

**Minutes of Fall Stated Presbytery Meeting  
At First, Lynn Haven, Lynn Haven, FL  
October 24, 2023**

The Presbytery of Florida, Inc., of the Synod of South Atlantic of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) met at First Presbyterian Church of Lynn Haven, FL, for a Stated Meeting on Tuesday, October 24, 2023.

	Present	Absent	Total
Ruling Elders:			
Session Commissioners	<b>22</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>40</b>
Other Continuing Members (RE committee chairs {4}; RE officers {2}; RE educators {1})	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>
CLP/CRE	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>
Total Ruling Elders	<b>30</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>53</b>
Ministers of Word and Sacrament	<b>29</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>40</b>
Total Present and Absent	<b>59</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>93</b>
Congregations Represented	<b>19</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>37</b>

**MINISTERS OF WORD AND SACRAMENT PRESENT (29):**

Anne Apple, *Michael Askew*, Mark Broadhead, Kwonsoo Cho, Brad Clayton, *Brant Copeland*, Mathew Frease, Hugh Hamilton, *Gene Harris*, *Harvey Jenkins*, *James Krapf*, William Lamont, Lisa Martin, Roy Martin, A.J. Mealor, Catherine Mooney, Linda Pitts, Emily Proctor, Erin Rosica, Erin Rugh, Eric Spoon, Kim Stavenau, Sheldon Steen, John Stringer, Rob Sugg, *Mary Vance*, Trinity Whitley, *Carol Wood*, Joan Wooten. (*italics = Retired*)

**MINISTERS OF WORD AND SACRAMENT ABSENT (4/7):**

Excused Ministers: John Kelsay, Sun Kim, Luis Ocasio Torres, Robert Quiring

Unexcused Ministers: Mary Baars O'Malley, Robert Bohnsack, John Cole, Tai Cole, Pamela Phillips, Taylor Phillips, Raymond Guterman

**RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS PRESENT/ABSENT (22/18)**

Blountstown, First – unexcused  
 Chipley, First – Kevin Russell  
 Crestview, First – Jim Gaylord  
 Defuniak Springs, Bethel – unexcused  
 Defuniak Springs, Euchee Valley – excused  
 Defuniak Springs, First – Joyce Kelly  
 Destin, First – unexcused  
 Fort Walton Beach, First – Fred Pryor  
 Fort Walton Beach, Korean- excused  
 Freeport, Freeport – unexcused  
 Gretna, Gretna – excused  
 Gulf Breeze, Gulf Breeze – Sandra Stanley  
 Havana, First – excused  
 Laurel Hill, Laurel Hill – Leon Curenton  
 Lynn Haven, First – Rich Kangas  
 Marianna, First – Leslie Kelley

44 Milton, First – excused  
45 Monticello, First – unexcused  
46 Navarre, Navarre – unexcused  
47 Panama City Beach, Gulf Beach – Margie Parker  
48 Panama City, Grace – Corey Wilson  
49 Panama City, Parkway – Linda Bonacasa  
50 Panama City, St. Andrews – unexcused  
51 Pensacola, First – excused  
52 Pensacola, Korean – unexcused  
53 Pensacola, Northminster – Pam Nulty  
54 Pensacola, Trinity – Cam Massengill, Charlie Gilroy  
55 Quincy, First – Jan Bates, Bill Wert  
56 Red Bay, Red Bay – unexcused  
57 Sawdust, Woodland – Kathy Pack  
58 Tallahassee, Christ – Anne Hodges  
59 Tallahassee, Faith – Ruth Bedell, Elaine Youngblood  
60 Tallahassee, Fellowship – Melissa Wyllie  
61 Tallahassee, First – unexcused  
62 Tallahassee, Lafayette – Kay Lachat  
63 Tallahassee, Trinity United – unexcused  
64 Wewahitchka, First – excused

65 Sessions not represented:

66 Excused Churches (7):

67 Defuniak Springs, Euchee Valley

68 Fort Walton Beach, Korean First

69 Gretna

70 Havana, First

71 Milton, First

72 Pensacola, First

73 Wewahitchka, First

74 Unexcused Churches (11):

75 Blountstown, First

76 DeFuniak Springs, Bethel

77 Destin, First

78 Freeport

79 Monticello, First

80 Navarre

81 Panama City, St. Andrews

82 Pensacola, Korean Community

83 Red Bay

84 Tallahassee, First

85 Tallahassee, Trinity United

86 Continuing Members:

87 CREs present (2):

88 Joanne Kublik

89 Greg Seltzer

90 CRES absent 2):

91 Tonya Fernandes; Alan House (excused)

92 Christian Educators with voice and vote present (0):

93 Christian Educators with voice present (0):

94 Presbytery Staff Members: Melissa Willis – Administrator; Denise Vandiver (RE) – Accountant Treasurer;  
95 Eric Hearn – Dogwood Acres Program Director

