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The Panhandle Presbyterian

A monthly publication of the Presbytery of Florida



Volume 2, Issue 9

September 2019

From General Presbyter Roy Martin

Summer must be over. I know this because meetings are starting to happen again and the phone is ringing more. And, by summer, I don't mean the weather or the official date ending summer. By those measures, summer is in full force still! I do hope you have had a restful summertime and, no doubt, activity at your church is also picking up.

There are just a couple of items for your consideration at this time. The first is, we need volunteers to serve on committees. Of course, this is a never-ending

concern but, as I am sure you are aware, presbyteries operate with a committee structure. The ability of the presbytery to function in meeting the needs of our member congregations and pastors almost entirely depends upon members and pastors who give some time in to this important work. The good news is, it is now possible to serve on a committee remotely. The presbytery office is now equipped for you to join meetings via videoconferencing.

Please remember, the presbytery is not some outside entity; the

presbytery is *you!* So, if you have an interest in helping out, please let me or Leslie Yandle, the chair of our Nominations Committee, know.

The second item is this: With a couple of exceptions, I have now preached in every congregation in our presbytery at least once. What a joy that has been! It is so exciting to see the good ministry being accomplished all across our presbytery. Please know I would love to come back and see you again. If you have a special event coming up that you would like for me to attend or if you would like for me to worship with you or even preach again, please let me know. I want to stay in touch with every congregation!



The Rev. Dr. Roy Martin

Yours in Christ,
Roy

The Celebration Continues ...

Join us **October 25-27, 2019**
at our
11th PW Synod Gathering
at Epworth by the Sea, St. Simons Island, Georgia

Synod of South Atlantic

From Our Presbytery Meeting

Group discussions highlight best (and worst) practices

The Presbytery's Spring Stated Meeting May 21, 2019, included group discussion of congregations' best (and worst) practices. Commissioners and guests were assigned to three groups according to congregation size to consider three topics:

1. Talk about something your church is doing that other churches might want to try.
2. Talk about something your church tried to do that didn't work well and why.
3. Talk about something you would like to try to do and how it might be accomplished and then ask for input from others in the room.

The participants shared the following:

Group 1 (*Representing churches having up to 51 members*), with Rev. Emily Proctor moderating and reporting

Some outreach ideas that are working:

- Navarre Presbyterian Church has entered a long-term engagement with a neighboring assisted living facility.
- Laurel Hill Presbyterian hosts an annual Spring Arts/Heritage Festival

- 1st Presbyterian of Milton provides a program, Open Hearts, for developmentally disabled adults.

- Trinity United, Tallahassee, hosts a noon Bible study with lunch.

Ideas that group members said haven't worked well:

- Evangelism efforts at a farmer's market were not successful because they reached mostly tourists, visiting only briefly.

- In working with local housing projects, church members struggled to connect with the parents of children they'd served. "Just giving things to people in need doesn't result in long-term relationships," added one of the members.

Group 2 (*Having 70 to 168 members*), with Rev. Lisa Martin moderating and reporting

The group decided to use the meeting's worship service sermon's theme of "Evangelism" as their starting point for best practices and frustrations. In a "popcorn" fashion, people shared about the following general ideas:

1. Church visibility in community is important. One spoke about the need for good signage. One

shared that an inquiry to area businesses showed that the immediate community did not know about the church at all.

2. The use of social media is vital, but web sites, Facebook pages, Twitter, etc., need to be constantly updated and attractive. One shared that their congregation used a large mass mailing to the community, with only one person responding. Social media seems to be more relevant than paper mailings, but only if it is kept current.

3. The question was raised about whether it should be our job to invite people to "our" church or work to introduce them to the Gospel, with disregard for a particular church. This generated some discussion, with no final consensus.

4. Overall, it was determined that getting out into the community is the "best practice" for evangelism outreach. One spoke about working with a local ministry and speaking directly to people about faith and church.

