

**Minutes of Fall Stated Presbytery Meeting at Dogwood Acres
Saturday, October 23, 2021**

The Presbytery of Florida, Inc., of the Synod of South Atlantic of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) met at Dogwood Acres Retreat Center and Summer Camp for a Stated Meeting on Saturday, October 23, 2021.

	Present	Absent	Total
Ruling Elders:			
- Session Commissioners	23	16	39
- Other Continuing Members (RE committee chairs {3}; RE officers {2}; RE educators {3})	6	2	8
- CLP/CRE	2	2	4
Total Ruling Elders	31	20	51
Ministers of Word and Sacrament	27	19	46
Total Present and Absent	58	39	97
Congregations Represented	21	16	37

MINISTERS OF WORD AND SACRAMENT PRESENT (27):

Casey Aldridge, *Michael Askew*, Mark Broadhead, Tae Ho Cheong, Brad Clayton, *Brant Copeland*, Chris Erde, Mathew Frease, Jordan Goodwin, Hugh Hamilton, *Gene Harris*, *Harvey Jenkins*, Kim Sun, Bill Lamont, *Ted Land*, Lisa Martin, Roy Martin, Taylor Phillips, Linda Pitts, Emily Proctor, *Steve Rhodes*, Erin Rosica, Sharon Schuler, Eric Spoon, Sheldon Steen, *Mary Vance*, Joan Wooten. (italics = HR)

MINISTERS OF WORD AND SACRAMENT ABSENT (10/9):

Excused Ministers: Margaret Fox, Kenneth Kelley, John Kelsay, A.J. Mealor, Luis Ocasio Torres, Robert Quiring, Greta Reed, Rob Sugg, Trinity Whitley, Carol Wood

Unexcused Ministers: Mel Baars O'Malley, Robert Bohnsack, John Cole, Tai Cole, Steve Graves, Raymond Guterman, Pamela Phillips, Leo Sandon, Steven Schaick

RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS PRESENT (23):

- Blountstown** – excused
- ChIPLEY, First** – excused
- Crestview, First** – Tim Crawford
- Defuniak Springs, Euchee Valley** – Tommy Yates
- Defuniak Springs, Bethel** – Sandra Macon
- Defuniak Springs, First** – Vivian Powell
- Destin, First** – unexcused
- Fort Walton Beach, First** – Fred Pryor
- Fort Walton Beach, Korean** - unexcused
- Freeport, Freeport** – Becky Rose
- Gretna, Gretna** – unexcused
- Gulf Breeze, Gulf Breeze** – David Allen
- Havana, First** – excused
- Laurel Hill, Laurel Hill** – Tracy Curenton
- Lynn Haven, First** – Rich Kangas

- 47 **Marianna, First** – Mel Lundgren
 48 **Milton, First** – excused
 49 **Monticello, First - unexcused**
 50 **Navarre, Navarre – unexcused**
 51 **Panama City Beach, Gulf Beach** – Tracy Schoppe
 52 **Panama City, Grace** – Veronica Wilson
 53 **Panama City, Parkway** – William Weeks
 54 **Panama City, St. Andrews – unexcused**
 55 **Pensacola, First – unexcused**
 56 **Pensacola, Korean – unexcused**
 57 **Pensacola, Northminster** – Greg Seltzer
 58 **Pensacola, Trinity – unexcused**
 59 **Quincy, First** – Bennett Chesser; Alice Malone
 60 **Red Bay, Red Bay** – excused
 61 **Tallahassee, Christ** – Carol Allman
 62 **Tallahassee, Faith** – Ray Youngblood; Leon Corbett
 63 **Tallahassee, Fellowship** – Cochran Keating
 64 **Tallahassee, First** – Janet Bowman
 65 **Tallahassee, Lafayette** – Douglas Pitts
 66 **Tallahassee, Trinity United – unexcused**
 67 **Wewahitchka, First** – excused
 68 **Woodland, Woodland - Kathy Pack**
- 69 **Sessions not represented:**
 70 **Excused Churches (6):**
 71 Blountstown, First; Chipley, First; Havana, First; Milton; Red Bay; Wewahitchka, First.
- 72 **Unexcused Churches (10):**
 73 Destin, First; Fort Walton Beach, Korean; Gretna; Monticello, First; Navarre; Panama City, St. Andrews;
 74 Pensacola, First; Pensacola, Korean; Pensacola, Trinity; Tallahassee, Trinity United
- 75 **CONTINUING MEMBERS:**
 76 **CLPs present (2):**
 77 Alan House; Joanne Kublik
- 78 **CLPs absent (2):**
 79 Tonya Fernandes; Larry Plank
- 80 **Christian Educators with voice and vote present (1):** Lisa Wilder
- 81 **Christian Educators with voice present (0):**
- 82 **Presbytery Staff Members:** Melissa Willis –Administrator; Ben Powell (RE) – Dogwood Acres
 83 Director; Denise Vandiver (RE) – Accountant/Treasurer.
- 84 **Officers/Team Chairs:** Jeannie Dixon – Stated Clerk (RE); Roseanna Phillips (RE) – Coordinating and
 85 Planning Commission; Don Mowat (RE) – Committee on Ministry; Leslie Yandle (RE) - Committee on
 86 Nominations; Glenn Hodges (RE) – Committee on Representation.

