

**Minutes of Fall Stated Presbytery Meeting at
First Presbyterian Church, Quincy, FL
October 25, 2022**

The Presbytery of Florida, Inc., of the Synod of South Atlantic of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) met at First Presbyterian Church, Quincy, FL, for a Stated Meeting on Tuesday, October 25, 2022.

	Present	Absent	Total
Ruling Elders:			7
- Session Commissioners	23	16	39
- Other Continuing Members(RE committee chairs {4}; RE officers {2}; RE educators {1})	7	2	129
- CLP/CRE	2	3	135
Total Ruling Elders	31	21	152
Ministers of Word and Sacrament	27	13	140
Total Present and Absent	58	34	172
Congregations Represented	24	13	237

21

MINISTERS OF WORD AND SACRAMENT PRESENT (27):

Michael Askew, Mark Broadhead, Brad Clayton, *Brant Copeland*, Chris Erde, Mathew Frease, Stephen Graves, Raymond Guterman, Hugh Hamilton, *Harvey Jenkins*, Sun Kim, William Lamont, Lisa Martin, Roy Martin, A.J. Mealor, Linda Pitts, Emily Proctor, *Steve Rhodes*, Erin Rosica, Erin Rugh, Eric Spoon, Kim Stavenau, Sheldon Steen, John Stringer, Trinity Whitley, *Carol Wood*, Joan Wooten
(italics = HR)

MINISTERS OF WORD AND SACRAMENT ABSENT (4/9):

Excused Ministers: John Kelsay, Taylor Phillips, Luis Ocasio Torres, Robert Quiring

Unexcused Ministers: Casey Aldridge, Mel Baars O'Malley, Robert Bohnsack, Tae Ho Cheong, John Cole, Tai Cole, Jordan Goodwin, Pamela Phillips, Rob Sugg

RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS PRESENT (19):

Blountstown, First – unexcused
Chipley, First – excused
Crestview, First – Joanne Kublik
Defuniak Springs, Bethel – excused
Defuniak Springs, Euchee Valley – excused
Defuniak Springs, First – Hilda Jackson
Destin, First – unexcused
Fort Walton Beach, First – Fran Goodall
Fort Walton Beach, Korean – Yong Shim

42 **Freeport, Freeport – unexcused**
43 **Gretna, Gretna – Gale Thompson**
44 **Gulf Breeze, Gulf Breeze – Sandra Stanley**
45 **Havana, First – Cheryl Moore**
46 **Laurel Hill, Laurel Hill – excused**
47 **Lynn Haven, First – Kathy Welsh**
48 **Marianna, First – Mel Lundgren**
49 **Milton, First – Ann Smith**
50 **Monticello, First - unexcused**
51 **Navarre, Navarre – unexcused**
52 **Panama City Beach, Gulf Beach – Lenny Zachs**
53 **Panama City, Grace – James McQuagge**
54 **Panama City, Parkway – William Meeks**
55 **Panama City, St. Andrews – unexcused**
56 **Pensacola, First – Gerry Yandle**
57 **Pensacola, Korean – unexcused**
58 **Pensacola, Northminster – Pam Nulty**
59 **Pensacola, Trinity – unexcused, unexcused**
60 **Quincy, First – Susanne Mahaffey, Martha Sapp**
61 **Red Bay, Red Bay – excused**
62 **Sawdust, Woodland – Kathy Pack**
63 **Tallahassee, Christ – Carol Allman**
64 **Tallahassee, Faith – Brittany Long, Thomas Jennings**
65 **Tallahassee, Fellowship – Cochran Keating**
66 **Tallahassee, First – Carol Weissert**
67 **Tallahassee, Lafayette – Ned Stacey**
68 **Tallahassee, Trinity United – unexcused**
69 **Wewahitchka, First – excused**

70 **Sessions not represented:**

71 **Excused Churches (5):**

72 Chipley, First; DeFuniak Springs, Bethel; Defuniak Springs, Euchee Valley; Laurel Hill; Red Bay

73 **Unexcused Churches (10):**

74 Blountstown, First; DeFuniak Springs, First; Destin, First; Freeport; Monticello, First; Navarre; Panama
75 City, St. Andrews; Pensacola, Korean Community; Pensacola, Trinity; Tallahassee, Trinity United.