96 Officers/Team Chairs: Vicki Bell – PW moderator; Jeannie Dixon (RE) – Stated Clerk; Glenn Hodges (RE)  
97 – Committee on Representation; Rich Kangas (RE) – Committee on Nominations; Don Mowat (RE) –  
98 Moderator

99 Visitors: Kathy Welsh (First, Lynn Haven); Jake Wilson (Texas Presbyterian Foundation); Edward Syfrelt  
100 (First, Marianna); Nancy Brzozowski (First, Lynn Haven); Russell Nulty (Northminster, Pensacola); Ann  
101 Fyfe (First, Lynn Haven); Hilda Jackson (First, DeFuniak Springs); James Vance (Fellowship,  
102 Tallahassee); Mary Hodges (First, Tallahassee); Mary Jo Butler (Woodland); Grady McDaniel (Grace,  
103 Panama City); Linda Lovins (Christ, Tallahassee); Leslie Yandle (First, Pensacola).

104 Visiting Ministers: (1): Shuford White

105 OPENING PRAYER, QUORUM, DOCKET

106 Moderator Don Mowat called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM CDT/10:02 AM EDT. A quorum (ten  
107 Ministers of Word and Sacrament and ten elders, representing at least ten member congregations) was  
108 present, and Moderator Mowat opened the meeting with prayer.

109 The Presbytery approved The Rev. Trinity Whitley to serve as Moderator during the report of the Strategic  
110 Planning Task Force in lieu of Moderator Mowat, a Task Force member.

111 The docket was approved.

112 WELCOME: The Rev. Lisa Martin, Pastor to First Presbyterian Church-Lynn Haven, welcomed the  
113 presbytery and gave instructions for the day's activity, meals, and facilities.

114 INTRODUCTIONS: First-time ruling elders, teaching elders, corresponding members, and visitors were  
115 introduced.

116 MORNING WORSHIP: The Reverend Lisa Martin, The Reverend Roy Martin and Stated Clerk Jeannie  
117 Dixon served as liturgists for worship, accompanied by Brad Thoresen, Organist/Music Director – First -  
118 Lynn Haven, and the Chancel Choir. Assisting with Communion were: Vicki Bell, Florida Presbytery's  
119 Presbyterian Women Moderator; Ann Fyfe, Ruling Elder, First-Lynn Haven; Glenn Hodges, Ruling Elder,  
120 Candidate for Ministry of Word and Sacrament; The Reverend Dr. Harvey Jenkins, Minister of Word and  
121 Sacrament, retired, and Joanne Kublik, Commissioned Ruling Elder – Red Bay. The Rev. Lisa Martin's,  
122 "The Glimpse," Exodus 33:12-23, inspired us to recall moments in our lives when all seemed to be falling  
123 apart, and when God then responded to our need, supplying us with what we needed to move ahead.  
124 Drawing on Moses' encounter with God at the burning bush and on Annie Dillard's book, *Pilgrim at*  
125 *Tinker Creek*, Reverend Martin shared her familiarity with Tinker Creek and how the still water, when  
126 disturbed, will eventually return to calm, as it was before. In the rhythm of rest – active -rest, we can see  
127 glimpses of God sufficient to encourage us to move ahead, no matter how weary we may be, God moves  
128 on, and so shall we.

129 The presbytery shared the sacrament of Lord's Supper and heard aloud the Necrology Report of presbyters  
130 who had died since last September 30.

