

Mark Hester is in his 7th year as serving as the Pastor of Loudon Cumberland Presbyterian Church in East Tennessee. Mark was known as a bi-vocational minister serving 15 times as an Interim and he has also preached in over 40 churches. Before his retirement from full-time secular work at the end of 2021, Mark was a Registered Investment Advisor and Certified as a Financial Planner with Raymond James Financial. In his 43 years in the financial world, he managed wealth for many and one of his special interests was taking care of Ministers, and their money. Mark studied Communications at the University of Tennessee, is a Graduate from Lambuth College (now a part of the University of Memphis), completed the Program of Alternate Studies (P.A.S.) of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church – administered by Memphis Theological Seminary. His post-graduate work includes studies from: Michigan State University, The American College, Asbury Theological Seminary and Southern Seminary. He has served our Denomination on the Board of Trustees of Bethel University and two terms on the Board of Stewardship, Foundation and Management. He was a Commissioner to General Assembly four times in three decades and helped to establish the “Financial Leadership for Religious Professionals” at MTS. At the Synodic level, Mark is currently serving as the Moderator and is a past representative of the Tennessee Council of Higher Education. At the Presbyterian level, he is currently on the Discipline Committee and serving as Moderator. He has also served on Boards and Committees: Finance, Missions, and Theology & Social Concerns. Mark is a native Tennessean and he and his wife, Sally, live happily ever after in Farragut, TN.