

**Minutes of Summer Stated Presbytery Meeting
at Northminster Presbyterian Church – Pensacola, FL
August 24, 2024**

The Presbytery of Florida, Inc., of the Synod of South Atlantic of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) met at Northminster Presbyterian Church, Pensacola, FL, for a Stated Meeting on Saturday, August 24, 2024.

	Present	Absent	Total
Ruling Elders:			
- Session Commissioners	21	17	38
- Other Continuing Members (RE committee chairs {4}; RE officers {1}; RE educators {1})	3	1	4
- CLP/CRE	2	2	4
Total Ruling Elders	26	19	46
Ministers of Word and Sacrament	21	19	40
Total Present and Absent	47	21	86
Congregations Represented	22	14	36

Ministers of Word and Sacrament present (21):

Mark Broadhead, Kwon Soo Cho, Brant Copeland, Matthew Frease, Hugh Hamilton, Gene Harris, Glenn Hodges, Kenneth Kelley, James Krapf, Bill Lamont, Lisa Martin, A.J. Meador, Catherine Mooney, Linda Pitts, Emily Proctor, Erin Rugh, Eric Spoon, Sheldon Steen, John Stringer, Trinity Whitley, Joan Wooten
(italics = Retired)

Ministers of Word and Sacrament absent (12/7):

Excused Ministers (13): Anne Apple, Blair Beaver, Robert Bohnsack, Hanlim Chae, Brad Clayton, Raymond Guterma, John Kelsay, Sun Kim, Pamela Phillips, Taylor Phillips, Erin Rosica, Kim Stavenau, Carol Wood

Unexcused Ministers (6): Mary Baars O'Malley, John Cole, Tai Cole, Luis Ocasio Torres, Robert Quiring, Rob Sugg

Ruling Elder Commissioners present/absent (21/17)

Blountstown, First – unexcused

Chiple, First – Leslie Kelley

Crestview, First – Tim Crawford

Defuniak Springs, Bethel – Excused

Defuniak Springs, Euchee Valley – Tommy Yates

Defuniak Springs, First – Beth Mooney

- 24 **Destin, First – excused**
- 25 **Fort Walton Beach, First – excused**
- 26 **Fort Walton Beach, Korean- unexcused**
- 27 **Freeport, Freeport – Becky Rose**
- 28 **Gretna, Gretna – excused**
- 29 **Gulf Breeze, Gulf Breeze – Janna F. Stair**
- 30 **Havana, First – unexcused**
- 31 **Laurel Hill, Laurel Hill – Brian Hughes**
- 32 **Lynn Haven, First – Don Mowat**
- 33 **Marianna, First – unexcused**
- 34 **Milton, First – Ann Smith**
- 35 **Monticello, First – unexcused**
- 36 **Navarre, Navarre – unexcused**
- 37 **Panama City Beach, Gulf Beach – Rick Clubb**
- 38 **Panama City, Grace – excused**
- 39 **Panama City, Parkway – excused**
- 40 **Pensacola, First – Angela Sherrill**
- 41 **Pensacola, Korean – unexcused**
- 42 **Pensacola, Northminster – Ron Hull**
- 43 **Pensacola, Trinity – Annise Mock, Cherie Boyce**
- 44 **Quincy, First – Ronald McLane, Francis McCall, Jr.**
- 45 **Red Bay, Red Bay – excused**
- 46 **Sawdust, Woodland – excused**
- 47 **Tallahassee, Christ – Bob Lovins**
- 48 **Tallahassee, Faith – Ted Baker**
- 49 **Tallahassee, Fellowship – Beth Keating**
- 50 **Tallahassee, First – Peggy West**
- 51 **Tallahassee, Lafayette – Doug Pitts**
- 52 **Tallahassee, Trinity United – unexcused**
- 53 **Wewahitchka, First – excused**
- 54 **Sessions not represented:**
- 55 **Excused Churches (9):**
- 56 DeFuniak Springs, Bethel
- 57 Destin, First
- 58 Ft. Walton Beach, First

59 Gretna

60 Panama City, Grace

61 Panama City, Parkway

62 Red Bay

63 Sawdust (Quincy), Woodland

64 Wewahitchka, First

65 **Unexcused Churches (8):**

66 Blountstown, First

67 Fort Walton Beach, Korean

68 Havana, First

69 Marianna, First

70 Monticello, First

71 Navarre

72 Pensacola, Korean Community

73 Tallahassee, Trinity United

74 **Continuing Members:**

75 **CREs present (3):**

76 Joanne Kublik, Greg Seltzer

77 **CREs absent (1):**

78 Tonya Fernandes, Alan House

79 **Christian Educators with voice and vote present (0):**

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

81 **Presbytery Staff Members:** Eric Hearn – Dogwood Acres Program Director; Michael Martin –
82 Accountant/Treasurer; Melissa Willis – Administrator

83 **Officers/Team Chairs:** Mary Hodges (RE) – Presbytery Moderator; Rich Kangas (RE) – Ministry of
84 Representation (MR); Linda Lovins – Ministry of Congregational Health (MCH), Don Mowat (RE) –
85 Ministry Coordinating Council (MCC)

86 **Visitors (6):** Carol Waddell (Northminster, Pensacola), Lisa Chormann (Northminster, Pensacola),
87 Stephen Takeuchi (Trinity, Pensacola), Valerie Young (Synod of South Atlantic), Bob Plank (First, Lynn
88 Haven) Austin Banyas (Faith, Tallahassee)

89 **Visiting Ministers (3):** Stacey Kaye White, Eliane Menezes, Lorne Bostwick

90 **OPENING PRAYER, QUORUM, DOCKET**

91 Moderator Mary Hodges called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM CDT/10:00 AM EDT. A quorum (ten
92 Ministers of Word and Sacrament and ten elders, representing at least ten member congregations) was
93 present, and moderator Hodges opened the meeting with prayer.

94 The docket was approved.

95 **WELCOME: Greg Seltzer, CRE, Northminster Presbyterian Church-Pensacola, welcomed the**
96 **Presbytery and gave instructions for the day's activity, meals, and facilities.**

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

99 **MORNING WORSHIP: Stacey Kaye White, Candidate for Ordination, and The Rev. Emily**
100 **Proctor South Walton Caring and Sharing Ministries, served as liturgists for worship, accompanied**
101 **by the Rev. Dr. Joan Wooten, pianist. Ms. White's sermon, "Chariot Chasers," Isaiah 40:28-31 and Acts**
102 **8:26-40, inspired us to consider how God uses us in surprising ways to reach people with God's Word and**
103 **saving grace. Using the story of the Ethiopian eunuch traveling by chariot from Jerusalem to Ethiopia and**
104 **his "chance" encounter with Phillip, Ms. White highlighted God's providence which puts us at the right**
105 **place, at the right time, in the right conditions, to meet people's needs and to join their quest for faith.**
106 **God's grace finds us at our point of greatest need. "Chariot Chasers" are faithful disciples God places in**
107 **positions to meet, reach, and teach at their point of need and lead them to Christ. The Holy Spirit can use**
108 **the smallest, surprising events and connections for tremendous results. Chariot Chasers are people God**
109 **calls into our lives to do amazing things in our call and journey as disciples. Whose chariot will you and I**
110 **chase next?**

111 **PARTNER REPORTS:**

112 **Valerie Young -Synod of South Atlanta Executive / Stated Clerk - Mrs. Young brought greetings from**
113 **15 other presbyteries in our synod and thanked us for our financial and personal service to the synod. Ms.**
114 **Young highlighted 1) the New Mission Visioning Task Force discerning the work and operations of the**
115 **Synod. and 2) The 1st Wednesday sack lunch Zoom meetings on programs, ideas, resources, and mutual**
116 **sharing of ideas. Upcoming 1st Wednesday gatherings will focus on (September): Basic needs ministries,**
117 **(October) Facilities safety, (November) mental health ministries, and (December) racial justice/social**
118 **witness.**

119 **Dogwood Acres: Bill Lamont:** Information packets about camps and conferences were shared with
120 commissioners. Over 100 campers took part in summer camps, the Presbyterian Youth Council is active
121 and is presently planning and coordinating the Spiritfest youth retreat. DeFuniak Springs First
122 Presbyterian Church was recognized for raising funds to send 20 children to summer camp.