76 **CONTINUING MEMBERS:**

77 **CREs present (2):**

78 Joanne Kublik

79 Greg Seltzer

80 **CREs absent (3):**

81 Tonya Fernandes; Alan House; Larry Plank (excused)

82 **Christian Educators with voice and vote present (1):**

83 Sarah Middleton Uslan

84 **Christian Educators with voice present (0):**

85 **Presbytery Staff Members:** Melissa Willis – Administrator; Christy Williams – Interim Dogwood
86 Acres Director; Denise Vandiver (RE) – Accountant/Treasurer

87 **Officers/Team Chairs:** Vicki Bell – Presbyterian Women; Jeannie Dixon – Stated Clerk (RE); Don
88 Mowat (RE) – vice-moderator; Glenn Hodges (RE) – Committee on Representation; Leslie Yandle (RE)
89 - Committee on Nominations; Esther Moring (RE) – Committee on Educational Resources

90 **Visitors:** Alexander Thompson, Gretna; Jake Wilson, TX Presbyterian Foundation; Rich kangas, First,
91 Lynn Haven; Mary Jo Butler, Woodland, Sawdust; Yun H. Yarbrough, Korean First, FWB

92 **OPENING PRAYER, QUORUM, DOCKET**

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

97 **WELCOME: Pastor Chris Erde** welcomed the presbytery to the host church, First Presbyterian
98 Church-Quincy, and gave instructions for the day's activity, meals, and facilities.

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

101 **MORNING WORSHIP** The Rev. Brant Copeland (HR), led worship assisted by The Reverend Trinity
102 Whitley, Mark Broadhead, Joan Wooten, and Roy Martin. The worship and Brant Copeland's sermon
103 on Ephesians 1:11-23 celebrated All Saints and appreciation of every day saints. A necrology report and
104 moments of silence at the reading of names celebrated Ruling Elders and Teaching Elders who died
105 from October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022. The presbytery observed the sacrament of the Lord's
106 Supper and celebrated God's faithfulness to all generations of God's people.

107 **EDUCATIONAL HOUR: The Committee on Representation and Committee on Nominations**
108 educated the presbytery as to the process and procedures of nominating people to serve on presbytery
109 committees and to seek representation of all aspects of our membership, to generate participation of our
110 members in the life and work of the presbytery. At present, 68 people are serving the 83 positions of
111 service, leaving an 18% vacancy. Following the presentation, the presbytery divided into discussion
112 groups exploring hindrances to calling people to serve and suggesting ways to inform and engage people
113 in the working of the presbytery. The CR and CN will review the information and suggestions as they
114 continue their work.

115 **MINISTRY REPORTS**

116 **Partner Reports: Texas Presbyterian Foundation – Jake Wilson**

117 The Foundation works to enable and expand church and judicatories' mission, stewardship,
118 endowments, and investment funds. They are helping churches and presbyteries to focus on long-term

119 funds and investment strategies while also helping churches with successful stewardship at the local
120 level.

121 **UKirk Campus Ministry- Tallahassee: Matt Frease:** Fall semester 2022 went well and the staff and
122 volunteers have addressed the intellectual, emotional, and spiritual aspects of students' lives. The
123 Thursday night meals have been well attended, as have the fellowship community Bible studies.
124 Upcoming Events: The College Conference at Montreat on January 2-5, 2023. UKirk invites students
125 from all area colleges to attend the conference, not just Florida State University students, and they
126 encourage pastors, DCEs, and Sessions to encourage students from their congregations to attend with the
127 UKirk participants. 2025 is the 75th Anniversary of UKirk: The campus ministry has been in continuous
128 service to the FSU community since 1950. Current needs are to update the facility to make it more ADA
129 compliant and handicapped accessible. Calvin's Coffee House is the major point of contact with
130 students, faculty, and staff. UKirk is asking for pledges for financial assistance with programs and
131 facility updates from congregations.

