

**GENERAL COUNCIL
July 26, 2016
Michael Bailey, Chair**

The General Council of the Presbytery makes the following recommendations:

- CA 1. THAT permission be granted for the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper to be celebrated at Presbytery sponsored events and Ukirk worship gatherings for the upcoming school year, from August 2016 through May 2017.**

FOR INFORMATION:

- 2. THAT the General Council approved a request from the Hunger Committee that any unused administrative funds be allocated for Regional Grants in 2016, instead of International Grants.**
- 3. THAT the General Council reports approval of the following regional Nickel-A-Meal Grants totaling \$29,250.**

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount Granted</i>
12 Baskets Community Café	Asheville	3,750.00
AHOPE Center	Asheville	3,750.00
Bounty & Soul	Black Mountain	3,750.00
Interfaith Assistance Ministry (IAM) Food Pantry	Hendersonville	3,000.00
Loving Food Resources, Inc.	Asheville	3,750.00
Serving those in Need	Mt. Holly	3,750.00
Sharing House Food Pantry	Brevard	7,500.00

- 4. THAT the General Council reviewed and approved the following Synod Grant Applications:**
 Dulatown Presbyterian Church– Small Church Grant Application
 Third Street Presbyterian Church – Small Church Grant Application
 Ryburn Memorial Presbyterian Church – Small Church Grant Application
 Good Hope Presbyterian Church – Small Church Grant Application
- 5. THAT the General Council reviewed and approved the following application for Presbyterian Church (USA) Restricted Funds:**
 Dorland Memorial Presbyterian Church - Fund Number 58529
- 6. THAT the African American Advisory Team and the Presbyterian Foundation will be sponsoring an African American Forum at Third Street Presbyterian Church on August 20, 2016. This event is being held for African American Congregations and their pastors. Leaders for this event will be: Hal Bennett, Olanda Carr and Eddie Deas.**
- 7. THAT the Christian Education Committee is sponsoring a Pastor’s Retreat at the William Black Lodge on September 26-28, 2016. The retreat will be facilitated by Union Presbyterian Seminary Professor of Theology, Dr. Paul Galbreath.**

- Dr. Paul Galbreath came to the seminary in 2005 from the Office of Theology and Worship where he served as a member of the General Assembly staff for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) He has recently published Leading into the World, which helps congregations connect creation care with worship. The call to care for creation is a central part of our discipleship as followers of Jesus Christ. This book helps reconnect our commitment to creation care with our life of discipleship.**
- 8. THAT the Congregational Development Division is sponsoring a “Stewardship Teaching” event on Saturday, September 10, 2016, at the First Presbyterian Church, Morganton. The program is being designed for congregations of any size. The leadership for the day will be Tom Lewis and Olanda Carr.**
 - 9. THAT a list of upcoming events of the Presbytery can be found on the back of the Presbytery Docket.**
 - 10. THAT the General Council will welcome invitations from churches or institutions willing to host Presbytery meetings. The following dates have been set for Presbytery Meetings in 2016 and 2017:**
 - 2016
 - Tuesday, July 26, 2016 ~ Children’s Hope Alliance-Grandfather Home
 - Tuesday, October 25, 2016 ~ Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church
 - 2017
 - Saturday, January 28, 2017 ~ First Presbyterian Church, Lincolnton
 - Tuesday, April 25, 2017 ~ Montreat Conference Center
 - Tuesday, July 25, 2017 ~ Seeking an Invitation
 - Saturday, October 24, 2017 ~ Seeking an Invitation
 - 11. THAT the General Council approved the following dates for 2018 Presbytery meetings and would welcome invitations from churches or institutions willing to host a meeting.**
 - Saturday, January 27, 2018 – Seeking Invitation
 - Tuesday, April 24, 2018 – Montreat Conference Center
 - Tuesday, July 24, 2018 – Seeking Invitation
 - Saturday, October 27, 2018 – Seeking Invitation
 - 12. THAT the Presbyterian Women will be holding their Fall Gatherings on:**
 - September 24, 2016 (Eastern) – First Presbyterian Church, Gastonia
 - October 1, 2016 (Western) - Mills River Presbyterian Church
 - 13. THAT the Board of Pensions held four meetings throughout the Presbytery to inform and answer questions regarding the redesign of the 2017 Benefits Plan. The new design will give greater flexibility to church employees, part-time pastors and others. The 2017 Plan has also been changed to benefit the pastor and his family without additional cost.**
 - 14. THAT the Associate Presbyter Search Committee for Mission, Witness and Church Support is still accepting Personal Information Forms. The committee has started preliminary interviews.**

- 15. The General Council received word of the death of Pastor Edwin Gelista. Pastor Edwin passed away from a heart attack on May 25, 2016. He was a central part of the Guatemala Partnership since its inception twenty years ago and had served in numerous capacities. Most recently, he had been serving as the Partnership Coordinator for Suchitepequez, partnership treasurer, mentor for seminary students, and pastor of multiple churches. Pastor Edwin was pastor to the following churches this year (sister churches listed):**

Bethesda- Dallas FPC

Genezaret- Quaker Meadows PC

Primitiva in Tiquisate- Gastonia FPC

Jesus Fuente de Agua Viva- formally with Lenoir FPC