

**Minutes of Fall Stated Presbytery Meeting  
at Christ Presbyterian Church – Tallahassee, FL  
October 29, 2024**

The Presbytery of Florida, Inc., of the Synod of South Atlantic of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) met at Christ Presbyterian Church, Tallahassee, FL, for a Stated Meeting on Tuesday, October 29, 2024.

	Present	Absent	Total
Ruling Elders:			
- Session Commissioners	<b>24</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>38</b>
- Other Continuing Members (RE committee chairs {3}; RE officers {1}; RE educators {0})	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>
- CLP/CRE	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
Total Ruling Elders	<b>29</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>46</b>
Ministers of Word and Sacrament	<b>30</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>41</b>
Total Present and Total Absent	<b>59</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>87</b>
Congregations Represented	<b>26</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>36</b>

**Ministers of Word and Sacrament present (30):**

Blair Beaver, *Mark Broadhead*, Hanlim Chae, Brad Clayton, *Brant Copeland*, Raymond Guterman, Hugh Hamilton, Glenn Hodges, James Holley, John Kelsay, Sun Kim, William “Bill” Lamont, *Ted Land*, Lisa Martin, A. J. Mealor, Cathy Mooney, Luis Ocasio Torres, Linda Pitts, Emily Proctor, Robert Quiring, Erin Rosica, Erin Rugh, Eric Spoon, Kim Stavenau, Sheldon Steen, John Stringer, Stacey Kaye White, Trinity Whitley, *Carol Wood*, *Joan Wooten*

(italics = Retired)

**Ministers of Word and Sacrament absent (5/6):**

**Excused Ministers (5):** Anne Apple, Kwon Soo Cho, Matthew Frease, *Pamela Phillips*, *Taylor Phillips*

**Unexcused Ministers (6):** Mary Baars O’Malley, Robert Bohnsack, John Cole, Tai Cole, Nicole Richardson, Rob Sugg

**Ruling Elder Commissioners present/absent (24/17)**

18 <b>Blountstown, First – unexcused</b>	24 <b>DeFuniak Springs, First – Hilda Jackson</b>
19 <b>Chipley, First – Leslie Kelley</b>	25 <b>Destin, First – unexcused</b>
20 <b>Crestview, First – Tim Crawford</b>	26 <b>Fort Walton Beach, First – excused</b>
21 <b>DeFuniak Springs, Bethel – unexcused</b>	27 <b>Fort Walton Beach, Korean- unexcused</b>
22 <b>DeFuniak Springs, Euchee Valley – Tommy Yates</b>	28 <b>Freeport, Freeport – Becky Rose</b>
23 <b>Yates</b>	29 <b>Gretna, Gretna – Michael Clark</b>

- 30 **Gulf Breeze, Gulf Breeze** – Stephen B. Meadow
- 31 **Havana, First** – unexcused
- 32 **Laurel Hill, Laurel Hill** – unexcused
- 33 **Lynn Haven, First** – Richard Kangas
- 34 **Marianna, First** – Joe Busby
- 35 **Milton, First** – Ann Smith
- 36 **Monticello, First** – unexcused
- 37 **Navarre, Navarre** – David Dick
- 38 **Panama City Beach, Gulf Beach** – unexcused
- 39 **Panama City, Grace** – excused
- 40 **Panama City, Parkway** – Albert Borovich
- 41 **Pensacola, First** – Susan Rapier
- 42 **Pensacola, Korean** – unexcused
- 43 **Pensacola, Northminster** – unexcused
- 44 **Pensacola, Trinity** – Boyce T. White
- 45 **Quincy, First** – Martha Sapp, Vicki Bell
- 46 **Red Bay, Red Bay** – excused
- 47 **Sawdust, Woodland** – Mary Yeomans
- 48 **Tallahassee, Christ** – Zana Raybon
- 49 **Tallahassee, Faith** – Curtis Jenkins, Charles
- 50 Hood
- 51 **Tallahassee, Fellowship** – Elizabeth McGinnis
- 52 **Tallahassee, First** – Donna Barber
- 53 **Tallahassee, Lafayette** – Kay Lachat
- 54 **Tallahassee, Trinity United** – unexcused
- 55 **Wewahitchka, First** – Lisa Dorman

56 **Sessions not represented:**

57 **Excused Churches (3):**

- 58 Ft. Walton Beach, First
- 59 Panama City, Grace
- 60 Red Bay

61 **Unexcused Churches (11):**

- 62 Blountstown, First
- 63 DeFuniak Springs, Bethel
- 64 Destin, First
- 65 Fort Walton Beach, Korean
- 66 Havana, First
- 67 Laurel Hill
- 68 Monticello, First
- 69 Panama City Beach, Gulf Beach
- 70 Pensacola, Korean Community
- 71 Pensacola, Northminster
- 72 Tallahassee, Trinity United

73 **Continuing Members:**

74 **CREs present (1):**

75 Alan House

76 **CREs absent (1):**

77 Tonya Fernandes, Joanne Kublik, Greg Seltzer

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

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

80 **Presbytery Staff Members (2):** Michael Martin – Accountant/Treasurer; Melissa Willis – Administrator