132 **Presbyterian Women: Vicki Bell.** PW is seeking applications for PW scholarships from students
133 applying to or already enrolled in seminary in preparation for ordained ministry. The PW scholarships
134 are open to both male and female applicants. This scholarship opportunity is made possible by the
135 combination of two scholarship funds, the Coralie Wickersham, and Miss S.E. Stewart. The Coralie
136 Wickersham Memorial Scholarship was established in 1945 by the Women of the Church of the
137 Presbytery of Florida and named to honor Coralie G. Wickersham, an active and dedicated
138 churchwoman from the First Presbyterian Church of DeFuniak Springs. Mrs. Wickersham served as
139 Presbyterian Women's President from 1923-1925. The Miss S.E. Stewart Scholarship and Endowment
140 Fund was established in 1984 by the Women of the Presbytery of Florida and named to honor Miss
141 Stewart for her life work in the First Presbyterian Church of Milton and the Presbytery of Florida. The
142 Presbyterian Women of your Churches have the Scholarship information including the application in
143 their PW Directory as does the Presbytery Office in Chipley. Please encourage anyone in your Church
144 planning to attend or attending Seminary to consider this scholarship. If you have any questions or need
145 information, please contact the Synod Seminaries & Scholarship Fund of the Presbyterian Women,
146 Vicki Bell, 1311 Old Philadelphia Church Road, Quincy, FL 32352, vabb1954@gmail.com or 850-510-
147 3314.

148 **STAFF REPORTS:**

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

150 Ms. Dixon and presbytery clerks in the Synod of the South Atlantic are arranging for reading of Session
151 and Presbytery minutes by year's end Dec 31. The 2021 minutes of the Presbytery of Florida were read
152 and approved on October 20, 2022. The reading of session minutes (for 2019, 2022, 2021) for the
153 East, Central and West districts are being scheduled.

154 Annual statistical reports are underway; a training session for pastors and clerks will be held via Zoom
155 on December 5, 2022.

156 The dates for the 2023 meetings have been set by the CPC: Feb. 28, 2023, May 20, 2023, August 22,
157 2023 and

158 October 24, 2023. Volunteers are needed to host the meetings.

159 **Communications: From the From the Synod of South Atlantic:** Welcome Rev. Terry Newland as the
160 Bridge Stated Clerk for our synod, while we continue our search for our next Synod Executive and
161 Stated Clerk. Terry has served the Presbyterian Church for 54 years in wide-ranging roles from church

162 janitor, camp counselor, church pastor and judicatory executive, having retired most recently as the
 163 Synod Executive and Stated Clerk of the Synod of Living Waters. Terry's responsibilities will be
 164 restricted to those most essential and will be done from his home in Alabama during this brief
 165 transitional period.

166 **Necrology report, October 2021 – September 2022**

Date of death	Name of deceased elder	Church Name, City
9/9/2022	L.E. Bowers	First, Crestview
3/1/2022	Judy Burns	Gulf Breeze
12/07/2020	Margaret Chase	PCUSA missionary
5/13/2022	Sharon Clark	Christ, Tallahassee
08/21/2022	Donna Coble	Gulf Breeze
5/5/2022	Bill Haley	Christ, Tallahassee
4/19/2022	Otis L. Ikner	First, Chipley
11/20/2021	Rev. Harold "Hal" Jensen	HR
8/12/2022	Ora May Keys	Fellowship, Tallahassee
7/14/2022	James "Mac" McLees	Fellowship, Tallahassee
10/23/2021	Arthur W. Morden	Parkway, Panama City
3/31/2022	Douglas Myers	First, Crestview
6/29/2022	Rev. Durl Odom	HR
9/4/2022	Mr. Leslie Byron Reese	First, DeFuniak Springs
3/21/2022	Rev. Leo Sandon, Jr.	HR
5/6/2022	Winona L. "Winkie" VanLandingham	First, Chipley