123 **Presbytery of Florida Partnership with the National Union of Presbyterian Women in Guatemala:**
124 **Eliane Menezes. Becky Rose, Ruling Elder, Freeport Presbyterian Church, introduced Ms. Menezes**
125 **of Guatemala City, PC(USA) staff liaison to PW-Guatemala, who presented the work of PW-Guatemala**
126 **empowering women through education and leadership development. Colorful tri-fold brochures**
127 **describing the PW work and support opportunities are available to congregations, and the three**
128 **scholarship programs are suitable for PW Circles, Sunday School Classes, congregations, or individuals**
129 **to give financial support. Spanish Literacy \$125.00/person annually; Secular Education Scholarships**
130 **\$300.00/person annually, and Theological Education Scholarships for women pursuing education to serve**
131 **as pastors, preachers, and educators, \$350.00/person annually. Quarterly Zoom meetings join PW-**
132 **Guatemala ladies, the Presbytery of Florida, the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, and Flint River**
133 **Presbytery for worship, inspiration, education, and cultural exchange. To participate in the Zoom**

134 meetings, prayer support, or financial support, including specific related PC(USA) Mission Agency
135 Accounts, contact Becky Rose, 850-635-24356, ROSEBJ1@gmail.com or Michael Martin, Treasurer,
136 treasurer@presbyteryofflorida.com, or the Presbytery of Florida, P.O. Box 7, Chipley, FL 32428-0007.
137 All contributions are tax deductible.

138 **EDUCATIONAL HOUR: STEWARDSHIP - RESOURCING ONE ANOTHER:** Steve Takeuchi,
139 Stewardship Coordinator at Trinity Presbyterian Church-Pensacola and Hugh Hamilton, Pastor, Trinity
140 Presbyterian Church, presented a PowerPoint presentation highlighting available stewardship curricula
141 and approaches and the new PC(USA) Stewardship Navigator online resource. The presbytery separated
142 into break-out groups according to church sizes and shared with one another stories of stewardship
143 successes and failures, recommended resources and varied approaches to enhance generosity in
144 congregations.

145 **COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION REPORTS FOR INFORMATION.**

146 **Presbyterian Women:** Present initiative is updating their PW Directory of officers, Dates to Remember,
147 all forms PW officers need for reporting, and information for churches' Presbyterian Women. Women of
148 the Presbytery PW attended the Churchwide Triennial Gathering in St Louis, MO, and they will share
149 information at the August 2024 PW CT Meeting and Leadership Workshop for moderators, historians and
150 Together In Service Officers at Chipley First Presbyterian Church.

151 **Ministries Coordinating Council: For Information: Don Mowat, Moderator, MCC:**
152 Members of the Administrative Commission for Red Bay Presbyterian Church were approved.
153 The Spring Stated Presbytery Meeting was moved one week to June 1, 2024, (via zoom) due to inclement
154 weather on the original date.
155 MCC Received and approved:
156 Approved Stated Clerk Jeannie Dixon's request for Medical Leave of Absence. Jeannie will be available
157 for advice and consultation during this period.
158 Approved Rev. Mark Broadhead to serve as Stated Clerk and Acting Transitional Presbyter during this
159 period. During this period, Rev. Mark Broadhead will step down as Moderator of our Presbytery, and
160 Elder Mary Hodges (Vice Moderator) will serve in his stead as per the procedure in our Manual of
161 Operations.
162 Approved Minutes of the June 1, 2024, Presbytery Meeting (held via Zoom).
163 Approved compensation for Jeannie Dixon: to remain the same during her Medical Leave of Absence.
164 Approved compensation for Mark Broadhead as that of the current Stated Clerk/Acting Transitional
165 Presbyter.

166 **Ministry of Congregational Health: Linda Lovins, Moderator.**
167 MCH Approved:
168 Freeport Presbyterian Church's Pastoral Leadership 3-year grant request: Disbursement in 2024 is 50% of
169 annual award (\$16, 476); 2025 and 2026 is 100% of annual amount (\$32,952 each year); 2027 is final
170 50% of annual award (\$16, 476). Funds for this discernment grant come out of the Congregational
171 Revitalization Fund, a line 11 item in the Texas Presbyterian Foundation section of the budget
172 Approved: CRE contract for Alan House (Gretna and Greensboro)
173 Review of Current Church Liaisons – status by district and church
174 West district:
175 First, Destin – Sun Kim
176 First, Fort Walton Beach – Jo Kublik
177 First, Milton – Joan Wooten
178 First, Pensacola – Ed Nickinson
179 Fort Walton Beach, Korean – Rick Clubb
180 Gulf Breeze – Joan Wooten

- 181 Laurel Hill / First, Crestview (yoked) – Lisa Martin
 182 Navarre – Joan Wooten
 183 Northminster – Linda Lovins
 184 Pensacola-Korean – Joan Wooten
 185 Pensacola- Trinity – Lisa Martin (new)
 186 Central District: Still working to assign liaisons to 2 churches and confirm 3 others
 187 Bethel – Shelia Askew (new)
 188 Euchee Valley – Lisa Martin
 189 First, Blountstown – Carol Wood (?)
 190 First, Chipley – Joan Wooten
 191 First, DeFuniak – Linda Lovins (new)
 192 First, Lynn Haven – Ernie McNeill (new)
 193 First, Marianna – Liaison not yet assigned
 194 First, Wewahitchka – Ted Land (?)
 195 Freeport – Lisa Martin
 196 Grace – Lisa Martin
 197 Gulf Beach – Liaison not yet assigned
 198 Parkway – Carol Wood (?)
 199 Red Bay – Administrative Commission to assist/support
 200 East District:
 201 Still working to assign liaisons to 2 churches
 202 Christ – Linda Shelley (new)
 203 Faith – Bob Crabtree
 204 Fellowship – Linda Lovins
 205 First, Havanna – Bob Crabtree (new)
 206 First, Monticello – Brant Copeland
 207 First, Quincy – Linda Lovins
 208 First, Tallahassee – Linda Shelley
 209 Gretna – Liaison not yet assigned
 210 Lafayette – Matt Frease
 211 Trinity United – Linda Shelley
 212 Woodland – Liaison not yet assigned
- 213 As training is prepared and completed, the new Liaisons will be in touch with pastors. In the meantime,
 214 pastors, please feel free to reach out to them at any time.
- 215 Primary Ministry Care for Pastoral Leadership and Congregations
 216 *West Central East*
 217 **Ministry of Congregational Health (MCH)**
 218 Navarre (CRE) DeFuniak-First Christ
 219 Gulf Breeze Grace Havana-First
 220 FWB-Korean Lynn Haven-First Faith
 221 Pensacola-Korean Bethel Fellowship
 222 Northminster (CRE) Blountstown-First Woodland & Gretna (CRE)
 223 Destin-First Marianna-First Trinity United
 224 Milton-First Chipley-First Monticello-First Parkway Tallahassee-First
 225 Gulf Beach Wewahitchka-First UKirk Tall. (Matt Frease)
 226 Westminster Oaks (Erin Rosica)
 227 **Ministry of Pastoral Transitions (MPT)**
 228 FWB-First Euchee Valley Lafayette
 229 Trinity Freeport (until 8/25) Quincy-First
 230 Laurel Hill & Crestview-First

231 Pensacola-First

232 Current Liaisons reported on their churches' status.

233 • Church Liaisons will be trained very soon. This relationship between churches and the Presbytery, via
234 the Liaisons, is intended to be a two-way form of communication.

235 • Churches will have front-page access to the newly updated Pulpit Supply List on the website for fast
236 access, when needed. For full information, useful for computation of mileage, contact Melissa Willis at
237 mwillis@presbyteryofflorida.com during the week for access to the fully-detailed list. This list is
238 maintained by the Ministry for Pastoral Transitions and will be updated annually.

239 • Authorized Ruling Elder training is in the process of being scheduled by the Ministry for Leadership
240 Development. This will be of help to congregations in every district.

241 • Work is now under way in several areas (MCH Lead):

242 MCH Handbook and associated documents (Linda Lovins)

243 Oversight of Freeport grant and contract fulfillment (Joan Wooten)

244 Protection policies / boundary training (Rick Clubb)

245 Proactive care across the Presbytery

246 Items For Presbytery Approval – None

247 Next Meeting Date: August 27, 2024 (4th 88 Tuesdays)

248 **Ministry of Dogwood Acres (MDWA): Bill Lamont, Moderator.**

249 Dogwood Acres is especially busy during the summer months, and this summer has been no exception.
250 Holmes Valley Community Church, a local congregation, kicked off our summer season with 80 campers
251 and chaperones at their annual Bible Camp. This was followed by the Florida Diabetes Camp running
252 their first camp for children since the pandemic. In mid-June Christy and Eric led a week of staff training
253 for both counselors and resource staff in preparation for the summer program.