87 **Visitors:** Mary Elizabeth Pryor, Ft Walton Beach; Cannon Randle, First, Tallahassee; Florence Schreiber,
88 UKirk, Tallahassee; Danny Rose, First, Freeport; Gerry Yandle, First, Pensacola; Karen Weaver, First,
89 Monticello; Shelia Clark Askew, Gulf Beach; Jim Rosica, First, Tallahassee.

90 **Visiting Teaching Elders:** John Stringer.

91 **OPENING PRAYER, QUORUM, DOCKET**

92 Moderator Michael Askew called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM CST/10:00 AM EST. A quorum was
93 present, and Moderator Askew opened the meeting with prayer. Presbytery approved the docket as
94 presented by Stated Clerk Jeannie Dixon.

95 **INTRODUCTIONS:** First-time ruling elders, teaching elders, corresponding members, and visitors were
96 introduced.

97 **MORNING WORSHIP** led by Teaching Elder Hamilton substituting for Ruling Elder Alice Malone,
98 Teaching Elders Jordan Goodwin, and Casey Aldridge, newly received into the presbytery. 1st, Lynn
99 Haven, Music Director Brad Thoreson led in lively music and spirited singing. Rev. Casey Aldridge,
100 graduate student at Florida State University, preached on the text Job 42:1-6, 10-17 exploring aspects of
101 human suffering and theodicy. He summarized, “It is not theology or theodicy that will comfort those
102 who mourn or bring down systems of alienation or oppression. It is only the presence of God, the love of
103 the Holy Spirit, and the hands and feet of Jesus Christ in each one of us that can bring hope to a hurting
104 world. May we go from here to serve God by being present to the suffering of others, joining them in the
105 divinely-instigated transformation of their condition.”

106 Worship included the annual necrology report and remembrance of teaching and ruling elders who died in
107 the last year. Jeannie Dixon and Roy Martin read the names, with each person remembered by tolling of a
108 bell by Brad Thoreson. The presbytery then sang with gusto “For All the Saints.” Casey Aldridge then
109 concluded with a benediction.

110 **EDUCATIONAL TIME: Committee on Mission and Outreach: Hugh Hamilton**

111 Hugh Hamilton, Vice-Chair of CMO, presented a PowerPoint program on Mission Assessment: What is
112 Working or Not Working in Your Congregational Mission and Service Endeavors, And Why? Utilizing
113 the PC(USA) Mission Agency’s resource CALLED TO MISSION: FINDING OUR PLACE IN GOD’S
114 MISSION, Hugh led a discussion of Modes (strategies) of Mission Engagement (Hands-on, Empowered
115 Partners, Advocacy) and why certain modes suit or do not suit your congregation. Again, why, why not,
116 and which might you try? Then followed an overview of the suggested Mission Discernment Process and
117 evaluation guides, including basic questions to guide your discernment process: WHY do we engage in
118 mission? WHAT does our congregation’s mission engagement look like? WHO participates in our
119 mission efforts and who might become involved? WHAT cultural divides might we be crossing as we
120 engage in mission? WHO will serve as our link between us and our partners? The PC(USA) Mission
121 Agency materials then present a questionnaire and self-evaluation guide to help your mission teams to
122 THINK about your congregation, LEARN as you gather essential information, PRAY regularly, and PAY
123 ATTENTION to signs, senses, indicators. Each step has poignant and practical suggestions.

124 Sharing personal reflections and examples, Hugh explained how this guide had informed, challenged, and
125 clarified Trinity-Pensacola’s Mission and Outreach Team as they assessed their service and mission
126 endeavors. Lastly, Hugh shared a 5-part Self-Assessment Quiz, by which participants made discoveries
127 about themselves and their congregation’s mission endeavors and considered next steps for planning
128 mission projects, programs, and initiatives. What did you learn? What might you do next? What might
129 you do differently? Who needs to be involved as you proceed?

130 The Committee on Mission and Outreach presentation offered practical, challenging, and personal examples
131 that may help congregational mission teams avoid “mission creep” and “mishmash missions” and thereby
132 refocus and reenergize their mission efforts.

133 The 44-page workbook PC(USA) Mission Agency Resource *CALLED TO MISSION: Finding Our Place*
134 *in God’s Mission* can be found at <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/resources/>

135 **MINISTRY REPORTS**

136 **PARTNER REPORTS: UKirk Tallahassee: Matt Frease**

137 Summer 2021 work at UKirk involved remodeling the center’s kitchen, apartment, baths, and
138 landscaping. Congregations provided meals and workers, materials, and finances. More work is needed as
139 the Student Center reopens with post-COVID restrictions. Congregations are invited to provide meals,
140 programs, resources, and finances.

