

Reports to the

Presbytery of Florida

Fall Stated Meeting

Tuesday, October 24, 2023 • 9 a.m. CDT / 10 a.m. EDT
@ First Presbyterian Church of Lynn Haven

<https://www.firstchurchlh.org/>



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Attention, please!

- To help ensure accurate recording in the meeting minutes of the meeting attendance, elder commissioners should submit a completed **commissioner certification form** at meeting registration naming him/her as commissioner for the church, signed by the session moderator *or* clerk (both signatures are not necessary). This form is available along with other meeting materials at <http://www.presbyteryofflorida.net/presbytery-meetings/meeting-dockets-documents/>
- **Additional documents to accompany this handbook** are the Presbytery Strategic Planning Task Force's Report, Accountant/Treasurer's report, and supplemental reports, available to download at <http://www.presbyteryofflorida.net/presbytery-meetings/meeting-dockets-documents/>
- To prepare for the meeting, please download and review meeting documents in advance. Meeting attendees also are encouraged to bring downloaded documents to the meeting on your device to minimize consumption of paper and printing materials.
- Non-retired ministers who are unable to attend the meeting or sessions for whom an elder commissioner is not available for the meeting should submit a **request to be excused** by the stated clerk by calling (850)535-2335 or emailing statedclerk@presbyteryofflorida.com.
- **Lunch menu** – \$10 per person: “Blue Ribbon” Fried Chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, cole slaw, cranberry sauce, assorted pickles, yeast rolls, homemade desserts, iced sweet/unsweet tea, water and coffee

DOCKET OF THE PRESBYTERY OF FLORIDA
October 24, 2023 – 9:00 a.m. CDT
First, Lynn Haven

That which will support the ministries of our churches

(Please note: Times listed are CDT)

8:00 Registration for meeting

9:00..... Fall Meeting Convenes
· Declaration of a Quorum Jeannie Dixon
· Adoption of docket Jeannie Dixon
· Introductions Don Mowat
First-time ruling elders, teaching elders, corresponding members, and visitors

WORSHIP

9:15 Morning Worship, including communion and annual necrology report

Partner Reports

10:30 Jake Wilson – Texas Presbyterian Foundation
10:35 Vicki Bell – Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery
10:40 Matt Frease – UKirk Tallahassee

EDUCATIONAL TIME

10:45 Strategic Planning Task Force

12:00 LUNCH BREAK

12:45 **Strategic Planning Task Force report**

Staff Reports

1:15 Report from Stated Clerk – Jeannie Dixon
1:20 Report from General Presbyter – Roy Martin, Jr.
1:25 Report from Dogwood Acres Interim Director – Christy Williams
1:30 Report from Accountant/Treasurer – Denise Vandiver

Committee and Commission reports

1:35 Coordinating and Planning Commission (CPC) report

1:40 Committee reports for action/updates

Committee on Ministry (COM) 15 minutes
Committee on Mission and Outreach (CMO)
Committee on Nominations (CN) 5 minutes
Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM)

Committee reports for information

Committee on Congregational Revitalization (CCR)
Committee on Dogwood Acres (CDWA)
Committee on Educational Resources (CER)
Committee on New Congregational Development (CNCD)
Committee on Presbytery Administration (CPA)
Committee on Representation (CR)

Adjournment and Closing Prayer

Next Meetings: All meetings 9:00 AM Central/10:00 AM Eastern

Tuesday Feb. 20, 2024, Location TBD

Saturday May 18, 2024, Dogwood Acres

Saturday August 24, 2024, Northminster, Pensacola

Tuesday October 29, 2024, Location TBD

Minutes of Summer Stated Presbytery Meeting
Trinity Presbyterian Church – Pensacola, FL
 August 22, 2023

The Presbytery of Florida, Inc., of the Synod of South Atlantic of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) met at Trinity, Pensacola, FL, for a Stated Meeting on Tuesday, August 22, 2023.

	Present	Absent	Total
Ruling Elders:			
- Session Commissioners	19	20	39
- Other Continuing Members (RE committee chairs {4}; RE officers {2}; RE educators {1})	4	3	7
- CLPs/CREs	2	2	4
Total Ruling Elders	25	25	50
Ministers of Word and Sacrament	29	13	42
Total Present and Absent	54	38	92
Congregations Represented	17	19	37

MINISTERS OF WORD AND SACRAMENT PRESENT (26):

Michael Askew, Frank Beall, Mark Broadhead, Kwonsoo Cho, Brad Clayton, John Cole, Brant Copeland, Hugh Hamilton, Gene Harris, Harvey Jenkins, Kenneth Kelley, Sun Kim, James Krapf, William Lamont, Ted Land, Lisa Martin, Roy Martin, Catherine Mooney, Taylor Phillips, Linda Pitts, Emily Proctor, Robert Quiring, Erin Rosica, Erin Rugh, Eric Spoon, Sheldon Steen, John Stringer, Trinity Whitley, Joan Wooten. (italics = HR)

MINISTERS OF WORD AND SACRAMENT ABSENT (8/5):

Excused Ministers: Anne Apple, Mathew Frease, Raymond Guterman, John Kelsay, A.J. Mealor, Luis Ocasio Torres, Kim Stavenau, Rob Sugg

Unexcused Ministers: Mary Baars O'Malley, Robert Bohnsack, Tai Cole, Pamela Phillips

RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS PRESENT/ABSENT (19/20)

Blountstown, First – unexcused
Chibley, First – Cheryl McCall
Crestview, First – Tim Crawford
Defuniak Springs, Bethel – unexcused
Defuniak Springs, Euchee Valley – excused
Defuniak Springs, First – Hilda Jackson
Destin, First – unexcused
Fort Walton Beach, First – Frances Goodall
Fort Walton Beach, Korean- excused
Freeport, Freeport – unexcused
Gretna, Gretna – excused
Gulf Breeze, Gulf Breeze – Jeff Van Dermark
Havana, First – excused
Laurel Hill, Laurel Hill – Tracy Curenton

- 42 **Lynn Haven, First** – Kathy Welsh
- 43 **Marianna, First** – Leslie Kelley
- 44 **Milton, First** – unexcused
- 45 **Monticello, First** – unexcused
- 46 **Navarre, Navarre** – unexcused
- 47 **Panama City Beach, Gulf Beach** – Rick Clubb
- 48 **Panama City, Grace** – Corey Wilson
- 49 **Panama City, Parkway** – unexcused
- 50 **Panama City, St. Andrews** – excused
- 51 **Pensacola, First** – Susan Rapier
- 52 **Pensacola, Korean** – unexcused
- 53 **Pensacola, Northminster** – Pam Nulty
- 54 **Pensacola, Trinity** – Angie Shehee, Gail Childs
- 55 **Quincy, First** – Francis McCall, Joe May
- 56 **Red Bay, Red Bay** – excused
- 57 **Sawdust, Woodland** – excused
- 58 **Tallahassee, Christ** – Linda Lovins
- 59 **Tallahassee, Faith** – Wayne Largent,
- 60 **Tallahassee, Fellowship** – excused
- 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 (9):**

- 67 Defuniak Springs, Euchee Valley
- 68 Fort Walton Beach, Korean
- 69 Gretna, Gretna
- 70 Havana, First
- 71 Panama City, St. Andrews
- 72 Red Bay, Red Bay
- 73 Sawdust, Woodland
- 74 Tallahassee, Fellowship
- 75 Wewahitchka

76 **Unexcused Churches (10):**

- 77 Blountstown, First
- 78 DeFuniak Springs, Bethel
- 79 Destin, First
- 80 Freeport
- 81 Milton, First
- 82 Navarre
- 83 Panama City, Parkway
- 84 Pensacola, Korean Community
- 85 Tallahassee, First
- 86 Tallahassee, Trinity United

87 **CONTINUING MEMBERS:**

88 **CREs present (1):**

89 Greg Seltzer

90 **CREs absent (3):**

91 Tonya Fernandes; Alan House (excused); Joanne Kublik (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) – Treasurer; Eric
95 Hearn – Dogwood Acres Program Director

96 **Officers/Team Chairs:** Vicki Bell – PW Moderator; Glenn Hodges (RE) – Committee on Representation;
97 Rich Kangas (RE) – Committee on Nominations; Don Mowat (RE) – Moderator

98 **Visitors:** Susan Byram (Pensacola, First); Larry Plank (Navarre); Clark Simmons (Board of Pensions);
99 Susan White (Pensacola, Northminster); Denise Harper (Pensacola, Northminster); Lamerle Feitsma
100 (Chipley); Mary Hodges (Tallahassee, First); Polly Land (Marianna, First); Susan Pedersen (Fort Walton
101 Beach, First); James McQuagge (Panama City, Grace)

102 **Visiting Ministers: (1):** Shuford White

103 **OPENING PRAYER, QUORUM, DOCKET**

104 Moderator Don Mowat called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM CDT/10:00 AM EDT. A quorum (ten
105 Ministers of Word and Sacrament and ten elders, representing at least ten member congregations) was
106 present, and Moderator Mowatt opened the meeting with prayer.

107 The Presbytery approved Roy Martin, General Presbyter, to serve as Stated Clerk for the meeting and
108 approved the docket with the addition of reports from the Personnel Committee and Strategic Planning
109 Task Force.

110 **WELCOME:** Hugh Hamilton, Pastor to Trinity Presbyterian Church, welcomed the presbytery to Trinity,
111 gave a brief history and update on Trinity, and gave instructions for the day’s activity, meals, and facilities.

