

Presbytery Staff  
and Officers  
are here for you:

**Rev. Dr. Roy A. Martin,**  
General Presbyter  
Rmartin  
@presbyteryofflorida.com

**Jeannie Dixon,**  
Stated Clerk  
Statedclerk  
@presbyteryofflorida.com

**Chris Erde,**  
Moderator  
reverde@comcast.net

**Denise Vandiver,**  
Treasurer  
Dvandiver  
@presbyteryofflorida.com

**Ben Powell,**  
Dogwood Acres Director  
ben@dogwoodacres.org

**Melissa Willis,**  
Administrator  
Mwillis  
@presbyteryofflorida.com

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# The Panhandle Presbyterian

*A monthly publication of the Presbytery of Florida*



Volume 2, Issue 1

January 2019

## From General Presbyter Roy Martin

**H**appy New Year! I always love the start of a new year because it affords us the opportunity to begin again. So what's new on the horizon for our presbytery?

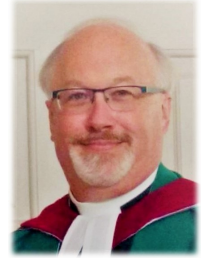
Beginning January 1, our new presbytery structure rolled into place. The Presbytery Leadership Team (PLT) has been replaced by the new Coordinating and Planning Commission. Unlike PLT, this body will be made up of all of the committee chairs who will work together to move our presbytery forward. New committees like the Committee on Congregational Revitalization, the Committee on Educational Resources, The Committee on Mission and Outreach,

and the Committee on New Congregational Development will start their learning curve to provide greater and better support to our congregations. Even those committees that will continue will be doing their work in new and exciting ways!

Another new thing is how our presbytery meetings will be differently structured. They will each have four parts – Worship, Reports, Fellowship, and Nurture. For both the worship and nurture portions of our January gathering, we will be blessed by the presence of our General Assembly Co-Moderator, The Rev. Cindy Kohlmann. She will be our guest preacher and workshop leader. I have

known Cindy for several years, as we both took part in the three-year Presbytery Leader Formation program, which prepared us both to be presbytery executives.

In addition to being our denomination's Co-Moderator, she is also the presbytery exec of both Boston Presbytery and the Presbytery of Northern New England. Cindy is a phenomenal preacher and leader. We will also be coordinating regional gatherings with her while she is here.



**The Rev. Dr.  
Roy Martin**

### *Join in Trinity United Presbyterian Church of Tallahassee's 65th Anniversary Celebration Sunday, Jan. 27*

11 a.m. EST – Guest Speaker: The Rev. Dr. James L. Byrd

Program Theme: "Honoring Trinity's Legacy and Enhancing Her Future"

At the Church, located at 620 Gore Avenue, Tallahassee

2 p.m. EST – Banquet honoring Rev. Theodore R. Houston & Mrs. Sarah Houston

At Capitol City Country Club, located at 1601 Golf Terrace Drive, Tallahassee

Tickets are \$35. Call Susie Ellis at (850) 386-4419 for more information.

## January 26, 2019, Presbytery Meeting Preview

### Presbytery of Florida will welcome 223rd GA Co-Moderator

The Rev. Cindy Kohlmann will visit the Presbytery of Florida Jan. 25 – 28 to serve as guest speaker at the Winter Stated Presbytery Meeting, lead a workshop, preach in the Central District, and fellowship with members in the East and West Districts. Stay tuned for details as they become available.

The Rev. Kohlmann, along with Vilmarie Cintrón-Olivieri, is Co-Moderator of the 223rd General Assembly (2018) of the P. C. (U.S.A.). Kohlmann is resource presbyter for the Presbytery of Boston and Presbytery of Northern New England. Cintrón-Olivieri is an ordained ruling elder and educator who currently serves as a faculty member of CREDO, through the Board of Pensions.

Through their partnership, the Co-Moderators plan to serve together to "embody a spirit of love, justice, reconciliation, and hope, proclaiming what God is already doing in and through our congregations, and as witnesses of God's grace in our lives and ministries."

