

Minutes of Fall Stated Presbytery Meeting
First Presbyterian Church, Marianna, FL
 February 28, 2023

The Presbytery of Florida, Inc., of the Synod of South Atlantic of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) met at First Presbyterian Church, Marianna, FL, for a Stated Meeting on Tuesday, February 23, 2023.

	Present	Absent	Total
Ruling Elders:			
- Session Commissioners	26	13	39
- Other Continuing Members (RE committee chairs {4}; RE officers {2}; RE educators {1})	4	4	8
- CLP/CRE	2	3	5
Total Ruling Elders	32	20	52
Ministers of Word and Sacrament	29	15	44
Total Present and Absent	61	35	96
Congregations Represented	23	14	37

MINISTERS OF WORD AND SACRAMENT PRESENT (29):

Anne Apple, *Michael Askew*, Mark Broadhead, Brad Clayton, *Brant Copeland*, Chris Erde, Mathew Frease, Stephen Graves, Raymond Guterman, Hugh Hamilton, *Gene Harris*, Harvey Jenkins, *Kenneth Kelley*, *Ted Land*, William Lamont, Lisa Martin, Roy Martin, A.J. Mealor, Taylor Phillips, Linda Pitts, Emily Proctor, Erin Rosica, Erin Rugh, Eric Spoon, *John Stringer*, *Mary Vance*, Trinity Whitley, *Carol Wood*, Joan Wooten (italics = HR)

MINISTERS OF WORD AND SACRAMENT ABSENT (4/11):

Excused Ministers: John Kelsay, Robert Quiring, Rob Sugg, Sheldon Steen.

Unexcused Ministers: Casey Aldridge, Robert Bohnsack, Tae Ho Cheong, John Cole, Tai Cole, Jordan Goodwin, Sun Kim, Luis Ocasio Torres, Mel Baars O'Malley, Pamela Phillip, Kim Stavenau.

RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS PRESENT (26)

- Blountstown, First – unexcused**
- ChIPLEY, First – Cheryl McCall**
- Crestview, First – Tim Crawford**
- Defuniak Springs, Bethel – unexcused**
- Defuniak Springs, Euchee Valley – Tommy Yates**
- Defuniak Springs, First – Hilda Jackson**
- Destin, First – excused**
- Fort Walton Beach, First – Sue Pedersen**
- Fort Walton Beach, Korean- unexcused**
- Freeport, Freeport – unexcused**
- Gretna, Gretna – Michael Clerk**
- Gulf Breeze, Gulf Breeze – Sandra Stanley**

40 **Havana, First – unexcused**
41 **Laurel Hill, Laurel Hill – Leon Curenton**
42 **Lynn Haven, First – Ann Fyfe**
43 **Marianna, First – D. Scott Yant**
44 **Milton, First – Ann Smith**
45 **Monticello, First – Karen Weaver**
46 **Navarre, Navarre – unexcused**
47 **Panama City Beach, Gulf Beach – unexcused**
48 **Panama City, Grace – Jamie Williams**
49 **Panama City, Parkway – Al Borovich**
50 **Panama City, St. Andrews – unexcused**
51 **Pensacola, First – Mark Easterlin**
52 **Pensacola, Korean – unexcused**
53 **Pensacola, Northminster – Pam Nulty**
54 **Pensacola, Trinity – John Baehr, Ryan O Bray**
55 **Quincy, First – Francis McCall, Alex Hinson**
56 **Red Bay, Red Bay – excused**
57 **Sawdust, Woodland – Kathy Pack**
58 **Tallahassee, Christ – Anne Hodges**
59 **Tallahassee, Faith – Lewis Shelley, Curtis Jenkins**
60 **Tallahassee, Fellowship – Elizabeth McGinniss**
61 **Tallahassee, First – Rod Westall**
62 **Tallahassee, Lafayette – excused**
63 **Tallahassee, Trinity United – unexcused**
64 **Wewahitchka, First – excused**

65 **Sessions not represented:**

66 **Excused Churches (5):**

67 Blountstown;
68 Destin, First;
69 Red Bay;
70 Tallahassee, Lafayette
71 Wewahitchka

72 **Unexcused Churches (9):**

73 DeFuniak Springs, Bethel;
74 Fort Walton Beach, Korean;
75 Freeport;
76 Havana, First;
77 Navarre;
78 Panama City Beach, Gulf Beach;
79 Panama City, St. Andrews;
80 Pensacola, Korean;
81 Tallahassee, Trinity United

82 **CONTINUING MEMBERS:**

83 **CREs present (2):**

84 Joanne Kublik
85 Greg Seltzer

86 **CREs absent (3):**
87 Tonya Fernandes; Alan House (excused); Larry Plank (excused)

88 **Christian Educators with voice and vote present (0):**
89 **Christian Educators with voice present (0):**

90 **Presbytery Staff Members:** Melissa Willis- Administrator; Christy Williams – Interim Dogwood Acres
91 Director; Denise Vandiver (RE) - Treasurer

92 **Officers/Team Chairs:** Vicki Bell – Presbyterian Women; Jeannie Dixon – Stated Clerk (RE); Don
93 Mowat (RE) – vice-moderator; Glenn Hodges (RE) – Committee on Representation; Leslie Yandle (RE) -
94 Committee on Nominations

95 **Visitors:** Jake Wilson, TX Presbyterian Foundation; Scott Bergman, Quincy, First; Mary Hodges,
96 Tallahassee, First; Chris Rollins, Fort Walton Beach, First; Linda Lovins, Tallahassee, Christ; Brenda
97 Clark, Gretna; Gerry Yandle, Pensacola, First; James McQuagge, Panama City, Grace.