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

168 Dr. Martin has preached or worshipped with congregations every Sunday in 2022, and he will be
 169 preaching at Fredericksburg, VA for the church's anniversary homecoming service in November 2022.
 170 Dr. Martin has been tracking presbytery attendance by ruling elders and teaching elders and is concerned

171 about the number of churches absent without excuses; we need participation of REs and TEs for
172 maintaining and nurturing presbytery relationships and ministries.

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

174 Christy Williams recognized Eris Hearn, new Program Director at Dogwood Acres, gave an update on
175 DWA, and praised Ben & Kathy Powell for their faithful service and contributions to DWA. The recent
176 Middle School Conference “Live Out Loud!” went well and was well attended. Cabin renovations are
177 underway with improved bathrooms and more electrical outlets to make the cabins more adult-friendly,
178 as presently more adult groups are using DWA than youth groups. Ms. Williams and Mr. Hearn
179 appreciated the tireless and wonderful DWA volunteer workers and the committed and conscientious
180 DWA staff.

181 Upcoming Retreats: Confirmation retreat for the Presbytery of Florida January 13-15; Dogwood Youth
182 Conference February 3-5; PAUSE: A Yoga and Mindfulness retreat for Women January 20-22.

183 Promotional materials have been emailed to all churches and more are available by request from DWA.

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

185 As of October 1, 2022 we have received 73% of pledged financial support. We are overspending our
186 proposed budget, all committees have received reports of the restricted funds available to the committee,
187 and we expect insurance rates to increase though we have not been informed as to the specific increases.

188 **COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION REPORTS:**

189 **COORDINATING AND PLANNING COMMISSION (CPC): Michael Askew**

190 Upon the CPC nomination, the presbytery approved Ruben Dias – Elder, First Presbyterian Church,
191 Tallahassee, to serve as a member of the Committee on Representation, Class of 2024/25.

192 Presbytery meeting dates for 2023: February 28, May 20, August 22, October 24.

193 **COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR ACTION/UPDATES**

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

195 For information: The October 5, 2022 CCR one-day seminar with Mark Tidsworth, author on church
196 revitalization, exploring ways to do ministry in our congregations in this rapidly changing, Post-COVID
197 19 societal setting was excellent, and a video recording is available for viewing; contact the presbytery
198 office for an online link.

199 Crestview-First has completed the Holy Cow CAT and await the interpretation and information from the
200 MissionInsite demographic study. • Four congregations are currently engaged in the strategic planning
201 stages of the revitalization process: Panama City-Grace, Pensacola-Northminster, Gulf Breeze, and
202 Milton-First.

203 • Panama City-Parkway has begun the Holy Cow and revitalization process. • Still in the discernment
204 stages of engaging the revitalization process: Chipley-First, Monticello-First. • Tallahassee-Lafayette is
205 slated to engage the Holy Cow/Revitalization/Transition process in October. • Shelia Clark-Askew
206 continues to engage with Bethel Presbyterian Church and its efforts with community outreach. The
207 congregation will apply for a grant to help sustain African-American congregations.

208
209 **Committee on Mission and Outreach (CMO): Hugh Hamilton**

210 For information:

211 Guatemala Mission Partnership update: Discussions are underway with denominational leaders to
212 establish our partnership with the national administrators of the Presbyterian Church of Guatemala

213 rather than with rotating, regional, volunteer leaders of the Presbyterian Women of Guatemala so that
214 we may have peer-to-peer institutional liaisons and thereby secure more continuity of contacts and
215 communications. Both PW-Guatemala and we remain excited about working toward educational and
216 empowerment opportunities for women and children in Guatemala.
217 FLAPDAN: Hurricane Ian recovery efforts are underway in central Florida and congregations have
218 begun contributions to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and FLAPDAN per bulletin inserts and supplied
219 directions from PDA.