141 **STAFF REPORTS**

142 **REPORT FROM STATED CLERK: Jeannie Dixon**

143 Property: re Incorporation of our churches: All but four churches are incorporated: Bethel, Blountstown,
144 Woodland, and Monticello. Bethel (not incorporated) property is listed as Bethel Presbyterian Church c/o
145 Thomas Jordan. Blountstown (not incorporated) property is listed as “presbyterian church.” Woodland
146 (not incorporated) property is listed as Church Woodland Presbyterian at Sawdust. Monticello (not
147 incorporated) property is listed as Presbyterian Church (plus a manse (?) listed as Tr. Of Presbyterian
148 Church) . The following show differences in property appraiser owner’s name and the incorporated name:
149 Milton – property appraiser Presbyterian Church {2 parcels; one at 205 Elmira}; incorporated name First
150 Presbyterian Church of Milton, Florida, Inc. Gulf Beach – property appraiser and incorporated name
151 match (Gulf Beach Presbyterian Church of Panama City Beach, Inc.) but a vacant lot is listed as owned by
152 Gulf Beach Presbyterian Church. Lynn Haven – property appraiser lists owner as Presbyterian Church
153 while the incorporated name is First Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) of Lynn Haven, Florida, Inc. St.
154 Andrews – deed listed as St. Andrew Presbyterian Church; incorporated name is St. Andrews
155 Presbyterian Church of Panama City, Florida, Inc.

156 Meetings Attended as part of Stated Clerk duties: Board of Pensions update webinar in May, COM
157 meeting for July, Workshop on Parliamentary Procedures (part of the Year of Leader Formation from
158 OGA), July CPC meeting, Savannah Presbytery’s School of the Laity course ‘History, Mission and
159 Polity’

160 COVID-19 PANDEMIC CONDITIONS: Stated Clerk has compiled COVID numbers (average daily
161 new infections and positivity rate) for our counties comparing April 30, 2020, July 19, 2021, and July 26,
162 2021; updated to include August and September dates.

163 MAIL PROGRAMS: Stated Clerk is researching mail programs for staff use due to inability to
164 communicate with Board of Pensions and other entities due to a security issue with IONOS.

165 ANNUAL STATISTICS: The statistics “season” will open on Dec. 3, 2021, and close at midnight on Feb.
166 17, 2022. This does require session approval; enter your data, print the PDF report, get approval, then
167 click SUBMIT.

168 We are looking for hosts for the 2022 presbytery meetings: Feb. 22, May 21, August 23, October 25.

169 **REPORT FROM GENERAL PRESBYTER: Roy Martin**

170 Roy Martin shared with the presbytery insights from Susan Beaumont’s Alban Institute publication, *How*
171 *to Lead When You Don’t Know Where You Are Going?* He finds it as a helpful resource in considering
172 how do we lead in uncharted territories of pandemic challenges, cultural shifts, changes in the PC(USA)
173 and stewardship challenges, in this “liminal season” (Beaumont).

174 The presbytery’s Stewardship Team is ready to meet with Sessions to present the mission and financial
175 needs of the presbytery in preparation for Session’s submission of 2022 financial pledges to the
176 presbytery.

177 Roy Martin is offering a Zoom class presentation on Presbyterian Polity for all interested persons to
178 attend online, Sunday afternoons, in November 2022.

179 **REPORT FROM DOGWOOD ACRES: Bill Lamont**

180 Dogwood Acres was thrilled to host the presbytery meeting and the fellowship gathering on Friday night.
181 In 2021 DWA was able to offer retreats and modified summer camp under COVID-19 safety protocols.
182 Campers maintained a safe distance from all others at camp by eating, sleeping, and associating only with
183 those in their own cabin. Adult chaperones and staffers remained in the “bubble” with their campers for
184 the day’s routines. Camp sessions were combined due to slow enrollment and the last week of camp was
185 cancelled when two counselors tested positive for COVID. COVID challenged summer operations, but
186 staff and DWA Teams operated a safe and fun season for campers, and they were thrilled to hear the
187 joyful sounds of kids at Summer Camp! They look forward to a full 2022 season.
188 Several retreats are booked in Fall 2021 and youth conferences are scheduled in December.
189 The DWA Committee is working on a vision of a bright future at DWA and the staffing model necessary
190 to fulfill their mission.

191
192 **REPORT FROM TREASURER: Denise Vandiver**

193 Ms. Vandiver reviewed the complete financial reports of the presbytery. As of September 2021 we are at
194 70% of budgeted shared support when we should be at 75%. CPC had budgeted \$46,000 from reserve
195 funds to balance the budget if needed; to date we estimate using only \$28,000. We have reserves of
196 approximately \$300,000. Treasure Vandiver appealed to churches to please catch up if you are behind in
197 your shared support contributions.

198
199 **COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION REPORTS:**

200 **REPORT OF THE COORDINATING AND PLANNING COMMISSION (CPC):**

201 An Administrative Commission/Listening Team is working with Parkway Presbyterian Church, Panama
202 City. Parkway Pastor Ric Connor retired at the end of August. Kim Stavenau has agreed to be the
203 Temporary Supply pastor beginning in October. The AC is working to ascertain the church’s financial
204 status.
205 The tentative presbytery 2022 budget was approved by the CPC to allow the Stewardship planning to
206 begin. They presented an updated budget for approval at the October meeting.

