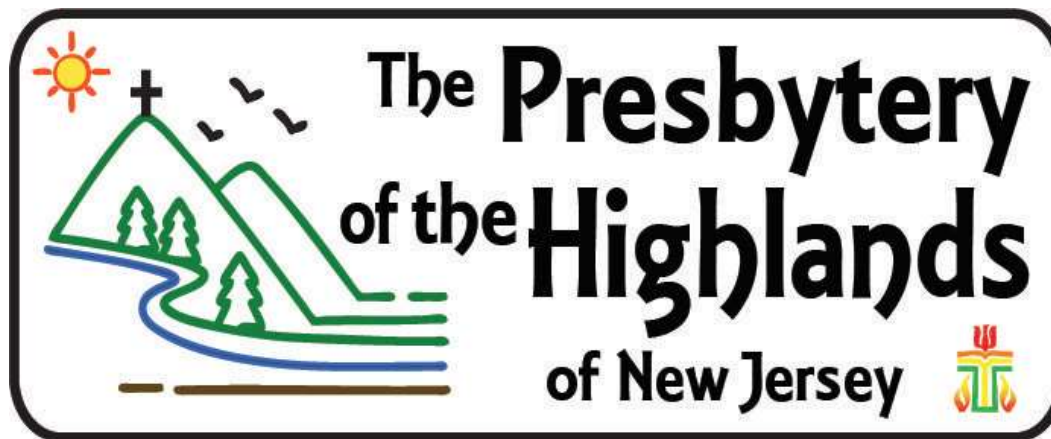
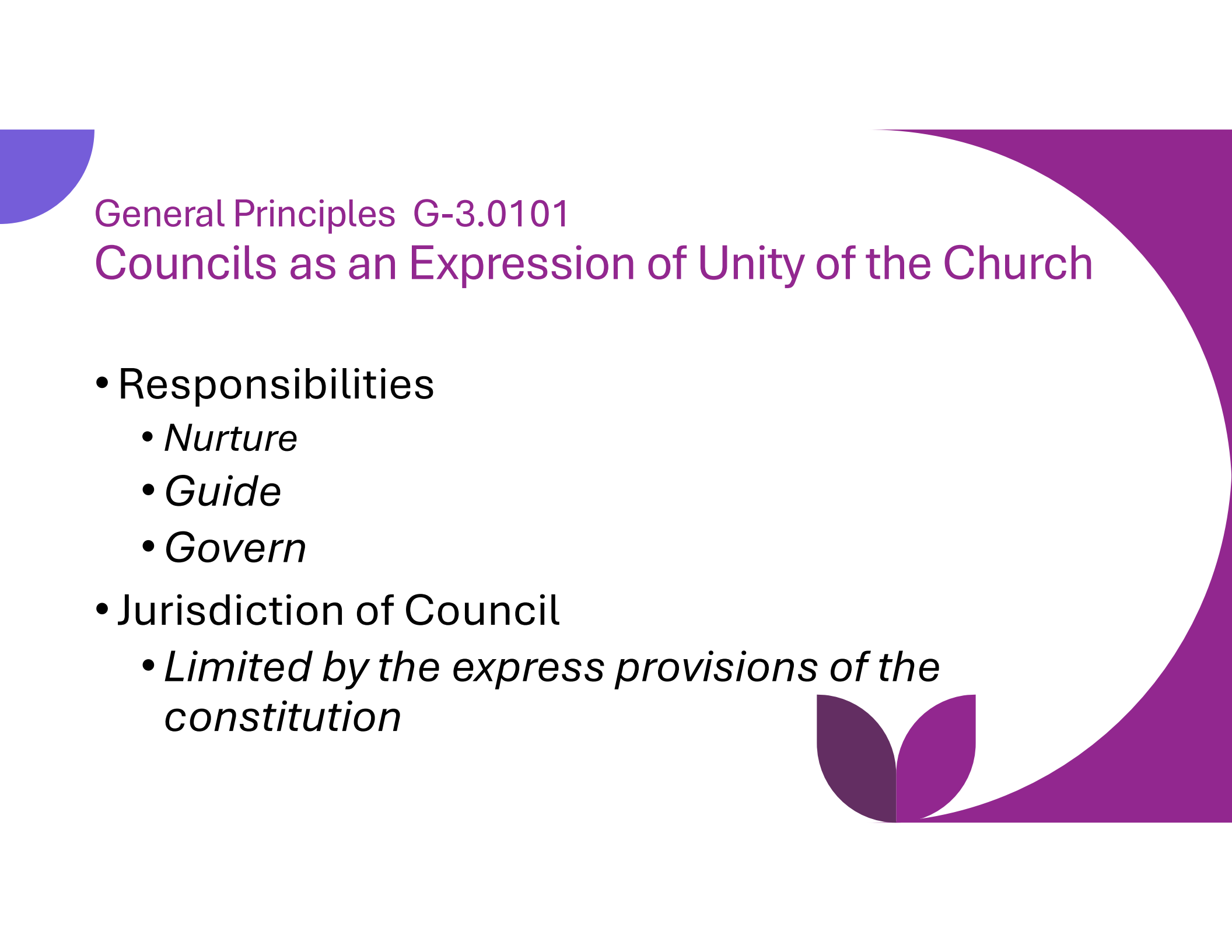


Presbytery Responsibilities





General Principles G-3.0101

Councils as an Expression of Unity of the Church

- Responsibilities
 - *Nurture*
 - *Guide*
 - *Govern*
- Jurisdiction of Council
 - *Limited by the express provisions of the constitution*

Councils Exist to help Congregations to be more faithful participants in the mission of Christ

They do so as they

- Provide that the Word of God may be truly preached and heard
- Provide that the Sacraments may be rightly administered and received.
- Nurture a covenant community of disciples of Christ, living in strength of God's promise and giving itself in service to God's mission

All Councils

G-3.0103 Participation and Representation

The councils of the church shall give full expression to the rich diversity of the church's membership and shall provide for full participation and access to representation in decision-making and employment practices.