98 **Visiting Teaching Elders: (1).**
99 Rev. Jim Krapf

100 **OPENING PRAYER, QUORUM, DOCKET**

101 Moderator Trinity Whitley called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM CDT/10:00 AM EDT. A quorum (ten
102 Ministers of Word and Sacrament and ten elders, representing at least ten member congregations) was
103 present, and Moderator Trinity Whitley opened the meeting with prayer. Presbytery approved the docket as
104 presented by Stated Clerk Jeannie Dixon.

105 **WELCOME: Pastor Raymond Guterman** welcomed the presbytery to the host church, First Presbyterian
106 Church-Marianna, and gave instructions for the day's activity, meals, and facilities.

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

109 **MORNING WORSHIP** The Rev. Raymond Guterman led worship assisted by The Reverend Ted Land,
110 Interim Pastor, First Presbyterian Church Chipley, FL and the Reverend Kenneth Kelley, Choir Director,
111 First Presbyterian Church, Marianna, FL. The worship service and Raymond Guterman's sermon based on
112 Isaiah 52:7 and 1 Peter 3:13-15 focused on becoming a welcoming community witnessing the love of Christ.
113 Suggesting practical steps and personal conviction, Dr. Guterman explored I Peter 3's call to always
114 witness our faith in ways that attract and retain followers of Christ. How do we tell the old, old, story in
115 ways faithful, fresh, and new.

116 **EDUCATIONAL HOUR: The Bills and Overtures Committee** educated the presbytery on the proposed
117 amendments to the PC(USA) constitution and led the discussion of those overtures using a PowerPoint
118 presentation to highlight the proposed changes in wording of sections of the constitution and the
119 implication of those changes. After the discussion and presentation, the presbytery voted on the proposed
120 amendments as follows:

121 Overtures 22-a and 22-B were pulled from the omnibus motion to be discussed.

122 Overtures in the omnibus motion and **approved** by the presbytery **vote to concur** with proposed
123 amendment:

124 22-C

125 22-E

- 126 22-O
- 127 22-K
- 128 22-L
- 129 22-G
- 130 22-J
- 131 22-M
- 132 22-N
- 133 22-P
- 134 22-Q
- 135 22-R
- 136 22-S
- 137 22-V
- 138 22-W
- 139 22-X
- 140 22-Y
- 141 22-Z
- 142 22-AA
- 143 22-BB
- 144 22-EE

145 Presbytery voted as follows on the proposed amendments considered individually and *ad seriatim*

- 146 22-A Nay
- 147 22-B Nay
- 148 22-H Nay
- 149 22-I Aye
- 150 22-J Aye
- 151 22-T Nay
- 152 22-U Nay
- 153 22-CC Nay
- 154 22-DD Nay
- 155 22-EE Aye
- 156 22-FF Nay

157 **STAFF REPORTS:**

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

159 **ID Cards:** Minister ID cards were mailed in March 2023. The expiration date is March 1.

160 **Annual Statistics:** All churches submitted annual statistical reports!

161 **Review of Session records:** The review of session minutes and rolls for 2019, 2020, and 2021 has been
162 completed. Congregations who did not submit the records for review include: Bethel, DeFuniak Springs;
163 First, Chipley; First, Blountstown; Freeport; First, Marianna; Navarre; Pensacola Korean Community;
164 Northminster, Pensacola. Hopefully 2022 records will be reviewed in the next few months.

165 **Commissioners to Presbytery for 2023:** Article III of the By-Laws of the Presbytery of Florida provide
166 for one ruling elder commissioner from each congregation. Churches with membership above 500 are
167 entitled to additional commissioners. We currently have 37 congregations. Three congregations with
168 membership between 501-1000 and entitled to two ruling elder commissioners are: Pensacola, Trinity;
169 Quincy, First; Tallahassee, Faith. This will provide for 40 ruling elder commissioners.

170 Article III further states:

171 *...each ruling elder elected moderator or other officer of the presbytery, each ruling elder elected as a*
172 *member of the leadership team of presbytery or as chairperson of the nominating committee, and each*
173 *ruling elder elected as coordinating presbyter or associate presbyter (when applicable) and exempt staff*

174 (when applicable) shall be enrolled as a member of presbytery for the term of his or her office, whether or
175 not commissioned by his or her session.

176 The ruling elders for 2023 service that would be included in this count are Denise Vandiver (Treasurer),
177 Jeannie Dixon (Stated Clerk), Glenn Hodges, Don Mowat, Rich Kangas. There are 5 Commissioned
178 Ruling Elders serving congregations: Larry Plank, Tonya Fernandes, Greg Seltzer, Joanne Kublik, Alan
179 House.