81 **Officers/Team Chairs (6):** Vicki Bell – Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery Moderator; Tim  
82 Crawford (RE) – Strategic Plan Implementation Task Force Chair; Transitional Presbyter Search  
83 Committee Chair; 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):** Sy Hughes (PC(USA) Presbyterian Mission Agency), Add Seymour (Columbia Theological  
87 Seminary), Edward Syfrett (First, Marianna), Donna Guterman (Faith, Tallahassee), Kathy Broyard  
88 (Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network), Olha Balaban (This Child Here)

89 **Visiting Ministers (4):** Charles Wiley, Victor Aloyo, Rob Schoonorer, Robert Gamble

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:** The Rev. Dr. Sheldon Steen, Pastor to Christ Presbyterian Church, 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:** The Rev. Emily Proctor and the Rev. Dr. Sheldon Steen led us in worship.  
100 Preaching from Daniel 7, Ms. Proctor creatively and humorously reflected on Halloween, horror movies,  
101 fears and phobias. As creatures of fear and judgment we easily fall prey to evil and peril, but assured of  
102 God's faithfulness, grace and peace, we are restored; we prevail and are at peace.  
103 Continuing our worship and observing All Saints 2024, The Rev. Mark Broadhead led in reading the  
104 Necrology Report of Ministers and Ruling Elders who entered the Church Triumphant since All Saints  
105 2023.

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## 2024 Necrology Report

### **Ministers of Word and Sacrament:**

The Rev. Dr. James Huffaker ..... Panama City-Grace..... April 13, 2024

### **Stated Clerk:**

Ruling Elder Jeannie Dixon ..... Tallahassee-Fellowship..... October 2, 2024

### **Ruling Elders:**

Ruling Elder Jean Clemons ..... Ft. Walton Beach-First..... October 14, 2023  
Ruling Elder Helen Reese ..... Pensacola-First..... October 18, 2023  
Ruling Elder Benjamin Powell..... Quincy-First..... November 5, 2023  
Ruling Elder Leilia Vannoy..... Pensacola-Trinity ..... December 5, 2023  
Ruling Elder Doug Alumbaugh ..... Pensacola-Trinity ..... January 5, 2024  
Ruling Elder James Dees ..... Pensacola-Trinity ..... January 6, 2024  
Ruling Elder Sherwood DeForest ..... Tallahassee-Lafayette ..... January 15, 2024  
Ruling Elder Norma Chumley ..... Pensacola-Trinity ..... January 18, 2024  
Ruling Elder James (Jim) W. Turek ..... Pensacola-First ..... February 11, 2024  
Ruling Elder Jean Calvert ..... Pensacola-Trinity ..... February 18, 2024  
Ruling Elder Bill Burns..... Pensacola-Northminster..... February 20, 2024  
Ruling Elder Madelon Sweat ..... Tallahassee-Faith ..... February 23, 2024  
Ruling Elder Monticello Campbell ..... Tallahassee-Fellowship..... March 15, 2024  
Ruling Elder Tim Couch ..... Pensacola-Trinity ..... April 5, 2024  
Ruling Elder Sarah Robinson..... Tallahassee-Faith ..... April 18, 2024  
Ruling Elder Lois Franklin ..... Tallahassee-Faith ..... April 26, 2024  
Ruling Elder Marge Shimmin ..... Pensacola-Trinity ..... May 4, 2024  
Ruling Elder Patricia Campbell ..... Tallahassee-Christ..... May 23, 2024  
Ruling Elder Al Fletcher ..... Tallahassee-Fellowship..... July 10, 2024  
Ruling Elder Nancy Nesvik ..... Pensacola-Trinity ..... July 19, 2024  
Ruling Elder Barbara Carolyn Black ..... Tallahassee-Trinity United..... July 24, 2024  
Ruling Elder Elisabeth Betty Anne Lambert..... Pensacola-First..... July 25, 2024  
Ruling Elder Claudia Huber..... DeFuniak Springs-First..... July 29, 2024  
Ruling Elder William Charles Garvin..... Tallahassee-Christ..... August 29, 2024  
Ruling Elder Gary Nellis..... Pensacola-Grace ..... September 2, 2024  
Ruling Elder Mary Cook Moffett Hufford..... Pensacola-First..... September 12, 2024  
Ruling Elder Robert Cowen..... Marianna-First ..... September 13, 2024  
Ruling Elder Patricia Ligon Murfee..... Lynn Haven-First..... September 17, 2024  
Ruling Elder Arthur Gomillion ..... Red Bay ..... September 23, 2024

### **MINISTRY PARTNER REPORTS:**

142 **Dogwood Acres: Chirsty Williams:** First Presbyterian Church - Quincy FL has financed renovations to  
143 the dining hall and kitchen. The High School students on Presbytery's Youth Council designed, prepared,  
144 and led the SpiritFest 2024 youth retreat addressing the stresses youth face today. Amidst the active big  
145 group activities, the retreat featured times of quiet and peace, Bible study, prayers, and meditation. Since  
146 1966 Dogwood Acres has served well because of financial support and volunteers from presbytery and  
147 from congregations. Christy Williams appealed to churches to put Dogwood Acres in their annual budgets  
148 as DWA transitions toward being a 501( c ) (3) organization.