Each councils shall develop procedures and mechanism for promoting and review that body's implementation of the church's commitment to inclusiveness and representation. Councils above the session shall have committees on representation

Committee on
Representation



All councils

Officers – Records - Committees

Officers

Presbytery shall:

- Appoint moderators of session when needed
- Elect a moderator
- Elect a Stated Clerk

Presbytery may:

- Elect other officers are required

Administration

Presbytery Shall:

- Develop manuals of operations
- Shall provide policies are required by BoO
- Prepare and adopt a budget for its operating expenses

Records

Presbytery shall:

- Keep a full and accurate records

Committees/ Commissions

Presbytery may:

Designate committees and commissions

All councils

Nominating – Insurance – Finances

Presbytery shall have a nominating process

Presbytery shall obtain insurance coverage

Presbytery shall prepare and adopt a budget and provide for a full financial review annually



Presbyteries Responsibilities

- Presbytery has responsibility and power to:
- Provide that the Word of God is truly preached and heard
- Shall have responsibility for the following concerning congregations
 - Organizing
 - Receiving
 - Dismissing
 - Dissolving
 - Overseeing congregations without pastors

Presbyteries Responsibilities continued...

- Shall have responsibility for the following:
 - Establishing pastoral relationships and dissolving them
 - Guiding the preparation of the those preparing to become ministers
 - Establishing and maintaining those ecumenical relationships
 - Providing encouragement, guidance and resources to congregations in the areas of”
 - Mission
 - Prophetic witness
 - Leadership development
 - Worship
 - Evangelism
 - Responsible administration

Presbyteries Responsibilities continued...

- Presbytery provide that the sacrament may be rightly administered and received
- Shall have responsibility for the following:
 - Authorizing the celebration of the Lord's supper:
 - at presbytery meetings
 - Fellowship groups
 - New church developments
 - Other non-congregational entities meetings within its bounds
 - Authorizing and training specific ruling elders to administer or preside at the Lord

Presbyteries Responsibilities continued...

- Nurture the Covenant Community of disciples of Christ
- Shall have responsibility for the following for its members who are ministers of Word and Sacrament:
 - Ordaining
 - Receiving
 - Dismissing
 - Installing
 - Removing
 - Disciplining

Presbyteries Responsibilities continued...

- Nurture the Covenant Community of disciples of Christ
- Shall have responsibility for the following:
 - Commissioning Ruling elders
 - Promoting the peace and harmony of congregations and inquiring into the sources of discord
 - Supporting congregations in developing the graces of generosity, stewardship, and service
 - Assisting congregations in developing mission and participating in the mission of the whole church
 - Taking jurisdiction over the members of dissolved congregations and granting transfers of their membership to other congregations
 - Warning and bearing witness against error in doctrine and immorality in practice within its bounds
 - Serving in judicial matters in accordance with the Church Discipline

Presbyteries Responsibilities continued...

- Relations with Synod and General Assembly
- Shall have responsibility to maintain regular and continuing relationship to synod and General Assembly:
 - Electing commissioners
 - Readers for Ordination exams
 - Carrying out binding actions of synod and General Assembly
 - Overtures to the GA and Synod as appropriate
 - Annual Statistical information as requested

Presbyteries Responsibilities continued...

- Relations with Sessions
- Has a particular responsibility to:
 - Coordinate, guide, encourage, support and resource the work of its congregations
- Has the authority to:
 - Develop strategy for the mission of the church in its district
 - Control the location of new congregations and congregations moving
 - Divide, dismiss or dissolve congregations after consultation with their members
 - Establish minimum compensation standards, including dissolution terms



Presbyteries Responsibilities continued...

- Has the authority to:
 - Counsel with Session concerning reported difficulties including
 - Advising the session as to appropriate actions to be taken to resolve the reported difficulty
 - Offering to help as a mediator
 - Acting to correct the difficulties if requested to do so by the session or if the session is unable or unwilling to do, following the Church Discipline
 - Assume original jurisdiction in any situation in which it determines that a session cannot exercise its authority
 - Consider and act upon requests from congregations for permission to take the the actions regarding real property as described in G -4.0206

Presbyteries Responsibilities continued...

- Has the authority to:
 - Determine the Minister members and validates the ministries
 - designate ministers of Word and Sacrament to work in specific forms of ministry and designate them to administer the sacraments
- Shall:
 - Examine each minister of the Word and Sacrament or candidates who seeks membership
 - Be open at all times to communication regarding the life and ministry of the congregations
 - Develop and maintain mechanisms and processes to serve as pastor and counselor to its ministers of Word and Sacrament.: to facilitate relations between presbytery and congregations and minister members and settle difficulties where possible and expedient
 - May delegate these responsibilities to designated entities within the congregation



Meetings and Quorum

- The Presbytery shall
 - Hold stated meetings at least twice a year, meet as directed by Synod and may call special meetings
 - Determines membership of ministers of Word and Sacrament
 - Provide for written criteria of validated ministry
 - Shall examine ministers seeking membership
 - Work with other presbyteries about ministries outside or within the bounds