180 That gives a total of 50 ruling elders.

181 The following Christian Educators meet the provisions outlined in the By-Laws (Article IV, #5) to have
182 voice and vote at Presbytery Meetings: (certified Christian Educators who are also ruling elders, or
183 Christian Educators who have five or more years paid church related Christian Education experience and
184 also ruling elder)

185 Jeannie Dixon –Tallahassee (CCE and RE)

186 Carol Deloach – Christ Presbyterian Church, Tallahassee (5+ years and RE)

187 Lisa Wilder – First Presbyterian, Quincy (5+ years and RE)

188 That gives an additional 2 RE (excluding Jeannie Dixon who is also Stated Clerk) for a total of 52 ruling
189 elders.

190 The number of ministers of Word and Sacrament is 29 plus 6 ministers serving at-large. There are 38
191 retired ministers of Word and Sacrament; 22 are active (either serving on a committee, on the pulpit supply
192 list, or serving a congregation).

193 This results in 58 ministers of Word and Sacrament; there is no imbalance of ministers of Word and
194 Sacrament to ruling elders.

195 **Meetings/Activities:** The Stated Clerk has 1) attended the November and January COM meetings; the
196 monthly Presbytery staff meetings; the January CPC meeting, 2) completed all first of the year record
197 activities for GA, 3) conducted a statistics workshop via Zoom in December when the statistics ‘season’
198 began. A second one two weeks prior to the closing of the statistics was not held due to lack of
199 registrations.

200 The Stated Clerk also 1) oriented Bills & Overtures Committee to their work and provided guidance
201 through their meetings, 2) attended the annual meeting of the Association of Mid-Council Leaders (AMCL)
202 and the Association of Stated Clerks (ASC), 3) attended an information meeting with AMCL and ASC on
203 the new call system, and 4) met with Synod clerks and our new Synod Executive Valerie Young.

204 **Membership Rolls as of December 31, 2022**

205 **The following ministers of Word and Sacrament are members of the Florida Presbytery engaged in a**
206 **validated ministry (G-2.0503a):** Anne Apple, Rob Bohnsack, Mark Broadhead, Tae Ho Cheong, Samuel
207 Bradley Clayton, John Cole, Chris Erde, Mathew Frease, Stephen Graves, Hugh Hamilton, John Kelsay,
208 Sun Ick Kim, William Lamont, Lisa Martin, Roy Martin, A.J. Mealor, Luis Ocasio, Mary Ellison
209 O’Malley, Taylor Phillips, Linda Pitts, Emily Rose Proctor, Robert Quiring, Erin Rosica, Erin Rugh,
210 William Eric Spoon, Sheldon Steen, John Stringer, Trinity Joy Whitley, Joan Wooten. (29)

211 **The following ministers of Word and Sacrament are members-at-large of the Florida Presbytery (G-**
212 **2.0503b):** Casey James Aldridge, Jae Wan Chung, Tai Cole, Jordan Maire Goodwin, Pamela King-Phillips,
213 Robert Sugg. (6)

214 **The following ministers of Word and Sacrament are honorably retired members of the Florida**
215 **Presbytery (G-2.0503c):** Barry Arnold, *Michael Askew*, Glenn Bass, *Frank Beall*, *Bill Bess*, Don Brown,
216 *Lewis Bullard*, Joseph Chung, *Brant Copeland*, Terry Dyer, Jonas Georges, *Raymond Guterman*, Gene
217 Harris, Kathleen Hodgson, *Harry Horne*, *James Huffaker*, Owen Ireland, *Harvey Jenkins*, Fred Keith,
218 *Kenneth Kelley*, *Ted Land*, Charles Lapp, *Bill Lee*, *Ruth Mashewske*, *Lindsay Moffett*, Clarence Payne,

219 Luther Price, *Margaret Reed*, Albert Reese, *Steve Rhodes*, *James Rollins*, Sharon Schuler, *Morris Springer*,
220 *James Stansbury*, *Mary Vance*, *Kerry Westerwick*, *Carol Wood*, Ezra Yune. (38; 22 actively participating)

221 **The following are ministers from other Christian traditions who have been enrolled as members of**
222 **the Florida Presbytery: (none)**

223 **The following are Ruling Elders currently commissioned for service within the Presbytery:** Tonya
224 Fernandes – Navarre, Alan House – Gretna/Woodland, Joanne Kublik – Red Bay, Larry Plank – Navarre,
225 Greg Seltzer – Pensacola, Northminster

226 **Annual Report on Christian Educators as of December 31, 2022**

227 **The following Christian Educators meet the provisions outlined in the By-Laws (Article IV, #5) to**
228 **have voice at Presbytery Meetings: (certified Christian Educators or Christian Educators who have**
229 **five or more years paid church related Christian Education experience)**

230 Laurice Andrews – First Presbyterian, DeFuniak Springs (5+ years), Jason Williams – Grace Presbyterian,
231 Panama City (5+ years)

232 **The following Christian Educators meet the provisions outlined in the By-Laws (Article IV, #5) to**
233 **have voice and vote at Presbytery Meetings: (certified Christian Educators who are also ruling**
234 **elders, or Christian Educators who have five or more years paid church related Christian Education**
235 **experience and also ruling elder)**

236 Jeannie Dixon – Tallahassee (CCE and RE), Carol Deloach – Christ Presbyterian Church, Tallahassee (5+
237 years and RE), Lisa Wilder – First Presbyterian, Quincy (5+ years and RE)

238 **The following Christian Educators are currently employed by churches within the bounds of the**
239 **Florida Presbytery: (none)**

240 The dates for the 2023 stated meetings of the presbytery are: Feb. 28, 2023 Marianna; May 20, 2023 Lynn
241 Haven; August 22, 2023 Trinity-Pensacola; and October 24, 2023 Dogwood Acres.