220 For action:

- 221 1. RE: Self Development of People (SDOP) and CMO's Church and Community Action Grants: The
222 CMO recommends presbytery approval of the following to establish Committee on Mission and
223 Outreach Church and Community Action Grants:
224 a. Guidelines for Church and Community Action Grants (see attached) Available on presbytery website.
225 b. Application for Church and Community Action Grants (see attached) Available on presbytery
226 website.

227 Funding: The CMO foresees that such grants can be funded by CMO from our CMO-related restricted
228 funds of presbytery:

229 Fund Balance July 31, 2022

230 4203 Emergency Relief Fund \$5,541.40
231 4252 Two-Cents a Meal Hunger Fund \$21,839.00
232 4253 Presbytery of Florida Peacemaking Fund \$11,311.70
233 4255 Self-Development of People Fund \$699.19

234 Cap: We recommend a five-thousand-dollar (\$5000.00) cap on grant funding allocations, each being a
235 one-year start-up program grant only.

236 For those grant requests not related to these funds' stipulations, CMO would submit a request for
237 action/approval by Committee on Presbytery Administration to use funds from the 10% of the balance
238 in Reserve Funds of presbytery above the \$650,000 threshold established by CPA and usable to fund
239 "Unbudgeted Presbytery Projects" as approved the Committee on Presbytery Administration (CPA).

240 (Source: From Presbytery Stated Meeting Minutes - May 21,2022 Report of The Committee on
241 Presbytery Administration)

242 Recommendation was approved by presbytery.

243 Regarding the Self Development of People (SDOP) national program and funding requests, CMO has
244 reported to the Racial Justice Subcommittee that though we recognize the SDOP national program, with
245 only four committee members CMO does not have the wherewithal to meet the SDOP requirements for
246 establishing an SDOP committee or pursuing SDOP projects, so we recommend that:

- 247 1) persons wishing to create an SDOP Committee find the required number of committee members a)
248 with the racial-ethnic composition required, b) committed to be constituted by SDOP national and
249 trained by SDOP and serve for the duration of the project/program, c) representing all three districts of
250 the presbytery, and that
251 2) they identify and create a project/program proposal and application meeting the SDOP National
252 guidelines, and
253 3) submit the proposal to CMO for consideration and action by the presbytery.

254 Recommendation was approved by presbytery.

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

- 256 For Information: The COM approved:
- 257 1. Land donation by Gretna Presbyterian Church to Gretna Baptist Church
 - 258 2. Extension of Temporary Supply Contract for DeFuniak Springs-First (Rev. Steve Rhodes-HR),
259 effective 9/6/2022
 - 260 3. Temporary Supply Contract for Wewahitchka-First (Rev. Carol Wood-HR), effective 9/1/2022
 - 261 4. Ordination commission request for Lauren Scott (11:00 am CDT on 10/1/22 at Pensacola-Trinity)
 - 262 5. Dismissal of Rev. Charles K. Moore (HR) to Grace Presbytery (received 7/19/22)
 - 263 6. 2022 Terms of Call for Erin Rugh (Tallahassee-Faith), as approved by the congregation of
264 Tallahassee-Faith on 8/7/22
 - 265 7. CRE contract for the Gretna and Woodland churches (Alan House), effective 7/1/21 and continuing
266 through 6/30/24
 - 267 8. Ordination/installation commission request for Erin Rugh (4:00 pm EDT on 9/25/22 at Tallahassee-
268 Faith)
 - 269 9. Ruling Elder Denise Hauck Moore (Central Presbyterian Church, Mobile, AL) for inclusion on the
270 pulpit supply list.
 - 271 10. Revised MIF for Euchee Valley
 - 272 11. Interim Pastor contract between Rev. John Stringer (HR) and Fort Walton Beach-First

273 The Relational Ministry Team is working on scheduling Session minutes review (2019-2021), by
274 district.

275 The Committee is setting up mandatory training in accordance with our Presbytery's sexual misconduct
276 policy.

The Committee reviewed the status of congregations within the Presbytery and the work of the subteams
(Pastor Transition, Relational Ministry, and Temporary Pastoral Leadership).

