



*Therefore encourage one another and build up each other,
as indeed you are doing.* (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

October 23, 2024

Dear Friends of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina,

May the peace of Christ be with you! I remain grateful for your continued leadership and ministry of your congregations, especially in a day when normal life, time, and resources are becoming harder to find. Even more so, I am very appreciative of your support of the work and ministry of the Presbytery in 2024. This is especially apparent in the continuing aftermath of Hurricane Helene, which caused so much damage and devastation in this part of the state. The repercussions of the storm will be felt for many years to come. Regardless, I am encouraged by God's Holy Spirit as I have witnessed how each of you have reached out to minister to the needs of your local and neighboring communities.

In the same way, Presbytery has continued its ministry to our members and congregations. So far in 2024, we have . . .

- Provided disaster assistance to affected areas of the Presbytery after Hurricane Helene through three volunteer Disaster Relief Coordinators. In addition, the General Council has authorized the hiring of a full-time Disaster Recovery Coordinator.
- Approved the report of the Revisioning Task Force to create a new design of ministry for the Presbytery.
- Celebrated the anniversaries of our international partnerships with Guatemala (30 years) and Malawi (20 years).
- Provided 23 full-week scholarships for youth to attend Camp Grier this summer.
- Awarded \$200,000 in grants to provide affordable housing to those in need in WNC.

None of this would be possible without your generous support of PWNC. In an effort to continue these and other mission opportunities in 2025, PWNC needs your financial commitment. I know the impact of Hurricane Helene is wide-spread and may have an impact on your church's finances this year, but I encourage you to give your PWNC pledge knowing God is faithful and remembering we are in this together. Presbytery's budget is supported solely by the financial commitment our churches make. If you would kindly return the enclosed form by November 27, 2024, it will help us in our budget preparations for the coming year. If your church was not impacted and is able, consider giving above your usual amount to help offset those who were affected.

Let us continue to be encouraged by what God has done and will do in the midst of everything that is happening. Thank you for your continued support!

Peace,

Byron Wade, General Presbyter

Enclosures