242 **REPORT FROM DOGWOOD ACRES: Christy Williams**

243 Christy Williams and Eric Hearn thanked the presbytery for our support and volunteerism to get the
244 facilities updated. The cabins have been renovated; the road is newly milled. 2023 is off to a strong start:
245 Seven churches participated in the Confirmation Retreat; thirty-five women participated in the Yoga
246 Spirituality Retreat. Presbytery is invited to an April 15 open house at DWA: children, parents, and
247 grandchildren can participate in the full one-day retreat and get to know DWA. Summer Camps are in
248 place – we need three more chaplains. Your service as Chaplain gives your family or a camper discount
249 registration. Also needed: 18-plus year- old male counselors. Upcoming retreats: September 15-17, 2023
250 Smaller Churches (under 100 members) – a combined group camp. October 6-8, 2023 SpiritFest youth
251 retreat, and November 2023 a reading & Writing Retreat.

252 **REPORT FROM PRESBYTERY TREASURER: Denise Vandiver**

253 We received a few hundred dollars more than was pledged in 2022, but we used \$50,000 of reserve funds
254 to balance the budget. A written budget and finance report was included in the agenda/reports packet.

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

256 Roy Martin expressed thanks and best wishes to three pastors moving from the presbytery: Steve Graves
257 has been honorably retired and is moving to Walhalla, SC; Chris Erde has accepted the call from First
258 Presbyterian Church -Aiken, SC; and Steve Rhodes (HR) is moving to Spartanburg, SC.

259 First Presbyterian Church – Crestview, FL sustained extensive damage from an automobile crashing into
260 their building – the presbytery expressed our concern, support, and prayers.
261 Upon five years completed on the job, Roy Martin submitted a written report and verbally addressed the
262 positive changes, accomplishments, and ongoing needs in the presbytery (Report follows). Rev. Martin has
263 secured a strategic Planning Task Force to work with the HolyCow! Church consulting group to assess the
264 atmosphere of the presbytery and priorities for the next five years. The Task Force members are: Mark
265 Broadhead – TE 1st-Crestview, Hugh Hamilton – TE Trinity-Pensacola, Sue Coleman – RE Trinity
266 Pensacola, Karen Weaver – RE 1st-Monticello, Mary Hodges – RE 1st Tallahassee, and Don Mowat – RE
267 1st-Lynn Haven. Using a “Landscape Survey” submitted to members of the presbytery and personal
268 conversations with staff and leaders of the presbytery, the Task Force will report findings and
269 recommendations in October 2023.
270 Roy Martin then presented the following remarks on his first five years of service, the state of the
271 presbytery, and matters to be addressed as we move into the next five years:

272 Today marks the completion of five years as your full-time general presbyter and tomorrow starts my sixth
273 year serving you and I am looking forward to what this next year will bring for our mission and ministry
274 together.

275 I have always thought that five years was a good length of time to give a thorough assessment of where we
276 have been, where we are, and where we are headed. I am happy to say that your presbytery leadership
277 agrees and so I want to share with you in this report a bit of background as to where we have been, where
278 we are, and where we might head together.

279 Many of you will recall that prior to my arrival, when the Rev. Paul Luthman was your coordinating
280 presbyter, discussions were held with congregations and congregational leaders about the health of the
281 presbytery.

282 At that time, Rev. Luthman stated in those gatherings, “Our presbytery is at a crossroads, and we are trying
283 to discern the road God wants us to take: will we be one presbytery, with a fulltime (what was then called)
284 coordinating presbyter; or will the presbytery be split up, with portions going to South Alabama Presbytery
285 and to Flint River Presbytery; or will we continue to function as we currently are?”

286 That was the question put to those who attended the regional gatherings back in 2017. It was further shared
287 that the annual operating budget had decreased by almost half in five years and that the budget had to be
288 balanced by using reserve funds. The result of those gatherings was that most wanted the presbytery to
289 remain intact. It was made clear that, In order to do that financially and have a full-time general presbyter,
290 significant funds would have to be raised over and above shared budget support. many congregations and
291 individuals stepped forward to contribute what ultimately totaled \$257,756.23. This total was enough to
292 secure a full-time general presbyter for at least three years, during which time it was hoped that a new
293 structure and funding models might be developed to sustain the presbytery for years to come.