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

114 **MORNING WORSHIP Ruling Elder Pam McNulty of Pensacola-Northminster Presbyterian Church**

115 served as liturgist for worship assisted by Mrs. Hyunjoo Kim, organist Trinity Presbyterian Church,
116 Pensacola. The Rev. Eric Spoon’s sermon, “Running From God,” Genesis 1:26-27, 3:8 and Jonah 1:1-3,
117 inspired us to recall moments in our lives we wish to remember or to forget, indicating our response to
118 God’s call and direction. Using the flight of Jonah to illustrate our openness to God’s direction, Rev.
119 Spoon addressed our personal spiritual journeys and our corporate journey as a presbytery. We cannot hear
120 God’s call if we have already told God what we want to hear or not hear. If we run away, we will not get to
121 see what God wants to do and how we may be part of God’s amazing work. Trust God’s plan to do better
122 than anything we imagine on our own. Allow yourself to be swallowed and delivered by God where you
123 need to go and to do what you need to do.

124 **EDUCATIONAL HOUR: Self-Development of People (SDOP).** Harvey Jenkins, Committee on
125 Mission and Outreach (CMO) Racial Justice Subcommittee member; Michael Askew, SDOP Committee

126 Chair; and Jim Krapf, SDOP Committee member, presented an overview of the history and operations of
127 the PC(USA) Self-Development of People program. Addressing social conditions that contribute to
128 poverty, hunger, socio-economic injustice, and related conditions, SDOP national staff help grass roots
129 SDOP committees to implement projects and programs to empower people to address a need confronting
130 them. With \$5000.00 grants and orchestrated approaches, SDOP committees own, control and benefit
131 directly from the implemented program. Recipients must be at or below the Federal Poverty Level and must
132 be involved in the development of project proposals, implementation of projects approved by SDOP
133 National, and directly benefit from the project. The presbytery's SDOP Committee receives funds from the
134 PC(USA) One Great Hour of Sharing Offering in direct proportion to the presbytery's contributions to
135 OGH offering. SDOP National provides resources to help presbytery SDOP Committees to identify
136 grassroots groups and to engage them in the SDOP application and implementation process.

137 **PARTNER RPORTS:**

138 **PC(USA) BOARD OF PENSIONS: Clark Simons. Cost increases are coming, discussion is invited.**
139 The GOOD NEWS is that the Pension Plan saw 4.2% increase in earnings as of July 1, 2023, allowing
140 4.2% good experience apportionment to members of the pension plan, and the plan is stable, funded at
141 152%. The BAD NEWS is that with the overall decline in clergy and church workers, we have fewer
142 pension plan members paying into the medical benefits plan and medical costs are skyrocketing. BOP is
143 working with HUMANA to offer plan members an alternative to Medicare Supplement Plans that will
144 secure PPO medical coverage at lower cost. Fall 2023 seminars and webinars will inform us of plans
145 underway. With BOP medical dues increasing, BOP is undertaking October 2023 first reading and March
146 2024 second reading of plans and proposals to manage costs. Without drastic adjustments, major medical
147 dues now at 29% of Effective Salary could jump to 40% in 2025, and some pundits fear jump to even 50%
148 of effective salary. BOP is looking at flat cost plans for pastors, payable by congregation and/or by pastor
149 by agreements, and possible dependents coverage by plans other than BOP, not under BOP. The
150 possibilities are painful for everyone. Hence, BOP is undertaking "A Season of Rebuilding" virtual
151 seminars and discussions in 2023 and 2024 and invite participation by clergy, staffs, and congregations.
152 Some type(s) of transitional coverage plans will be developed. Stay informed and participate in discussions
153 via www.Pensions.org.

154 **STAFF REPORTS:**

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

156 Review of session minutes: All but one set of minutes for the years 2019,2020,2021 have been reviewed.
157 Review of 2022 minutes will be announced, Session clerks will please prepare their minutes for the review.
158 The checklist is on the presbytery website or can be requested by emailing the stated clerk.

159 **Communications:**

160 1. August 3, 2023 email from Kyle Walker, Stated Clerk, Grace Presbytery, Irving, TX

161 On Thu, Aug 3, 2023 at 10:44 PM Kyle Walker <walkertexasrev@gmail.com> wrote:

162 I was encouraged to share this for knowledge, insight, and of course prayers. This week two of our
163 churches were approached by a man pretending to be a college student interviewing for a religion class
164 about female pastors of open and affirming churches. In one case the pastor was not in. In another case, the
165 pastor held an on camera interview for the "student". This individual posted the video to his hate
166 amplifying YouTube channel and called for the death of the pastor and deadly violence to the church.

167 Police have two reports now on file.

168 We have communicated to our churches the need to ensure safety and security practices are in place and
169 to not accept interviews such as this. We now believe this individual is affiliated with Stedfast Baptist
170 Church which is a named hate group located in Dallas. This might seem like a prank or idle threat only, but
171 we know this same individual brought violence on a Plano U-U Church:

172 <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/rcna96586>

173 If any of you have wisdom for those of us in Grace Presbytery, I would appreciate it. I know answers are
174 few but your experience with how to bring law enforcement beyond the report filing stage is especially
175 helpful. In my humble opinion, we have a terrorism case here that is getting bigger and bigger in DFW.
176 Kyle Walker, Stated Clerk, Grace Presbytery

177 Information was shared about 1) the African American Clergy & Educator Retreat, September 11-13, 2023,
178 Epworth by the Sea, St. Simons Island, GA. Registration Deadline - August 1, 2023. A time for great
179 worship, renewal, relaxation, and fellowship. Theme: IN LIVING COLOR with the focus Scripture being
180 Colossians 2:6-7. This is our first in- person gathering since 2019 and will be worth just being in fellowship
181 and having space for relaxation.
182 and 2) The Association of Smaller Congregations Annual Conference: "The Gift of Small." February 29-
183 March 4, 2024, Epworth by the Sea, St. Simons Island, GA. The theme for this next gathering is "The Gift
184 of Small," which we will explore together with our speakers and workshop leaders. Please mark your
185 calendars for February 29 - March 4, 2024, and look for more details by email and on our website.

186 **REPORT FROM DOGWOOD ACRES: Eric Hearn**

187 **Staff:** Kathy Powell has resigned as Bookkeeper to focus on taking care of husband Ben, former DWA
188 Director, James Vance worked as interim bookkeeper, and now Michele Morris is Dogwood's new
189 accounting consultant. Michele also serves as UKirk Tallahassee's accounting consultant. New Kitchen
190 Manager Starla Batson has become an amazing asset to DWA.

191 **Summer Camp:** By support of our Presbytery's churches DWA provided four weeks of summer camp.
192 Thank you to the following churches for sending us wonderful, faithful, mature, responsible counselors to
193 work with our campers: FPC Marianna (Anna); Trinity PC (Antha, Ford); Christ PC (Meg, Zoe, Sam,
194 Caroline, McKenzie and Preston); Faith PC (Austin); FPC Lynn Haven (Eric); FPC Quincy (James); FPC
195 Tallahassee (Ethan, Camille) and Gulf Breeze PC (Matthew). The counselors were grateful to the churches
196 who provided "Counselor Treat Boxes" for each week of the summer – FPC Lynn Haven, FPC
197 Tallahassee, Christ Presbyterian and FPC Quincy.

198 Thank you to churches who helped supply us with camp nurses for the four weeks we had campers on site:
199 Sandra Kuhn (Lafayette); Lynne Metz (Faith); Ruben Diaz (FPC Tallahassee) and Nancy Repplinger
200 (Christ).

201 And many thanks to those who volunteered to be the Camp Chaplains: Erin Rugh (Faith); Brant Copeland
202 (HR) and Mary Vance (HR). In total we had 113 campers, so we are continuing to increase our number of
203 campers since the end of the pandemic. Of those 113, 71 were from our Presbytery's churches: Bethel PC,
204 FPC Defuniak

205 Springs, Gulf Breeze PC, St. Andrews, FPC Wewahitchka, Gulf Beach PC, FPC Quincy, Faith PC, Trinity
206 PC, Christ PC, and FPC Tallahassee. 22 campers did not list any church affiliation at all, and our great hope
207 is that through the loving and accepting community we created during a week of camp, the worship and the
208 bible study that we participated in, and the relationships built, we not only offered these campers a glimpse
209 of what it means a Christian, loved as children of God but also what the PCUSA values and supports.

210 **Racial Ethnic Campers:** Thank you to Harvey Jenkins and Michael Askew for working diligently as
211 representatives of the Racial Justice Subcommittee to ensure that campers from the surrounding community
212 were paired with churches who could provide scholarships.

213 **New Partnership:** Through the work of the RJSC, we began a new partnership with Anchorage Children's
214 Home in the Panama City area. Through the generosity of donors, Dogwood Acres was able to provide
215 another 19 scholarships for campers. 34 campers received church sponsored scholarships.

216 **High School:** One of our biggest successes this camp season was the addition of a High School Only week
217 of camp. This week allowed high school campers the opportunity to do some off-site adventure trips, have
218 a slightly altered schedule and have more in-depth discussions. All the high school campers were members
219 of churches in our Presbytery, and most had grown up attending camp at Dogwood. Following this week,
220 several of the campers came back to Dogwood to serve as resource staff people, counselors in training and
221 volunteers. More than half of these campers will attend our upcoming Presbyterian Youth Council planning

222 retreat at the end of August and serve as the leadership for our Spiritfest Middle School Retreat. This week
223 of high school camp let us see the fruits of our labors – and yours! – in growing leaders in the church.
224 **Buddy Camp** was a segment of a week of camp where high school aged campers with differing abilities
225 were able to be part of a unit of campers. We had some of our wonderful high school leaders come join this
226 unit for the week. All our counselors and staff had some additional training from Susie Barber, FPC
227 Marianna, who is a teacher at the Hope School in Marianna. The week included all the activities of a
228 typical week at Dogwood with careful attention to the unique needs of these campers.