To be continued ...

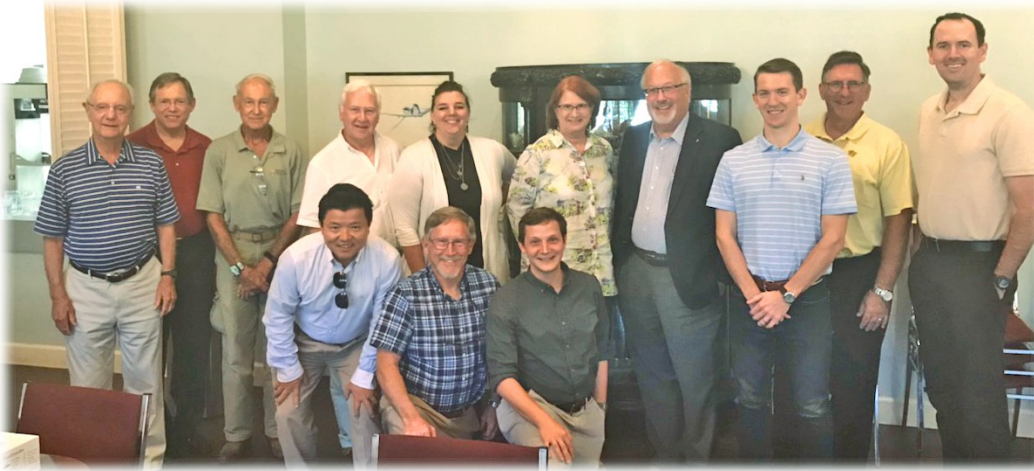
In next month's *Panhandle Presbyterian*, read what Group 3 (Having 240 to 822 members) shared in their discussion.

Presbytery's West District Clergy gather at Trinity, Pensacola

Our Connectional Churches



*By Rev. Dr.
Hugh Hamilton,
Trinity Presbyterian
Church, Pensacola,
Pastor*



Clergy from the West District of our presbytery gathered for lunch, lies, and laughter at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Pensacola, on Thursday, August 29. Our gatherings provide mutual support, inspiration, laughter and levity. We share our churches' successes and needs, exchange resources and suggestions, and swap jokes, stories, and tall tales. We'll next gather in October and December. Happy Fall, everyone, from the West District!

Shown above, from left, are (front row) Rev. Tae Ho Cheong, Pastor, Pensacola Korean; Rev. Steve Rhodes, HR; Rev. John Kubar, Associate Pastor, 1st, Pensacola; (back row) Rev. Dr. Frank Beall, HR; Rev. Mark Broadhead, pastor, 1st, Crestview/Laurel Hill; Larry Plank, CLP, Navarre; Rev. Bill Lamont, Pastor, Gulf Breeze; Lauren Christian, Director of Youth Ministry, Gulf Breeze; Joanne Kublik, Ruling Elder, 1st, Crestview; Rev. Dr. Roy Martin, General Presbyter, Presbytery of Florida; Rev. Brian Yount, Associate Pastor, Trinity, Pensacola; Rev. Dr. Hugh Hamilton, Pastor, Trinity, Pensacola; and Rev. Robert Quiring, Pastor, 1st, Pensacola.

(Photo courtesy of Rev. Dr. Hugh Hamilton)



www.pcusa-apa.org

**Administrative Personnel Association
2019 National Conference
October 22-25
Charlotte, North Carolina
Myers Park Presbyterian Church**

Our Presbytery's Youth



*By Lisa Wilder,
First Presbyterian
Church of Quincy
Director of
Children's Education*

Presbyterian Youth Triennium offers awesome experience

This year's theme for the Presbyterian Youth Triennium – "Here's my Heart" – focused on helping teens explore their longings for passion and action. What an awesome time for over 4,000 young people from the United States and around the world.