<b>Church Name, City</b>	<b>Name of deceased elder</b>	<b>Date of death</b>
Christ, Tallahassee	Robert (Bob) Yerg	2/21/2023
Christ, Tallahassee	Steve Panton	3/29/2023
Faith, Tallahassee	Barbara Dunlop	11/1/2022
First, Crestview	Lillian Collins Ankelein	3/22/2023
First, DeFuniak Springs	Bill Steadley-Campbell	2/19/2023
First, Fort Walton Beach	Christine Rollins	9/9/2023
First, Havana	John Patronis	1/4/2023
First, Lynn Haven	Jo Preziosi	7/13/2023
First, Pensacola	Nancy C. Bradley	5/3/2023
First, Pensacola	Ina B. Freeman	8/21/2023
First, Pensacola	Donald McKinley Freeman	4/9/2023
First, Quincy	Martha Jean Laslie Woodward	9/7/2023
Gretna	Walter Alexander "Cuz" Johnson	3/2/2023
Gulf Breeze	Lee Rivers, Jr	11/5/2022
Gulf Breeze	Hope Laughlin	6/15/2023
Lafayette, Tallahassee	MarthaAnn McCaskill	12/14/2022
Lafayette, Tallahassee	Janet English	3/27/2023
Lafayette, Tallahassee	Perry Max Dawson	8/12/2023
Northminster, Pensacola	Florence Pasquale	12/20/2022
Northminster, Pensacola	Kenneth Overholt	1/18/2023
Parkway, Panama City	Rev. Richard Mitchell "Ric" Connor, Sr.	7/5/2023
Presbytery of Florida	Rev. Ted Chumley	11/25/2022
Presbytery of Florida	Rev. Kerry Westerwick	1/25/2023
Trinity United, Tallahassee	Lula Allen	12/16/2022
Trinity United, Tallahassee	Robert Woolfork	1/30/2023
Trinity, Pensacola	Sue Peden	12/11/2022
Trinity, Pensacola	Robert Childs	12/24/2022
Trinity, Pensacola	John Green	1/13/2023
Trinity, Pensacola	Jane Patterson	4/12/2023
Trinity, Pensacola	Betty Nickinson	4/26/2023
Trinity, Pensacola	Joe Black	6/15/2023
Trinity, Pensacola	Ruth White	6/27/2023
Trinity, Pensacola	Al Pulford	7/10/2023
Westminster, Pensacola	Thomas "Tom" Sykes	02/15/2023

131 PARTNER REPORTS:

132 Jake Wilson – Texas Presbyterian Foundation – highlighted TPF’s resource “Texas Presbyterian  
133 Foundation Legacy Builders” and ways the TPF can help congregations develop a planned giving program  
134 and help members remember the church with end-of-year gifts and include the church in wills and estate  
135 planning. TPC is ready and available for advice and to answer questions.

136 Vicki Bell – Presbytery’s Presbyterian Women – asked us to encourage our ladies to be active in PW  
137 activities and to submit nominees for presbytery’s PW Treasurer, Secretary, and Moderator-Elect.

138 Matt Frease – UKirk Tallahassee – reported on the exciting beginning to campus ministries in Tallahassee:  
139 Calvin’s Coffee Shop is in full force every day; students are attending events and studies at UKirk,  
140 exploring their faith and discovering a safe environment in which to question, debate, discover, and grow in

141 Christian faith. The ministry needs money for facilities updates and maintenance and volunteer assistants  
142 for the weekly programs and coffee servers. Any church wishing to cook and provide a meal on Thursdays  
143 for 30-plus students or to fund a meal are asked to contact Matt. UKirk will gladly host meetings for church  
144 groups in their meeting rooms.

145 EDUCATIONAL HOUR: Strategic Planning Task Force: Chair Mark Broadhead reviewed the charge to  
146 the Task Force in February 2023 and the scope and process of their work this year. The Task Force was  
147 asked to:

- 148 • Engage in a process of discernment and make recommendations for the Presbytery's structure, staffing,  
149 and ministries, being sure we remain in line with the Book of Order.
- 150 • Determine if the current Manual of Operations is/will be what is needed by the Presbytery.
- 151 • Substantiate any recommended changes, up to and including a complete makeover of the presbytery
- 152 • and show financial support for such.

153 The Rev. Hugh Hamilton then shared a synopsis of the process, general findings, and recommendations to  
154 the presbytery. Using insights from Jim Collin's book, *Good to Great: Why Some Companies Make the*  
155 *Leap and Some Do Not*, the task force began with facing the brutal facts of our presbytery's present reality,  
156 what is our condition, and how may we face the facts of our reality while maintaining faith that we will  
157 prevail in the end?