229 **Summer Camp for Outside Groups:** Before and after Dogwood’s own Summer Camp program, we had
230 two large local churches use our site to provide their own summer camp experience. Holmes Valley Church
231 spent the week of June 4 – 9 leading 70 campers through activities and Bible study. They had a total of 88
232 people on-site using every bed and the RV sites. Lighthouse Church in Panama City spent July 31 – August
233 2 using our site for a children’s camp experience. They had 76 people.

234 **Upcoming Dogwood Facilitated Retreats**

235 October 6-8: Spiritfest – annual retreat for Middle School Youth led by High School Youth and college
236 mentors.

237 November 3-5: Reading, Writing, Resting Retreat for adults. This retreat will include a book group
238 discussion, a book swap and share, a workshop on personal creative writing, yoga, hiking, hammocking,
239 napping, “moth radio hour” sharing, good food, worship and fellowship. Our workshop leader and
240 discussion facilitator will be Harriet Riley, formerly of FPC Pensacola and now a member of St Charles
241 Ave PC in NOLA.

242 January 19 – 21: PAUSE -the now Annual Women’s Yoga Retreat. Eat, pray, yoga!!

243 February 2 – 4: Dogwood Youth Conference – an annual retreat for Middle and High School Youth led by
244 college students.

245 **Church Retreat Schedule**

246 Churches in our Presbytery as well as churches and organizations in the panhandle not associated with
247 the PC(USA) are busy booking Dogwood for retreats. October is full and we have groups booked out past
248 February 2024! Now is the time to contact us if you are considering bringing a group from your church out
249 to Dogwood. We can work with you on dates, menus, and activities. We also have full retreat curriculum
250 resources for you to use if you want help with content for your time at camp.

251 **Property:** Our cabin renovations were completed during the first week of June. During the summer we
252 have continued to keep up with all the many projects to keep Dogwood in good shape. We are grateful for
253 the hard and consistent work of James Vance. James is at Dogwood at least once a week, is in contact with
254 volunteer groups, serves as project manager on any building or maintenance, and mows endlessly. Brant
255 Copeland also has volunteered countless hours – even mowing and doing bridge repairs while serving as
256 the camp chaplain!

257 We have several projects in the works for this fall. Contact us if you have a group interested in getting their
258 hands dirty!

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

260 Treasurer Vandiver shared update on support pledged and giving to date.

261 The operating budget shows a loss; currently we have used \$67,000 of unrestricted reserve funds to balance
262 the budget.

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

264 Presbyter Roy Martin and his wife benefitted from their travel and study leave in England and Scotland this
265 summer and thanked the presbytery for the time allotted. They spent much of their time assessing the life of
266 the church in Scotland and changes and challenges similar to what our denomination is facing. Since 2018
267 the Church of Scotland has intentionally assessed and adapted their governance, reducing by 30% their
268 denominational budget, and reducing 43 presbyteries to 12 larger geographic presbyteries. The PCUSA
269 now faces the same prospect; reducing the number of presbyteries and considering how Synods do mission
270 in the new environment. We now face the same challenges in 2024. In 1971, the PCUS combined
271 presbyteries and reduced the number of presbyteries and Synods. In 1983, at the reunion of PCUS and

272 UPCUSA into the new PC(USA) denomination, all presbyteries and synods were again rearranged
273 geographically and enacted name changes. We are now facing the same challenges, and we must change.
274 We have fewer members and less financial support and struggle to fill vacancies on presbytery committees
275 to do our work. Roy Martin and other General/Executive Presbyters wish to overture General Assembly to
276 reexamine our mission, life, and support, else we cannot continue to function as presbyteries.
277 Dr. Martin also shared pastoral concerns for Ben Powell and The Rev. Anne Apple, who are battling health
278 issues.

279 **COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION REPORTS:**

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

281 CPC needs nominations for Committee on Nominations and Committee on Representation.

282 **Committee on Presbytery Administration: Brad Clayton**

283 CPA presented an asking budget for 2024 for use in Presbytery's Fall 2023 Stewardship Campaign. Sad
284 news is that our presbytery is in financial trouble. In 2016 in response to our decline in financial support we
285 hired a part-time Executive Presbyter, the Rev. Paul Luthman, and considered options of possibly splitting
286 our presbytery and merging with South Alabama and Flint River presbyteries. We voted to stay together
287 and to revitalize our presbytery and to undertake the "Building Our Presbytery" financial campaign to
288 bolster our finances. The \$150,000 grant from Trinity Presbyterian Church enabled presbytery to stay afloat
289 and to hire a full time General Presbyter. Annual support from congregations has not risen enough to fully
290 fund our presbytery, and we have used unrestricted reserve funds and proceeds from the sale of closed
291 churches to bridge the gap in finances. Realistically we can only afford a \$350,000 budget; Undesignated
292 reserves will be depleted at the end of 2023. We have been drawing on average \$60,000 annually from our
293 reserves to balance our budget since 2016.

294 CPA recommends a flat budget 2024 the same as 2023 and expects a \$100,000 deficit. No reserve funds
295 will be available after 2023 to cover the shortfall. Our present \$456,000 budget cannot be sustained, so we
296 expect significant cuts. Shared support in 2023 is \$366,000; for 2024 budget of the same amount we will
297 need \$90,000 increased income to fund our present budget. Cutting our Presbytery of Florida budget by
298 \$100,000 will drastically alter our presbytery mission and operations. Closing declining churches will be
299 painful.

300 **FOR ACTION: Presbytery approved the preliminary budget of \$456,000.00 for stewardship**
301 **purposes, and an amended budget will be presented for approval in February 2024.**

302 **Strategic Planning Task Force: Mark Broadhead**

303 The Task Force has 1) interviewed committee chairs, presbytery staff, and Dogwood Acres personnel, 2)
304 reviewed Book of Order prescriptions and requirements for a presbytery, 3) reviewed present presbytery
305 manual of operations, 4) considered structures and operations of presbyteries in our Synod and made
306 personal contacts with leaders and clergy in those presbyteries, 5) reviewed our presbytery finances, and 6)
307 reviewed results of Holy Cow Landscape assessment of the presbytery. The Task Force will report our
308 findings and recommendations at the October 2023 presbytery meeting, including our recommendations
309 how to streamline the presbytery operations, address budget concerns, focus our mission and operations in
310 ways to benefit our congregations' ministries. We are excited about our recommendations but realize that
311 not everyone will be pleased. How timely a word we received in morning worship about not running from
312 God but allowing God to do a new thing through us and our presbytery.

313 **COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR ACTION/UPDATES**

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

315 **For Action: Approval of Guatemala Partnership:** Presbytery approved the following partnership
316 agreement with The Presbyterian Women of Guatemala, to provide scholarships to women in the PW
317 literacy and theological studies programs.

318 Covenant of agreement between The National Union of Presbyterian Women (UNMP) of the National
319 Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Guatemala (IENPG) and The Presbytery of Florida, The Presbyterian
320 Church (USA)

321 Shared beliefs: We are called to be a part of the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ, one church called to
322 mission through proclaiming the Kingdom of God, serving God's people, building up the body of Christ
323 through teaching of the Word and witnessing God's incarnation on earth in the Lord Jesus under the
324 guidance of the Holy Spirit.

325 We recognize the cultural and linguistic diversity of both countries as a blessing from God.

326 We walk together under one faith, one baptism, one God of all in submission to Holy Scripture.

327 Purpose: The purpose of the partnership is to support and empower God's people, especially women, for
328 Christ's ministries in their daily lives - home, school, workplace, church, and community.

329 History:

330 The Presbytery of Florida has been working with the mission co-worker in Guatemala, Rev. Eliane
331 Menezes since 2021 during the Covid19 pandemic to determine how to best participate as a presbytery in
332 partnership with UNMP. The Committee on Mission and Outreach of the Presbytery of Florida seeks to
333 develop a presbytery-wide mission project engaging all our congregations.

334 Both UNMP and the Presbytery of Florida agree to the following:

335 Pray for each other: We commit to pray for the wellbeing of the people, the churches, and the communities
336 of the IENGP and the Presbytery of Florida. Because of the language differences, we agree to pray for each
337 other as moved by the Holy Spirit. Specific prayer requests will be shared at the biannual meetings as
338 described in the communication section and incorporated into our prayers.

339 Communication: The Presbytery of Florida will identify a contact person who will work directly with the
340 mission co-worker in Guatemala. We will send and receive at least biannual communication. Zoom
341 meetings would be the preferred method of communication. Communication will include devotions and
342 updates on projects, people, churches, and communities in both regions. The Presbytery of Florida will be
343 responsible for the devotion at the first biannual meeting and the UNMP will be responsible for the
344 devotional at the second meeting. Translators will be arranged to do the translating.

345 The Presbytery of Florida will share the information to the churches in their presbytery through articles in
346 the Panhandle Presbyterian Monthly written by the USA contact person, during presbytery meetings,
347 website, e-mails, etc.