207 **COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR ACTION/UPDATES**

208 **Committee On Congregational Revitalization (CCR): Lisa Martin**

209 CCR is engaged with three congregations seeking revitalization. CCR is implementing the basic tools of
210 Mission InSite (local demographics) and Holy Cow! Consulting (congregational assessment) to aid
211 congregations in their effort to remain or become vital centers for ministry and mission. CCR’s
212 Revitalization Toolbox is now available for use by sessions and/or congregations that want to explore
213 quality online, print, and published revitalization resources, authors, and links to resources. The link to the
214 Toolbox is on the new presbytery web site: [http://www.presbyteryofflorida.net/presbytery-](http://www.presbyteryofflorida.net/presbytery-committees/congregational-revitalization/)
215 [committees/congregational-revitalization/](http://www.presbyteryofflorida.net/presbytery-committees/congregational-revitalization/)

216 **Committee on Mission and Outreach (CMO): Hugh Hamilton**

217 **FOR ACTION:** Presbytery approved CMO’s recommendation of a new international mission partnership
218 with the National Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Guatemala (IENPG) and National Presbyterian
219 Women of Guatemala. CMO will now pursue clarification of costs, arrangements, agreements, and
220 possible participants.

221 Rationale:

222 a. The USA is working to improve living conditions in Guatemala so that people there will not need or
223 want to leave and immigrate to the USA.

- 224 b. The mission organization seeks improve educational and vocational opportunities for women and
225 children, to empower women who have little rights or resources, to improve educational opportunities for
226 children, to improve health and water conditions.
227 c. This ministry is a bold move to reach and serve the most vulnerable population in the name of Christ.
228 d. This ministry is working through the National Presbyterian Women of Guatemala; perhaps the PW of
229 our presbytery will become a dual partnership?
230 e. The leader, Eliana, has a long-standing relationship with churches in Guatemala; affording us more
231 comprehensive materials and contacts for review, and opportunities to present online leadership training,
232 education workshops, reciprocal team visit to Guatemala and to Florida Presbytery.
233 f. Mission teams from our churches and/or individuals may engage in the work and an ongoing
234 partnership between our presbytery and their regional leadership may enhance our cultural exchange and
235 gospel ministries.

236 If the partnership is approved in premise, we will then pursue further clarification of costs, arrangements,
237 agreements, and possible participants.
238 Presbytery approved the updated policies and grant application forms for 1) 2 Cents a Meal Hunger Grant
239 and 2) Presbytery of Florida Peacemaking Grant. The policies and grant application forms are on the
240 presbytery website and included at the end of CMO report below.
241 Presbytery approved a) the Presbytery of Florida Anti-Racism Guidelines, Revised September 2, 2021, b)
242 that the Anti-Racism Task Force operate under the auspices of the Committee on Mission and Outreach
243 (CMO) and the Committee on Education Resources (CER), and c) that funds be identified to include
244 Anti-Racism Task Force operations in the presbytery budget.
245 Presbytery did not approve CMO's recommendation that the Self-Development of People (SDOP)
246 program be dropped as it is not a viable project at this time and that SDOP be removed from the CMO
247 responsibilities. Presbytery directed the CMO to engage in more conversation with SDOP national staff to
248 see if the hurdles to SDOP process and financing can be remedied and recommendations be brought back
249 to presbytery by CMO.

250 FOR INFORMATION:

- 251 1. Resourcing Congregations: The reports received from congregations listing their current mission and
252 service endeavors will compiled and categorized by topics/types of activities/areas of involvements.
253 Congregations may discover others doing similar type ministries and find shareable resources or
254 partnerships. We are creating a "Missions Bank" 1) to identify ways we may help each other and 2) to
255 identify possible regional/presbytery district missions coordinators at each church.
256 2. Mission-Oriented Workshops and Missions Fairs: beyond our October 2021 Presbytery educational
257 workshop, we hope to share on a regular basis information about your congregational mission endeavors,
258 Anti-Racism Task Force resources, and additional mission assessment tools and incentives.
259 3. FLAPDAN: The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) and FLAPDAN Covenant agreement is fully
260 executed and signed by all Florida presbyteries. FLAPDAN representatives are finalizing the
261 qualifications of board members and presbyteries are asked to appoint liaisons/board members in winter
262 2022. The Leon County Volunteer Services in Tallahassee which serves the counties in the East District
263 of our presbytery is asking for a FLAPDAN representative to coordinate with them. Tim Crawford will
264 assist until someone in the East District is secured.