254 We kicked off our summer program with a week of camp dedicated specifically to high schoolers. This
255 camp included two off-site trips during the week – one to an equine therapy ranch, and one for a kayak
256 trip down Holmes Creek. Both trips were well-received, and the entire week was a great success. Since
257 then, the vast majority of these high schoolers have volunteered to come back this fall to plan and run
258 Spiritfest, a weekend retreat for middle schoolers!

259 High School Camp was followed by three more weeks of camp for elementary and middle schoolers.
260 Each camp included a large variety of activities – hikes, swimming, canoeing, axe throwing, Bingo, ga-ga
261 ball, archery, campfires and s'mores, all mixed together with devotions, bible study, conversations about
262 faith, questions about living into God's call, and the formation of relationships that will last a lifetime.

263 In all, Dogwood ministered to over 100 campers this summer representing nine of our congregations –
264 Parkway, Panama City; Faith, Tallahassee; Trinity, Pensacola; Christ, Tallahassee; Gulf Breeze; Freeport;
265 and First Churches in Quincy, DeFuniak Springs, and Lynn Haven.

266 The success of our summer camp program is due in no small part to the support of the congregations who
267 sent counselors, resource staff and other helpers. We thank you!

268 Nurses

269 Chaplains

270 Nancy Replinger – Christ PC

Bill Lamont

271 – Gulf Breeze PC

272 Lynn Metz – Faith PC

273 Emily Bruno – FPC Tally

274 Ruben Diaz – FPC Tally

Brant

275 Copeland – Retired

276 Sandy Kuhn – Lafayette PC

277 Resource Staff

278 Cook

279 Ford Reeves (all summer) – Trinity PC
280 Breeze PC
281 Tommy Dailey – (one week) Faith PC
282 Sam Norvell – (one week) Christ PC

Sandra Stanley – Gulf

283 Counselors

284 Camille Peterman – (2nd year)- FPC Tally Clara Medina – Blounstown UMC
285 Samantha McClure – (3rd year) Trinity PC Anna Barber – (4th year)- FPC Marianna
286 Logan Perez – (1st year) Taylor Parsons – (1st year) – FPC Quincy
287 Greg Hearn – (3rd year) Methodist Church, GA Ethan Tozer – (2nd year) FPC Tally

288 **Ministry of Leadership Development (MLD): Cathay Mooney, Moderator**

289 MLD is working on Authorized Ruling Elder Training to be held in each section of the presbytery in late
290 summer/early fall. Leaders: West: Hugh Hamilton and Greg Seltzer, Central: Hilda Jackson and Cathy
291 Mooney, East: Erin Rugh and Linda Lovins. The training is expected to last about 2 hours.
292 Erin Rugh, Tim Crawford and Hugh Hamilton are working on the Ministry Team Manual.

293 Two Two-Cents-a-Meal grants were approved:

- 294 • Care & Share Community Food Pantry, Chipley, Florida, for \$3500.00
- 295 • Beth’s Kids’ Closet, DeFuniak Springs, Florida, for \$7000.00

296 Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network (FLAPDAN)/Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)
297 are seeking hosting sites. If your congregation can help, please reach out to Tim Crawford

298 (tcrawford@cox.net)

299 The Racial Justice Subcommittee gave scholarships to Dogwood Acres to three young people.

300 We currently have three inquirers and one Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE) candidate. All have
301 liaisons and are in good standing with the committee.

302 **Ministry of Presbytery Operations (MPO): Eric Spoon, Moderator**

303 Financials: All Ministry funds have been updated with information from the quarterly report. All funds
304 are doing well.

305 Stewardship: The Presbytery has a database of contact information for each church for the upcoming
306 stewardship season.

307 Presbytery Property: All interior work for the Presbytery Office has been completed. There may be one
308 final issue outside with the logs that create the parking area that may need addressing soon.

309 TOPICS PENDING: Ministry of Presbytery Operations Manual

310 Fund Account Limits

311 ITEMS FOR PRESBYTERY APPROVAL: None.

312 ITEMS NEEDING APPROVAL PRIOR TO THE PRESBYTERY MEETING: None.

313 NEXT MEETING DATE: August 8, 2024 via Zoom.

314 **Strategic Plan Implementation Team: Tim Crawford, Moderator.**

315 TOPICS ADDRESSED

316 Ministry Updates: Each of the ministries are working to normalize under the new format. Work on
317 handbooks in most ministries continues to be at the beginning stages of note, however the Ministry of
318 Presbytery Operations’ is nearly complete and will be submitted to Presbytery for approval in the near
319 future.

320 Strategic Plan Success Markers:

- 321 a. The taskforce sees ministry handbook development-completion as a key success marker.
- 322 b. Another success marker is training within each ministry to help those new to work of the ministries
323 function well in the efforts.

324 c. The Implementation taskforce will continue to keep success markers before the presbytery as we all
325 work to fulfill the presbytery vision and mission.
326 The Implementation Taskforce encourages all members of the presbytery to look at the Synod of South
327 Atlantic Wednesday Lunch Zoom gatherings, where a number of important and applicable topics are
328 being offered.
329 NEXT MEETING DATE: 21 August 7, 2024, 8:00 a.m. CDT/9:00 a.m. EDT

330 **Ministry of Pastoral Transitions (MPT): Lisa Martin, Moderator**

331 MPT has had an active summer! We have revised the Pulpit Supply List and Honoraria Guidelines,
332 examined and welcomed new pastors into Florida Presbytery, and met with search committees who
333 faithfully (and oftentimes frustratingly) seek new pastoral leadership. We continue to revise our Manual
334 of Operations with policies and procedures.

335 *For Information*

- 336 1. MPT presented a revised Pulpit Supply List with Honoraria Guidelines and Ethics Policy.
- 337 2. MPT has received the following clergy into the membership of Florida Presbytery: Blair Beaver (First,
338 Marianna), and Hanlim Chae (Interim, Lafayette, Tallahassee).
- 339 3. MPT has approved the following pastoral calls:
 - 340 a. Glenn Hodges as Designated Pastor of First, Tallahassee. Glenn was ordained and installed on July 25,
341 2024;
 - 342 b. The Rev. Kwon Soo Cho as Pastor of Korean Community Church, Pensacola. Kwon Soo will be
343 installed on September 1, 2024 at 4 pm CT;
 - 344 c. Stacey White as Designated Pastor of Freeport. Stacey's ordination and installation will be August 25,
345 2024 at 3 pm CT.
- 346 4. At the request of the Ministry on New Congregation Development (MNCD), MPT examined the Rev.
347 Nicole Richardson to serve as Pastor of the South Walton Presbyterian New Worshiping Community of
348 Santa Rosa Beach. Her examination was sustained.
- 349 5. MPT Introduced new pastors Glen Hodges and Kwon Soo Cho, who shared their sense of call and faith
350 journey, and after each answered representative questions from members of MPT, presbytery approved
351 both examinations and welcomed the new pastors. Their Biographical Statements and Statements of Faith
352 are as follows:

353 **Biographical Statement – Glenn Hodges**

354 My name is Glenn Hodges. I am a candidate for ministry in the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. who
355 is ready to receive a call. I was born in Clearwater, Florida, and I live in Tallahassee, Florida. I am a
356 Florida State University graduate with a bachelor's and master's degree in social work and a Master of
357 Divinity Degree from Dubuque Theological Seminary. I am a current student in the Doctoral of Divinity
358 program, where I am writing my research proposal. I have four units of pastoral education. I am married
359 to Mary, and we have two adult children, Grier and Grant, and one grandchild. My interests and hobbies
360 include spending time with my family, exercising with them through swimming, and riding a bicycle.

361 My goal is to become a teaching elder. I want to grow in understanding the impact of theological
362 perspectives on the church. I also want to apply my pastoral education experience in a congregation to
363 parishioners and preach the gospel in a crisis affecting the church. I have served as a deacon, ruling elder,
364 and commissioned ruling elder.