348 The UNMP will share the information to the women in the UNMP.

349 Projects: The Presbytery of Florida agrees to provide annually \$300 toward secular scholarships (one
350 student per year), \$300.00 for theological scholarships (one student per year) and \$400 for literacy
351 programs under the auspices of UNMP (one of four literacy projects in the four districts across the
352 country).

353 To raise more money for these projects the USA contact person and any team members will engage the
354 churches in the presbytery encouraging them as a church, a Sunday school class, a women's group, etc. to
355 finance one or more scholarships and/or literacy programs.

356 New Project requests:

357 As these groups solidify their involvement, new project proposals may come under consideration. Specific
358 projects will be approved by both UNMP and the Presbytery of Florida.

359 One-time gifts (like supplying Bibles, textbooks, stipends for tutors, class supplies or food) will also need
360 to be approved by UNMP and the Presbytery of Florida.

361 Fiscal responsibility:

362 We will be open and transparent with respect to exchanges of money and materials. We will verify with
363 reports, photographs, receipts, and site visits that resources are used appropriately.

364 Hospitality:

365 In as far as possible each region will prepare and offer hospitality and opportunities for developing
366 fellowship between both partners. Ultimately this may include site visits, but it can also include a sharing of
367 cultures and worship over the internet.

368 Terms of covenant:
369 This partnership covenant will last three years. At the end of the third year, both parties will assess the
370 future direction of the partnership.

371 **For Information:**

372 Community Action Grants: CMO's first Community Action Grant was to First Presbyterian Church-
373 Tallahassee and their partner churches engaged in developing a "Guns2Gardens" initiative, a ministry that
374 safely and legally dismantles and/or destroys unwanted firearms voluntarily surrendered. The remaining
375 metal pieces are then forged into life-giving garden tools. The summer 2023 event netted 30 guns
376 contributed for transformation into useful gardening implements.

377 Reminder: CMO's Community Action Grant guidelines and application forms are posted to the
378 presbytery's website. (www.presbyteryofflorida.net/presbytery-committees/mission-outreach.) Forms and
379 applications are posted for:

- 380 a. Community Action Grants
- 381 b. Covenant Agreement Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) and the Florida presbyteries.
- 382 c. 2 Cents a Meal Hunger Grants
- 383 d. Disaster Emergency Assistance
- 384 e. The Presbytery of Florida Peacemaking grants

385 CMO Restricted Funds balances as of July 1, 2023
386 4203 Emergency Relief Fund \$6,203.85
387 4252 & 3129 Two Cents a Meal Hunger Fund \$32,975.02
388 4253 Peacemaking Fund \$7,997.76
389 4255 Self Development of People Fund \$782.77

390 FLAPDAN: The 2024 PDA/FLAPDAN Covenant Agreement has been approved by the FLAPDAN Board
391 of Directors and will be sent to presbyteries for concurrence and final approval. The FLAPDAN Board is
392 working to establish the FLAPDAN Board with representatives from each presbytery into classes of
393 members with three-year renewable terms. Plan to move to the board system in January 2024. The
394 FLAPDAN budget planning is underway, sending requests for support to presbyteries for 2024 budget.
395 Strategic Planning – FLAPDAN Board is working 1) to update mission statement, 2) to identify program
396 domains and annual metrics of success, 3) to develop succession plan for Executive Director position, 4)
397 extended David Myers consultant contract through the end of 2024 to assist with strategic planning process.
398 5) FLAPDAN's 20-year celebration in 2025: plans are underway to celebrate and promote FLAPDAN
399 across the state.

400 Racial Justice Subcommittee/Self Development of People (SDOP): The Racial Justice Subcommittee and
401 the SDOP Committee will present an educational hour on SDOP at the August 22 Presbytery meeting
402 regarding joint efforts at racial reconciliation and justice. The Racial Justice Subcommittee requested and
403 received from churches and individuals scholarship funds by which seven racial-ethnic campers are
404 attending Dogwood Acres summer camps. CMO considers DWA scholarships for racial-ethnic campers as
405 proper use of our Presbytery of Florida Peacemaking Funds #4253 and may consider them in the future.

406 Visiting Cuban Pastor: September 20-25, 2023. Under the auspices of the Presbyterian Mission Agency
407 (PCUSA) this visiting pastor will itinerate in our presbytery and bring his presentations about social
408 conditions and ministry in Cuba to churches in our presbytery willing to host him. First Presbyterian
409 Church – Tallahassee will host him; churches interested in hosting him are to contact Anne Apple at
410 Tallahassee-First. Note: The pastor is still awaiting a visa, so details are tentative.

411 **Committee on Nominations: Rich Kangas.**

412 Presbytery Approved the following: Joyce Kelley, Elder, DeFuniak Springs to Committee on
413 Congregational Discernment, Class of 02/2026, and Rev. Erin Rugh, Associate Minister, Faith, Tallahassee
414 to Committee on Preparation for Ministry, Class of 02/2026.

415 For Information:

416 1) The committee is searching for a female elder from the East District for Presbytery Vice-Moderator.
417 This applicant should have experience at presbytery level and not presently serving on a presbytery
418 committee.

419 2) Committee will present the 226th General Assembly candidates at Fall 2023 presbytery meeting. We still
420 need nominations for a Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD); must be 17 years old but not more than
421 23 years old at date of General Assembly (June 25-July 4, 2023) in Salt Lake City, UT.

422 3) Listing of presbytery committee vacancies (16) was shared with requests for nominations.

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

424 **For information:**

425 An Emergency Repairs Grant was approved for Chipley-First in the amount of \$5,000 for the purpose of
426 repairing roof, gable, and interior water damage due to a squirrel infestation.

427 DeFuniak Springs-Bethel continues to engage the community surrounding their church. Neighbors have
428 been expressing more of an interest in what the congregation is about. They also continue to explore
429 physical repairs to their facilities. Two children were sponsored to attend Dogwood Acres summer camp.
430 Shelia Clark and Michael Askew are their liaisons.

431 Milton-First Revitalization is continuing. They have engaged the Holy Cow Congregational Assessment
432 Tool for a second time, citing that the congregation is in a different place than it was when the CAT was
433 first done in 2021. Mark Broadhead is their consultant.

434 Pensacola-Northminster is slowly continuing its revitalization work. Due to summer activities the
435 Revitalization Team has not met since May. Linda Lovins is their consultant.

436 Panama City-Parkway is moving ahead. The Revitalization Team has identified and spelled out three top
437 strategies that have been approved by their Session and are embarking on new ways to stir up excitement.
438 There are signs of a motivated group within the church. The Team meets weekly as they continue their
439 work. Lisa Martin is their consultant.

440 Panama City-Grace has bogged down a bit in their revitalization process but are being encouraged to keep
441 moving forward. They have taken action to incorporate their childcare/preschool under the jurisdiction of
442 the Session with good results so far. The Session is working on worship improvements. They have also
443 indicated they intend to reach out to the Tyndall AFB community as an avenue for possible growth. Harvey
444 Jenkins is their liaison.

445 Freeport has expressed interest in engaging the discernment process. Mark Broadhead will meet with them
446 in August to present the procedure.

447 Lynn Haven-First will be exploring the discernment process in September. Mark Broadhead will be their
448 liaison should they choose to engage.

449 **Committee on Educational Resources (CER): John Stringer**

450 **For information:** CER seeks your suggestions for topics for educational hours.

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

452 **For information:**

453 The Committee on Ministry has received the following items as information:

- 454 1. Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE) evaluations from Northminster and Woodland & Gretna
- 455 2. Briefing on the new Church Leadership Connection (CLC) system
- 456 3. Interim Ministry Information Form (MIF) for Quincy-First

457 The Committee on Ministry approved the following items:

- 458 1. 2023 Terms of Call for pastors of the following congregations: Lynn Haven-First, Pensacola First,
459 Tallahassee-Christ, Gulf Breeze, Havana, Crestview-First & Laurel Hill

460 2. Request for exemption from Crestview-First
461 3. Rev. Joan Hedrich Wooten to serve as Moderator of Chipley-First
462 4. Rev. Emily Rose Proctor to serve as Moderator of Freeport
463 5. Proposed 2024 COM budget
464 6. The Pastor Transition Team is working through its liaisons with Marianna-First, Euchee Valley,
465 Trinity, Lafayette, Tallahassee-First, Quincy-First, and Fort Walton Beach-First.
466 The Temporary Pastoral Leadership Team continues to update the pulpit supply list.
467 The Relational Ministry Team is working through its liaisons to visit congregations, with special emphasis
468 on those which have part-time pastoral leadership or pulpit supply.
469 The Committee is working on setting up mandatory training in accordance with our Presbytery's sexual
470 misconduct policy. There are also revisions to the COM Handbook which we are working on with Rev.
471 Mark Broadhead.

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

473 **For information:**

474 CPC urges us to recommend candidates for CRE (lay pastors); advise them, ask them if they feel called to
475 serve.
476 Consider young people in our congregations who may be suited to ordained ministry and urge them to
477 explore their sense of call with the CPM.

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

479 **For information:** CNCD has reviewed matched PIFs and interviewed candidates. Earlier this month
480 CNCN was on the verge of hosting in-person interviews, but the candidate removed their name from
481 consideration. The committee met to discern next steps. CNCD will move forward using our current MIF
482 until the end of August when the CLC "legacy" site is shut down and then shift to the new CLC personal
483 and ministry discernment forms. After meeting with an interested local resident, assessing further economic
484 data, and spending time in the community the committee decided to increase the minimum effective salary
485 to \$75,000. The previous minimum of \$62,299 was based on the maximum salary allowed by a Board of
486 Pensions grant.