294 For the last five years, you and I have been hard at work in that effort. Shortly after my arrival, I held
295 regional workshops to get a sense of what people hoped for in their presbytery. It was clear that a major
296 concern was that the presbytery needed to be more responsive to the needs of its member congregations.
297 Within a year, I presented on the floor of presbytery a new structure designed in part to do just that. the
298 plan included a committee to provide educational resources for congregations and their leaders, a
299 committee to develop mission strategy for congregations to work on collectively, and a committee to offer
300 guidance to congregations seeking to discern what god had in mind for their future.

301 In addition to that, the new structure beefed up the Committee on Ministry process for working with
302 congregations in pastoral transition and, since a strong desire to grow the presbytery had been discussed, it
303 also included a committee to develop new worshipping communities within the bounds of our presbytery.
304 The structure continued strong support for dogwood acres and developed policy and processes for

305 addressing property, staffing, and financing of the presbytery. The presbytery voted to support the new
306 structure and we have spent the last four years living into it.

307 Development has begun a search for a pastor to start a worshipping community. The Committee on
308 Congregational Revitalization has worked with numerous congregations seeking to discern their future. The
309 Committee on Mission and Outreach is making progress in developing a presbytery-wide mission
310 partnership with the presbyterian denomination in Guatemala. The Committee on Ministry has worked
311 more effectively with several congregations going through pastoral transition among other things. There is
312 much better management of presbytery funds in place, and I could go on and on.

313 But five years in, we find ourselves with familiar challenges. We have had to continue using reserve
314 monies to balance the budget of a fully functioning presbytery, and we have yet to have a year where
315 presbytery committees have all the people they need serving on committees, thus making it difficult to
316 accomplish all the work a presbytery, by definition, needs to accomplish. in short, we will not be able to
317 continue operating at this level for much longer. Sometimes, the tendency in these circumstances is to make
318 decisions too quickly and unadvisedly. Another word for it is to knee-jerk.

319 I hope we can avoid that by taking this year to develop a strategic plan for the future of Florida Presbytery.
320 To that end, I have requested the Coordinating and Planning Commission authorize the formation of a
321 strategic planning task force along with funding to do its work. The Committees on Nominations and
322 Representation have worked together to find people to serve on that task force and the Commission has
323 approved those names.
324 The chair of that task force is the Rev. Mark Broadhead and Madame Moderator, I would like to use a
325 moment of my time to speak briefly to their plans.

326 I am excited about the strength and talent on this task force and I seek your continuing prayers for their
327 work.

328 Madame Moderator, this concludes my report.

329 **COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION REPORTS:**

330 **Coordinating And Planning Commission (CPC):**

331 Upon the CPC nomination, the presbytery approved Michael Askew, Raymond Guterman, Leslie Yandle,
332 and Ruth Bedell to serve on Committee on Nominations, Class of 2026, and Rick Kangas to Chair the CN.
333 Presbytery meeting dates for 2023: May 20 – Dogwood Acres; August 22 – Trinity-Pensacola; October 24
334 – First, Lynn Haven; all at 9:00 AM Central/10 AM Eastern.

335 **COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR ACTION/UPDATES**

336 **Committee on Congregational Revitalization (CCR): Mark Broadhead**

337 **Items for Information:**

338 Congregations engaged in the revitalization process:

339 **DeFuniak Springs – Bethel Church:** Shelia Askew continues to work with the Bethel congregation as it
340 works on upgrades/updates to the church facility and ministry outreach to the community surrounding the
341 church.

342 **Panama City – Grace:** Harvey Jenkins is working with Grace Church’s Revitalization Team as they
343 explore their call for ministry in that area, as well as realign their budget for 2023.

344 **Milton – First:** Mark Broadhead is the consultant for Milton-First. The revitalization team is exploring
345 their identity as a congregation, what they believe they are called to be and do, and developing a new
346 mission statement that accurately defines who they are and what role they play in the Kingdom of God.

347 **Pensacola – Northminster:** Linda Lovins is working with the Northminster Congregation. Enthusiasm is
348 building, they are establishing attainable goals for revitalization, and they are to discerning the feasibility of
349 calling a full-time pastor.

350 **Crestview –First:** Don Mowat is the consultant for this congregation. The Holy Cow results have been
351 shared with the congregation and the Session will hold an extended meeting in February to consider next
352 steps.

353 **Panama City – Parkway:** Lisa Martin is their consultant. The Holy Cow! Congregational Assessment
354 Tool (CAT) has been completed. A February date has been set to present the information to the Session.

355 **Lynn Haven – First:** The Session at Lynn Haven has voted to engage the Holy Cow! revitalization
356 process. Mark Broadhead will begin the process with them in late February or early March.

357 **Grant request:** CCR approved a \$5,000 Emergency Repair Grant Request from Wewahitchka – First as
358 they continue to work with FEMA and other agencies to repair damage done by Hurricane Michael.