Only three from the Presbytery – Josie May, Brett Robbins and myself, from First Presbyterian Church of Quincy – went this year, but all had a great time, despite the 100-degree heat wave that was going through Indiana, where the event took place. Speakers, musicians, games, and dancing with GA Co-Moderator Vilmarie Cintron-Olivieri all made for a well-orchestrated time together.

In a world where there is so much turmoil, it was great to pause to talk about the Love of God in such a profound way with youth from all over. We gave away lots of "Florida" pins to represent our Presbytery! Though small in number, we hope we will be remembered as attendees.

"Triennium was so fun, and I loved the memories I made," said Brett. "The music was amazing, the pastors who spoke were awesome and projected their message so well, and

the friends I made in and out of my small group were really special to me. Thank you so much for the support so we could go on this trip. I hope many others from our presbytery enjoy it in the future."

"Triennium was an awesome experience I will never forget!" Josie agreed. "I loved meeting people from all over the world, and getting to learn more about my faith. I had a wonderful

time, and I look forward to returning in three years!"

While there, we also met up with former First, Quincy, summer intern Lauren Scott, now a student at Columbia Theological Seminary. "There's nothing like 5,000-plus high school youth coming together to worship, play, sing, discuss, eat, do energizers, and be in fellowship with one another!" she said.

Thanks for the support of the Presbytery in making this trip possible!



Shown above, from left, Brett Robbins, Lisa Wilder and Josie May, from First Presbyterian Church of Quincy, are among thousands of participants at the 2019 Presbyterian Youth Triennium July 16 – 20.

(Photo courtesy of Lisa Wilder)



September 30–October 2, 2019

Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

Jorge Lockward • Tony McNeill • Kimberly Bracken Long • Eric Wall and more

ChoralNet offers variety of resources for choral musicians

As a choral musician, one of my favorite resources is ChoralNet (<https://choralnet.org>), an online networking site for professional choral musicians, operated by the American Choral Director's Association.

On it, you can find all kinds of articles, forums, and discussions. There's even a classified section where you can sell or buy all kinds of music, or



even post or find a job as a singer, choral director, or accompanist!

I have researched concert programming music for all levels, by season or theme, looked for music with certain

orchestrations, or just looked for new or "war horse" publications.

There are opportunities to learn about workshops, conferences, and festivals all over the world. There are many other resources for your choral searches, as well. You can support ChoralNet by clicking on and using their vendors.

From the Committee on Educational Resources



*By Tina Buran,
First Presbyterian
Church of Pensacola
Organist*

Busy bees bring sweet surprise for Calvin's customers

Sometime back in April, UKirk Tallahassee collegiate campus ministry discovered that a swarm of honey bees had taken up residence outside our building. Obviously, we didn't want to harm them, but we also didn't want them living here, so we started reaching out to see who might be able to help us relocate them.

We are very thankful to Keith Walker (member of Christ Presbyterian

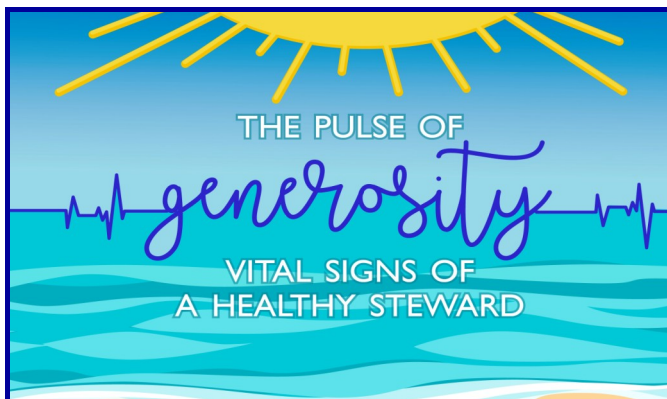


Church, Tallahassee) for his amazing work in moving the bees. He

estimated that he was able to relocate somewhere between 6,000-8,000 bees!