265 DISASTER RESPONSES: PDA/FLAPDAN are supporting relief efforts in response to fires in California
266 and Hurricane IDA aftermath, Haiti earthquake – but unrest in Haiti due to COVID-19, their President's
267 assassination, other economic and social unrest, and damage to infrastructure, roads, and gang violence
268 continue to make getting support to need difficult in Haiti. Earthquake statistics: Approx. 130,000 homes
269 damaged/destroyed, 2,200 deaths, over 12,000 injuries, 650,000 need humanitarian assistance.
270 FLAPDAN is working with PDA project monitor and other groups in Haiti to identify needs and to
271 provide financial grants, food, recovery supplies, temporary shelters. <https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/haiti/>

272 FLAPDAN Budget: FLAPDAN is financially sound however support from Presbyteries down slightly.
273 Due to increases in disaster events, FLAPDAN is requesting 10% increase in giving from presbyteries
274 and to increase to level giving among all presbyteries.

275 4. Anti-Racism Task Force:

276 The presbytery heard Glenn Hodges and Sun Kim share their experiences of racism and prejudice as an
277 African American and an Asian individual and clergy. Their testimonies shared what we as white
278 Americans do not see, notice, or comprehend and they raised our sensitivities to the cultural and systemic
279 pressures facing our society. We appreciate their honesty and vulnerability and pray that God will bless
280 our efforts at anti-racism.

281 The CMO approved new members of the Anti-Racism Task Force: Sun Kim, Greta Reed, Ruth Reynolds,
282 Susan Byram, Jeannie Dixon, Joan Wooten. Luis Ocasio will serve as CMO liaison to the task force. The
283 previous and new members of the Task Force have been meeting, exploring options to have testimonies of
284 Black and Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC) shared at future presbytery meetings to humanize racism,
285 to put a face on racism, to hear from people we know their experiences of racism. The Task Force will
286 update and share with presbytery a racism resources list of print and electronic media. The Task Force
287 will update Presbytery policies and training experiences to address issues of racism. The Task Force plans
288 to move from educational to a missional work.

289 The Presbytery approved the Task Force and CMO recommended Presbytery of Florida Anti-Racism
290 Guidelines.

291 Presbytery of Florida Anti-Racism Guidelines

292 September 2, 2021

293 Rationale

294 “Then God said, ‘Let us make humanity in our image, according to our likeness’” (Genesis 1:26).

295 “As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer
296 Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in
297 Christ Jesus.” (Galatians 3:27-28).

298 “God has created the peoples of the earth to be one universal family. In God’s reconciling love, barriers
299 between brothers and sisters are overcome and every form of discrimination based on racial or ethnic
300 difference, real or imaginary, are overcome.” (The Confession of 1967, paraphrased from Section 4).
301 For centuries, the church and its people have been both complicit in and wounded by the racism that
302 infects our nation and the world. A great majority of us who are members of the Presbyterian Church
303 (U.S.A.) have accepted the lie of white supremacy. We have not been obedient to God’s Word incarnate
304 and in scripture. Those of us who are white have failed to acknowledge the advantages we reap from a
305 prevailing, systemic racism. Faithfulness to Jesus Christ, Head of the church and Lord of life, leads the
306 Presbytery of Florida to adopt anti-racism guidelines.

307 Approach: Presbytery’s approach begins with anti-racism training.

- 308 • Anti-racism training will be provided in the Spring of 2022 and annually thereafter for all ministers
309 of Word and Sacraments, educators, commissioned ruling elders, candidates for ministry,
310 Presbytery committee chairs and staff.
- 311 • Anti-racism training is to be grounded in scripture and in theological principles inherent in the
312 Reformed tradition and versed in social and historical perspectives.
- 313 • Anti-racism training is to be provided by the “I Stand with You” sub-committee of the Committee
314 on Mission and Outreach using trained consultants.

315 Actions: Additional actions are needed in response to God’s Word that calls us to “be doers of the Word
316 and not merely hearers who deceive themselves” (James 1:22). Presbytery’s actions include the following:

- 317 • Proclaiming and practicing the Word of God in scripture and in the life and ministry of Jesus
- 318 through preaching and teaching at Presbytery meetings and events.
- 319 • Supporting anti-racism activities by encouraging and offering guidance to congregations to
- 320 conduct listening sessions, workshops, book/video discussions, educational group studies, and
- 321 field trips.
- 322 • Challenging congregations to offer hospitality through inclusive gatherings for worship, meals,
- 323 Bible studies, and open conversations about racism.
- 324 • Publicizing denominational and ecumenical hands-on mission trips and ministries with
- 325 neighboring congregations of differing majority ethnic constituents.
- 326 • Supporting bias and de-escalation training for law enforcement personnel by informing
- 327 congregations of community groups already engaged in dialogue with law enforcement agencies
- 328 and encouraging them to ally with them.
- 329 • Fostering adequate and non-discriminatory funding of public schools by encouraging participation
- 330 in school board open meetings and alliances with state and local advocacy groups.
- 331 • Advocating for re-integration programs for those leaving incarceration by identifying existing
- 332 advocacy groups.
- 333 • Working for adequate healthcare, food, housing, and environmental justice by engaging with
- 334 agencies such as “Feeding the Gulf Coast.”
- 335 • Encouraging congregations to engage in public action for justice, compassion, and humility in
- 336 society by sending email, letters, or telephoning.
- 337 • Continuing to discover ways to address the root causes of racism, pursuing equal justice, and
- 338 promoting the recognition that there is only one race – the human race – by establishing
- 339 relationships with people of all colors and allying with advocacy groups such as the Florida
- 340 Council of Churches.