158 The full 28- page report of the Task Force is attached the minutes; but, in brief, the general findings were:

- 159 1. Our lack of unity in a compelling mission statement hinders us prioritizing our committee endeavors.  
160 Our present mission statement is too long, too diverse. We do not know it; we do not discuss it. It appears  
161 nowhere on our docket. Everything we do has equal weight and priority. We do little strategic planning  
162 based on our mission priorities and/or core values.
- 163 2. Our lack of unity in a compelling mission limits our awareness, our attendance, and our attitude.
- 164 3. All committees struggle to attract and retain enough members to meet their duties and responsibilities.  
165 Present members are doubling up on responsibilities.
- 166 4. All committees see the need to continue the use of Zoom online meetings in combination with in-person  
167 meetings. Travel/Commute times exceed meeting time, hindering member participation at Dogwood Acres.
- 168 5. Property matters and congregational property matters need to be clearly assigned, but to whom? PC?  
169 CPA? COM? CCD? (All raised that question.)
- 170 6. We struggle to secure Elder Commissioners and Clergy to routine, business-focused Presbytery  
171 meetings, and little news is shared afterwards at Sessions/congregations. A shift to spiritual growth-  
172 focused agendas/presentations/workshops may foster better practices in ministries common to all  
173 congregations.
- 174 7. We need to hear and heed younger voices and encourage leadership from our young pastors,  
175 congregational leaders, members. We need to engage them and try innovative approaches, techniques and  
176 tools, social media, styles and forms of ministry that reach, attract, and retain people in today's culture.
- 177 8. Changes made to the Manual of Operations and committee structures were not, and have not, been well-  
178 communicated, causing little "buy-in" on the part of committee members.
- 179 9. We heard consistently that congregations need and want assistance in becoming more effective in their  
180 local ministries.

181 In addition:

182 Presbytery finances have diminished, declined, and all unrestricted reserves have been tapped out to  
183 balance our 2023 budget. No unrestricted reserve funds remain.

184 Church membership has declined across the presbytery.

185 Dogwood Acres remains a major budget item and concern given our diminished finances.

186 The Committee on Presbytery Administration has advised the Task Force that the expected level of support  
187 from churches in 2024 is \$320,000.00; 30% less than current 2023 and proposed 2024 budget of  
188 \$450,653.00. We were asked to present a budget of \$320,000.00

189 The Task Force report was highlighted, and the commissioners were assigned to breakout groups for  
190 discussions. Following the lunch break, the presbytery reconvened, and findings from small groups'  
191 discussions were shared. The Task Force then presented their recommendations for approval by the  
192 presbytery as follows. The motions were discussed, amended, and approved (changes shown in italics):  
193 1. That the report of the Strategic Planning Task Force be received.  
194 2. That the Vision Statement be approved.  
195 3. That the Mission Statement be approved.  
196 4. That the recommended structure of the presbytery be approved *for further refinement and*  
197 *implementation by the Implementation Task Force*  
198 5. *That*  
199 *a) a period of discernment be entered to review the process of Dogwood Acres becoming a 501( C )*  
200 *(3) organization*  
201 *b) that CPC appoint presbyters to work with the DWA Committee in this process, and*  
202 *c) that recommendations be given at the Fall 2024 Stated meeting of the presbytery.*  
203 6. That the recommended staffing configuration be approved. *(The Implementation Team will*  
204 *determine and recommend final staffing.)*  
205 7. That the proposed budget adjustments be *forwarded to the current Committee on Presbytery*  
206 *Administration for consideration to be presented to the presbytery for approval.*  
207 8. That the Strategic Planning Task Force be dissolved *with thanks and gratitude of the presbytery.*  
208 9. That an Implementation Taskforce be appointed *by the Committee on Nominations (CN) with*  
209 *approval by the Coordinating and Planning Commission (CPC) as soon as possible, but no later than*  
210 *January 15, 2024 to facilitate the initiation of the new structure for the Presbytery of Florida effective*  
211 *March 1, 2024, and that it compose the necessary modifications to the Bylaws and Manual of Operations.*  
212 *(It was suggested that the Implementation Team be composed of 7 members, with attention to*  
213 *representation by young pastors and elders, and that for continuity, some members of the Strategic*  
214 *Planning Task Force be nominated to serve).*  
215 Task Force members: Rev. Mark Broadhead – Chair (First-Crestview and Laurel Hill), Elder Susan  
216 Coleman (Trinity-Pensacola), Rev. Hugh Hamilton (Trinity-Pensacola), Elder Mary Hodges (First-  
217 Tallahassee), Elder Don Mowat (First-Lynn Haven), Rev. Eric Spoon (Grace-Panama City), and Elder  
218 Karen Weaver (First-Monticello).

