

# Cherokee Presbytery

Deer Creek Shores  
Brazilian Christian  
Christ Fellowship  
Chickamauga  
Cartersville  
Cohutta ~ Acworth  
Beersheba ~ Kirkwood ~ Light of Hope  
Grace ~ **Cherokee Presbytery** ~ Dalton  
Calhoun ~ Rockmart ~ Trinity ~ Marietta  
Woodstock ~ Faith Canton  
Macland  
Covenant  
Heritage  
LaFayette  
John Knox  
Cedartown  
Silver Creek  
Westminster  
Morton Memorial  
Ebenezer Ghanaian  
Ray-Thomas Memorial  
Faith North Georgia  
Validated Ministries  
Honorably Retired Ministers

One Church, Many Locations, Following Christ Together

## *Handbook* *Called Meeting* *of Cherokee Presbytery*

*Saturday, August 20, 2022, 9:30 a.m.*

Virtual Meeting via Zoom #



## Welcome first-time commissioners as well long-time attendees

Cherokee Presbytery is gathering for a called meeting Saturday, August 20, 2022, via Zoom. The meeting begins at 9:30 a.m. **All active ministers are requested to attend the meeting.** If you need to be excused from the meeting, please communicate with the presbytery office. Church sessions should elect Ruling Elder commissioners.

### Preparing for the Meeting

This handbook contains the information you will need for your decision making. Please print a copy or download one to your device.

### Helpful Tips for Navigating Zoom

- You may check your microphone and audio set-up in advance at <https://zoom.us/test>
- Sign-in 10-15 minutes before the meeting starts. When you sign in, you will first enter a waiting room until you are admitted into the meeting room.
- Change your view of the room by clicking the VIEW icon at the top right of your screen. There are two options: SPEAKER (only see the person who is speaking) or GALLERY (see all participants with the speaker highlighted in green).
- Use the Menu bar at the bottom of the screen to MUTE or UNMUTE yourself. Please stay MUTED unless you are speaking to the group.
- Click the START/STOP CAMERA button to turn your camera on and off. We request that you keep your camera on at all times.
- If your name appears as “iPad 2”, “Dad’s Computer”, etc., please right click on your name in the PARTICIPANTS area and enter your First and Last Name and the church you serve as a Teaching or Ruling Elder or your status in the Presbytery (Minister-At-Large, Validated Minister, Honorably Retired.)
- We will use the polling feature to vote. A dialogue box will appear on your screen and there is a time limit to vote. Your vote is not seen by other participants. If you are not enrolled as a voting member, you will not be allowed to vote. If a polling box appears on your screen and you are not enrolled as a voting member, please do not vote.
- To leave the meeting, click END at the bottom right of the screen.

## Meeting Protocols

If you are enrolled as a voting member (Minister Member or Ruling Elder Commissioner), you are entitled to request clarification at any time there is something you do not understand. To do so, click RAISE HAND in the REACTIONS area at the bottom of your screen to be recognized by the Moderator, state your name and church when called upon, and then ask your question.

When speaking to the Presbytery, UNMUTE yourself, state your name and the name of your congregation or status in the Presbytery. Speaking time may be limited by the body during a debate.

## Alphabet Soup (common abbreviations used)

**AC:** Administrative Commission, **CT:** Coordinating Team, **CRE:** Commissioned Ruling Elder, **RE:** Ruling Elder, **TE:** Teaching Elder, (Pastor), **COR:** Committee on Representation, **MTT:** Ministry Transitions Team, **BLT:** Building Leaders Team, **CHT:** Congregational Health Team, **MST:** Ministry Support Team, **GP:** General Presbyter, **SC:** Stated Clerk, **OGA:** Office of the General Assembly, **GA:** General Assembly



## New Horizons

Cherokee Presbytery's 2022 Theme

*"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! ... I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland... to give drink to my people, my chosen, the people I formed for myself that they may proclaim my praise."*

—Isaiah 43:18-21

## **Called Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery, August 20, 2022**

**Call to Order**

Moderator Catherine Renken

**Welcome**

**Declaration of a Quorum**

**Opening Devotion**

Pete Paulsen

**Approval of Docket**

**Appointment of Presbytery Minute Readers**

**Business Reports**

Report of the Stated Clerk Consultant Search Team

Coordinating Team

Final Report of the Ray-Thomas Memorial Administrative Commission

Pete Paulsen

Report from Building Leaders Team

Elizabeth Lovell Milford

MTT Handbook Q&A

Billie Sutter and Renée Meyer

**Motion to Adjourn**

**Closing Prayer**

Wilson Kennedy

**Benediction**

**Save the date for our next Stated Presbytery  
Meeting October 22, 2022 at Faith  
Presbyterian Church in Blue Ridge!**