341 Administration: Administration of these guidelines will be the responsibility of the Committee on Mission
 342 and Outreach and the Committee on Education and Resources. Funding for anti-racism training and action
 343 will be provided to those committees through the annual budget of the Presbytery.

344 **Guidelines for Reviewing 2 Cents a Meal Grants for the Presbytery of Florida**

345 All grant applications will be reviewed; however, priority will be given to the following:

- 346 • Grant applications within the bounds of the Presbytery of Florida and sponsored by a
- 347 congregation in the presbytery.
- 348 • Grant applications that are sponsored by churches in the Presbytery of Florida that have never
- 349 sponsored a grant or have not done so in some time.
- 350 • Grant applications that have the greatest demonstrated need as determined by the Committee on
- 351 Mission and Outreach (CMO).
- 352 • Grant applications that address an area of the PCUSA Presbyterian Hunger program other than
- 353 direct food relief.
- 354 • Grant applications that have kept administrative cost to a minimum.

355 Other criteria:

- 356 • Grant applications must demonstrate an ability to provide the services indicated in the grant
- 357 proposed.
- 358 • A report on the use of a grant will be required within 6 months of awarding the grant.
- 359 • Grants to any one project or program will limited to one grant each 18 months.

360 Deadlines for Application: Applications are received twice annually:

- 361 • By January 31 and June 30, for review and action in February and July.

- For 2021 we are accepting applications by November 1 for 2022 First Quarter grants.

PCUSA PRESBYTERIAN HUNGER PROGRAM AREAS

The five areas of the Presbyterian Hunger Program are:

1. Education and Interpretation.

- a. The program educates the church and the public at large about the root causes of hunger and prepares and motivates people to act and to educate others.
- b. The program provides opportunities for learning among and with communities of need.

2. Direct Food Relief.

- a. The program provides food relief to poor people in either acute or chronic condition of hunger.
- b. The program is looking for long-range solutions.

3. Development Assistance.

- a. The program provides for a multi-faceted approach to development and the empowerment of poor people in such areas as agricultural development, nutrition education, and public health programs.
- b. The program increases employment opportunities or assists unemployed or underemployed persons.

4. Public Policy.

- a. The program advocates, through just and peaceful means, policy changes in political and economic systems which provide food for poor and hungry people at home and abroad.
- b. The program empowers the self-development of poor and hungry people at home and abroad.

5. Lifestyle Integrity.

- a. The program works to assist the Church to move toward responsible personal and corporate lifestyles.
- b. The program encourages communities of sharing and cooperation sensitive to the reality of the earth's limited resources and the critical food and health needs of our communities.



Presbytery of Florida
2 Cents a Meal Grant
Application

1. Name & address (including mailing address, phone, e-mail, and fax numbers of:

Organization:

Contact Person:

Date of Application: _____

Amount of Request: _____

2. How will these funds be used?

3. Who will benefit from these funds?

4. How will this grant assist in hunger relief in your community?

- 396 5. How many people do you assist in your program per year?
- 397 6. How are these people involved in the planning and decision-making of your organization?
- 398 7. How does your project meet the program areas of the Presbyterian Hunger Program?
- 399 8. Are there other agencies/organizations in your area which provide the same services as your
400 organization?
- 401 9. How many volunteers have been involved in your program during this past year?
- 402 10. Include a copy of your latest budget and financial} statement. Also include a list of grants
403 received this past year.

404 Please complete this application, attaching additional pages where necessary. Include other
405 information about your organization or project if applicable. Return to: Presbytery of Florida,
406 Committee on Mission and Outreach, PO Box 7, Chipley, FL 32428, or email to
407 office@presbyteryofflorida.com

408 The Presbytery of Florida encourages the participation of its churches in the 2 Cents-a- Meal
409 program not only in collecting donations, but also in sponsoring potential grant recipients. So that
410 the presbytery can determine that an organization seeking grant funds relates properly with the
411 Presbyterian Church (USA), we ask that the following certification accompany the grant application
412 when it is forwarded to our offices.

413 CERTIFICATION:

414 We hereby certify that on _____ (date) the Session of _____ (name of Church)
415 approved the sponsorship of _____ (name of applicant organization) in
416 seeking 2 Cents-a-Meal grant funds from the Presbytery of Florida.

417 _____
418 Moderator Clerk of Session

419 Presbytery of Florida Peacemaking Grant

420 Jesus said, *“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God (Matthew 5:9).”*

421 **Peacemaking is a central declaration of the gospel. Through Jesus Christ, God restores our**
422 **relationship and grants us the gift of grace. We experience God’s grace as peace. God’s peace restores,**
423 **sustains, and heals.**

424 **In response to this good news, Christians go into the world to proclaim and become part of God’s**
425 **peace giving as peacemakers. Peacemaking is our calling as Christians, today, as in every age.**

426 Grant Information:

- 427 • The grant is funded with Presbytery of Florida (PofFl) share of the annual Peacemaking and
- 428 Global Witness Offering. (PofFl share varies each year depending on offering receipts.)
- 429 • The grant provides for a single year grant of up to \$500
- 430 • The grant is intended for development or continuation costs to support projects/programs that
- 431 promote peacemaking.
- 432 • Applications for grants will be considered in March and November.
- 433 • Projects will be limited to one grant every 18 months.