219 STAFF REPORTS:

220 REPORT FROM STATED CLERK: Jeannie Dixon

221 Review of session minutes: Most minutes for the years 2019, 2020, 2021 have been reviewed. Dates have  
222 not yet been set for the 2022 review, but session clerks are encouraged to prepare their minutes for the  
223 review. The checklist is on the presbytery website (h04.pdf) or can be requested by emailing the stated  
224 clerk (statedclerk@presbyteryofflorida.com).

225 Stated Clerk has researched and answered questions for session clerks and committee chairs/members,  
226 including the status of Articles of Incorporation for those congregations formed prior to 1983 (at reunion).  
227 Thirty of our congregations were formed prior to that date; most have a reference to PC(USA) in their  
228 Articles. Members of COM will follow up with those who need to update their Articles of Incorporation.  
229 Mrs. Dixon has been busy with the special committee of the GA on the standing rules of the assembly. And  
230 has attended regular meetings of COM, CPC, and Presbytery staff.

231 On Sept. 25-26, the stated clerks from each presbytery in the Synod met together in Jacksonville to read the  
232 Presbytery minutes for 2022. Our presbytery minutes were approved, with thanks to Melissa Willis for her  
233 work on preparing these minutes.

234 Annual Statistics: The reporting program opens in December and closes in mid-February. Much of the data  
235 can be gathered now and then easily updated after December 31. This does require session approval, so be  
236 aware of the dates of your session meetings to ensure that the report is finished in time for that approval.

237 Training sessions will be held again during the statistics period.

238 REPORT FROM GENERAL PRESBYTER: Roy Martin  
239 Dr. Martin shared pastoral concerns for persons in our presbytery ill, grieving, or suffering: especially Ben  
240 and Kathy Powell (cancer) and Alan House (auto accident). Dr. Martin continues worshiping with our  
241 congregations and preaching. Dr. Martin highlighted 1) the Unification Task Force working to join the  
242 Office of the General Assembly and the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Work is in progress, but they are not  
243 yet unified, 2) the Mission Tool Kits offered by PMA to help congregations discern their vitality and  
244 effectiveness as monitored by seven marks of vitality, and 3) Policy workshops to be offered by General  
245 Assembly to help in development of four policies required by congregations, presbyteries, and synods:  
246 Child protection, Sexual Misconduct, Harassment, and Anti-Racism. Templates and help will be offered  
247 on the www.pcusa.org website.

248 REPORT FROM DOGWOOD ACRES: Christy Williams and Eric Hearn  
249 The DWA Committee reports hopeful signs and indicators about DWA usage and impact. They  
250 highlighted High School staffers from our churches who volunteered for Middle School retreat “Spiritfest”  
251 in October. Under the theme “The Path of Love”, these students helped create, present, and conduct the  
252 retreat experiences and studies emphasizing that God walks before, beside, and behind us on the path.  
253 Upcoming Dogwood Facilitated Retreats  
254 November 3-5: Reading, Writing, Resting Retreat for adults. This retreat will include a book group  
255 discussion, a book swap and share, a workshop on personal creative writing, yoga, hiking, hammocking,  
256 napping, “Moth Radio Hour” sharing, good food, worship and fellowship. Our workshop leader and  
257 discussion facilitator will be Harriet Riley, formerly of FPC Pensacola and now a member of St Charles  
258 Ave. PC in New Orleans, LA.  
259 January 19 – 21: Pause -the now-annual Women’s Yoga Retreat. Eat, pray, yoga!!  
260 February 2 – 4: Dogwood Youth Conference – an annual retreat for Middle and High School Youth led by  
261 college students.

262 REPORT FROM PRESBYTERY ACCOUNTANT/TREASURER: Denise Vandiver  
263 Treasurer Vandiver shared an update on support pledged and given to date.  
264 The operating budget shows a loss, currently we are at 66% of budgeted revenue to date, when we should  
265 be at 75%. Our deficit will be larger than expected.

