



GUIDE TO WORSHIP AND WORK

ONE-HUNDRED FORTY-FOURTH STATED MEETING

Tuesday, October 28, 2025

**RUTHERFORDTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
RUTHERFORDTON, NC**

**144th STATED MEETING
PRESBYTERY OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA
October 28, 2025
DOCKET**

9:00	Call to Order	Ken Murchison, Moderator	
	Convene with Prayer of Invocation	Ken Murchison, Moderator	
	Land Acknowledgment	Ken Murchison, Moderator	
	Appointment of Standing Committees	Ken Murchison, Moderator	
	Resolution of Thanks		
	Bills and Overtures		
	Tellers		
	Presbytery in Brief		
	Recognition of Elders Attending for First Time, Visitors, and Corresponding Members		
	Certification of Quorum	Ann Philbrick, Stated Clerk	
	Approval of Docket		
	Consent Agenda		A
	<i>(Consent Agenda is a consent motion. Any commissioner may pull any item from the Consent Agenda for any reason. Simply state the item to be removed from the Consent Agenda and it will be dealt with as part of the team report from which it was drawn.)</i>		
	Stated Clerk's Report	Ann Philbrick	B
	<i>(Work of the Clerk, Presbytery Meeting Dates, Administrative Commission Reports)</i>		
	Reports Submitted for Information and/or Included in the Consent Agenda		
	Building Hope		BH
	Summary of the 256th Synod of the Mid-Atlantic Stated Assembly		II
9:40	Service of Worship, including Celebration of the Lord's Supper		
	<i>Worship Leader: Rev. Dr. Don Scofield</i>		
10:40	Speak Out (10 minutes)		
10:50	Coordinating Ministry (10 minutes)	Dana Seiler	C
	<i>(Work of the team/ministry)</i>		
	• First Reading: Standing Rules Revision		
11:05	Malawi Team (10 minutes)	Kevin Frederick and Barbara Nagy	P
11:15	Peace and Justice Team (5 minutes)	Will Upchurch	T

11:20	Texas Presbyterian Foundation <i>(5 minutes)</i>	Stephanie Marsden	
11:25	Horizons Stewardship <i>(5 minutes)</i>	Stephen Lindsley	
11:30	Commission Pastor Team <i>(5 minutes)</i> <i>(Regarding need for mentors for Commissioned Pastors)</i>		OO
11:35	Report of the Disaster Recovery Coordinator <i>(5 minutes)</i>	Julie Hester/Rachel Matthews	
11:40	Guatemala Team	Sarah Robinson	Q
11:45	Lunch		
12:45	Reconvene		
	Commission on Ministry <i>(45 minutes)</i> <i>(Introduce new ministers and recommendations for Presbytery approval)</i>	Michael Poulos	D
	• Second Readings: ○ Dissolution of Terms Policy Revision ○ Transitional to Installed Policy Revision • First Reading: Anti-Racism Policy		
1:30	Youth Team	Beth Gunn/David Germer	Y
	Finance Team	Feild Russell	BB
	Report of Bills and Overtures <i>(if needed)</i>		
	Faith Formation <i>(5 minutes)</i>	Gayla Woody	W
	Nominating/Representation <i>(5 minutes)</i> • GA Commissioners	Feild Russell/Paula Wallace	I
	Report of the General Presbyter <i>(5 minutes)</i>	Byron Wade	GP
	Prayers of Intercession		
	Benediction and Adjournment	Ken Murchison	

Attendance and Voting. Each teaching elder shall attend each meeting of Presbytery, and each congregation shall be represented by at least one ruling elder at each meeting. Congregations are entitled to ruling elder commissioners based on the following active membership (BO: G-1.0402), as shown on the most recent statistical report (*For the 2025 year, churches A through F are entitled to an additional elder. Please note that commissioner representation is based on active membership figures taken from the 2023 Statistical Report as figures are not available for 2024.*):

- 0 - 250 members - 1
- 251 - 750 members - 2
- 751 - 1250 members - 3
- 1251 - 1750 members - 4

Retired teaching elders shall be welcome at all meetings, but their necessary non-attendance shall be excused.

