



# FOOTHILLS PRESBYTERY

# WOVEN *together* IN CHRIST

A TAPESTRY OF SHARED MINISTRY

# WOVEN IN FAITH

## *Strengthened in Connection*

# SERVING IN LOVE

Welcome to this year's Annual Report—a glimpse into the shared life of Foothills Presbytery. More than numbers and programs, it tells the story of churches united in Christ, leaders shaped by faith, and ministries working together for God's kingdom.

Presbyterians have long stood apart: shared, elected leadership; collaborative mission; and an openness to the Spirit's call to renewal. We are a connected people—bound in worship, service, and witness. In the Upstate, that connection thrives through Foothills Presbytery.

*Being Presbyterian means being truly connected and united in ministry.*

We invite you to prayerfully consider increasing your congregation's support of this vital ministry.

With grace and gratitude, Your Stewardship Committee

*Stuart Mauney, Chair (RE, First Greer), Buz Wilcoxon (TE, Presbyterian College), Stan Painter (RE, Fourth), Dennis Latbam (RE, Easley), Erin Farry (TE, Furman), Stan Reid, (TE, Treasurer), with Presbytery Staff Support from Debbie Foster, Pressley Cox, and Robin Morris*

## 2025 *By the Numbers*

56 CONGREGATIONS	12,145 MEMBERS	195 New MEMBERS <i>across 18 congregations</i>	Caring for 110 CHURCH PROFESSIONALS <i>with our programs</i>
OVER 100 ACTIVE MINISTERS <i>serve congregations, in validated ministry, in shared ministry, and on presbytery committees.</i>		OVER 180 VOLUNTEERS <i>serve on Presbytery committees including ministers, ruling elders, youth leaders, and educators.</i>	



# *Rooted in* FAITH, HOPE & LOVE

OUR PRESBYTERY EXISTS TO STEWARD  
A FUTURE OF GOD'S POSSIBILITY.

United in Christ, we weave a tapestry of faith, hope, and love. Because of our faith connections, we go together in our shared mission and ministry. We are better together as a community of witnesses as we share the love of Christ in our six counties and beyond.

*Together, we form  
a living tapestry of  
faith and service that  
strengthens every thread.*

## FAITHFUL

Our Committee on Ministry demonstrates care and discipline with our Teaching Elders, Ruling Elders, and Congregations.

## HOPEFUL

Our Committee on Preparation for Ministry guides those seeking ordination as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament in the PCUSA.

## LOVING

Our Committee on Shared Ministry facilitates ways to engage, connect, and celebrate the shared mission and ministry of Foothills' communities of faith.

# NURTURING FAITHFUL CHURCHES, *Equipping Faithful Leaders*

Foothills Presbytery invests in training, support, and innovation so that congregations and leaders are prepared for today and for the future of our shared ministry.



*Annual Officer Training*



*Sermon in My Pocket Workshop*

## CURRENT INITIATIVES AND HIGHLIGHTS:

- Annual Officer Training for new and continuing church officers
- “Sermon in My Pocket” Workshop to prepare Ruling Elders to write sermons
- Leader in SC5 School of Theology: equipping leaders and Ruling Elders for ongoing ministry within our congregations and communities.



*Small Church Leaders*



*Mattoon The Road Ahead with Ministry Architects*

## FUTURE CHURCH INITIATIVES

Foothills Presbytery commits energy, staffing, and revenue from investment funds for Future Church Initiatives. These provide an opportunity for congregations to enter into a time of discernment to reflect upon their impact in the community and plan for the future.

- Faithful Innovation: 5 churches (27 to 185 members)
- Legacy Partnership Project: 17 churches (24 to 220 members)
- The Road Ahead: Supports our smallest congregations

# MINISTRY

## *Collaboration*

### MORE THAN ONE CHURCH CAN DO ALONE.

Collaboration amplifies ministry.  
Foothills Presbytery fosters relationships  
that inspire, encourage, and equip leaders  
and churches to serve in new ways.