#### Other meeting highlights:

- Installation of First Presbyterian of Walton Beach Pastor Rev. Sharon Schuler as Presbytery Moderator
- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Associate for Disaster Response (U. S.)
- Examination on the floor of presbytery of inquirers Riley Pickett and Erin Rosica to move to candidacy for ministry (See page 3)



Shown above, from left, are Co-Moderators Vilmarie Cintrón-Olivieri and Rev. Cindy Kohlmann

James Kirk and Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network (FLAPDAN) Executive Director Kathy Broyard as special guests

## The Art of Transitional Ministry Week One

For those interested in Interim Positions  
and churches in transition.

January 21-25, 2019  
Calvin Center  
Hampton, GA



As part of the Transitional Ministry Educational Consortium  
Leadership by Susan Haynes, Dana Hughes and Stu Ritter

Registration and more information located at  
<https://www.calvincenter.org/programs/atlanta-pastor-training/>

Program begins with lunch on Monday, January 21 and  
ends with lunch on Friday, January 25.

Cost: \$800 Double Occupancy Rooms  
\$1050 Single Occupancy Rooms (if available)  
\$400 Commuter

## Presbytery to examine two inquirers for candidacy

The Presbytery's Committee on Preparation for Ministry will recommend two inquirers under their care for examination for candidacy on the floor of the January 26 presbytery meeting. Meet them here:

**Elizabeth Riley Pickett** has lived throughout the Southern U. S., in Louisiana, Texas, Florida and Mississippi. Baptised in 1992, she grew up in the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) at First Presbyterian Church of Pensacola before moving to Texas as a high school sophomore. Among the areas of involvement in church life and mission that, she says, have been most significant in her sense of call to serving as a teaching elder have been

her leadership in First Presbyterian of Pensacola and St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian of New Orleans youth groups, as well as a Montreat Youth Conference Small Group leader.

She attended the University of Mississippi as an undergraduate, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education in 2014. An avid reader and writer who enjoys being creative, she now attends Princeton Seminary, with plans to graduate in 2020.



Riley Pickett

**Erin Rosica** was born in 1976 and was baptized in 1982. She graduated from Rutgers University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1997, and later attended Princeton Seminary, where she received her Master of Divinity in 2010. She has worked in Medicare sales, has been a loan processor, and currently works full-time as a policy analyst.

She is a member of First Presbyterian Church in Tallahassee, where she is a ruling elder and an active member of the Hannah Circle. She has served as Moderator of

the Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team of the Florida Presbytery. She is now an honorary life member of the PW of the Presbytery of Florida.

After her approval as an inquirer in 2017, she participated in a 16-week Clinical Pastoral Education Internship at Tallahassee Memorial Hospital, working 30 hours a week as a hospital chaplain. In her "spare" time she enjoys yoga, yard work, and spending time with her children – Nicolas and Emilia – working on craft projects.



Erin Rosica

## From the Committee on Preparation for Ministry

From the  
Committee on  
Dogwood Acres



By  
**Dr. Linda T.  
Lovins, Chair**

*“Your financial and on-the-ground support are very, very encouraging to the DWA staff and committee!”*

## DWA reports progress on post-hurricane cleanup

By the grace of God, Dogwood Acres is continuing to move forward. If people familiar with this gift from God walked or drove around DWA in December, most would have registered four things:

- How much has already been done in main camp, evidenced by the heaps of debris lining every road in camp (on both sides!)
- How well most buildings came through the storm
- How easy it is to see through the woods now
- How much remains to be done

DWA Director Ben Powell, Property and Volunteer Coordinator James Vance, and Maintenance Staff Robert Commerford have accomplished heroic levels of work in main camp. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) and FLAPDAN (Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network) have been a huge help in damage assessment and advising, and our PDA and FEMA grants applications are in various stages of development. Meanwhile, plans for

summer camp continue to move forward via Program Director Jason Williams and retreat groups are planning their stays, which start again at the end of February.