And best of all, Keith showed up last week with a bunch of honey that we are now serving in Calvin's Coffee Shop! We also discovered that we have another swarm, so Keith will be busy with bees for a while. But that also means there will be more honey! We are very thankful to Keith for all his work and sharing the fruit of his labors with us!

From UKirk Tallahassee



Stewardship Kaleidoscope
Real Tools for Real Ministry

September 30 – October 2, 2019
San Diego, California
Catamaran Resort

To register and for more information visit:
www.stewardshipkaleidoscope.org

From the
Committee on
Dogwood Acres



Middle school youth retreat to recharge, reconnect

Mark your calendars and plan to bring your middle school youth to Spiritfest the weekend of Friday through Sunday, October 4 – 6. Spiritfest is a weekend retreat at Dogwood Acres for middle school students. It's a time to relax, recharge, and reconnect.

There'll be keynotes, worship, small groups, recreation, workshops, and lots of – all amid the beauty of God's creation at Dogwood Acres!

This retreat is for middle school students only, and it is led by high school students from across the

Presbytery of Florida. Lodging is in the Dogwood Acres cabins, and meals are provided in the dining hall.

Find a official flyer, registration packet, participant agreement and other details at <http://www.dogwoodacres.org/spiritfest-dyc/spiritfest/>.



LOST & FOUND

DWA 2019 SPIRITFEST

October 4-6, 2019

Middle School Weekend Retreat

Spiritfest is a weekend retreat at Dogwood Acres for Middle School students. It's a time to relax, recharge, and reconnect. There'll be keynotes, worship, small groups, recreation, workshops, and lots of fellowship - all in the beauty of God's creation at Dogwood Acres! This weekend retreat is for Middle school students only, and it is led by high school students from across the Presbytery of Florida. Lodging is in the Dogwood Acres cabins, and meals are provided in the dining hall.

COST: \$125 PER PERSON

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. - Romans 8:38-39



The Carbon Fee and Dividend: An Approach that Cuts Carbon Emissions and Helps Families Through the Transition to Renewable Energy

Our 223rd General Assembly passed the *Supporting Carbon Pricing Overture* with a favorable vote of 81 percent. The overture directed the denomination to work with voters, legislators, and others advocating carbon pricing. It can be viewed at <https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000325>.

So, why price carbon, and how would it work?

The reason for the pricing is simple – a price on carbon would reduce CO2 emissions. The fee would be paid at the source for all carbon-containing fuels, and the net revenue, called a dividend, would be paid to all households.

In addition, there would be an import fee added on products from countries that do not have a carbon fee. The carbon fee would start at \$15 per ton and increase \$10 per ton annually for 20 years. Economists have analyzed this approach and believe that market forces will drive emissions down because, as the fossil fuel prices increase, people and businesses will turn to investments in clean energy.

I can't explain how the

market forces will work, but the experts agree that this approach will drive down the use of fossil fuels. If you want to read an economic analysis of this approach, go to <http://citizensclimatelobby.org> and review the REMI report. This analysis concludes that about two-thirds of Americans will receive more in dividends than they pay in higher prices.



This feature will inject billions into the economy, protect family budgets, free households to make independent choices about their energy usage, spur innovation and build aggregated demand for low-carbon products at the consumer level.

The REMI study shows that together, a carbon fee and dividend will reduce CO2 emissions 52 percent below 1990 levels in 20 years, and recycling the

revenue creates an economic stimulus that adds 2.8 million jobs to the economy. The structure of a rising price on carbon emissions also provides the certainty that businesses need to thrive in a carbon-constrained world.

Additionally, this approach is projected to prevent over 230,000 premature deaths over 20 years as air quality improves.

There is no silver bullet for cutting carbon emissions the large amount needed to keep Earth's surface temperatures from becoming unlivable, but this approach and the Green New Deal, so far, are the most promising and worth your learning more about.