## 266 COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION REPORTS:

### 267 **Committee On Ministry (COM): Joan Wooten**

268 For information: The COM approved:

- 269 1. Co-Interim Contract for Rev. John Cole and Rev. Tai Cole at Quincy-First
- 270 2 Contract for Rev. Mary Vance (R) at Tallahassee-Lafayette
- 271 4. Letter dated July 10, 2023 from the Presbyterian Investment & Loan Program (PILP) notifying the  
272 Stated Clerk that FWB-Korean’s loan has been paid in full
- 273 5. Dismissal of Rev. Casey James Aldridge to Presbytery of Charlotte (received August 19, 2023)
- 274 6. Dismissal of Rev. Jordan Maire Goodwin to Presbytery of Charlotte (received August 19, 2023)
- 275 7. Dismissal of Rev. Stephen E. Graves (R) to Presbytery of Foothills (received June 1, 2023)
- 276 8. Dismissal of Rev. Steven Howard Rhodes (R) to Presbytery of Foothills (received June 4, 2023)
- 277 9. Dismissal of Rev. Sharon D. Schuler (R) to Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley (received August 17,  
278 2023)

279 The Pastor Transition Team is working through its liaisons with Marianna-First, Euchee Valley, Trinity,  
280 Lafayette, Tallahassee-First, Quincy-First, and Fort Walton Beach-First.

281 The Temporary Pastoral Leadership Team continues to update the pulpit supply list as changes are  
282 reported.

283 The Relational Ministry Team is working through its liaisons to visit congregations, with special emphasis  
284 on those which have part-time pastoral leadership or pulpit supply.

285 The Committee is working on setting up mandatory training in accordance with our Presbytery’s sexual

286 misconduct policy. There are also revisions to the COM Handbook, which they are working on with Rev.  
287 Mark Broadhead.  
288 For Action:  
289 The Committee recommended and presbytery approved: the retirement of Rev. Mark Broadhead, effective  
290 October 15, 2023, and the retirement Rev. Dr. Roy A. Martin, Jr., effective March 1, 2024

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

292 For action: Presbytery approved the new covenant between Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), the  
293 Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network, Inc. (FLAPDAN), and the Six Presbyteries in Florida,  
294 including our Presbytery of Florida. Changes: 1) PDA will now make one annual \$41,750 contribution to  
295 FLAPDAN rather than matching grants equal to the sum of contributions of the annual membership  
296 contributions of the six Florida 13 presbyteries. 2) FLAPDAN will provide a full financial accountability  
297 report annually per Book of Order 14 G-3.0113.

298 For information:

299 Guatemala Partnership: We have signed our partnership agreement to formalize the project, we have  
300 clarified how to send funds to the PW contacts in Guatemala via PC(USA) Mission Agency, and we are  
301 now creating print information and videos to share with congregations and local Presbyterian Women  
302 leaders to educate our presbytery about the scope of work and opportunities to partake of the work and  
303 inspiration. A December 4, 2023 ZOOM conference with Presbytery of Florida, Flint River Presbytery,  
304 and PW Guatemala will celebrate this year's educational, theological, and leadership scholarship recipients  
305 and progress updates.

306 Literacy project: 7 ladies participating;

307 Higher Education project 35 ladies participating;

308 Theological Education 24 ladies participating.

309 CMO is now securing financial routing to submit funds: Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA) Accounts  
310 and descriptions for Guatemala Mission – National Union of Presbyterian Women

311 UNMP E051651 – Scholarship program for Q'eqchi Women. This is a program to educate adult women in  
312 the poorest, most remote, least educated and underserved area in Guatemala. Their average level of  
313 education is fourth grade. Scholarship covers costs of tuition, travel, and school supplies.

314 E051830 – Theological Scholarship Aid for Guatemalan Women: These funds are to operate the program  
315 across Guatemala for women to attend college level theology classes at one of four Presbyterian seminaries  
316 in Guatemala. These funds cover tuition, school supplies, operating costs, and travel for meetings with  
317 seminaries and students.

318 E052177 – UNMP Literacy project: These funds support the general literacy program and the higher  
319 education program of women instructed by local teachers and mentors paid a small stipend by PW-  
320 Guatemala. Literacy projects are now established in all four districts served by the PW.

321 To send a check, please designate where you want your gift to go on the memo line and mail to:  
322 Presbyterian Church U.S.A. P. O. Box 643700 Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

323 Community Action Grants: Reminder: CMO's Community Action Grant guidelines and application forms  
324 are posted to the presbytery's website. ([www.presbyteryofflorida.net/presbytery-committees/mission-outreach](http://www.presbyteryofflorida.net/presbytery-committees/mission-outreach).) Forms and applications are posted for: a) Community Action Grants, b) Covenant Agreement  
325 Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) and the Florida presbyteries. C) 2 Cents a Meal Hunger Grants, d)  
326 Disaster Emergency Assistance, e) The Presbytery of Florida Peacemaking grants  
327

328 CMO Restricted Funds balances as of July 1, 2023

329 4203 Disaster Emergency Relief Fund \$6,203.85

330 4252 & 3129 Two Cents a Meal Hunger Fund \$32,975.02

331 4253 Peacemaking Fund \$7,997.76

332 FLAPDAN: To arrange mission trips or volunteer help, contact [pda.callcenter@pcusa.org](mailto:pda.callcenter@pcusa.org) or 866-732-  
333 6121.