359 **Item for Action:** Upon recommendation of the CCR, presbytery approved changing the name from
360 Committee on Congregational Revitalization to Committee on Congregational Discernment. **Rationale:**
361 Under the previous structure of the Presbytery, this committee was tasked to promote congregational
362 renewal by providing helpful programmatic and ministry ideas. The assigned function since restructuring
363 has taken a different focus. Rather than being prescriptive in its assistance, it has become descriptive, that
364 is, the committee now engages congregations first in a discernment process that helps congregations
365 discover who they are. This is the foundational work of this committee. The discernment process reveals
366 the degree of health and vitality of the congregation, addressing if the congregation is able to truly gain
367 from the revitalization process or if the congregation needs to face a different reality – like its dwindling
368 ability to sustain itself and its ministries. The concern with using “revitalization” as part of the committee’s
369 name is because it may promote a false sense of hope in congregations where revitalization may not be
370 feasible. By naming this committee the Committee on Congregational Discernment, it better describes
371 what the committee offers – insights to the congregation’s viability, its strengths and weaknesses, and then
372 explores next steps to move toward what was discerned – revitalization, or the eventual ending of the
373 congregation’s ministry.

374 **Committee on Ministry (COM): Joan Wooten**

375 **For Information:** The COM has approved:

- 376 1. South Walton New Worshiping Community MIF, as revised.
 - 377 2. DeFuniak-First MIF, as revised.
 - 378 3. Interim Contract between Rev. Anne H.K. Apple and Tallahassee-First.
 - 379 4. Temporary Supply Contract between Rev. Kim Stavenau and Parkway Presbyterian Church, effective
380 October 1, 2022 for a period of 12 months;
 - 381 5. Examination of Rev. Anne H.K. Apple for reception from the Presbytery of Mid-South;
 - 382 6. Parish Associate Agreement between Rev. Jim Huffaker (HR) and Panama City-Grace.
- 383 The Pastor Transition Team is working through its liaisons with Marianna-First, Euchee Valley, DeFuniak-
384 First, Trinity, Lafayette, Tallahassee-First, and Fort Walton Beach-First.
385 The updated pulpit supply list and it is now posted on the Presbytery website. See “[Committees](#),” then
386 “[Ministry](#),” then via the dropdown link, “[Pulpit Supply](#).”
387 The Relational Ministry Team is working through its liaisons to visit congregations, with special emphasis
388 on those which have part-time pastoral leadership or pulpit supply.
389 The COM is working up mandatory training in accordance with our Presbytery’s sexual misconduct policy
390 and corresponding revisions to the COM Handbook.

391 **For action:** The Presbytery granted Honorably Retired status on the Rev. Stephen Graves.

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

393 **For Information:**

394 **CMO's Community Action Grant guidelines and application form** are posted to the presbytery's
395 website: (www.presbyteryofflorida.net/presbyterycommittees/mission-outreach) Forms and applications
396 are posted for:

397 a) Community Action Grants, b) Covenant Agreement Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) and the
398 Florida Presbyteries, c) 2 Cents a Meal Hunger Grants, d). Disaster Emergency Assistance, and e) The
399 Presbytery of Florida Peacemaking Grants.

400 **Come and See TTT mission workshop March 17-18, 2023, Trinity – Pensacola.** Dr. John Baehr, Elder
401 at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Pensacola, presented information and invitation to attend an informational
402 workshop and mission opportunity for congregations/members of the presbytery. "Teach To Transform" is
403 a medical mission/evangelism program sponsored and organized by TTT national staff in Louisville, KY
404 that engages individuals in mission trips around the world to train indigenous pastors, missionaries, medical
405 workers, and interested individuals in simple medical screening techniques and treatments. Offering health
406 screenings and follow up treatment, TTT trainees gain entry to communities, build trust and relationships
407 that allow sharing of the Christian gospel. Once passing certification exams, the trainees are supplied
408 backpacks with medical testing equipment, and follow up contacts help supervise and re-equip trainees.
409 Attending the workshops does not obligate anyone to go on TTT mission trips. We are not asking the
410 presbytery to endorse or financially support the Teach to Transform mission endeavor, just to offer the
411 opportunity to learn about and perhaps participate in the TTT program. We are not seeking to compete with
412 any churches' present medical/dental mission endeavors. The cost to attend the TTT workshop is \$25.00;
413 Trinity-Pensacola is underwriting the rest of the expense. Backpack Medical kits are \$250.00. Individuals,
414 Sunday School classes, small groups, or others may want to adopt this as a support project. Mission trips
415 abroad consist of a weeklong course presentation to indigenous staff: 4 days instruction, Day 5
416 certification testing, Day 6 presentation and utilization of medical equipment backpacks.

417 For more information contact: Dr. John Baehr: johnbaehr@gmail.com, (850)-516-9871. TEACH TO
418 TRANSFORM <https://teachtotransform.org/>. (Follow up: Eight participants from across the presbytery
419 attended, five committed to mission trips.)

420 **Guatemala:** CMO members participated in December 2022 Zoom chat with PW-Guatemala and members
421 of Flint River and West NC Presbyteries who have been involved in the Presbyterian Women-Guatemala
422 partnership. The December worship and awards ceremony featured women active in the primary and
423 secondary level secular education programs and theological education programs. The PW initiative began
424 as a pilot program with support from families and friends going door-to-door asking for money to begin the
425 program. The PC(USA) national mission agency is now offering funding to expand the program. We plan
426 a Zoom meeting with the mission committees from Western NC and Flint River in the near future.