365 During my call to ministry, I have learned that Christian life is a movement toward salvation and
366 being united with God in the Kingdom of Heaven. God justifies and sanctifies human life in the power of
367 the Spirit and gives it vocation and great hope.¹ God calls people to be followers of Jesus Christ, as Jesus
368 called his disciples (Matthew 4:21; Mark 1:20). In my opinion, human beings have no higher goal in life
369 than to glorify and enjoy God now and forever, living in covenant fellowship with God and participating
370 in God's mission.²

371 I have skills and experience as a college professor and Director of the Bachelor of Social Work Program
372 at Florida A&M University. I was a Commissioned Ruling Elder at First Presbyterian Church in Port Joe,

373 Florida. I have also worked as a hospital and hospice chaplain. I have earned four Clinical Pastoral
374 Education (C.P.E.) units. I chose to enter the C.P.E. Program to become a better pastor.

375 I enjoy working and serving others who experience emotional and spiritual distress. I am sensitive
376 to the needs of people who are oppressed and suffer. Justice and equality for all humankind are essential
377 to me. I have a passion for serving God. I have learned that my life is most meaningful when daily
378 activities involve helping others in God's name. Helping others through God's word is the continuous
379 substratum that persists throughout my life. I am a relational person who believes in serving God. I am a
380 relational person who believes in loving your neighbor as yourself.

381 I grew up in the Presbyterian Church and have been a faithful member all of my life. I was called
382 to the ministry as a youth. During my call to ministry, I have learned that Christian life is a movement
383 toward salvation and being united with God in the Kingdom of Heaven. God justifies and sanctifies
384 human life in the power of the Spirit and gives it vocation and great hope.³

385 God calls people to be followers of Jesus Christ, as Jesus called his disciples (Matthew 4:21; Mark
386 1:20). Human beings have no higher goal in life than to glorify and enjoy God now and forever, living in
387 covenant fellowship with God and participate in God's mission, in my opinion.⁴

388 ¹Daniel L. Migliore, *Faith Seeing Understanding: An Introduction to Christian Theology* (Grand Rapids:
389 William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2004), 246.

390 ² *The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Part II Book of Order 2019-2021*, sec. F-1.01.

391 ³ Migliore, p. 246.

392 ⁴ *The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*, sec F-1.01

393 **Statement of Faith – Glenn Hodges**

394 I believe that God is the creator and ruler of the universe. (Genesis 1:1) I believe in the trinity:
395 Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, three Persons and one God. Also, God created humans in the divine image.
396 God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion
397 over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and the cattle, and all the wild animals of the earth,
398 and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth (Genesis 1:26).” I believe that God loves
399 humanity, and loves them in Christ “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that
400 everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life (John 3:16).” Scripture says, “God
401 is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth (John 4:24).” That truth is revealed
402 through Jesus Christ as revealed in scripture.

403 I believe that Jesus Christ is the son of God. The Old Testament Israel anticipated a coming
404 deliverer “anointed” by God to initiate God’s rule of righteousness and peace. Early Christians saw Jesus
405 fulfilling this hope and designated him as “Christ. Jesus asked his disciples, “But who do you say I am?”
406 Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph (Jesus’ earthly
407 father) in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the
408 child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he
409 will save his people from their sins (Matthew 1:20b-21).” I believe that Jesus Christ is the promised
410 Messiah, God's incarnate self-revelation who brought salvation to the world. I follow Jesus through
411 scripture and prayer. Jesus made an atoning sacrifice for our sins on the cross. He rose on the third day as
412 proof of life eternal. I have learned that having a personal relationship with Christ is possible if only we
413 believe in him. Christ intercedes for us daily in our lives. And this is evident in the person of the Holy
414 Spirit.

415 Finally, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity, God the Father, and God the
416 Son, constituting the eternal Godhead. The Holy Spirit makes known the saving work of Jesus Christ and
417 is God as present in and with the church. The Holy Spirit incorporates all things into the life of the triune
418 God. The Holy Spirit works in our lives to ensure that we receive God through our Jesus Christ as we
419 live. The Holy Spirit is the giver of gifts that manifest through the grace of God.

421 **My Biography – Kwon Soo Cho**

422 Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. My name is Pastor Kwon Soo Cho. I was born in 1965 in
423 South Korea and spent my childhood in Wonju City, Gangwon Province. I have been an active member of
424 the Wonju Presbyterian Church since 1983. During my high school years, I experienced a profound
425 spiritual awakening and dedicated my life to God. Initially, I aspired to become a diplomat, but in 1984, I
426 felt the unmistakable presence and grace of the Holy Spirit, leading me to pursue a life of ministry.
427 Encouraged by an assistant preacher at my church, I decided to apply to the seminary.

428 I earned my Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) from Asia Union Theological University and my Master of
429 Divinity (M.Div.) from Presbyterian Theological Seminary, affiliated with the Presbyterian Church of
430 Korea. In 2010, I began my graduate studies in Historical Theology at Asia Union Theological
431 University. I later transitioned to a combined master's and doctoral program, completing my Ph.D. in
432 Historical Theology in 2016 with a thesis on John Calvin's theological methodology and epistemology. I
433 received my degree on February 14, 2017.

434 I was ordained by the Young-chun Presbytery on October 12, 1999. Following my ordination, I began
435 my ministry in Wonju City and served Chung-shin Church for about 20 years. During my tenure, I also
436 worked as a professional counselor for the Korean Legal Protection and Welfare Corporation, providing
437 support to prisoners for 14 years. I led studies in Greek grammar and held research meetings on Calvin's
438 "Institutes of the Christian Religion" until my relocation to the United States.

439 Since moving to the United States in 2018, I have been pursuing a Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) in
440 ministerial counseling at a seminary (PTS) in Tennessee. I was invited to serve as a Pulpit Supply
441 minister for the Pensacola Korean Presbyterian Church, where I continue to serve now. Through God's
442 grace, the church has stabilized and is growing in faith and hope, guided by God's word and the comfort
443 of the Holy Spirit.

444 **A Statement of Faith – Kwon Soo Cho**

445 I believe in the triune God who created the heavens and the earth. He is holy, everlasting, omniscient,
446 omnipotent, and full of steadfast love in Jesus Christ. God is eternal and perfect, has no regrets about what
447 He does, and is always good in everything He has done, does, and will do. God reveals Himself through
448 creation and redemption only in the Bible. God works through the history of the world, and His
449 providence is always perfect.

450 I believe in Jesus Christ as my Savior and Lord. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin
451 Mary, and was crucified, died, and was buried. He rose again on the third day from the dead. He ascended
452 into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from where He shall come to judge the
453 living and the dead. The Lord Jesus Christ died on the cross, shedding His blood for all my sins. I can be
454 saved only through His eternal atonement fulfilled on the cross and the righteousness of His resurrection.

455 I believe in the Holy Spirit. He is the same God as God the Father and God the Son. He is the Lord who
456 alone makes the promise of God in the gospel of Jesus Christ effective in us through His power. Without
457 His grace, nobody can enter the kingdom of God by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the initiator,
458 sustainer, and helper of the church.

459 I believe that the church is the body of Christ in this world. Jesus Christ is the Head of the church. He
460 bought the church, paying with His blood and body as ransom. The church is the community of God's
461 covenant. Therefore, we must pursue the unity of the Lord Jesus Christ among the church members. God
462 always keeps His promises to the church, and all the church members must strive to keep His

463 commandments in faith. The church in this world is not perfect but is pressing forward, pursuing
464 perfection in the Holy Spirit. Therefore, the church must be the light and salt in this world.

465 I believe that sin made our first ancestors corrupt and alienated them from God. The death of man is
466 eternal alienation from God by sin. The fall brought mankind into a state of sin and misery. All mankind,
467 by their fall, lost communion with God and are under His wrath. There are two kinds of sin in the Bible:
468 original sin, which is the lack of original righteousness and the corruption of our whole nature, and actual
469 transgressions, which proceed from it. We are totally corrupt by sin and cannot save ourselves.

470 I believe that the salvation promised in the Bible is the result of God's free grace in Jesus Christ. We can
471 be saved through faith in Christ and by the free grace of God from all our sins. God saves us from our sins
472 by the justification of Christ. God imputes the righteousness of Christ to us by faith alone in the Holy
473 Spirit. We can be partakers of the salvation of Jesus Christ by the effectual application of the Holy Spirit.
474 The Holy Spirit applies the redemption of Christ to us by indwelling in us. In a word, salvation is unity
475 with the Lord Jesus Christ in us by the spiritual power of the Holy Spirit.

