representation, and Equity (CARE)** (6 members including moderator/co-moderators): Advise the Presbytery on the principles of participation and inclusiveness to ensure fair and effective representation in the decision making of the Presbytery

**Nominating Committee** (6 members including moderator/co-moderators): Identify people willing and able to serve in leadership roles in the Presbytery and to present them for approval to the Presbytery Assembly

**Bills and Overtures Committee:** Review proposed changes to the Constitution and present them to the presbytery for deliberation and action; bring to the presbytery any overtures to the General Assembly from any unit of the presbytery or congregation in the Presbytery

**Conflict Response Team** (6 members): Mediate differences and reconcile persons so that the unity of the body of Christ may be made manifest

**Sexual Misconduct Response Team** (4 members): Ensure that a caring response is made by the Presbytery to individuals who have been harmed following allegations of sexual misconduct within a congregation. **This Team will not investigate an allegation or usurp the roles of PGR staff, investigating committees, or the PJC.**

**Disaster Response Team** (3 members to serve as team coordinators): Provide the Presbytery with planning and coordination in preparation for and partnered response with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and other agencies to natural or human-caused disasters within the bounds of the Presbytery as well as collective responses to such disasters outside of the Presbytery.

**Regional Cohorts:** Regional groupings of congregations to foster connection, resource-sharing, cooperation, and service

**Affinity Cohorts:** Groups focused on specific ministries or interests (youth, parish nurses, grief, rural ministry, etc.)