## **Stated Clerk Consultant Search Team Report**

**Team members:** Presbytery Moderator Catherine Renken (Kirkwood Kennesaw), Pete Paulsen (Corresponding Member), Billie Sutter (Heritage Acworth), General Presbyter Wilson Kennedy (ex-officio)

**Supplement to be published on August 18, 2022.**

### **Ray-Thomas Memorial Administrative Commission**

**Team members:** Moderator Pete Paulsen (Corresponding Member), Pat Alverson, Cathy denBoer (Ray-Thomas Marietta), Dave Grove (Cedartown), Gayle Sandlin (Kirkwood Kennesaw), Billie Sutter (Heritage Acworth)

**Item for Action:** The Administrative Commission moves that, with gratitude to God for their mission and ministry since 1978, the Ray-Thomas Memorial Presbyterian Church be dissolved effective September 30, 2022 and its Administrative Commission dismissed on that day with thanks.

**Background Information:** Ray-Thomas Memorial Presbyterian Church was organized under its original name of Highlands Presbyterian Church on November 19, 1978. It was a joint project of Cherokee and Atlanta Presbyteries with founding Pastor Rev. Dr. R. Eugene Randolph and 100 charter members. The Highlands building was completed January 1981 on a seven acre site on Sandy Plains Road near the intersection of Cobb, Fulton and Cherokee counties. Soon after, the congregation accepted a grant from the Ray and Thomas families of Atlanta with the stipulation that the church be renamed to memorialize the donors. With the new name of Ray-Thomas Memorial, a new Worship Center building for the growing congregation was completed in October 1985.

Dr. Randolph left in June 1988 and Dr. Harry Fifield served as interim pastor for 18 months. Co-pastors Carrie and David Scott arrived in December 1989. The church grew to over 600 members with three Sunday worship services. Carrie became sole pastor in 1996. In 2001, RTM heard God's call to multicultural ministry and began sharing its facilities with a Brazilian Presbyterian Congregation. In 2005, RTM entered into a covenant agreement with Bethany Korean Presbyterian Church to join together in multicultural ministry with Korean, Brazilian and RTM Congregations sharing the buildings and Bethany taking over the mortgages and property maintenance costs.

Rev. Dr. Carrie Scott retired November 30, 2020. Following Dr. Scott's retirement, Rev. Raafat Zaki faithfully served as the final Interim Pastor as the congregation prayerfully determined its future ministry. The RTM session decided at the end of 2021 to close the church and the last worship service was held December 6, 2021.

RTM served the community in many ways including a preschool, a food pantry, years of volunteering at MUST Ministries and with the Presbyterian Coalition of Habitat For Humanity.

## **Building Leaders Team**

**Team Members:** Moderator Elizabeth Lovell Milford (Heritage Acworth), Rexford Gyeke (Ebenezer Austell), Leigh Jones (Cartersville First), Chuck Achuff (Grace Dawsonville), Jeri Hadaway (Acworth)

**Contact Information:** Elizabeth Lovell Milford 678-310-3495, [pastor@heritagepres.com](mailto:pastor@heritagepres.com)

**Item for Action:** Building Leaders Team recommends Meri Kate Marcum be enrolled by the Presbytery as a Candidate for ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament.

**Biographical Statement:** Meri Kate has served the church for the majority of her career and is excited to step into God's call to ordained ministry. Even though it feels strange to be back in school and an intern in her mid-40s, Meri Kate is enjoying the seminary journey thanks to the unending support of her husband, Philip, and teenage young people, Henry (17), and Lydia (14). In addition to completing fulltime seminary work at Columbia Theological Seminary, Meri Kate serves as a Preschool Director at Marietta FUMC and as a seminary intern and Ruling Elder at FPC Marietta. She has served as a Director of Children's & Family Ministries, Preschool Director, and Preschool Teacher over the past 20 years and has served as adjunct staff to the College Conference at Montreat. She currently serves as the adjunct staff person to the Women's Connection Conference at Montreat. Meri Kate and her family moved to Marietta a little over five years ago from Vancouver, British Columbia, and she is originally from South Carolina.

## **Ministry Transitions Team**

**Team Members:** Billie Sutter, Co-Moderator (Heritage Acworth); Renee Meyer (Westminster Rome), Co-Moderator; Jim Simpson (Covenant Marietta), Frank Cleveland (Faith Canton), Nancy Tatnall (Marietta First), Megan Little (Calhoun First), Gayle Sandlin (Kirkwood Kennesaw)

**Contact Information:** Co-Moderator Billie Sutter 703-470-8061, [billiepsutter@gmail.com](mailto:billiepsutter@gmail.com) Co-Moderator Renee Meyer 270-227-7714, [rev.reneemeyer@gmail.com](mailto:rev.reneemeyer@gmail.com)

**Item for Discussion:** Questions and Answers on the new Ministry Transitions Team Handbook.