476 I believe that the Sacrament is a holy ordinance instituted by Christ for our spiritual benefit. We have two
477 sacraments in the New Testament: baptism and the Lord's Supper. I believe that we receive the seal of
478 union with Christ in baptism and that we experience the spiritual taste and benefit of partaking of His
479 body and blood through the Holy Spirit in the Lord's Supper. Therefore, if we are allowed to participate
480 in the sacrament, we must examine ourselves to be worthy participants in faith and piety.

481 **LUNCH BREAK**

482 **CENTERING PRAYER - The Rev. Emily Rose Proctor**

483 Returning to our work after the lunch break, Emily Rose Proctor led us in centering prayer, using two of
484 her original poems, "Prayer (Peter Speaks)" and "To Each Her Own" (Martha and Mary) to stimulate
485 reflection and prayer of discernment.

486 **Ministry of Representation (MR): Rick Kangas, Moderator**

487 **For Information:** Commissioners were encouraged to make nominations for Vice-Moderator of
488 Presbytery in 2025, giving attention to male clergy in the West District.

489 A list of possible ministry candidates was developed from using names of commissioners to several past
490 Presbytery meetings. Our members will be contacting ministers to see if these elders are viable
491 candidates.

492 Regarding Class 2/2028: MR has begun addressing the ministry needs be for this class.

493 Ministry Vacancies:

494 Ministry of Congregational Health - 1 Vacancy.

495 Ministry of New Congregational Formation – 1 Vacancy (Needs PNC experience).

496 **For Action:** Presbytery approved the Reverend Blair Beaver to the Ministry of Pastoral Transitions, Class
497 of 2027.

498 **Transitional Presbyter Search Committee: Tim Crawford, Moderator**

499 By necessity and in consultation with Synod Executive Valerie Young, the search committee has become
500 open to a candidate working remotely and not moving to our geographic location nor transferring his/her
501 membership to our presbytery. The shift has increased the number of available candidates.

502 A candidate was brought here and examined by an examination team of the Ministry of Pastoral
503 Transitions. Confusion over the necessity and scope of the examination resulted in a negative conclusion.
504 The candidate and the Search Committee remain convinced that the candidate is called to participate in
505 the work and leadership of our presbytery, and are currently working with the MPT to fulfill the
506 expectations of said examination and is moving forward together pending a re-examination and approval
507 by MCC. Apologies have been extended for insisting that the search committee examine candidates as we

508 would examine ordained candidates, and all parties have clarified that the Transitional Presbytery is a
509 hired position, not a called position. When a final candidate is selected, the candidate will be approved
510 by the Ministry Coordinating Council (MCC), not by presbytery.

511 **Report of General Assembly Commissioners and Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD): Lisa**
512 **Martin, Glenn Hodges, Austin Banyas**

513 The three commissioners submitted written reports (see below) and also offered verbal reports about the
514 General Assembly as a positive experience of commissioners sharing a strong sense of connection, shared
515 faith, and shared excitement about the state of the church. They spoke of difficult conversations on
516 controversial topics, especially gun violence, but commissioners were able to find joy even amidst heavy,
517 intense discussions. GA participants evidenced a willingness to listen to divergent views and to show
518 mutual respect and mutual forbearance. Numerous times commissioners reminded one another that no
519 topic is worth sacrificing shared relationships. Commissioners complemented the Youth Advisory
520 Delegates for their intelligent analysis of issues, obviously having done due diligence in preparing for GA
521 plenary and committee work: they were prepared and principled young men and women.

522 **Report from our Presbytery’s Elder Commissioner to the 226th General Assembly: Glenn Hodges**

523 The 226 General Assembly (GA) of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. PC(U.S.A.) was held in Salt
524 Lake City, Utah, at the Salt Palace Convention Center between Jun 29 and July 4, 2024. The GA is a
525 church council, a discernment event, and a worshipping body. As a council, the GA comprises
526 commissioners from the PCUSA, with teaching elders (ministers of the Word and Sacrament) and ruling
527 elders represented in equal numbers. More than 500 delegates and eighty-two young adult advisory
528 delegates were in attendance.

529 The role of the adult advisory delegates was to inform commissioners about issues and ideas they
530 might have yet to learn. Commissioners and adult advisory delegates gathered for committees and
531 plenary sessions to discern the church's direction and make decisions that will be implemented throughout
532 the life of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. The committees met online in three-day sessions before the in-
533 person meetings. The GA’s theme was “Living into Hope,” the name of a 1976 hymn text by Jane Parker
534 Huber.

535 One highlight of the meeting was the approval of both portions of the Olympia Overture. POL-01
536 which had been divided into two parts, will amend the Book of Order to include sexual orientation and
537 gender identity among the categories against which this Church does not discriminate. Avoiding language
538 that discriminates against groups of people based on race, gender, socioeconomic status, and ability is
539 essential today in the Twenty-first century.

540 This action by the GA reminds us that we should act lovingly toward others and will be sent to
541 presbyteries for ratification. As the presbyteries go about this process, we must remember the importance
542 of living in unity and hope, bearing one another in love.

543 Another highlight was the GA backtracking EVN02, which was the complete divestment from the
544 fossil fuel industry after having voted in favor of it that morning. Burning fossil fuels creates air pollution
545 and toxic emissions that drive climate change. They also release large amounts of carbon dioxide, a
546 greenhouse gas that traps heat in the air and causes global warming. While all of this was occurring, I
547 could not help but think of how God created the heavens, the earth, and all therein, and preserving it is a
548 moral imperative.

549 What most impressed me about GA was its willingness to listen to those who felt they had yet to
550 be heard. The process was designed to ensure everyone was heard, and I felt the Holy Spirit working
551 through that process day after day. I could not think of another institution that considers diverse opinions
552 so seriously. I found myself thanking God every day for such a place like GA.

553 Respectfully submitted, Glenn Hodges

554 **Report from our Presbytery’s Minister Commissioner to the 226th General Assembly, Rev. Lisa W.**
555 **Martin:**

556 It was my distinct honor to serve as minister commissioner to the 226th General Assembly. The first
557 week of my GA experience was totally online, with committees meeting all day on June 25, 26, and 27.
558 The second week was in person in Salt Lake City, Utah on June 29 and July 1-4.

559 I was a member of the Environmental and Climate Justice Committee. With 20 other members, we
560 addressed the following overtures and reports:

- 561 • Adoption of the One Billion for Peace Pledge
- 562 • Removal of Investments in and Subsidies for Fossil Fuels
- 563 • Becoming Free from Plastic Pollution
- 564 • Lithium Mining Paper
- 565 • Response to the 225th 13 GA Directive on Applying Environmental Policy and Continuing
566 Corporate Engagement
- 567 • Environmental Justice and the Costs of Green Transitions

568 Of note, the fossil fuel divestment overture (which was co-sponsored by First, Tallahassee) was approved
569 on the first in-person vote, then was called into question, and finally was re-voted on and the approval was
570 overturned.

571 Other interesting notes:

- 572 • The Rev. Bronwen Boswell was honored for her service as the first woman ever to serve in the
573 role as Stated Clerk of the General Assembly. Her interim term ended on July 31.
- 574 • A unanimous vote elected The Rev. Jihyun Oh as Stated Clerk of the General Assembly,
575 effective August 1, 24
- 576 • The Rev. CeCe Armstrong and the Rev. Tony Larson were elected Co-Moderators of the 226th
577 General Assembly. CeCe Armstrong is a member of South Atlantic Synod.
- 578 • The Office of the General Assembly (OGA) and the Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA) are
579 unifying into one new agency that will help streamline the work of the denomination.
- 580 • Covid is alive and well...unfortunately. Many commissioners (including me) came down with it
581 there.

582 **Report from our Presbytery's Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD) to the 226th General** 583 **Assembly, Austin Banyas:**

584 God always follows through on his promises. Going to this year's General Assembly was a leap of
585 faith for me, having never been on a flight, never traveled alone, never experienced anything of the sort
586 and was surrounded by a wave of emotions. But in answering this call came a life-changing experience in
587 more ways than I can count, so here are a few that stand out for me.

588 While in Salt Lake City, we voted on a variety of topics such as gun violence, environmental
589 concerns, polity, etc. Though that was not the biggest takeaway for me. Now, voting was important, don't
590 get me wrong. But throughout the week, I realized the importance of storytelling; hearing stories from a
591 diverse group of individuals deepened the effects this time had on me and broadened my perspective as a
592 whole. Being able to remember and see the humanness and joy in an environment surrounded in a blanket
593 of heaviness at times was and is a blessing from God, knowing that none of these items of business were
594 worth sacrificing our relationships with one another.