Generous donations of all sizes have arrived from individuals and sister churches within the Panhandle and from as far away as Illinois. Ben and James are stewarding these funds judiciously, a considerable amount of which are what made tree removal by professional crews and our own tractor possible.

Individuals and church groups from various denominations across the Panhandle and North Florida have called to offer their services, and additional groups from Atlanta, Illinois, and South Dakota are making plans to spend a week or more volunteering on-site.

Our own amazing Presbytery volunteers will soon begin repairs on things like our boardwalks, the playground, and the Dining Hall deck, all of which need light carpentry skills. We'd also welcome anyone who'd like to help us get

our cabins cleaned and ready for volunteers who will come for a week at a time starting in January. Some of these teams will stay at DWA and travel to work sites in nearby communities; others will stay and volunteer their time and skills on-site.

Hundreds of trees have fallen, and it's not economically or environmentally feasible to open the trails with heavy equipment. If you have good chainsaw skills or can help move the smaller debris (branches, etc.) by hand, we would love to have you come spend time with us on our workdays (see [Upcoming Events at DogwoodAcres.org](http://DogwoodAcres.org)). If you are part of a small group that would like to come on a weekday, please contact James (see website) to make arrangements.

If you have a love for Dogwood Acres and would like to help, we'd be very appreciative. Your financial and on-the-ground support are very, very encouraging to DWA staff and committee!



## Call to Health offers participation incentives

### Answer the call and receive gift cards and reduced deductibles:

Employees enrolled in the active Medical Plan (the PPO, EPO, or HDHP) who register for Call to Health for the first time *and* take the Well-Being Assessment will receive a \$50 Tango card. The card can be redeemed for gift cards from vendors who focus on health and well-being, or used to make charitable donations to well-known, respected organizations.

Complete Level 1 (1,000 points, including required challenges) to earn reduced medical deductibles in 2020. Keep going to earn a \$50 Tango card when you reach Level 2 (1,500 points) and another \$50 card at Level 3 (2,000 points). A covered spouse will receive a \$100 Tango card when he or she completes Level 1.

From the Board  
of Pensions of  
the Presbyterian  
Church U. S. A.



Join us and re-energize with worship, relaxation, & prayer at our  
32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference & Retreat

## Association of Smaller Congregations

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.): Synod of the South Atlantic & Beyond

March 15-17, 2019

## RECLAIMING VITALITY:

*"7 Biblical Marks of Vital Small Churches"*

### Keynote: Kathryn Threadgill

Associate for Vital Congregations  
Presbyterian Mission Agency

Place: Epworth-by-the-Sea, St. Simons Island, GA



[www.presbyasc.org](http://www.presbyasc.org)

## PRESBYTERY OF FLORIDA

Mailing address:  
P. O. Box 7  
Chipley, FL 32428

Physical address:  
3320 Harmony Rd.

Presbytery  
Committee Chairs

### Your Presbytery Committee Chairs

#### Committee on Congregational Revitalization (CCR)

Rev. Dr. James Huffaker  
jhuffaker35@gmail.com

#### Committee on Dogwood Acres (CDA)

Dr. Linda T. Lovins  
artsedlin@gmail.com

#### Committee on Educational Resources (CER)

Rev. John Kuper  
john@fpcpensacola.com

#### Committee on Ministry (COM)

Rev. Mark Broadhead  
minister@fpc-crestview.org

#### Committee on Mission and Outreach (CMO)

Rev. Dr. Hugh Hamilton  
hugh@trinitypcola.org

#### Committee on New Congregational Development (CNCD)

Rev. A. J. Mealor  
revmealor@gmail.com

#### Committee on Nominations (CN)

Leslie Yandle  
Leslie.yandle@gmail.com

#### Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM)

