



Nurture Committee Awards Scholarships

November 26, 2025

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – The Presbytery of West Virginia’s Nurture Committee awarded three scholarships for the Association of Partners in Christian Education (APCE) Annual Event at their Stated Meeting on Saturday, November 15, 2025. The Rev. Claire Butler Bass, pastor of Point Pleasant Presbyterian Church and Ravenswood Presbyterian Church; Rev. Dr. Amy Wallace Parker, Minister of Education and the Arts at Village Chapel Presbyterian Church; and Susan Smith, Christian Education Coordinator at First Presbyterian Church, Charleston, all received a scholarship towards the cost of attending.

The APCE event will be held January 21-24, 2026, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, with the focus of “Bridging the Gap- Love God, Love Self, Love Neighbor.” Attendees will address different topics of love, and living that love in action through serving, understanding, and growing despite differences.

“The APCE Annual Event is a great opportunity for all involved in educational ministry in the church, whether their title is educator, pastor, committee chair, or volunteer, to engage in worship, plenaries, and workshops that will enhance their ministry in their congregations and enable them and others grow in faith and witness to Jesus Christ. For those who are unable to attend in person, there is also an online offering that will include worship, plenaries, and selected workshops,” said Susan Sharp Campbell, Associate for Educational Ministry for the Presbytery.

Partners in APCE are the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the Presbyterian Church in Canada, the Moravian Church in America, and the Reformed Church in America. The focus is on those who serve, or have served, in educational ministries as professional or volunteer educators, pastors, and students.

Scholarships provided through the Nurture Committee are important and greatly appreciated because they allow pastors the opportunity to participate in additional learning



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THE APCE ANNUAL EVENT
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opportunities.

“I’m very grateful for the financial support of the presbytery which will allow me to have some con ed funds left in the allowance from my church so I can attend other events this year as well,” said Parker.

Smith, who was recently endorsed as a Christian Education Associate, is looking forward to learning all she can to help advance her congregation.

“I am excited for the opportunity to network with other Christian Educators, to spend time in the marketplace, and learn something new that I can share with First Presbyterian Church, Charleston,” said Smith. “I would like to thank the Presbytery of West Virginia for this award to attend the annual APCE event.”

To encourage participation amongst the congregations in the Presbytery of West Virginia, the Nurture Committee decided to provide scholarships. The Presbytery of West Virginia is also being recognized at APCE as a “Connect Sponsor” for this event. For more information on the APCE Annual Event can be found at www.apcenet.org.

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