427 **FLAPDAN:** Volunteer efforts in Central Florida for Hurricane Ian recovery efforts are underway: local
428 volunteer groups are responding to the needs: mission teams from outside the area must be self-contained
429 and self-sufficient. Contact the PDA Call Center 866-732-6121 or the FLAPDAN

430 <https://www.flapdan.org/currentevents>
431 for information about planning mission teams. FLAPDAN is pushing for PC(USA) presence in all Long-
432 term Recovery Committees (LTRC) in the communities affected by Hurricane Ian.

433 **Racial Justice Subcommittee:** A February Zoom workshop on racism, and feature in the February
434 Presbytery newsletter highlighted the sub-committee's work efforts at First Presbyterian Church -
435 Pensacola to educate and empower people in anti-racism work. Look for another educational program hour
436 at a 2023 presbytery meeting, **SDOP:** Michael Askew needs a representative from the West District to
437 help form an SDOP Committee. Please submit names to Michael at askew.michaelsr@yahoo.com.

438 **No action items.**

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

440 The presbytery confirmed the following nominees and their designated committees:

441 1. Committee on Congregational Revitalization (CCR)

442 Joanne Kublik - CRE, Red Bay, class 2/2024

- 443 Sheila Clark-Askew - elder, Gulf Beach, Panama City, Class 2/2026
- 444 2. Committee on Dogwood Acres (CDA)
- 445 Susie Barber - elder, 1st, Marianna, Class 2/2026
- 446 Rev. William Lamont (Chair) - pastor, Gulf Beach, Panama City, Class 2/2026
- 447 Ken Densmore (VC) - elder, 1st, Pensacola, Class 2/2025
- 448 3. Committee on Educational Resources (CER)
- 449 Chris Rollins - elder, 1st, Fort Walton Beach, Class 2/2026
- 450 Rev. Dr. John Stringer (Chair) - Interim Pastor, 1st, Fort Walton Beach, Class 2/2024
- 451 Rev. Erin Rosica (VC) - member at large, Class 2/2025
- 452 4. Committee on Mission and Outreach (CMO)
- 453 Rev. Hugh Hamilton (Chair) - Pastor, Trinity Pensacola, Class 2/2026
- 454 5. Committee on New Congregational Development (CNCD)
- 455 Beth Mooney - elder, 1st, DeFuniak Springs, Class 2/2025
- 456 Stan Trappe - elder, Grace, Panama City, Class 2/2026
- 457 6. Committee on Ministry (COM)
- 458 Sue Coleman - elder, Trinity Pensacola, Class 2/2026
- 459 Rev. Linda Pitts – parish associate, Faith, Tallahassee, Class 2/2026
- 460 Linda Lovins - elder, Christ, Tallahassee, Class 2/2026
- 461 7. Committee on Presbytery Administration (CPA)
- 462 Barbara Sawyer - elder, Northminster, Pensacola, Class 2/2026
- 463 David Balmer (VC) - elder, Gulf Beach, Panama City Beach, Class 2/2026
- 464 8. Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM)
- 465 Rev. Sheldon Steen (Chair) - Pastor, Christ, Tallahassee, Class 2/2024

466 **Information: Committee vacancies that remain active:**

- 467 Committee on Congregational Revitalization (CCR)
- 468 1 Class 2/2026 - east, male, elder
- 469 1 Class 2/2026 - east, male/female, elder/minister
- 470 Committee on Dogwood Acres (CDWA)
- 471 1 Class 2/2026 - central, female, elder
- 472 1 Class 2/2026 - central, female, elder
- 473 Committee on Educational Resources (CER)
- 474 1 Class 2/2024 - east/west, male, elder
- 475 1 Class 2/2026 - central/east, male, elder
- 476 1 Class 2/2026 - east/central/west, female/male, minister/elder
- 477 Committee on Mission and Outreach (CMO)
- 478 1 Class 2/2024 - central, male, elder
- 479 1 Class 2/2026 - central/east, female, minister/elder
- 480 1 Class 2/2026 - central/east, female, minister/elder
- 481 Committee on New Church Development (CNCD)
- 482 1 Class 2/2024 - west, male/female, elder
- 483 1 Class 2/2026 - east, female, minister/elder
- 484 Committee on Ministry (COM)
- 485 1 Class 2/2025 - central, male, minister/elder
- 486 1 Class 2/2026 - central, female, minister/elder
- 487 1 Class 2/2026 - west, male, minister/elder
- 488 Committee on Presbytery Administration (CPA)
- 489 1 Class 2/2024 - west, female, elder
- 490 1 Class 2/2025 - west, female, elder/minister
- 491 1 Class 2/2025 - east, male, elder

492 1 Class 2/2026 - west, female, elder
493 1 Class 2/2026 - east, male/female, elder/minister
494 Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM)
495 1 Class 2/2026 - central, female, elder
496 1 Class 2/2026 - east/west/central, male/female, elder/minister

497 **Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM): Raymond Guterman**

498 **For action:** Approval of Glenn Hodges' candidacy for ministry: Upon recommendation by the CPM and
499 after examination of Glenn Hodges' statement of faith and sense of call, the presbytery approved Glenn
500 Hodges as a Candidate for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament under the care of presbytery, with
501 understanding that after one year under care, Mr. Hodges will be allowed to circulate his Personal
502 Information Form (PIF) to seek a call to ordained ministry in the PC(USA).