595 For me, it was not about the destination, rather it was about the people I met along the way.
596 Meeting lamps along the journey who filled my cup and empowered me to continue to fill others with the
597 help of God. A blessing it was to see where God's Love has and is being planted, continuing to grow in
598 every corner of this world, and moving in a way we may have never seen before.

599 Continue to be still and listen in the storms to come, for our God is always near, never far. God is
600 the Direction, placing stones to lead us where we are meant to be. General Assembly was confirmation of
601 a living God who is here, who is now, and in the future to come.

602 **ITEMS FOR ACTION:**

603 **REVISIONS TO SYNOD PLAN FOR ELECTION AND PARTICIPATION:**

604 The presbytery approved the following change in the Manual of Operations of the Synod of the South
605 Atlantic: (changes in italics)
606 Commissioners:
607 When the Synod of South Atlantic meets, it shall consist of *thirty eight (38) commissioners, thirty-two*
608 *(32) elected from the constituent presbyteries and six (6) elected by the synod.* Each presbytery shall elect
609 two commissioners *to staggered classes ((one even year, one odd year);* one minister of the Word and
610 Sacrament and one Ruling Elder, giving consideration to the issue of representation and inclusiveness as
611 required by the Book of Order. *The other six (6) commissioners shall be “At-Large” Commissioners*
612 *intended to represent communities too long marginalized by the systems of the Church (BIPOC, LBGTQ).*
613 *Of the six (6), three (3) shall be ruling elders, and three (3) Ministers of the Word and Sacrament, all of*
614 *whom must come from different presbyteries and at least one from each state (South Carolina, Georgia,*
615 *and Florida).*

616 **Ministry of New Congregation Formation (MNCF) and the Ministry of Pastoral Transitions (MPT)**
617 MNCF and PMT presented the Biographical Narrative, Faith Statement, Terms of Call, and Installation
618 Commission for the Reverend Dr. Nicole Richardson to be received into the presbytery and installed as
619 the Church Planter for the South Walton Presbyterian New Worshiping Community.

620 As Dr. Richardson was ill with Covid, she was unable to attend the presbytery meeting, but upon
621 assurances of the MNCF and MPT that Dr. Richardson was qualified to assume this ministry and had
622 been thoroughly examined by MPT and found suitable, the presbytery voted to approve 1) the Terms of
623 Call, 2) the Commission to Install, 3) to receive Dr. Richardson as a member of our presbytery upon
624 dismissal to us by Salem Presbytery (NC), and 4) granted Dr. Richardson permission to move onto the
625 field.

626 The attached documents were approved: Terms of Call

627 **Rev. Dr. Nicole J. Richardson Biography/Faith Journey**

628 Nicole Richardson's journey is an intricate blend of faith, leadership, and adventure seamlessly connected
629 by her profound spiritual insights and diverse life experiences. Born in California and raised in Kansas
630 City, Missouri, Nicole's early life was marked by significant shifts and challenges. Although baptized as
631 an infant in a Presbyterian church, her family ceased attending church during her childhood. It wasn't
632 until she faced a life-altering event at the age of 26 — discovering and recovering from a benign brain
633 tumor — that she experienced a spiritual epiphany of purpose. This pivotal moment led her to seminary
634 and a lifelong dedication to ministry.

635 For more than 20, Nicole has faithfully served as an ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament within the
636 Presbyterian Church USA, guiding communities with compassion and wisdom. Her ministry has spanned
637 four churches, where she has led congregations through times of growth and transformation. Holding a
638 Doctorate of Leadership and Global Perspectives from George Fox University – Portland Seminary,
639 Nicole navigates life's challenges with a deep understanding and unwavering determination, integrating
640 scholarly insights with heartfelt conviction.

641 Beyond her spiritual vocation, Nicole embraces the depths of the ocean as a PADI Master Scuba Diver
642 Trainer, finding both solace and exhilaration beneath the waves. Additionally, she shares her passion for
643 holistic well-being as a certified YogaFaith Yoga Instructor, promoting harmony of mind, body, and
644 spirit.

645 Nicole's personal experiences, including her brain tumor recovery, have profoundly shaped her ministry
646 and life. They have led her to embrace new directions in ministry, paying close attention to the new things
647 God is doing and inviting her to rethink and reshape the concept of church. Married for years, Nicole has

648 a son and daughter-in-law living in Jacksonville, Florida, and a daughter in New Orleans, Louisiana, who
649 is on the verge of applying to medical school.

650 Nicole's journey is a profound testament to the power of faith, the essence of leadership, and the joy of
651 exploring life's diverse opportunities. Her story inspires others to face their challenges with courage and
652 to seek out the divine in every aspect of their lives.

653 **Rev. Dr. Nicole J. Richardson Statement of Faith**

654 At the center of my faith is the Trinity — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the Creator of all that is. Through
655 God's loving grace, He has given His Son Jesus Christ, fully human and fully God, to redeem humanity.
656 God sustains creation through God's Spirit. Although humans are sinners, God desires and chooses to
657 continue the relationship with humanity. It is by God's grace alone that humanity has salvation.

658 I believe in the resurrection of Jesus, and through this event, all of creation has been given new
659 possibilities of living in God's kingdom now. Living with this expectation allows us to experience the
660 transformative power of God's love, seen in Christ's birth, death, and resurrection. By the Spirit's power,
661 we are given the strength and courage to be transformed into new life.

662 God's Word, found in scripture, is revealed to humanity by the Spirit's presence. Scripture testifies to
663 God's sovereign grace and reconciling activity throughout history, recording His faithfulness in covenant
664 with an unfaithful people.

665 The sacraments are visible signs of God's promise, uniting us with Him and each other. Baptism signifies
666 God's unconditional love and our participation in His service. The Lord's Supper signifies our
667 reconciliation to God and each other, strengthening us to be the body of Christ in the world.

668 The Church is the body of Christ, called to bring God's message of reconciliation to the world. We are
669 witnesses of Christ's saving grace and instruments of God's transforming love, mercy, peace, and justice.

670 Faith is a gift from God. Embracing this gift brings awareness that, in life and death, I belong to God. My
671 faith involves a responsibility to live and love in Christ-like ways. In Jesus Christ, God calls me to share
672 in His ministry, to teach, bless, heal, and proclaim release to the captive. The Spirit justifies me by grace
673 through faith, liberating me to see myself through God's eyes, love God deeply, and honor the humanity
674 of both neighbor and stranger.

675 The Trinity is sovereign and humble, transcendent and immanent, just and merciful. My faith is grounded
676 in the paradox of the cross. Living in these tensions, I believe God relates to humanity. Resolving this
677 paradox means losing our distinctiveness (Matt 5:13).

678 God's power redeems and transforms us so that nothing will ever be the same again.

679 **Daily Life Practices Reflecting My Faith**

680 My faith is not just a set of beliefs, but a guiding force that shapes my daily life and professional
681 endeavors. Here's how my faith is integrated into my daily practices:

682 • **Daily Prayer, Journaling, and Meditation:** Every morning, I start my day with prayer and meditation,
683 seeking God's guidance and wisdom. I keep a journal where I reflect on my spiritual journey, insights
684 from scripture, prayers, and experiences of God's presence in my life. This practice centers my mind and
685 heart on God, helping me to align my daily actions with His will.

686 • **Mindful Presence and Gratitude Practice:** I strive to be fully present in each moment, aware of God's
687 presence in the ordinary activities of life. This mindfulness turns everyday tasks into acts of worship and

688 gratitude. Each day, I list things for which I am grateful, cultivating a heart of thankfulness and reminding
689 me of God's blessings and faithfulness.

690 • Service to Others: I actively seek opportunities to serve others in my community, whether 67 through
691 volunteering, supporting those in need, or simply offering a listening ear. Serving 68 others is a tangible
692 expression of Christ's love and compassion.

693 • Forgiveness and Reconciliation: I practice forgiveness and seek reconciliation in my relationships.
694 Recognizing my own need for grace, I extend the same grace to others, fostering peace and
695 understanding.

696 • Creative Worship: I engage in creative activities like yoga, coloring, playing music, dancing, or
697 photography as forms of worship. I also spend time in nature, appreciating God's creation. I invite others
698 to join me in these activities, using the time for prayer, meditation, and reflection. When possible, I
699 organize outdoor worship services or prayer walks. These creative expressions are powerful ways to
700 connect with God and express my faith.

701 • Ethical Living: I aim to live ethically and justly, making choices that reflect integrity and respect 78 for
702 all of God's creation. This includes being mindful of my environmental impact, supporting 79 fair
703 practices, and advocating for justice.