277 For action:

278 The COM recommends that the Presbytery increase the effective minimum salary of called and installed
279 pastors to \$41,050.00. The proposed effective minimum represents a 2% compounding annual increase
280 from the 2017 Presbytery minimum of \$36,450.72. Motion was approved.

281 **Committee on New Congregational Development (CNCD): A. J. Mealor**

- 282 1. CNCD reviewed the Leadership Competencies for MIF and Selected the following: Preaching and
283 worship leadership; Public Communicator; Technologically Savvy; Spiritual Maturity; Teacher;
284 Organizational Agility; Collaboration; Entrepreneurial; Interpersonal Engagement; Flexibility.
- 285 2. Effective Salary will be capped initially at \$62,099 for us to participate in the PCUSA 5- 14 year
286 grant program for New Worshipping Communities. We discussed the cost of living in the Seaside area,
287 especially housing, and agreed this might require additional funding.
- 288 3. Reviewed and edited Narrative Questions for MIF.
- 289 4. Discussed PNC make-up. Idea suggested that we consider adding a non-Presbyterian to the group
290 who is familiar with the Seaside area. Would this have to be approved by COM? CNCD contacted
291 Richard Proctor, Episcopalian priest living in the Seaside area, who has a few Presbyterians currently
292 attending that congregation.
- 293 5. Reviewed to finalize MIF for PC(USA) Church Leadership Connection website. The "1001
294 Worshipping Communities" has their own search process, as do a couple of seminaries regarding those
295 interested in NCD.

296 6. Steve Rhodes raised thoughts and questions: We must be honest about our expectations of this person.
297 and honest about a timeline for the ministry being self-sustaining. PNC needs to be very attentive with
298 NCD pastor in setting initial goals and priorities for the congregations. Staff should be added during the
299 initial growth period, not buildings! NCD pastor will need PNC's help in navigating the balance
300 between a "retiree" church and a "family" church. When to start worshiping regularly is a key! It would
301 be disastrous to start and then pause for a while. It doesn't matter what the worship looks like as long as
302 its roots are "reformed and Presbyterian." Remember, many of those attracted will not be of
303 Presbyterian background. Suggestion: Do not start worshiping regularly until you have a firm financial
304 commitment from a core who want to start the church. Starting a new church is about face-to-face
305 relationships. We should use all the technology that is available, but nothing beats going to the schools
306 to watch a game or recital, visiting folks in their offices and workplaces, and a visit on the back porch
307 watching the waves!

308 **Committee on Nominations: Leslie Yandle**

309 Upon recommendation of the CN presbytery approved the following people for the designated
310 committee assignments:

311 *Committee on Mission and Outreach (CMO)*

312 Reverend Harry Horne (HR), Member at Large, class 2/2025

313 *Committee on Educational Resources*

314 Reverend John Stringer (HR) Interim, 1st Presbyterian Church, Fort Walton Beach, class 2/2024

315 *Committee on New Congregational Development (CNCD)*

316 Beth Mooney, Elder, 1st Presbyterian Church, DeFuniak Springs, class 2/2023

317 *Presbytery - Vice-Moderator*

318 Reverend Mark Broadhead, Minister, First Presbyterian Church, Crestview

319 *Synod Commissioner Ruling Elder*

320 Don Mowat, Elder 1st Presbyterian Church, Lynn Haven, Class 2024

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

322 The committee approved and enrolled Lauren Christian as an Inquirer. Greg Seltzer will be Lauren's
323 liaison.

324 The committee approved Jeannie Dixon and Brant Copeland as our presbytery's ordination exam graders
325 for 2023.

326 The committee approved the PowerPoint presentation by Sheldon regarding Commissioned Ruling
327 Elders. For distribution with a cover letter to all the pastors and clerks of session in our presbytery.