503 **Committee on Presbytery Administration (CPA): Brad Clayton**

504 **For action:**

- 505 1. Upon recommendation by the CPA presbytery approved the revised budget, which included changes to
506 receipts, but not to expenditures.
507 2. Presbytery elected Jeanie Dixon as presbytery stated clerk for a 2023-2024 term.

508 **For Information:**

509 **The 2023 budget** will once again depend on reserves to cover all expenses. We have used reserves for
510 over seven years in a row. At our current rate of use, our reserves will be depleted in the next three years,
511 unless budget cuts are made or additional resources are found. The CPA requests that the Strategic Task
512 force look intently at our budget and propose changes so that our presbytery can continue to cover expenses
513 for years to come.

514 **The "Building our Presbytery Fund"** will be completely depleted in 2023. This means that our budget in
515 2024 will require additional income from another source. This was an initiative to support the presbytery
516 budget for five years with the hope that shared support would grow.

517 **Personnel:** The personnel subcommittees have completed their reports for each staff member, and we are
518 completing the final evaluations for 2023. The response from the staff has been overwhelmingly positive to
519 this new form of evaluation. We are grateful to Rev. Eric Spoon for spearheading this effort.

520 **Property:** We officially broke ground on the new office building in February. We still hope that the
521 building will be completed by the end of 2023. We are grateful to Grady McDaniel for his ongoing work
522 and coordination of this project. We continue to explore solar energy options for the new building. We
523 have had promising bids and hope to have more information soon.

524 **Committee on Dogwood Acres (CDWA): Bill Lamont**

525 **Property:** Roadway milling has been used to patch the driveway and enhance the parking. The trails have
526 been cleared of debris and re-opened, with the exception of part of the blue trail. A new ability-friendly
527 prayer/nature path has been created, looping from the chapel and around to the bonfire area and back. The
528 path has been cleared and milled and work continues on landscaping and bench-building. The new storage
529 building is completed and in use. Renovations have been completed to 6 cabins and new curtains are
530 currently being made. A new lumber shed has been completed and a new floating dock is under
531 construction.

532 **Retreats** – a Presbytery-wide Confirmation Retreat was held for 26 young people representing 7 churches.
533 A Women's Yoga/Mindfulness Retreat attracted 32 participants ages 35-80, representing 5 churches from
534 our Presbytery. Dogwood Youth Conference had 48 youth in attendance with 7 UKirk college students,
535 their ministers, plus adult chaperones

536 All weekends in February have been booked with retreats and requests for use of the camp are coming in
537 from all over the panhandle for summer and fall bookings. The summer camp schedule is online now and
538 some registrations have already been taken. More counselors are needed to round out the summer staff.

539 Dogwood looks forward to hosting Presbytery at their May 20, 2023 meeting.

540 **Committee on Educational Resources (CER): No report. Jim Stringer.**

541 **Committee on New Congregational Development (CNCD): A. J. Mealor No report.**

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

543 The CR and the Committee on Nominations (CN) conducted a joint education hour presentation at the
544 October 28, 2022, presbytery meeting to address church members' service commitment at the Presbytery
545 level. Participants at the presbytery meeting were broken up into six groups to address the following
546 questions:

547 a. Why is it so hard to get people to serve on presbytery committees?

548 b. How can participation on presbytery committees be enhanced?

549 A member of the CR or CN facilitated each group. The facilitators compiled feedback from each group and
550 reported it to the CR. The CR compiled a report from the breakout groups that will be presented to the Holy
551 Cow consulting initiative task force.

552 The CR and CN nominated, and presbytery approved the following members for the Holy
553 Cow Consulting ask Force: Mark Broadhead – Chair, Hugh Hamilton, Eric Spoon, Sue
554 Coleman, Mary Hodges, Karen Weaver, Don Mowat

555 Presbytery confirmed Ruben Dias as a member of the CR. Elder Dias was born in Guatemala and
556 grew up Presbyterian. We look forward to receiving his gifts.

557 **New Business:** RE Linda Lovins highlighted the work of the Presbyterian Association of Musicians
558 (PAM) and the 2023 Worship and Music Conference in Montreat, NC.

559 **Installation of Moderator and Vice-Moderator:** In a service of Installation, led by General Presbyter
560 Roy Martin, the presbytery installed RE Don Mowat as Moderator and TE Mark Broadhead as Vice-
561 Moderator and expressed our appreciation to outgoing Moderator TE Trinity Whitley for her service.
562 Moderator Crosses were presented to Don Mowat and Trinity Whitley.

563 **ADJOURNMENT AND CLOSING PRAYER**

564 The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 2:03PM CST/3:03 PM EST by Don Mowat, newly installed
565 moderator.

566 **NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, Saturday, May 20, 2023: 9AM Central/10AM Eastern at Dogwood Acres.

567 Minutes respectfully submitted,

568 Hugh Hamilton,
569 Recording Clerk

570 Trinity Whitley, Moderator
571 Jeannie Dixon, Stated Clerk
572 Hugh Hamilton, Recording Clerk

Approved by the Coordinating and Planning Commission April 20, 2023