To ensure approximate parity in numbers between ruling elder and teaching elder commissioners:

1. All members of the Coordinating Ministry, and Commission on Ministry shall have voice and vote (if ruling elders).
2. All division, team and sub-team chairs shall have voice and vote (if ruling elders).
3. All Commissioned Pastors shall have voice and vote.
4. All Certified Christian Educators, Certified Associate Christian Educators, and, in addition, other Christian Educators who have
 - earned at least a bachelor's degree (or its equivalent)
 - served in one or more educational ministries under the jurisdiction of a Presbytery (or one of its Sessions) for a minimum of two (2) years, and
 - been examined and recommended to Presbytery by the Faith Formation Team shall have voice and (if ruling elders) vote, provided that these privileges shall end, pursuant to BO: G-2.1103, when such persons are no longer serving in an educational ministry under the jurisdiction of the Presbytery (or one of its Sessions).
5. All ruling elder commissioners to the Synod Assembly and to the General Assembly shall have voice and vote as long as their terms last.
6. All exempt staff of Presbytery shall have voice.
7. All racial/ethnic congregations and other congregations designated by the Coordinating Ministry shall elect an additional ruling elder commissioner.
8. Only teaching elders who are active members (including retired teaching elders) or members-at-large of Presbytery, as defined by the *Book of Order*, shall have voice and vote.

DATE	LOCATION	PACKET DEADLINE	POWERPOINT DEADLINE	OVERTURE DEADLINE
2025 Presbytery Meeting Dates				
Tuesday, October 28	Rutherfordton Presbyterian Church	October 2, 2025	October 9, 2025	September 29, 2025
2026 Presbytery Meeting Dates				
Saturday, January 31	Virtual - ZOOM	January 2, 2026	January 9, 2026	December 29, 2025
Tuesday, April 28	Montreat Conference Center	April 2, 2026	April 9, 2026	March 31, 2026
Saturday, July 25	Neighborhood Meetings • Artisan – Eastern • Greenway – Central • Mills River – Western • Crossnore (TBC) - Mayland	July 2, 2026	July 9, 2026	June 30, 2026
Tuesday, October 27	First Presbyterian Church, Gastonia	October 1, 2026	October 8, 2026	September 29, 2026
2027 Presbytery Meeting Dates				
Saturday, January 30	Virtual - ZOOM	January 4, 2027	January 11, 2027	December 29, 2026
Tuesday, April 27	Montreat Conference Center	April 1, 2027	April 8, 2027	March 30, 2027
Saturday, July 31	Neighborhoods (TBD)	July 1, 2027	July 8, 2027	June 29, 2027
Tuesday, October 26	TBD	October 1, 2027	October 7, 2027	September 28, 2027

Calendar of Events

MEETINGS HELD BY ZOOM UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED

OCTOBER

18	Church Leadership School	
25	Presbyterian Women at Trinity	
28	144th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina	Rutherfordton Pres.
29	Commission on Ministry Leadership Team	

NOVEMBER

1	Church Leadership School	
3	Examinations Team	
4	Commission on Ministry	
5	Coordinating Ministry Leadership Team	
8	Nominating/Representation Team	
8-9	Youth Retreat	Camp Grier
12	Coordinating Ministry	
13	Faith Formation	
13-14	Preaching for Renewal	Asheville, First
15	Church Leadership School	
24	Microloan Task Force	
25	Commission on Ministry Leadership Team	
27-28	Presbytery Office Closed – Thanksgiving Holiday	

DECEMBER

1	Examinations Team	
2	Commission on Ministry	
3	Coordinating Ministry Leadership Team	
4	Finance Team	
6	Church Leadership School	
9	Validated Ministry Team	
9	Presbytery Office Closed – Staff Christmas Party	
10	Coordinating Ministry	
24-31	Presbytery Office Closed – Christmas Holiday	
29	Deadline for Overtures	
30	Commission on Ministry Leadership Team	

JANUARY

1-2	Presbytery Office Closed – New Year's Holiday	
2	Presbytery Packet Deadline for the 145th Stated Meeting	
7	Coordinating Ministry Leadership Team	
10	Church Leadership School	
12	Examinations Team	
13	Commission on Ministry	
14	Coordinating Ministry	
19	Presbytery Office Closed – Martin Luther King Holiday	
24	Church Leadership School	
31	145th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina	ZOOM-Virtual