Presbytery

Presbyterian governance begins at the Presbytery and is delegated to congregation  
Default place that things happen – everything not mentioned specifically in the Book of Order (G-3.0101)

Membership of the Presbytery: Congregations and Teaching Elders within its district  
Commissioners are equally balanced between Ruling Elders (RE) and Teaching Elders (TE)  
Moderator usually elected for a one-year term

Primary duties:  
Organizing, overseeing, and dissolving congregations  
Ordaining, installing, removing TEs  
Ecumenical partnerships  
Authorizing and training the celebration of communion  
Communicating with GA/Synod and congregations

Usual organization:  
Staff: Executive Presbyter & Stated Clerk  
Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM)  
Commission on Ministry (CoM)  
Permanent Judicial Commission (PJC)   
Other committees/commissions as needed

Mission

Great Commission: “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations…” (Matt. 28:19)

Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA) – Denominational Mission

Compassion, Peace, and Justice  
Disaster Assistance, Hunger Program, Peacemaking, United Nations, Office of Public Witness

Racial Ethnic & Women’s Ministries

Theology, Formation, and Evangelism  
1001 New Worshipping Communities, Company of New Pastors, Congregational Ministries Publishing, Theology and Worship, Youth/College/Young Adult ministries, Evangelism, New Beginnings

World Mission  
Young Adult Volunteers, World Mission Workers

Mission at Home and Abroad (~1890-1910)

Rev. Dr. Sheldon Jackson (1834-1909)  
Presbyterian Minister and General Agent of Education  
Wanted to be a missionary; told he was too sickly  
Established churches in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Oklahoma  
Used the Railroad to establish churches in the west – a church a day!  
After purchase of Alaska territory, worked to establish missions there  
Brought Reindeer in to replace caribou  
Divided Alaska into denominational mission regions

Susan Law McBeth (1830-1893)  
“A theological seminary in herself”  
Set up a school for teaching Native Americans in Idaho  
Taught literacy, domestic, and ministry with her sister  
Created a tradition of annual Camp Meeting

Donaldina Cameron (1865 - 1968)  
“Angry Angel of Chinatown”  
At age 25, she became superintendent of Presbyterian Home in San Francisco  
Protected Chinese immigrant women from forced service  
Required women to convert to Christianity to stay in the home

Reform in the Congo  
Rev. Dr. William Morrison and Rev. William Sheppard  
Translated Bible into Baluba (Language in the Congo) & founded newspaper  
Protested abuse of native people, forced King Leopold to cede control