Rev. Sheldon Steen  
sheldon@ukirkallahassee.com

#### Committee on Presbytery Administration (CPA)

William O. Bell  
wobell3@gmail.com

#### Committee on Representation (CR)

Rev. Michael Askew  
askewmichaelsr@yahoo.com

#### Coordinating and Planning Commission (CPC)

Rev. Chris Erde  
revered@comcast.net

## The Panhandle Presbyterian

### Save the date:

#### In January

*Sunday, Jan. 6*  
7 p.m. CST

Church & the Arts Concert  
Series: Dr. Andy Lagrimas,  
Pianist, & Dr. Jared Starr,  
Violinist, at Gulf Beach,  
Panama City Beach

*Monday, Jan. 7*  
1 p.m. CST

Committee on Presbytery  
Administration (CPA) meets  
at Presbytery office

*Tuesday, Jan. 8*

2018 contributions and per  
capita must be received by  
the Presbytery by this date

*Wednesday, Jan. 9*  
8:30 a.m. –  
12:30 p.m. CST

Presbytery of South  
Alabama Church Officer  
& Leadership Training  
(COLT), at Spanish Fort  
(AL) Presbyterian Church

*Wednesday, Jan. 9*  
6:45 p.m. CST

Jazz for the Soul,  
Gulf Beach,  
Panama City Beach

*Thursday, Jan. 10*  
9 a.m. CST

Presbytery Committee  
Chairs' Workshop  
at Presbytery office

*Sunday, Jan. 13*  
2 – 4 p.m. EST

Retirement reception for  
Rev. Bill Bess, at 1st,  
Havana, Fellowship Hall

*Tuesday, Jan. 15*  
9:30 a.m. CST

Committee on Ministry  
(COM) meets at  
Presbytery office

*Thursday, Jan. 17*  
10 a.m. CST

Christian Educators/  
Youth Workers' Gathering  
at Presbytery office

*Monday, Jan. 21*

Presbytery office closed for  
Martin Luther King, Jr.,  
Day

*Monday – Friday,*  
*Jan. 21 – 25*

Art of Transitional Ministry  
Week One, at Calvin  
Center, Hampton, GA

*Saturday, Jan. 26*  
9 a.m. CST  
*Registration at*  
*8 a.m. CST*

Winter Stated Presbytery  
Meeting, with GA  
Co-Moderator  
Cindy Kohlmann,  
at 1st, Ft. Walton Beach

*Sunday, Jan. 27*

Trinity United, Tallahassee  
65th Anniversary  
Celebration

*Sunday, Jan. 27*  
7 p.m. CST

Church & the Arts Concert  
Series: Sinatra-inspired  
David Seering, at Gulf  
Beach, Panama City Beach

#### Looking ahead

*Sunday, Feb. 10*  
7 p.m. CST

Church & the Arts Concert  
Series: Ukelele Orchestra of  
St. Andrews, at Gulf Beach,  
Panama City Beach

*Thursday, Feb. 14*

Deadline for entering  
church statistics online

*Sunday, Feb. 17*  
7 p.m. CST

Church & the Arts Concert  
Series: Classic Folk & Pop  
musician Ken Sizemore at  
Gulf Beach, Panama City  
Beach

*Sunday, Feb. 24*  
10 a.m. CST

Westward Road gospel trio  
will lead worship, followed  
by "Winter Friends"  
reception, at 1st, Ft. Walton  
Beach

*Friday – Sunday,*  
*March 15 – 17*

Synod of South Atlantic  
Association of Smaller  
Congregations'  
32nd Annual Conference,  
Epworth by the Sea,  
St. Simons Island, GA

## COLT 2019

Church Officer & Leadership Training

### Connecting



### Faith and Daily Life

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. Rebecca Davis  
APCE 2018 Educator of the Year

Saturday, January 12, 2019

8:30 AM—12:30 PM

Spanish Fort Presbyterian Church  
6620 Spanish Fort Boulevard

Learn more and register at  
[www.presbyteryofsa.org/colt.html](http://www.presbyteryofsa.org/colt.html)