I want you to remember two things: The first is that our denomination endorsed this approach and second, we all need to support and push for all viable actions that will cut our carbon emissions by the amount scientists say is critical to keep our planet from warming more.

As always, if you have questions or comments, please contact me at pammcvey@hotmail.com.

Caring for Creation Notes



By
Pam McVety,
*Presbytery
Stewardship
of Creation
Enabler*

"...this approach is projected to prevent over 230,000 premature deaths over 20 years as air quality improves."

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The Panhandle Presbyterian

Save the date:

In September

Monday, Sept. 2 Labor Day – Presbytery office closed

*Thursday, Sept. 5
9 a.m. CDT* Personnel Sub-Group/ Committee on Dogwood Acres meeting at Dogwood Acres

*Sunday, Sept. 8 –
Saturday, Sept. 14* Christian Education Week

*Tuesday, Sept. 10
9:30 a.m. CDT* Committee on Ministry meeting at Presbytery office

*Wednesday, Sept. 11
6:45 p.m. CDT* Jazz for the Soul, at Gulf Beach, Panama City Beach

*Thursday, Sept. 19
9 a.m. CDT* Coordinating and Planning Commission meeting at Presbytery office

*Sunday, Sept. 29
7 – 9 p.m. CDT* 1st Presbyterian Church of Chipley hosting Southern Gospel singer Ivan Parker

*Sunday, Sept. 29 –
Wednesday, Oct. 2* Stewardship Kaleidoscope, Catamaran Resort, San Diego, CA

Friday, Sept. 20 Submissions deadline for the October *Panhandle Presbyterian*

*Monday, Sept. 30 –
Wednesday, Oct. 2* Presbyterian Association of Musicians’ “Just Worship” Conference, Austin Theological Seminary, Austin, TX

Looking ahead

*Tuesday, Oct. 1
10 a.m. CDT* Committee on Educational Resources meeting at 1st, Crestview

Sunday, Oct. 6 World Communion Sunday

*Friday, Oct. 4 –
Sunday, Oct. 6* Spiritfest Retreat for grades 6 – 8, Dogwood Acres

*Tuesday, Oct. 15 –
Wednesday, Oct. 16* Board of Pensions’ *Growing Into Tomorrow ... Today* pre-retirement planning seminar, Columbia Seminary, Decatur, GA

*Tuesday, Oct. 15 –
Friday, Oct. 18* Presbyterian Older Adult Ministries Network National Conference, Laws Lodge, Louisville Seminary, Louisville, KY

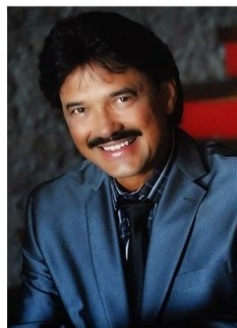
Sunday, Oct. 20 Children’s Sabbath

*Wednesday, Oct. 22
– Friday, Oct. 25* Administrative Personnel Association of the PC(USA) National Conference, Myers Park Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, NC

*Friday, Oct. 25 –
Sunday, Oct. 27* 11th Presbyterian Women of Synod of South Atlantic Gathering, Epworth By the Sea, St. Simons Island, GA

Sunday, Oct. 27 Fellowship Presbyterian Church, Tallahassee, 40th Anniversary Celebration

Tuesday, Oct. 29 Fall Stated Presbytery Meeting, Fellowship Presbyterian Church, Tallahassee



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHIPLEY
PRESENTS IN CONCERT
GOSPEL ENTERTAINER
IVAN PARKER**

**Sunday, September 29, 2019 6:30 P.M.
Chipley High School Auditorium
1545 Brickyard Road Chipley, Florida
ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO
CHIPLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND
ADMISSION \$10.00 EACH**

**FOR TICKETS OR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT THE CHURCH AT 850 638 1629 OR BARBARA AT 850 960 1347**