

General Presbyter Report

Byron A. Wade, General Presbyter

October 6, 2020

And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' (Revelation 21:5, NRSV)

As I begin the honor and privilege of being your General Presbyter, I am greatly appreciative of your love, prayers, and support. I am thankful to God for this opportunity and continue to be "Elephant Excited and Hippopotamus Happy" to serve alongside you in ministry and mission in Western North Carolina.

My time so far has been spent mostly on getting acquainted with the staff and duties in the presbytery office. I have to say I am blessed beyond measure to have Tonya, Lisa, Marcia, and Robbin. Not only are they friendly and pleasant but also are a wealth of experience and knowledge. I am sure you can agree as well!!

I have also participated in many a Zoom meeting (who hasn't!). To date I have met with Cam Murchison and Billy Robinson on a weekly basis, Committee on Ministry, and the Administrative Commission for the Lincolnton church. In the coming days and weeks, I will meet with the Leadership Team of General Council, the General Council, Personnel Committee, Sacred Boundaries training, Guatemala Partnership, Youth Committee, and others. I have also participated in Mid Council Leaders training sponsored by the denomination in Louisville, KY.

One of my goals is to meet and develop relationships with the congregations and ministers of PWNC. I have had lunch with Rev. John Hagmann, pastor of FPC Morganton, and have upcoming social-distanced conversations with Rev. Hal Bennett of Dulatown PC, and Rev. David Smith. In addition, I have preaching engagements with FPC Asheville (November 1) and FPC Hickory (November 22) and will be a panel participant for "Another Conversation on Race", a virtual program hosted by Montreat Presbyterian Church on November 18. It is my intention to begin meeting by Zoom with various people/groups in the presbytery on a weekly basis and will begin that by extending invitations to have a "Virtual Lunch with the General Presbyter". Please know that I am available to meet with you and/or your churches, provided we follow the current health protocols.

Again, I am honored to have this opportunity to serve alongside you in ministry and mission. As the writer of Revelation gave words to those who needed comfort, I believe that God is making all things new. It is my hope and prayer going forward that we will believe "these words are trustworthy and true" from a faithful and loving God who is ever present.

Peace,



Byron Wade