### HIGHLIGHTS:

- Presbytery Youth Council: 18-22 youth serve annually
- “Light of Many Colors” Middle School Retreat (Nov. 2024): 202 participants
- “Limitless” High School Retreat (March 2025): 110 youth and adult participants
- Presbytery Youth Council Vocational Discernment with Presbyterian College

### OTHER GROUPS & PARTNERSHIPS:

- Women’s Day at the Lake
- Shared Ministry Market Place  
*(May 2025 Presbytery meeting)*
- South Carolina 5 Presbyteries (SC5)
- Presbyterian Communities in SC
- South Carolina Inn *(Montreat)*
- Camping Ministries of the Carolinas  
*(Camp Fellowship)*
- Black Presbyterian Caucus
- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA): \$32,500 in grants in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene
- South Carolina Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Team (SCPDAT)
- Providence Presbytery *(Triennium Delegation)*



*Presbytery Youth Council*



*Middle School Retreat*



*High School Retreat*



*School of Theology Class*



*Women's Day at the Lake*



*Presbyterian Disaster Assistance*

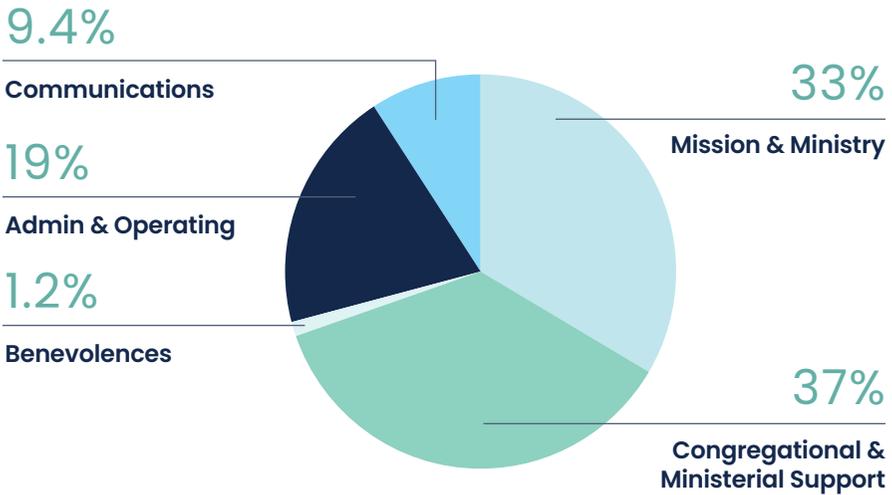
# Stewardship is Discipleship

## GIVING IS OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

“As those who have been claimed and set free by his grace, we respond with gratitude offering him our lives, our spiritual gifts, and our material goods.” — Book of Order, W-3.0411

Giving to the Presbytery fuels every layer of our shared ministry—  
from leadership formation to mission outreach.

### 2025 BUDGET DISTRIBUTION



*The operational budget is funded by Annual Commitments from congregations.  
In addition, investment funds support designated missions for the presbytery.*

*“One of the many gifts God has entrusted to our care is the connectional church. In Foothills Presbytery, we seek to foster that connection through shared mission and ministry, recognizing we are woven together to be witnesses of the work of Jesus Christ.”*

— REV. WHITNEY MOSS, PASTOR FOUNTAIN INN —

# EVERY THREAD MATTERS

## *Let's Weave Boldly*

The Church is called by God to serve in the world. Your congregation's commitment, through Annual Commitment Giving and Per Capita, ensures that we keep weaving a faithful future.

Per Capita is a set amount of money (apportionment) per member that congregations pay each year to the larger Presbyterian Church (USA). It fuels the organization of doing church the Presbyterian way, which is quite different from independent congregational and bishop-based systems. Per capita funding is how the Church mutually shares the costs of coming together to discern the Spirit's leading for the future.

Your congregation sends the annual per capita funds to the Presbytery. We send most of those funds to the PC(USA) General Assembly and the Synod of the South Atlantic: South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. The 2025 Per Capita amount is \$13.29 per member.

**ONLY 45 CENTS STAYS WITH FOOTHILLS PRESBYTERY.**

Annual Commitment Giving is your congregation's support for Foothills Presbytery's Shared Mission and Ministry Budget. **Unlike per capita, which primarily goes to the Synod and to the General Assembly, your Annual Commitment funds the work of Foothills Presbytery and has a direct impact on our ability to continue our ministry together.**

**By investing in this connectional ministry, you are helping us to weave this tapestry of mission and ministry in Foothills Presbytery.**

*We hope each Session and church prayerfully consider how their Annual Commitment giving sustains this vibrant tapestry of ministry.*

*“Regardless of congregational size,  
geographical location, and call to  
ministry, we are all united in faith  
and blanketed in God’s love. Our 56  
congregations all shine a brighter light  
because of the encouragement and  
blessings we receive from each other.”*

— SUSAN OLDHAM —

COMMISSIONED RULING ELDER  
FROM FIRST SPARTANBURG



## **FOOTHILLS PRESBYTERY**

*“May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts... and be thankful.”*

— Col. 3:15 —

**Foothills Presbytery**

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