704 • Acts of Hospitality: I open my home and heart to others, inviting friends and neighbors for meals or
705 gatherings. Hospitality is a profound way to demonstrate Christ's love and build 82 community.

706 • Mentorship and Discipleship: I mentor or disciple others in their faith journey when appropriate 84
707 opportunities arise, sharing my experiences, wisdom, and encouragement. This reciprocal relationship
708 strengthens both my faith and theirs.

709 • Listening Ministry: I practice the ministry of presence by being a compassionate listener to those who
710 need to share their stories or burdens. Offering a non-judgmental and empathetic ear is a profound act of
711 love.

712 • Sabbath Rest: I observe a regular Sabbath day, setting aside work and busyness to rest, worship, and
713 rejuvenate.

714 • Continual Learning: I am committed to continual learning and growth in my faith. This includes
715 studying theology, attending faith-based seminars, and being open to new insights and perspectives.

716 • Living Out the Fruit of the Spirit: I strive to exhibit the fruit of the Spirit in my daily life — love, joy,
717 peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). These
718 qualities guide my interactions and decision-making.

719 **Integration of Faith and Professional Life**

720 My journey into scuba diving began during a difficult time in my life when I was struggling to understand
721 my purpose. I had lost my footing on knowing who I was and my handholds on my self-worth. Learning
722 to scuba dive challenged me to dive deep into seeing what I could accomplish and helped place me on
723 solid footing once again. Getting underwater provided me a sanctuary to heal, renew, and grow into
724 seeing a bigger purpose for my life. Submerged, I experienced having the weight of the world lifted and
725 found a space where all the white noise on land was silenced; in the silence, I found solace, a beautiful
726 place to pray and meditate, and discovered more profoundly that there is much more than me.

727 *"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28)*

728 My journey to become a scuba instructor afforded me the opportunity to discover my new purpose and
729 deeper identity. As an ordained minister called to lead people to healing and wholeness, I began to see
730 how teaching others to scuba dive can converge with my call. This realization led to the creation of
731 Curative Currents, a scuba ministry concept focused on empowering and uplifting at-risk youth,
732 differently-abled individuals, and those on a healing journey from PTSD.

733 *"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you,
734 plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11)*

735 I have a heart for those who are not seen or who have been assessed as not having value in our society. I
736 see the pain that is carried by those whose human dignity is not honored. I deeply understand the
737 transformative nature scuba diving can provide to a person who feels less than or drowning in lostness in
738 this world. Making scuba diving accessible to those most in need of a better understanding of oneself,
739 hope, healing, and wholeness is gospel work.

740 *"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has*
741 *sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed*
742 *free."* (Luke 4:18)

743 My faith drives my dedication to this type of Gospel ministry. I see it as an extension of God's calling to
744 teach, bless, heal, and proclaim release to the captive. By offering a space for liberation and
745 transformation, I hope to reflect Christ's love and compassion to all participants, fostering a community
746 of inclusivity and hope.

747 *"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's*
748 *grace in its various forms."* (1 Peter 4:10)

749 Through ministry concepts like Curative Currents, I strive to be a beacon of hope, inviting all who seek
750 solace, growth, and empowerment into the boundless depths of the ocean and God's abundant love and
751 grace. My unique blend of expertise, compassion, and determination forms the bedrock of this work I am
752 called to, promising to uplift, inspire, and transform lives, one dive at a time.

753 *"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."* (1 Thess.5:11)
754 *"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."*
755 (Matthew 5:16)

with the exceptions of food and maid service. This is part of the Board of Pensions total effective salary and part of the Minister of Word and Sacrament's compensation package.

Line 3: Other

Enter here any additional compensation (such as dental unless all employees receive dental) considered part of effective salary. (see *Understanding Effective Salary* published by the Board of Pensions.) This amount is part of the Minister of Word and Sacrament's compensation package.

Line 4: Additional SECA

Enter here any amount over 50% of Minister's SECA liability if offered. Under the terms of the Self-Employment Contributions Act (SECA), Ministers are considered self-employed for social security tax purposes (they are considered employees for income tax purposes). A Minister's SECA liability is estimated by adding lines 1 and 2 and multiplying by 15.3% (Ministers should consult their CPA or attorney for more precise calculations). Our presbytery compensation standards require that churches reimburse Minister's for the portion of their SECA tax liability that would have been paid by the employer (the church) if the Minister were a regular employee. For calculation of this amount, see the instructions for Line 7 below. Reimbursement of 50% of SECA liability is not part of the Board of Pensions total effective salary. However, if the church wishes to provide more than 50% of the Minister of Word and Sacrament's SECA liability, the amount over 50% is included in the Board of Pensions total effective salary and is part of the Minister's compensation package.

Line 5: Deferred Income

This would include such items as the equity fund, annuities, retirement savings accounts, etc. List any such annual contributions made by the church on behalf of the Minister here. This is part of the Board of Pensions total effective salary and part of the Minister's compensation package.

Line 6: Use of Manse

If the church owns a manse that is provided to the minister for housing, enter a minimum of 30% of the sums of lines 1, 2c, 3, 4, and 5 on this line. This figure, while not part of the total compensation package of the Minister of Word and Sacrament, is used to calculate the Minister of Word and Sacrament's total effective salary for Board of Pensions purposes.

90,000 Line 7: Total Effective Salary

Enter here the sum of lines 1, 2a or 2c, and 3-6. This figure is the total effective salary on which you will calculate the cost of participation in the Board of Pensions medical and pension program.

Required Benefits

26,100 Line 8: Medical

Enter the result of line 7 multiplied by 29% (year 2024). This figure represents the cost of participation in the medical program for the Minister of Word and Sacrament. This figure is paid to the Board of Pensions annually.

- c. When a manse is provided, a utilities and furnishings and appurtenances allowance (to the extent these are paid for by the Minister). IRS regulations should be consulted but, generally speaking, any household expense is considered furnishings and appurtenances

plans shall include at least the following: travel expenses, vehicle expenses, rent expenses, office expenses, and insurance premiums.

131,985----- Line 19: Total Cost to the Church - Enter the total of lines 7, 13, 18

6 weeks Vacation and Study Leave - Enter the number of weeks of vacation, study leave, and parental leave with full compensation provided. Our presbytery standards require a minimum of four weeks of vacation and two weeks of study leave each year. These standards also provide for up to twelve weeks of parental leave.

6,885 Line 12: Required SECA

As indicated above (line 4), our presbytery compensation standards require that churches reimburse Ministers of Word and Sacrament for 50% of their total SECA liability. Enter on this line the sum of line 1 and line 2a or line 1 and line 2b and c multiplied by 7.65%.

41,985 Line 13. Total Required Benefits - total of lines 8-12.

Professional Reimbursements

Line 14: Automobile Expenses.

Can be handled in either of the following ways:

- 1) reimbursement to the minister for miles traveled in the exercise of professional responsibilities at the IRS rate-per-mile or,
- 2) direct reimbursement of actual expenses.

Either method requires vouchers for expenses to be approved for reimbursement and a record of business and total miles driven.

2,000 Line 15: Continuing Education Allowance

Enter the amount provided to reimburse the minister for continuing education (seminars, classes, etc.).

Line 16: Books and subscriptions for business and professional purposes.

4,000 Line 17: Other expenses as are deemed necessary to the work of the pastor

6,000 Line 18: Total Professional Reimbursements

An accountable plan specifying which expenses shall be reimbursed and what supporting documentation is required for reimbursement (see IRS Regulations). Such expense reimbursement

756 **Examination and Approval of Stacey Kaye White**

757 The presbytery sustained the ordination sermon preached by Stacey Kaye White. Ms. White then shared
758 her statement of faith and faith journey, and after report of satisfactory examination by MPT and
759 representative questions from the MPT, presbytery voted to sustain the examination and approved her to
760 be accepted into the presbytery for ordination and installation as Pastor to the Freeport Presbyterian
761 church.

762 **Biography of Stacey Kaye White**

763 Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! I have lived in North Alabama
764 for 45 years. I can't remember a time in my life when church was not a big part of my life. When I was
765 about five years old, my interest in ministry life and in the things of God began when I listened to the
766 testimony of a missionary who was visiting my church who had been doing humanitarian work in
767 Honduras. That day, I made the decision to commit my life to Jesus Christ and to endeavor to be his
768 hands and feet in a hurting world.