334 Racial Justice Subcommittee/Self Development of People (SDOP): New Book of Order requires that  
335 presbyteries have a racial justice policy. The Racial Justice Subcommittee will work on such a policy. RJS  
336 will prepare a presbytery newsletter article with resources for teaching about racial justice in your  
337 congregation.  
338 Ecumenical relationships: The Florida Council of Churches is reviewing their constitution to clarify roles,  
339 responsibilities, and powers of the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee and the Director. Recently  
340 the existing executive committee restructured itself as a self-perpetuating board and completely removed  
341 any oversight from judicatory leaders, especially in their role as the board of directors. The actions,  
342 situation, constitution, procedures, and possible resolution are under review.

343 **Committee on Nominations (CN): Rich Kangas**

344 The Presbytery approved the following from the Committee on Nominations (CN)

345 General Assembly Nominees

346 Rev. Lisa Martin -Minister Commissioner, 1<sup>st</sup>, Lynn Haven

347 Rev. Cathy Mooney - Alternate, 1<sup>st</sup>, DeFuniak Springs

348 Glenn Hodges - Elder Commissioner, 1<sup>st</sup>, Tallahassee

349 Beth Mooney - Alternate, 1<sup>st</sup>, DeFuniak Springs

350 Austin Banyas - Young Adult Advisory Delegate, Faith, Tallahassee

351 Permanent Judicial Commission

352 Rev. Raymond Gutterman - 1st Marianna, Class 2030

353 Ann Hodges – Elder, Christ Tallahassee, Class 2030

354 Committee members

355 Committee on Ministry

356 Kevin Russell, Chipley-First, Class of 2025

357 Committee Leadership Nominees

358 Committee on Congregational Discernment

359 Karen Weaver, Chair

360 Committee on Dogwood Acres

361 Rev. Bill Lamont, Chair

362 Ken Densmore, Vice-Chair

363 Committee on Ministry

364 Rev. Joan Wooten, Chair

365 Linda Shelley, Vice-Chair

366 Committee on Educational Resources

367 Rev. Erin Rosica, Vice-Chair

368 Committee on Mission and Outreach

369 Rev. Hugh Hamilton, Chair

370 Tim Crawford, Vice-Chair

371 Committee on New Congregation Development

372 Rev. A.J. Mealer, Chair

373 Jim Rollins, Vice-Chair

374 Committee on Preparation for Ministry

375 Rev. Cathy Mooney, Chair

376 Rev. Erin Rugh, Vice-Chair

377 Committee on Presbytery Administration

378 Rev. Eric Spoon, Vice-Chair

379 CN noted that the Coordinating and Planning Commission had approved as Presbytery Vice-Moderator  
380 First, Tallahassee Elder Mary Hodges so she could be registered for the denomination's moderator training  
381 before the October 10 registration deadline.

382 CN also noted we have seventeen (17) vacancies on our present committees.

383 **Coordinating And Planning Commission (CPC): Trinity Whitley**

384 CPC needs nominations for the Committee on Nominations and Committee on Representation.

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

386 The presbytery approved as 2024 Ordination Exam Readers Brant Copeland and Jeannie Dixon.

387 **Committee on Congregational Discernment (CCD): Mark Broadhead**

388 For Information:

389 ● DeFuniak Springs – Bethel: Members of the congregation continue to move forward in providing  
390 activities for local children and adults. Guest speakers have included law enforcement officers (talking  
391 about scams) and a retired librarian (storyteller). The librarian requested to put up a free library in front of  
392 the church. Repairs and enhancements to the property continue.

393 ● First – Milton: They hosted a fundraising dinner for October 7, 2023.

394 ● Pensacola – Northminster: Continuing to make progress on their strategic plans.

395 ● Panama City – Grace: Harvey Jenkins, consultant, continues to work with their strategic planning  
396 team.

397 ● Panama City – Parkway –Lisa Martin, consultant, is excited by the movement taking place within  
398 the congregation.