434 Grant Criteria:

- 435 • The proposed project/program embodies the mission of the PofFL Peacemaking Ministry Team
- 436 (CMO). (As stated above in bold print).
- 437 • Completion of the grant application form and returning it to PofFL with adequate time for
- 438 consideration
- 439 • Endorsement of the application by local Session
- 440 • Willingness to share your experiences in the project/program with the Presbytery within six
- 441 months after receiving the grant

442 This is an opportunity to “think outside the box” to become involved in attaining the goals of social justice
443 and peace.

444 Sample Ideas/Projects that can qualify for the Peacemaking Grant

- 445 • Fund a youth group to travel to various churches in the Presbytery to present an “antibullying”
- 446 program.
- 447 • Provide start-up funds for a church to operate a small Fair-Trade Store.
- 448 • Provide funds for a church to hold a “Peacemaking Conference” featuring guest speakers, hands-
- 449 on activities, and worship.
- 450 • Provide funding to offset the cost of travel to a peacemaking seminar sponsored by the
- 451 Presbyterian Office.

452 The ideas are endless. The Peacemaking Grant is to help you realize your goal of creating a program/project
453 that will educate, inform, and motivate others to become involved in Peacemaking efforts. Further ideas
454 can be found at www.pcusa.org/peacemaking. If you are seeking funds for your hunger ministry, direct
455 food relief and community hunger outreach project POFFL’s Committee on Mission and Outreach has
456 grants available.

457 **PEACEMAKING GRANT APPLICATION**

458 **Grant applicant’s information:**

459 Name: _____

460 Address: Street: _____ City: _____

461 State ____ Zip _____

462 Home phone: _____ Cell: _____

463 Email: _____

464 PofFL Church: _____

465 **Peacemaking project/program information:**

466 Project/program name: _____

467 Project/program location: _____

468 Start date: _____ End date: _____

469 **Partner and project information:**

470 *Please type in your answers, use as much space as is needed. You may attach additional description as*
471 *needed.*

472 Please list the names and addresses of individuals, congregations, organizations that will be partnering
473 with you.

474 If this project is an expansion or continuation of an existing effort, please give a brief history/timeline of
475 activities and accomplishments.

476 In what way is this project/program in keeping with the mission of the POFFL Peacemaking Values?

477 Please describe the expected peacemaking outcomes and/ or goals for the participant(s) and the recipients
478 of your efforts.

479 Total amount requested _____ (No more than \$500)

480 **Signatures:**

481 **PC(USA) Church Session**

482 Church name: _____

483 Date reviewed: _____

484 Clerk of Session name: _____ Signature: _____

485 **Applicant:**

486 Applicant's name: _____ Signature: _____

487 **Complete form and return to office@presbyteryofflorida.com**

488 **Post project/program evaluation questions:**

489 The PofFL Peacemaking Ministry Team (CMO) requires that we hear from you regarding your experience.
490 **Please submit your answers to these questions no later than six months after receiving the grant to**
491 **office@presbyteryofflorida.com**

492 1. In what ways has your understanding of peacemaking changed and grown through this work and how
493 will that growth influence you as you go forward?

494 2. If you were to take this to a next step, what would it look like?

495 3. How did you or will you share your project and learning with your home church, your community, and
496 your presbytery? (Be creative!)

497 **Committee on Nominations (CN): Leslie Yandle**

498 Presbytery approved the following nominations:

499 Committee on Preparation for Ministry

500 Jean Norman, Elder, Female – Trinity Pensacola Class of 2024

501 Committee on Educational Resources

502 Rev Tai Cole, Minister, Female – Member at Large, East Class of 2024

503 Committee on Ministry

504 Rev. John Cole, Minister, Male – Stated Supply, 1st, Monticello, East Class of 2024

505 Presbytery Vice Moderator

506 Don Mowat, Elder, Male – 1st Lynn Haven Class of 2024

507 General Assembly Commissioner 2022

508 Jeannie Dixon, Elder, Female – Fellowship, Tallahassee

509 **Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM): Sheldon Steen**

510 1. Brant Copeland will serve as an exam reader for the February 2022 Senior Ordination Exams. We are
511 still awaiting confirmation from the ruling elder to whom we have reached out to be a reader. If you
512 would like to be an exam reader in coming years, please let us know.

513 2. Lauren Scott met with the CPM at our September meeting and after a moving sermon and successful
514 examination, the committee voted to certify her ready to receive a call, pending her graduation from
515 Columbia Theological Seminary in May 2022. This means Lauren can begin circulating her PIF.