328

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

330 For information:

331 *New Office at Dogwood Acres* – The CPA has approved designs for a new office building and a bid
332 from Nick Dillard Construction for \$396,000: we anticipate additional costs may total an additional
333 \$100,000. If this project is approved by the presbytery, the funds will come from reserves from the sale
334 of the Chipley office along with other available reserves. We do not anticipate that we will need to do
335 any additional fundraising at this time. See the FAQs following this report for more information. We are
336 indebted to Ben Powell, Grady McDaniel, and Finley Cook from First Presbyterian of Quincy for their
337 diligent work and research.

338 *2022 Budget* – Our budgeted receipts are less than anticipated, which has required us to use more

339 reserves than anticipated. Total receipts through the end of August were \$279,031.65. Expenditures for
340 the same period totaled \$306,338.74. We have reserves that can cover this deficit through the end of the
341 year, but this deficit will affect our budgeting for next year.
342 *2023 Budget* – At the August 2022 Presbytery meeting, our presbytery approved a preliminary budget of
343 \$449,959. This includes increases for Mission and Outreach, Administration and GA disbursements.
344 Stewardship is using this total for Shared Mission Requests from each congregation. Those requests
345 have been emailed to each church. Printed copies of these requests are available from presbytery office.
346 The 2023 budget was submitted for review and for adoption at the February 2023 presbytery meeting.
347 *Personnel* – Rev. Eric Spoon has established individual committees for each staff person and continues
348 to develop a system of evaluation and support for our staff. This work is ongoing.

349 **For action: Presbytery Office construction at DWA.** Upon motion by the CPA and discussion,
350 presbytery approved the construction of a new office at Dogwood Acres, estimated cost \$496,000.000 to
351 be paid from presbytery’s restricted funds.
352 Discussion Highlights included: expanded office space, fire-safe files storage, the same firm that
353 designed and built Monroe Lodge. Brant Copeland pleaded for consideration of solar panels on the new
354 building, for both stewardship of the environment and of the presbytery’s finances. Solar panels were
355 not considered in the plan/cost estimate.

356 **Committee on Educational Resources: Esther Moring**

357 Disciplefest 2022 was wonderful. Feedback speaks of how well-organized, inviting, and interesting the
358 worship and workshops were. Of the 12 workshops offered, two popular, lively sessions were focused
359 on post-pandemic changes in our churches and culture. Other topics were accounting, scripture, living
360 wills, and racism. “Am I a racist?” was not the question on the table, but rather, the historical policies
361 and their effects on peoples’ incomes and outcomes explored. Many thanks to all who helped with this
362 event.

363 Disciplefest 2023 “Nurturing the Garden” is planned for March 2023. The 2-day event will allow for
364 more church family interaction, requested workshops, and fun. Contact Rev. Erin Rosica or Esther
365 Moring.

366 Committee staffing and attendance challenges continue, but help is on the way with 2 new prospective
367 members to balance representation of all regions to complete the team. We are missing 2 members with
368 2 more members expected to come off CER early next year. We are especially seeking members from
369 the Central district. Please contact the Nominating Committee with names of possible candidates.

370 **ADJOURNMENT AND CLOSING PRAYER**

371 The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 11:47AM CST/12:47 PM EST by The Rev. Sheldon Steen.

372 **NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, February 28, 2023: 9AM Central/10AM Eastern. Location TBD.

373 Minutes respectfully submitted,

374 Hugh Hamilton,
375 Recording Clerk

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Trinity Whitley, Moderator
Jeannie Dixon, Stated Clerk
Hugh Hamilton, Recording Clerk