399 ● Lynn Haven First – has engaged the Holy Cow Assessment process. The assessment will finish at  
400 the end of October. Mark Broadhead is their consultant.

401 ● Freeport – They have engaged in the Holy Cow Assessment process. The assessment will finish in  
402 mid-November. Mark Broadhead is their consultant.

403 A request for an Emergency Repairs Grant was awarded in the amount of \$5,000.

404 A request for an Equipment Grant was awarded in the amount of \$1,000.

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

406 Following a successful summer camp program, Dogwood has turned its attention to its burgeoning fall  
407 schedule. More than 40 middle school youth took part in Spiritfest this fall. The weekend was planned by 9  
408 members of the Presbyterian Youth Council (PYC) who selected the theme “Path of Love” and invited Beth  
409 House to be the keynote speaker and worship leader. The youth were engaged in a study of several biblical  
410 characters who had been set on a journey directed by God. Weekend retreats have been booked at  
411 Dogwood by several congregations within the presbytery, as well as churches outside our denomination.  
412 There are also several CDWA-sponsored retreats being planned which are worthy of the attention and  
413 support of our congregations and their members:

414 1. Reading, Writing, Resting Retreat is a new retreat offered for adults and takes place Nov. 3-5. This  
415 retreat will include a book group discussion, a creative writing workshop, yoga, hiking and various optional  
416 camp activities.

417 2. Confirmation Retreat is a weekend for youth engaged in confirmation class or those about to begin the  
418 confirmation process. This retreat is back by popular demand and takes place January 12-14.

419 3. Annual Women’s Yoga Retreat January 19-21, and the chosen theme is “Pause”.

420 4. Dogwood Youth Conference (DYC) is a middle and high school retreat led by college students and is  
421 scheduled for February 2-4. More information to follow.

422 Dogwood continues its commitment to provide quality programming that services the spiritual needs of  
423 children, youth and adults within our presbytery. With the end of the pandemic, we have seen a significant  
424 increase in participation in all areas of programming and a growing demand for our facility by churches  
425 within the denomination and beyond. We are confident that the camp and conference ministry is not only  
426 viable, but central, to the spiritual wellbeing of our presbytery.

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

428 2023 Budget: Our annual expenses are slightly above our budget, while our shared support has dropped  
429 below our budget. Our expenses will require \$110,000 from our reserves, which is \$40,000 more than  
430 anticipated. This will further deplete our reserves, meaning that we will not have undesignated reserves to  
431 draw from in 2024. We have asked our staff and committees to freeze spending in any non-essential

432 budgeted items. We believe this spending freeze will save around \$24,000.  
433 Stewardship 2024: Gen. Presbyter Roy Martin hosted a stewardship training for presbytery volunteers in  
434 September. These volunteers will reach out to churches and share information about our budget for 2024.  
435 Our current stewardship goal for next year is \$451,000, which would be a flat budget.  
436 Property: The presbytery office building is still under construction, and we hope construction will be  
437 complete by the end of 2023.  
438 Personnel: At our October CPA meeting, we received notice that Accountant/Treasurer Denise Vandiver  
439 has announced her resignation, effective January 31, 2024.  
440 We also received notice that Gen. Presbyter Roy Martin has announced his retirement, effective March  
441 2024.

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

443 The CR is working with the Committee on Nominations (CN) to ensure that committees in the Presbytery  
444 are diverse, inclusive, and equitable. The Chair of the CR participates in CN monthly meetings.  
445 The CR is developing a mission statement and will continue to work on goals and objectives for the new  
446 church calendar year.  
447 The CR continues to discuss ways to make participation and representation an even more viable reality  
448 throughout the Presbytery.

449 New Business: none.

450 **Adjournment and Closing Prayer**

451 The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 2:57 pm CST/3:57 pm EST by Moderator Don Mowat.

452 **Next meetings:**

453	Tuesday, February 20, 2024	DeFuniak Springs-First
454	Saturday, May 18, 2024	Dogwood Acres
455	Saturday, August 24, 2024	Northminster, Pensacola
456	Tuesday, October 29, 2024	TBD (East District)

457 Minutes respectfully submitted,  
458 Hugh Hamilton,  
459 Recording Clerk

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Don Mowat, Moderator  
Jeannie Dixon, Stated Clerk  
Hugh Hamilton, Recording Clerk

463 *Approved by the Coordinating and Planning Commission January 25, 2024*



464 Jeannie Dixon, Stated Clerk