516 3. The committee met with Glenn Hodges and, after discussion about his journey and former process
517 under care of this presbytery, voted to receive him as inquirer. During this October presbytery meeting,
518 Glenn will reintroduce himself to the presbytery and give a brief personal update on his journey. In
519 discussion by presbytery and in consideration of Mr. Hodge’s service to the church, to Tallahassee
520 Memorial Hospital as a chaplain, and his work with Hospice care, it was suggested that CPM waive the 2-
521 year candidacy requirement and that presbytery accept Glenn Hodges as a candidate under the
522 extraordinary clause. The CPM and COM will consider the recommendation. Sheldon Steen will be
523 serving as Glenn’s liaison with the CPM.

524 4. In November, we will meet with Dr. Don Winslett to discuss psychological evaluation tools and
525 processes for those ruling elders who desire to undergo preparation to serve as a CLP/CRE.

526 **Committee On Presbytery Administration (CPA): Brad Clayton**

527 For Action: Presbytery approved the proposed budget for 2022. The total expenses are \$473,652, and the
528 budget is a balanced budget.

529 **COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY: Don Mowat**

530 COM introduced new ministers in the presbytery:

531 Casey Aldridge and Jordan Goodwin from Presbytery of Central New Jersey. Now living in
532 Tallahassee and pursuing advanced studies in religion at Florida State University.

533 John Springer from Denver, now living in Shalimar, FL and will transfer to our presbytery.

534 COM introduced:

535 Kim Stavenau, Supply Preacher at Parkway, Panama City.

536 Steve Rhodes, HR, Temporary Pastor at First, Defuniak.

537 Presbytery recognized and appreciated Gene Harris, Honorably Retired, with a resolution of thanks for 22
538 years of service past retirement at Freeport.

539 Presbytery honored Sharon Schuler with a resolution of thanks for her ten years of service to First -Fort
540 Walton Beach and approved Rev. Schuler the status of Honorably Retired effective November 1, 2021.

541 For Information:

542 COM approved the Ordination Commission for Shelby Baxter Andrews. Shelby was ordained on Sept. 5
543 and is serving a non-PCUSA congregation in Eastminster Presbytery.

544 COM has appointed the following Moderators of Sessions

545 Rev. Dr. Ted Land — First Chipley

546 Rev. Michael Askew — Bethel Presbyterian

547 COM approved the following:

548 The Dissolution Agreement of Rev. Chuck Taber at First, DeFuniak Springs.

549 The Terms of Call for Robert Quiring at First, Pensacola.

550 The Temporary Supply Covenant/Contract for Steve Rhodes at First, DeFuniak Springs.

551 The Temporary Supply Contract/Covenant for Kim Stavenau at Parkway, Panama City.

552 CLP's: we have problems with pulpit supply and temporary church leadership, especially in the Central
553 District. Half of our 37 churches do not have full-time pastoral leadership; half of those churches are in
554 the Central District. The Congregations cannot afford full-time leadership. The next term chair of CPM
555 (Raymond Guterman) and the committee are aware of the need for more CLP's. If anyone knows of
556 someone wanting to become a CLP, please let Rev. Trinity Whitley (current CPM chair) and Rev.
557 Guterman (next year's chair) know.

558 **Committee on New Congregational Development (CNCD):**

559 CNCD reminded Presbytery of the newly approved policy manual "Launching New Worshipping
560 Communities." The 16-page manual is now available on the Presbytery's website.

561 **Committee on Educational Resources (CER):** No report.

562 **Committee on Representation (CR): Glenn Hodges**

563 The newly recommissioned committee has begun its work with members: Tae Ho Cheong, Aracelis
564 Fernandez, Glenn Hodges, and Emily Proctor.

565 1. The committee has engaged the Committee on Nominations and the Committee on Presbytery
566 Administration.

567 2. The Committee is reviewing all presbytery committee members' names and the amount of time left on
568 their term, along with the district they represent, whether the member is an elder or clergy, their
569 congregation, gender, and what other committee they serve.

570 3. The committee collected summary congregational data by gender and race/ethnicity from the
571 PC(USA) statistical reports. The committee will contact congregations to verify statistical data.

572 **Presbyterian Women (PW):**

573 The Triennial Churchwide Gathering was by way of Zoom in August.

574 The 2021-2022 Presbytery Women's Directory is complete and in use.

575 All PW Bylaws, Standing Rules, and Job Descriptions have been updated.

576 All PW officers are in place for the new year.

577 If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact any of our Presbytery Women. We would
578 love to have you join us. "Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit." --John 15:5

579 Leslie Kelley PWP Moderator

580

581 **ADJOURNMENT AND CLOSING PRAYER**

582 The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 2:45 PM CST/3:45 PM EST by the Rev. Michael Askew.

583 **NEXT MEETINGS:** Tuesday, February 22, 2022 TBD
584 Saturday, May 21, 2022 TBD
585 Tuesday, August 23, 2022 TBD
586 Tuesday, October 25, 2022 TBD
587 All meetings at 9AM Central/10AM Eastern. Locations TBD.

588 Minutes respectfully submitted,

589 Hugh Hamilton,
590 Recording Clerk.

591
592
593 Hugh Hamilton, Recording Clerk

Michael Askew, Moderator
Jeannie Dixon, Stated Clerk