769 My family's business was the Christian bookstore in our small southern town. I read everything about
770 theology that I could get my hands on, which gave me a strong foundation in the faith.

771 The denomination I belonged to after college did not allow women to teach or preach. I began to wonder
772 why. I felt like I had Biblical knowledge that I wanted to share with others. I wanted others to know they
773 are loved by God! I found my way to the PCUSA church.

774 When I first visited the PCUSA church, the kind, female pastor invited me for coffee. We talked about
775 theology and and the heartbreak that I had been through when I was shunned by my former church. She
776 told me that even if I never returned to her church, she would be my pastor. She encouraged me to
777 discover my spiritual gifts and to use them for God's glory. Soon, I was her usual pulpit supply.

778 I was ordained as a ruling elder and went through Commissioned Ruling Elder training at Dubuque
779 Theological Seminary. I became pastor at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Decatur, AL on December
780 7, 2021. I like to tell people that I'm a Presbyterian today because a Presbyterian loved me! I feel called to
781 come alongside others just as my pastor did.

782 I attended seminary at Dubuque Theological Seminary and graduated with my Master of Divinity in April
783 2024. While attending seminary, I worked as a crisis intervention specialist, social worker, and hospice
784 chaplain. I served hundreds of people, often in the most difficult times of their life. Through this work, I
785 realized that I am called to pastoral care, prayer, and small group faith formation. My greatest joy is
786 discipling alongside others!

787 My life verse is John 15:9 that instructs us to abide in Christ's love. I have learned that my call to ministry
788 is to let the love of Christ flow through me. That can mean preaching the good news of the Gospel,
789 visiting the sick or simply by sitting in silence with someone who is dying. Sometimes I share the love of
790 Christ by breaking the bread of fellowship or studying the Bible with other believers. I am excited about
791 future ministry and the continued faithfulness of our loving God!

792 **My Statement of Faith – Stacey Kaye White**

793 I believe in the triune God: Father the Creator, Son the Reconciler and Holy Spirit the Sustainer, who is
794 sovereign, infinite and incomprehensible. God desires a relationship with me and every human being. I
795 exist to give glory and honor to God. Throughout the ages, evidence for God's desire for a constant,
796 loving relationship with people was shown first in God's covenant with Israel in the Old Testament, and
797 was further made evident through the life and ministry of Jesus Christ who established a new covenant of

798 grace that we read about in the New Testament. My relationship with God is through faith in my Lord and
799 Savior, Jesus Christ, who lived on the earth as fully human and at the same time, was the fullness of God.
800 Jesus made my reconciliation to God possible through the love and grace demonstrated by his birth, life,
801 crucifixion, resurrection and exaltation. This reconciliation imputed the righteousness of Christ to me and
802 made me a new creation. Jesus redeemed my life from sin by completely satisfying my sin debt. I live my
803 life in the grip of God's amazing grace and as a recipient of God's unending love. My salvation is God's
804 gift to me that I did nothing to earn, can do nothing to keep and nothing can separate me from God.

805 In Christ, I join him in his work of reconciliation on the earth. My task everyday is to look at the example
806 that Christ set for me, look at my own life and try to close that gap. The example that Christ set for me is
807 to continually point people to the kingdom of God, to make and support disciples, to confront evil with
808 good and to be an instrument of blessing to all people. I strive to shine the light of Jesus to the world,
809 empowered by the Holy Spirit.

810 I live to be a true disciple of Jesus and follow his example of preaching Good News, reaching out to the
811 oppressed and brokenhearted, speaking freedom to those who are in bondage, comforting those who
812 mourn and meeting the needs of the poor.

813 Jesus Christ is the anchor of my life, my stability in any chaos. I can face challenges and uncertainty
814 resting in God who is my Refuge, knowing that nothing will happen in my life outside of God's perfect
815 will. I grow in my relationship with God through prayer and Bible study.

816 Through Christ, I am reconciled both to God and others. I have been adopted into the family of God. I
817 gather with my local church for encouragement, to share the joy of worshiping God with the saints, and to
818 be edified by the preaching of the Word of God. I believe that the Old and New Testaments are the living
819 Word of God. Scripture contains the knowledge necessary for a saving faith and a Godly lifestyle,
820 effecting transformation in my life.

821 God designed the church as a community established to support each other. The community of the church
822 mirrors the community of the triune God. God has preserved the church throughout the ages. Only God
823 knows those who are chosen; therefore, the true church is invisible. As God's elect, I should not concern
824 myself with whether others are elect, I should only strive to effectually live out my individual callings.

825 Within the worshiping community of the church, God relates to us through the sacraments of baptism and
826 the Lord's Supper. The sacrament of baptism reminds me that I am sealed in the covenant of grace,
827 forever joined to the family of God. The waters of baptism remind me that my sins have been washed
828 away and I enjoy renewal through the work of the Holy Spirit in my life. The Lord's supper was instituted
829 by Jesus so I would remember his death and its benefits. The elements, the bread of life and the cup of
830 salvation, offer spiritual nourishment for believers through the power of the Holy Spirit.

831 As a follower of Jesus, I endeavor to walk as he walked by proclaiming his Word and imitating him in
832 deed, loving and serving others. I live to be a good steward of the spiritual gifts God has blessed me with,
833 the material resources God has given me and the world around me given for me to enjoy. God gives good
834 gifts to the beloved both for the purpose of God's glory and the benefit of our neighbors. God's love
835 motivates me to a life of service, obedience and stewardship out of gratitude for the grace of God in my
836 life.

837 **STAFF REPORTS**

838 **Accountant/Treasurer Michael Martin:**

839 In addition to the printed financial reports submitted, Mr. Martin shared that 2025 asking budgets are in
840 process by the ministries prior to the presbytery's appeal to congregations for financial pledges for 2025.
841 Mr. Martin also appealed to churches to catch up on their pledged giving to-date. Bottom line, as of July
842 31, 2024:

843 Income to date \$189, 387.70
844 Expenses to-date \$211,908.75.
845 Net operating income (-22, 521.05)
846 Amount to be transferred from Texas Presbyterian Foundation \$280.00.
847 Actual operating income (-22, 241.05).

848 **Stated Clerk: Mark Broadhead**

849 For information:

850 The Rev. Mark Broadhead has been Stated Clerk/Acting General Presbyter since Jeannie Dixon
851 was granted a medical leave of absence from July 25-October 17, 2024, to focus her energies on regaining
852 her health. There has been a steep learning curve. Jeannie has agreed to serve as an advisor as needed and
853 able. We invite your continued prayers for Jeannie’s return to health and return to her ministry as Stated
854 Clerk/Acting Transitional Presbyter.

- 855 • Churches are asked to submit names of teaching Ministers and Elders who have died since
856 October 2023 for the Necrology Report at October 29, 2024 Stated Fall Meeting of presbytery.
- 857 • Rev. Blair Beaver was installed as the pastor of Marianna-First on Sunday, July 14, 2024.
- 858 • RE Glenn Hodges was ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament and installed as the
859 Designated Pastor of Tallahassee-First on Sunday, July 28, 2024.

860 Pending:

- 861 • Awaiting delivery of clergy cards from the General Assembly.
- 862 • Ordination and Installation of Stacey Kaye White will take place at the Freeport Congregation on 19
863 Sunday, August 25, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. (central)
- 864 • Installation of Kwan Soo Choo as pastor of the Pensacola Korean congregation will be Sunday, 21
865 September 1, 2024 at 4:00 (central)
- 866 • If the way is clear, Nichole Richardson will be installed as the organizing pastor of the South Walton
867 New Congregation Formation on Sunday, September 22, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. It is anticipated it will be held
868 on the beach.
- 869 No items for action.

870 **ADJOURNMENT AND CLOSING PRAYER**

871 The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 1:52PM CST/2:52PM EST by Moderator Mary Hodges.

872 **NEXT MEETINGS:**

873 Tuesday, October 29, 2024 Christ Presbyterian Church, Tallahassee
874 Tuesday, February 25, 2025 Grace Presbyterian Church, Panama City
875 Saturday, May 17, 2025 Dogwood Acres Summer Camp and Retreat Center
876 Tuesday, August 12, 2025 TBD
877 Tuesday, October 28, 2025 First Korean Presbyterian Church, Ft. Walton Beach

878 Minutes respectfully submitted,

879 Hugh Hamilton,

880 Recording Clerk

881

Mary Hodges, Moderator

882 Mark Broadhead, Stated Clerk