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

488 **For information:** CR is working with the Committee on Nominations (CN) to ensure that committees in
489 the Presbytery are diverse, inclusive, and equitable. The Chair of the CR participates in CN monthly
490 meetings.

491 The committee plans to develop a mission statement and goals and objectives for the church calendar year
492 to ensure that the CR is functioning efficiently. The CR has gathered annual congregation statistics for
493 2023. A full copy of the statistics is available from the presbytery office and was included in the presbytery
494 meeting handbook/agenda and reports.

495

496 **Presbyterian Women: Vicki Bell, PW Moderator**

497 This summer has been a labor of love to contact all the churches in the Presbytery of Florida to gather the
498 list of their PW officers for our Presbyterian Women for 2023-2024 Directory. There are churches who do
499 not have an active PW group, and we will list a church contact. Our goal is to have all the information a
500 Presbyterian Women group or church could possibly need.

501 Presbyterian Women will hold their August Coordinating Team Meeting and workshop for the church-level
502 moderators, historians, treasurers, and Together In Service Coordinators at the First Presbyterian Church in
503 Chipley on August 19, 2023. Our Coordinating Team is experiencing the same challenge as the churches of
504 our Presbytery finding those Presbyterian Women called to volunteer their time to serve on the church and
505 presbytery level.

506 The Scholarship Committee was proud to award two scholarships this year. One to Glenn Hodges. One of
507 our applicants made the decision to wait another year before attending Columbia Theological Seminary.

508 **New Business: none**

509 ADJOURNMENT AND CLOSING PRAYER

510 The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 1:17PM CST/2:17 PM EST by Moderator Don Mowat.

511 NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, October 24, 2023: 9AM Central/10AM Eastern at First, Lynn Haven, FL.

512 Minutes respectfully submitted,

513 Hugh Hamilton,

514 Recording Clerk

515

516

517

Don Mowat, Moderator
Roy Martin, Acting Stated Clerk
Hugh Hamilton, Recording Clerk

Necrology of Elders, October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023

Church Name, City	Name of deceased elder	Date of death
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

1 Report from the
2 **Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery**

3 The fall brings the Presbyterian Women across the Presbytery returning to their monthly meetings and with
4 new Coordinating Teams in place. They are continuing their Mission Work and are busy adding new
5 mission opportunities for their churches.

6 Our August Coordinating Team Meeting and Workshop, held at First Presbyterian Church in Chipley,
7 gathered Presbyterian Women from across the Panhandle. All three districts of the Presbytery were well-
8 represented. Our 2023-2024 Presbyterian Women's Directory was completed and distributed to all who
9 attended. The Workshop portion of our meeting broke out into sessions for moderators, treasurers,
10 historians and Together-In Service Coordinators. It was a wonderful meeting, and we again thank the
11 Presbyterian Women of First Presbyterian Chipley for their hospitality.

12 We currently continue to prayerfully search for Presbyterian Women to join our Coordinating Team:
13 Moderator- Elect, Treasurer, West District Search Committee Member and West District Together-in-
14 Service Coordinator. This Spring, we will be looking for a secretary and East District coordinator. Please
15 encourage the Presbyterian Women of your congregations to consider volunteering on the Coordinating
16 Team.

17 Presbyterian Women will be representing our Presbytery by attending the Mission Haven Board Meeting,
18 Columbia Friendship Circle Board Meeting and the PW Synod of South Atlantic Coordinating Team
19 Meeting October 25th through October 28th.

20 Respectfully submitted,
21 Vicki Bell, Moderator Presbyterian Women

1 Report from the
2 **Stated Clerk/Communications**

3 **Review of session minutes**

4 Most of the minutes for the years 2019, 2020, 2021 have been reviewed. In wrapping up the readings, I
5 noticed we had not received the minutes from 1st, Blountstown nor from Navarre. Work is in progress to
6 arrange the reading of those minutes. Dates have not yet been set for 2022 review, but session clerks are
7 encouraged to prepare their minutes for the review. The checklist is on the presbytery website
8 (<http://www.presbyteryofflorida.net/app/download/7126502598/Session+minutes+review+checklist+2021-04.pdf>) or can be requested by emailing the stated clerk (statedclerk@presbyteryofflorida.com).

10 **Miscellaneous items**

11 I have been busy this summer researching and answering several questions for session clerks and
12 committee chairs/members. One item I researched was the incorporation status (Articles of Incorporation)
13 for those congregations formed prior to 1983 (at reunion). Thirty of our congregations were formed prior
14 to that date; most have a reference to PC(USA) in their Articles. Members of COM will follow up with
15 those who need to update their Articles of Incorporation.

16 I have also been busy with the special committee of the GA on the standing rules of the assembly. We
17 usually meet via Zoom, but August 22-25 met in-person in Louisville, where we met with numerous GA
18 staff. Our next in-person meeting will be January 25-28, 2024.

19 I have attended regular meetings of COM, CPC, and Presbytery staff.

20 On Sept. 25-26, the stated clerks from each presbytery in the Synod met together in Jacksonville to read the
21 Presbytery minutes for 2022. Our minutes were approved, and a huge thanks for Melissa for her work on
22 preparing these.

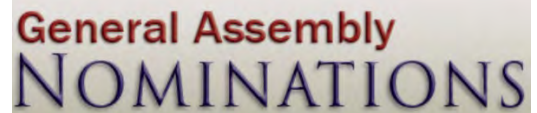
23 **Annual Statistics**

24 The program will open in December. The dates have not yet been announced, but it usually opens the first
25 week of December and closes in mid-February. Much of the data can be gathered now and then easily
26 updated after December 31. This does require session approval, so be aware of the dates of your session
27 meetings to ensure that the report is finished in time for that approval. Training sessions will be held again
28 at the beginning of the statistics period. This will be for the year 2023.

29 Respectfully submitted,
30 Jeannie Dixon

Communications to Presbytery

Nominations Portal
Opens October 9



The 2024 cycle of nominations for ongoing standing committees, boards, and the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission opens on **October 9, 2023**.

Daris Bultena, Moderator of the General Assembly Nominating Committee, encourages all interested individuals to prayerfully discern whether God may be calling them to consider sharing their gifts, talents, and expertise in elected service for the benefit of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

It is essential for the GA Nominating Committee to have the benefit of discerning, from among a deep, broad, and diverse pool of applicants, the individuals they believe are called by God for particular service at this time in the life of the church.

[Find more information about the 2024 cycle of nominations](#), including a list of the groups to which the GA Nominating Committee will nominate. Individuals who feel called to be considered for service can [apply online](#).

The deadline for nominations - except for the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program Board (deadline December 8, 2023) - is Monday, **January 8, 2024**.

Please note that the Unification Commission has asked that the following language be included in the GA Nominating Committee's upcoming cycle of nominations:

Committees and other processes staffed by PMA and OGA and which fall under the current Organization for Mission may take a different form as unification proceeds. Since it is likely that significant parts of the structure will be impacted, applicants for open positions should be notified that it is possible that classes ending in 2028 and 2030 may not be completed and/or their roles may be significantly modified. The Unification Commission is ready to support the work of the Nominating Committee as the unification process unfolds.

We ask mid council leaders to share this opportunity for elected service with church members, deacons, ruling elders, and teaching elders via your newsletters and other communication vehicles.

For more information, contact [valerie izumi](#), Assistant Stated Clerk and Manager for GA Nominations.



Upcoming Leader Formation
Webinar for Ruling Elders
*Leading by Listening: Ruling Elders
and Presbyterian Polity*
with Gradye Parsons

Ruling Elders lead by listening to the Word, the Holy Spirit, and their congregation, and our polity invites us into conversations and responsibilities. Those conversations develop relationships which build up the church family. The responsibilities of the Ruling Elder are to nurture, support, and provide for the spiritual life of a congregation and beyond. Join us for a conversation into the joyful journey of this service on **Thursday, November 16, 7:00-8:30 p.m. Eastern**. When promoting, please share [this web link](#) as registration will close on **November 8**.

Call for Volunteers:
226th GA (2024)

As you are well aware, the success of any large gathering depends on dedicated individuals who generously volunteer their time, energy, and talents.



Volunteers from across the church will play an essential role in supporting the 226th General Assembly (2024), which will gather both virtually and in-person from June 25-July 4, 2024.

For the upcoming General Assembly we are seeking a diverse group of individuals to support both the remote and onsite portions of the assembly. From Zoom and help desk support, to parliamentary support, to equity managers, to committee assistants and more, we welcome both seasoned volunteers and those who are newly interested in supporting the assembly in this important way.

More information about the various support roles and a volunteer interest form will be available in the next issue of the mid council newsletter. We encourage you to share this opportunity for involvement as a volunteer widely – by word of mouth and in your mid council and congregational newsletters. Individuals can email [valerie izumi](mailto:valerie.izumi), who is coordinating the volunteer process, for more information, to express their interest, and to receive the GA 226 Volunteer Interest Form.

1 Report from the
2 Committee on Ministry (COM)

3 **Membership:** Chair, vice-chair, 13 members-at-large

4 **Purpose:** To fulfill all Book of Order and presbytery manual responsibilities related to oversight of and
5 assistance to congregations, Ministers of Word and Sacrament and Certified Christian Educators in their
6 ministry. These responsibilities include all matters related to matriculation of new pastors, periodic visits
7 with sessions and pastors, support for clergy and Certified Christian Educator wellness and professional
8 development, minimum standards for clergy compensation, dissolving pastoral relationships, processes
9 leading to the next pastoral call, and examining ministers for readiness and suitability to receive calls.

10 **For information:**

11 At its meeting of September 12, 2023 the Committee on Ministry noted the following items for
12 information:

- 13 1. Approval via electronic vote on August 1 by the Pastor Transition Team of Co-Interim Contract for
14 Rev. John Cole and Rev. Tai Cole at Quincy-First
- 15 2. Approval via electronic vote on August 8 of \$500 in tuition assistance to CRE Greg Seltzer
- 16 3. Approval via electronic vote on August 18 of Temporary Pastoral Leadership Contract for Rev.
17 Mary Vance (R) at Lafayette
- 18 4. Letter dated July 10, 2023 from the Presbyterian Investment & Loan Program (PILP) notifying the
19 Stated Clerk that FWB-Korean's loan has been paid in full

20 The Committee approved the following items:

- 21 1. Dismissal of Rev. Casey James Aldridge to Presbytery of Charlotte (received August 19, 2023)
- 22 2. Dismissal of Rev. Jordan Maire Goodwin to Presbytery of Charlotte (received August 19, 2023)
- 23 3. Dismissal of Rev. Stephen E. Graves (R) to Presbytery of Foothills (received June 1, 2023)
- 24 4. Dismissal of Rev. Steven Howard Rhodes (R) to Presbytery of Foothills (received June 4, 2023)
- 25 5. Dismissal of rev. Sharon D. Schuler (R) to Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley (received August
26 17, 2023)
- 27 6. Recommendation of retirement request from Rev. Mark Broadhead, effective October 15, 2023
- 28 7. On October 3 via electronic vote, recommendation of retirement request from Rev. Dr. Roy A.
29 Martin, Jr., effective March 1, 2024

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

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

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

36 The Committee is working on setting up mandatory training in accordance with our Presbytery's sexual
37 misconduct policy. There are also revisions to the COM Handbook which we are working on with Rev.
38 Mark Broadhead.

39 **For action:**

40 The Committee recommends the following:

- 41 1. That the Presbytery grant Retired status to the Rev. Mark Broadhead.
- 42 2. That the Presbytery grant Retired status to the Rev. Dr. Roy A. Martin, Jr.

43 The next regular meeting of the Committee will take place on November 14, 2023 at 9:30 am CST at
44 Dogwood Acres.

45 Respectfully submitted,
46 Rev. Dr. Joan Wooten, Chair

Committee on Ministry (COM)

Class of 2024

Joan Wooten (Chair)
Minister – 1st, Pensacola

Linda Shelley (Vice Chair)
Elder – Faith, Tallahassee

Bill Wert
Elder – 1st, Quincy

Bob Crabtree
Elder – Christ, Tallahassee

Ed Nickinson
Elder – Trinity, Pensacola

Class of 2025

Lisa Martin
Minister – 1st, Lynn Haven

Matt Frease
Minister – UKirk Tallahassee

Richard Clubb
*Elder – Gulf Beach,
Panama City Beach*

Pam Nulty
Elder – Northminster, Pensacola

Vacancy

Class of 2026

Linda Pitts
Minister – Faith, Tallahassee

Sue Coleman
Elder – Trinity, Pensacola

Linda Lovins
Elder – Christ, Tallahassee

Vacancy

Vacancy

1 Report from the
2 **Committee on Mission and Outreach (CMO)**

3 **Membership:** Chair, vice-chair, 5 members-at-large

4 **Purpose:** To coordinate local, national, and international mission work through congregations and mission
5 communities by providing information and resources and to oversee and coordinate presbytery-wide
6 mission work.

7 **For action:** CMO requests presbytery approve the attached covenant among Presbyterian Disaster
8 Assistance (PDA) and the Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network, Inc. (FLAPDAN), and the Six
9 Presbyteries in Florida, including the Presbytery of Florida.

10 See attached copy at end of report.

11 Changes: 1) PDA will now make one annual \$41,750 contribution to FLAPDAN rather than matching
12 grants equal to the sum of contributions of the annual membership contributions of the six Florida
13 presbyteries. 2) FLAPDAN will provide a full financial accountability report annually per Book of Order
14 G-3.0113.

15 **For information:**

16 Resourcing Congregations for Missions: Recruitment of congregational mission liaisons at August
17 presbytery meeting netted but two names and contacts. Thank you to those that did submit names and
18 contact information.

19 Conducting Mission-oriented workshops: We understand that Disciplefest 2024 is on hold for now;
20 presently no pursuit of Mission Workshop leader for Disciplefest.

21 Guatemala Partnership: We have signed our partnership agreement to formalize the project, we have
22 clarified how to send funds to the PW contacts in Guatemala via PC(USA) Mission Agency, and we are
23 now creating print information and videos to share with congregations and local Presbyterian Women

24 leaders to educate our presbytery about the scope of work and opportunities to partake of the work and
25 inspiration.

26 A December 4, 2023 ZOOM conference with Presbytery of Florida, Flint River Presbytery, and PW-
27 Guatemala will celebrate this year's educational, theological, and leadershipscholarship recipients and
28 progress updates.

29 Literacy project 7 ladies participating

30 Higher Education project 35 ladies participating

31 Theological Education 24 ladies participating

32 We are now securing financial routing to submit funds: Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA) Accounts and
33 descriptions for Guatemala Mission – National Union of Presbyterian Women UNMP

34 E051651 – Scholarship program for Q'eqchi Women

35 This is a program to educate adult women in the poorest, most remote, least educated and underserved area
36 in Guatemala. Their average level of education is fourth grade. Scholarship covers costs of tuition, travel,
37 and school supplies.

38 E051830 – Theological Scholarship Aid for Guatemalan Women

39 These funds are to operate the program across Guatemala for women to attend college level theology
40 classes at one of four Presbyterian seminaries in Guatemala. These funds cover tuition, school supplies,
41 operating costs, and travel for meetings with seminaries and students.

42 E052177 – UNMP Literacy project

43 These funds support the general literacy program and the higher education program of women instructed by
44 local teachers and mentors paid a small stipend by PW-Guatemala. Literacy projects are now established in
45 all four districts served by the PW.

46 To send a check, please designate where you want your gift to go on the memo line and mail to

47 Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

48 P. O. Box 643700

49 Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

50 Community Action Grants: no items

51 Reminder: CMO's Community Action Grant guidelines and application forms are posted to the
52 presbytery's website. (www.presbyteryofflorida.net/presbytery-committees/mission-outreach.) Forms and
53 applications are posted for:

54 a. Community Action Grants

55 b. Covenant Agreement Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) and the Florida presbyteries.

56 c. 2 Cents a Meal Hunger Grants

57 d. Disaster Emergency Assistance

58 e. The Presbytery of Florida Peacemaking grants

59 CMO Restricted Funds balances as of July 1, 2023

60 4203 Disaster Emergency Relief Fund \$6,203.85

61 4252 & 3129 Two Cents a Meal Hunger Fund \$32,975.02

62 4253 Peacemaking Fund \$7,997.76

63 4255 Self Development of People Fund \$782.77

64 FLAPDAN:

65 Hurricane Idalia – About 600 flood buckets were delivered to Camp Montgomery, about 35 miles

66 Northeast of Gainesville shortly before the storm hit on August 30. 435 buckets were distributed. To help
67 replenish those buckets, go to <https://pda.pcusa.org/page/kits/#bucket> for details. Faith Tallahassee sent a
68 cleanup team to assist with initial cleanup in Perry, FL .

69 To arrange mission trips or volunteer help contact pda.callcenter@pcusa.org or 866-732- 6121.

70 Racial Justice Subcommittee/Self Development of People (SDOP): New Book of Order requires that
71 presbyteries have a racial justice policy. Racial Justice Subcommittee will work on such a policy. RJC will
72 prepare a presbytery newsletter article with resources for teaching about racial justice in your congregation.

73 Ecumenical relationships: The Florida Council of Churches is reviewing their constitution to clarify roles,
74 responsibilities, and powers of the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee and the Director. Recently
75 the existing executive committee restructured itself as a self-perpetuating board and completely removed
76 any oversight from judicatory leaders, especially in their role as the board of directors. The actions,
77 situation, constitution, procedures, and possible resolution are under review.

78 Respectfully submitted,
79 Hugh Hamilton, Chair CMO

80 COVENANT AGREEMENT
81 WITHIN THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
82 AMONG
83 PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE, operating for corporate purposes via Presbyterian Church
84 (U.S.A.), A Corporation
85 AND
86 FLORIDA PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE NETWORK, INC.
87 AND
88 THE SIX PRESBYTERIES IN FLORIDA

89 INTRODUCTION

90 This document describes a covenant, not a contract. This Covenant Agreement (“Covenant”) recognizes the
91 connectional and relational nature of the church and the importance of serving the denomination,
92 presbyteries, and their constituent churches to strengthen the entire body of Christ. A covenant is rooted in
93 relationships and trust with specific responsibilities for each covenant partner. It is agreed each covenant
94 partner will assume sole responsibility for its own actions and inactions. It is also agreed the creation and
95 signing of this covenant does not hold the partners legally liable for the actions of the other. Presbyterian
96 Disaster Assistance, operating for corporate purposes via Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), A Corporation
97 (hereinafter referred to as “PDA”), Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network, Inc. (“FLAPDAN”),
98 and the presbyteries of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in Florida (Florida, St. Augustine, Tampa Bay,
99 Central Florida, Peace River, Tropical Florida, hereinafter “the six presbyteries”), are distinct entities. They
100 are independent, neither are they being controlled by the other. They are not in a legal partnership, joint
101 venture, or similar legal relationship. PDA, FLAPDAN and the six presbyteries may be referred to in this
102 Covenant as a “Party” and collectively as “Parties.”

103 1. PARTNERS

104 The partners of this agreement are PDA, FLAPDAN, and the six presbyteries.
105 PDA is the emergency disaster response and refugee program of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A), A
106 Corporation. It enables congregations and mission partners of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to witness
107 to the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crisis and catastrophic
108 event. PDA:

- 109 ▪ focuses on the long-term recovery of disaster impacted communities. Provides training and disaster
110 preparedness for presbyteries and synods
- 111 ▪ works collaboratively with church partners and members of the ACT Alliance (Action by Churches
112 Together) internationally, and nationally with other faith-based responders
- 113 ▪ connects partners locally and internationally with key organizations active in the response —
114 United Nations, NVOAD (National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster), World Food
115 Program, Red Cross, FEMA and others.

116 FLAPDAN connects the ongoing need for the six presbyteries and their congregations to be better
117 organized and prepared to respond to traumatic events within their bounds during times of disaster.

118 FLAPDAN:

- 119 ▪ provides a communication link between the six presbyteries, Synod of South Atlantic, and PDA
- 120 ▪ communicates and coordinates with other disaster organizations, including community and faith-
121 based organizations; local, state and federal government; and the private sector
- 122 ▪ addresses common issues of preparedness, response and long-term recovery following a disaster
123 event
- 124 ▪ advocates for specific needs in affected presbyteries
- 125 ▪ identifies and develops resources
- 126 ▪ develops and recommends protocols to be used by presbyteries in times of disaster
- 127 ▪ supports training for disaster preparedness and response for presbyteries and their member
128 congregations.

129 The six presbyteries work together, along with their congregations, to prepare for and respond to disasters
130 in the state of Florida. The six presbyteries:

- 131 ▪ Develop and promote generosity, stewardship and service for the ministries of PDA and FLAPDAN
- 132 ▪ Participate in the mission of the church in disaster preparedness and response
- 133 ▪ Communicate regularly with partners about the needs, opportunities and challenges of disaster
134 ministries.

135 2. PURPOSE

136 This Covenant provides a framework within which the partners will cooperate, communicate, coordinate,
137 and collaborate in carrying out their respective ministries in disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and
138 long-term recovery operations due to disasters in the State of Florida.

139 3. COMMITMENTS

140 PDA AGREES TO:

- 141 ▪ Recognize FLAPDAN and the six presbyteries as co-equal covenant partners in effecting PDA's
142 mission in Florida
- 143 ▪ Make, at minimum, a one-to-one dollar match an annual \$41,750 contribution to FLAPDAN. in the
144 amount equal to the sum of the annual membership contributions of the six Florida presbyteries.
145 PDA will consider additional grant request(s) above PDA's annual contribution of \$41,750. Such
146 grant request(s) will be used to build the capacity of FLAPDAN in preparing for and responding to
147 disasters within Florida. The maximum additional grant(s) is \$40,000 per year. It is expressly
148 understood and agreed that PDA shall have no obligation to provide such additional grant funding,
149 and its decision to do so shall be entirely voluntary and non-binding.
- 150 ▪ Provide church-wide visibility for FLAPDAN through PDA's website, "Mosaic" magazine, and
151 emergency appeals
- 152 ▪ Promote the FLAPDAN model for consideration to other mid councils in high disaster impact areas
- 153 ▪ Make available PDA's Associate for Disaster Response, U.S. (or designee) to serve as ex-officio
154 voting member of the FLAPDAN board of directors
- 155 ▪ Make available PDA's Associate for Disaster Response, U.S. (or designee) to serve as ex-officio
156 member of a committee or group charged with recruitment, recommendation, and evaluation of
157 FLAPDAN executive director
- 158 ▪ Include FLAPDAN executive director in all organizational, operational, and communication
159 decisions pertaining to FLAPDAN's partnership with PDA as detailed in the executive director's
160 position description

161 FLAPDAN AGREES TO:

- 162 ▪ Recognize PDA and the six presbyteries as co-equal covenant partners in effecting FLAPDAN's
163 mission
- 164 ▪ Develop robust relationships, policies and practices that inspire presbyteries to make annual
165 membership contributions to its general operating budget
- 166 ▪ Keep presbyteries informed and engaged in the long-term disaster recovery taking place within their
167 bounds

- 168 ▪ Provide state-wide visibility for PDA within its Presbyterian and external partnerships through dual-
169 branding marketing communications and disaster-related attire, internal and external written and
170 oral reports, and serving as state disaster liaison and incident coordinator for FLAPDAN and PDA
171 in disasters
- 172 ▪ Encourage congregations, presbyteries and individuals to support the One Great Hour of Sharing
173 and promote special PDA appeals
- 174 ▪ Provide full financial accountability and transparency to PDA and the six presbyteries via an annual
175 budget, quarterly revenue and expense reports, and an at least bi-annual, audited end of year report /
176 or financial review by an independent auditor
- 177 ▪ Provide full financial accountability per Book of Order G-3.0113. A financial review shall be
178 conducted annually by two members of the board of directors, or two members of churches in the
179 member presbyteries, approved by the board of directors. Reviewers should not have any conflict of
180 interest with the treasurer(s). The review shall, on a sample basis, determine that policies and
181 procedures with respect to FLAPDAN's finances were being adhered to in the period subject to
182 review. At a minimum, the review shall determine whether proper segregation of duties is in place
183 and operating effectively; that bank accounts are being reconciled monthly; that FLAPDAN is in
184 compliance with Federal payroll reporting requirements; and that annual reporting to Internal
185 Revenue Service and Florida Division of Corporations is current. This financial review does not
186 require the engagement of professionals for the purpose of conducting a Review as described by the
187 American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.
- 188 ▪ Include PDA's Associate for Disaster Response, U.S. (or designee) to serve as an ex-officio voting
189 member of the FLAPDAN board of directors
- 190 ▪ Include PDA's Associate for Disaster Response, U.S. (or designee) to serve as an ex-officio
191 member of a committee or group charged with recruitment, recommendation, and evaluation of
192 FLAPDAN executive director
- 193 ▪ Include PDA's Associate for Disaster Response, U.S. (or designee) in all organizational,
194 operational, and communication decisions pertaining to FLAPDAN's partnership with PDA as
195 detailed in FLAPDAN's executive director position description
- 196 ▪ Be available to consult with other mid councils in high disaster impact areas in their deliberations of
197 developing a disaster network.

198 THE SIX PRESBYTERIES AGREE TO:

- 199 ▪ Recognize FLAPDAN and PDA as co-equal covenant partners in effecting their respective,
200 disaster-related missions
- 201 ▪ Encourage congregations and individuals to make special contributions to FLAPDAN
- 202 ▪ Include FLAPDAN membership in their annual budgets
- 203 ▪ Encourage congregations, presbyteries and individuals to support the One Great Hour of Sharing
204 and promote special PDA appeals
- 205 ▪ Recommend people for the FLAPDAN board who are passionate about and committed to disaster
206 preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation
- 207 ▪ Create with FLAPDAN two-way quarterly reporting protocols between the presbytery and
208 FLAPDAN
- 209 ▪ Provide presbytery-wide visibility for PDA within congregations through effective communication
210 such as testimonials from volunteers, short videos, pastors' commendations from the pulpit, PDA
211 board members' experiential reports and invitations to volunteer, etc.
- 212 ▪ Include FLAPDAN board members and/or representatives on the agenda of regular meetings of the
213 presbyteries
- 214 ▪ The Executive Presbyter or equivalent will attend FLAPDAN's Annual Meeting and participate in
215 special meetings as may be requested throughout the year

216 4. ACCOUNTABILITY AND DOCUMENTATION

217 FLAPDAN will make annual financial and programmatic as well as periodic reports to the other partners as
218 requested, using Presbyterian Disaster Assistance's format. There will be systematic acknowledgement of
219 gratitude for gifts received. All Parties in this will be intentional in fulfilling the intent of this Covenant.

220 5. MODIFICATION

221 This Covenant may be modified upon the mutual written consent of all the Parties.

222 6. EFFECTIVE DATE

223 The terms of this Covenant will be effective from January 1, 2021 2023 to December 31, 2022 2024.

224 7. REVIEW AND RENEWAL

225 This Covenant will be effective beginning January 1, 2021 (renewals are based on the two-year budget
226 cycle of the Presbyterian Mission Agency) through the calendar year 2022. The Parties shall meet at least
227 annually for consultation and to review the progress and success of the Covenant and determine how the
228 Covenant should continue. As part of the review process, consideration shall be given to the frequency and
229 severity of disasters in Florida, to the continued interest of volunteer work teams, and to the progress being
230 made to mitigate future losses.

231 APPROVED BY:

232 Central Florida Presbytery

233 Printed Name / Position: Daniel S. Williams, Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk

234 Signature: _____

235 Date: ____ / ____ / _____

236 Peace River Presbytery

237 Printed Name / Position: Randy Moody, Stated Clerk

238 Signature: _____

239 Date: ____ / ____ / _____

240 Presbytery of Florida

241 Printed Name / Position: Jeannie Dixon, Stated Clerk

242 Signature: _____

243 Date: ____ / ____ / _____

244 Presbytery of St. Augustine

245 Printed Name / Position: Alexandra Hedrick, Charlie Evans, Stated Clerk

246 Signature: _____

247 Date: ____ / ____ / _____

248 Presbytery of Tampa Bay

249 Printed Name / Position: W. A. Wildhack III, Stated Clerk

250 Signature: _____

251 Date: ____ / ____ / _____

252 Presbytery of Tropical Florida

253 Printed Name / Position: Daris Bultena, General Presbyter/Stated Clerk

254 Signature: _____

255 Date: ____ / ____ / _____

256 Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network

257 Printed Name / Position: Charles Berkins Barbara Hassall, Interim Chair

258 Signature: _____

259 Date: ____ / ____ / ____

260 Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), A Corporation Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

261 Printed Name / Position: Laurie Kraus, Edwin González-Castillo, Director

262 Signature: _____

263 Date: ____ / ____ / ____

264 Respectfully submitted,
265 Rev. Dr. Hugh Hamilton, Chair

Committee on Mission and Outreach (CMO)

Class of 2024

Tim Crawford (Vice Chair)
Elder – 1st, Crestview

Becky Rose
Elder – Freeport

Class of 2025

Susan Byram
Elder – 1st, Pensacola

Harry Horne
Minister – HR

Class of 2026

Hugh Hamilton (Chair)
Minister – Trinity, Pensacola

Anne Apple
Minister – 1st, Tallahassee

Vacancy

1 Report from the
2 **Committee on Congregational Discernment (CCD)**

3 **Membership:** Chair, vice-chair, 7 members-at-large

4 **Purpose:** To provide processes and support for congregations that have an identified need, willingness,
5 and ability to engage in spiritual and/or programmatic growth which can lead to deeper commitment both
6 within and beyond current membership.

7 **For Information:**

- 8 • **DeFuniak Springs – Bethel:** Members of the congregation continue to move forward in providing
9 activities for local children and adults. Guest speakers have included law enforcement officers
10 (talking about scams) and a retired librarian (storyteller). The librarian requested to put up a free
11 library in front of the church. Repairs and enhancements to the property continue.
- 12 • **First – Milton:** They are hosting a fund-raising dinner for October 7, 2023.
- 13 • **Pensacola – Northminster:** Continuing to make progress on their strategic plans.
- 14 • **Panama City – Grace:** Harvey Jenkins, consultant, continues to work with their strategic planning
15 team.
- 16 • **Panama City – Parkway** –Lisa Martin, consultant is excited by the movement that is taking place
17 within the congregation.
- 18 • **Lynn Haven First** – has engaged the Holy Cow Assessment process. The assessment will finish at
19 the end of October. Mark Broadhead is their consultant.
- 20 • **Freeport** – They have engaged the Holy Cow Assessment process. The assessment will finish in
21 mid-November. Mark Broadhead is their consultant.
- 22 • A request for an Emergency Repairs Grant was awarded in the amount of \$5,000.
- 23 • A request for an Equipment Grant was awarded in the amount of \$1,000.

24 **Items for action:** None

25 **Next Meeting:** Tuesday, November 21, 2023, at 10:00 am (CDT) by Zoom.

26 Respectfully submitted,
27 Rev. Mark Broadhead, Chair

Committee on Congregational Discernment (CCD)

Class of 2024
Mark Broadhead (Chair)
*Minister – 1st, Crestview/
Laurel Hill*
Harvey Jenkins
Minister – HR

Joanne Kublik
CRE – Red Bay

Class of 2025
Karen Weaver (Vice Chair)
Elder – 1st, Monticello

Sun Kim
*Minister – Korean 1st,
Fort Walton Beach*

Ernie McNeill
Elder – 1st, Marianna

Class of 2026
Shelia Clark-Askew
*Elder – Gulf Beach,
Panama City Beach*
Joyce Kelly
Elder – 1st, DeFuniak Springs

Vacancy

1 Report from the
2 **Committee on Dogwood Acres (CDWA)**

3 **Membership:** Chair, vice-chair, 7 members-at-large

4 **Purpose:** To provide short and long-term planning, management, development, operations, and programs
5 connected with Dogwood Acres.

6 Following a successful summer camp program, Dogwood has turned its attention to its burgeoning fall
7 schedule. More than 40 middle school youth took part in Spiritfest this fall. The weekend was planned by 9
8 members of the Presbyterian Youth Council (PYC) who selected the theme “Path of Love” and invited
9 Beth House to be the keynote speaker and worship leader. The youth were engaged in a study of several
10 biblical characters who had been set on a journey directed by God.

11 Weekend retreats have been booked at Dogwood by several congregations within the presbytery, as well as
12 churches outside our denomination. There are also several CDWA-sponsored retreats being planned which
13 are worthy of the attention and support of our congregations and their members:

- 14 1. Reading, Writing, Resting Retreat is a new retreat offered for adults and takes place Nov. 3-5. This
15 retreat will include a book group discussion, a creative writing workshop, yoga, hiking and various
16 other optional camp activities.
- 17 2. Confirmation Retreat is a weekend for youth engaged in confirmation class or those about to begin
18 the confirmation process. This retreat is back by popular demand and takes place January 12-14.
- 19 3. Annual Women’s Yoga Retreat had a great debut in 2023. This year’s weekend takes place
20 January 19- 21, and the chosen theme is “Pause”.
- 21 4. Dogwood Youth Conference (DYC) is a middle and high school retreat led by college students and
22 is scheduled for February 2-4. More information to follow.

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

28 Bill Lamont
29 CDWA Chair

Committee on Dogwood Acres (CDWA)

Class of 2024

Brant Copeland
(Minister – HR)

Lisa Wilder
(DCE – 1st, Quincy)

James Vance
(Elder – Fellowship, Tallahassee)

Class of 2025

Ken Densmore (Vice Chair)
(Elder – 1st, Pensacola)

Henry Givens
(Elder – Laurel Hill)

Vacancy

Class of 2026

Bill Lamont (Chair)
(Minister – Gulf Breeze)

Susie Barber
(Elder – 1st, Marianna)

Lisa Sweeney
(Member – 1st, Lynn Haven)

1 Report from the
2 **Committee on Presbytery Administration (CPA)**

3 **Membership:** Chair, vice-chair, 9 members-at-large

4 **Purpose:** To oversee the management of presbytery funds, property, and staff.

5 The Committee on Presbytery Administration serves four ministry areas: **Annual Budget, Stewardship,**
6 **Property, and Personnel**

7 **2023 Budget:** Our annual expenses are slightly above our budget, while our shared support has dropped
8 below our budget. Our expenses will require **\$110,000** from our reserves, which is \$40,000 more than
9 anticipated. This will further deplete our reserves, meaning that we will not have undesignated reserves to
10 draw from in 2024. We have asked our staff and committees to **freeze spending** in any non-essential
11 budgeted items. We believe this spending freeze will save around \$24,000.

12 **Stewardship 2024:** Gen. Presbyter Roy Martin hosted a stewardship training for presbytery volunteers in
13 September. These volunteers will reach out to churches and share information about our budget for 2024.
14 Our current stewardship goal for next year is \$451,000, which would be a flat budget.

15 **Property:** The presbytery office building is still under construction and we hope construction will be
16 complete by the end of 2023.

17 **Personnel:** At our October CPA meeting, we received notice that Financial Secretary Denise Vandiver has
18 announced her resignation, effective January 31, 2024.

19 We also received notice that Gen. Presbyter Roy Martin has announced his retirement, effective March
20 2024.

21 Respectfully submitted,
22 Rev. Dr. Brad Clayton, Chair

Committee on Presbytery Administration (CPA)

<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>
Grady McDaniel (Elder – Grace, Panama City)	Brad Clayton (Chair) (Minister – Faith, Tallahassee)	Barbara Sawyer (Elder – Northminster, Pensacola)
Eric Spoon (Minister – Grace, Panama City)	Mary Vance (Minister – HR)	David Balmer (Elder – Gulf Beach, Panama City Beach)
Vacancy	Anne Hodges (Elder – Christ, Tallahassee)	Ann Fyfe (Elder – 1 st , Lynn Haven)
Vacancy	Vacancy	

1 Report from the
2 **Committee on Representation (CR)**

3 **Membership:** Chair, vice-chair, 2 members-at-large

4 **Purpose:** To advise the Presbytery with respect to membership of its committees and to the
5 employment of its personnel per Book of Order G-3.0103.

6 **For information:**

- 7 1. The Committee on Representation (CR) meets monthly, and the committee's last meeting via Zoom
8 was on Saturday, September 18, 2023.
- 9 2. The CR is working with the Committee on Nominations (CR) to ensure that committees in the
10 Presbytery are diverse, inclusive, and equitable. The Chair of the CR participates in CN monthly
11 meetings.
- 12 3. The CR is developing a mission statement and will continue to work on goals and objectives for the
13 new church calendar year.
- 14 4. The CR continues to discuss ways to make participation and representation an even more viable
15 reality throughout the Presbytery.

16 **For action:** No items

17 Respectfully submitted,
18 Elder Glenn Hodges, Chair

Class of 2024
Emily Proctor
(Minister – Member at Large)

Glenn Hodges (Chair)
(Elder – 1st, Tallahassee)

Committee on Representation (CR)
Class of 2025
Ruben Dias
(Elder – 1st, Tallahassee)

Class of 2026
Vacancy