149 **Ukraine: This Child Here: Bob Gamble:** The Rev. Dr. Bob Gamble, Executive Director of This Child  
150 Here, a validated ministry in the Presbyterian Church (SA) and a U.S. 501c3 organization serving  
151 orphans, foster children, adoptive families, and war refugee families in Ukraine. In addition to serving  
152 needs in war-torn families in Ukraine, This Child Here teaches skills of reconciliation and peacemaking  
153 and helps families to survive the war with dignity and hope. This Child Here works for a bright future,  
154 educating, nurturing, comforting children and families, instilling hope and developing work skills  
155 preparing families for their future. The organization draws heavily on Romans 5: 2-5: "We boast in our  
156 hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that  
157 suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope  
158 does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that  
159 has been given to us." This Child Here is helping people live into this reality, building a community of  
160 love and trust. Bob shared that he and Anna, Assistant Director of This Child Here are engaged to be  
161 married!

162 **Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, GA: President the Rev. Dr. Victor Aloyo:** Amidst the  
163 challenging dynamics of today's church and theological education, the Seminary is moving with  
164 confidence, not with a spirit of scarcity or fear. The faculty and staff are reexamining the infrastructure to  
165 prepare for mission to the greater church and community. Presently, enrollment is 200 students: from 27  
166 states, 28 full time faculty. 33% of students are from the Presbyterian Church (USA). Columbia is  
167 preparing students to lead creative and transformative ministries due to the changing dynamics of today's  
168 churches. The church is crisis, but it is also stable, able to address the issues we face. The church is not  
169 dying, it is transforming to meet new needs, embracing innovative approaches to ministry. Across the  
170 USA search committees are not finding pastoral candidates. Dr. Aroyo emphasized that congregations  
171 must nurture Elders, Deacons, Educators, and members to consider the ministry and Chistian vocations.  
172 In the last 10 years, 68% of seminary graduates have resigned, renounced, or left the ministry due to the  
173 tough demands and difficulties of the ministry. To cope and to succeed, seminaries, congregations, and  
174 judicatories must create community to sustain ministries and ministers.

175 **Ministry Engagement: The Presbyterian Mission Agency: Sy Hughes, Regional Representative:**  
176 Mr. Hughes thanked the presbytery for our continued financial support and offered resources, workshop  
177 leaders, speakers, and presentations on missions, anti-racism, church development, and redevelopment.  
178 The PC(USA) catalog of giving and support opportunities offers ideas for Christmas Gifts, Mission Fair  
179 projects and specific mission endeavors suitable for individuals, groups, classes and congregations, to  
180 adopt and support. Mr. Hughes encouraged us to use him as our own "Google" to search for resources  
181 and to make PC(USA) program staff connections.

182 **Presbyterian Association of Musicians (PAM): Linda Lovins:** Dr. Lovins highlighted PAM resources  
183 for worship, preaching, and music planning. The 2025 PAM annual Worship and Music Conference in  
184 Montreat, NC, "Clothed in Love", and regional PAM conferences offer proximity and flexibility in  
185 resourcing worship and music leaders and staff. The new *CALL TO WORSHIP* liturgical planning  
186 resource is included in PAM membership dues and available in print and digital format.

187 **Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network (FPLADAN): Kathy Broyard, Executive**  
188 **Director:**

189 FLAPDAN has been active responding to tornadoes, hurricanes and floods in 2024. Presbyteries in the  
190 Florida peninsula were hit hard with extensive damage. In the St. Petersburg area, 7 of 8 churches in the  
191 flood zone were flooded. FLAPDAN is averaging 8 Zoom calls a day, coordinating FEMA, Presbyterian  
192 Disaster Assistance (PDA) and state agencies coordinating aid and advocating for people to get needed  
193 help. FLAPDAN distributed over 1000 “Clean Up Buckets” prepared by churches in our presbyteries.  
194 Presently financial donations to PDA are the best approach to short-term needs.

195 **Special Recognition of Ruling Elder Jeannie Dixon, Former Stated Clerk**

196 The Rev. A. J. Mealor, Pastor to Fellowship Presbyterian Church-Tallahassee, presented a celebration of  
197 life for Jeannie Dixon, beloved educator and Stated Clerk of our presbytery. Special recognition of her  
198 generosity and service highlighted the celebration. As an educator, she was always learning more. Jeannie  
199 Dixon brought imaginative and creative approaches to building community, and her consistent emphasis  
200 was, “Everyone is a beloved child of God.” The presbytery celebrated Jeannie as a good, kind, loyal and  
201 faithful servant of God, and we are blessed because of her servant leadership. Stated Clerk Mark  
202 Broadhead presented a \$5600 check to Kathy Broyard, Executive Director of FLAPDAN, funds  
203 contributed by churches and individuals in memory of Stated Clerk Jeanie Dixon.

204 **RESOURCING ONE ANOTHER EDUCATIONAL HOUR: The Rev. Cathy Mooney, Ministry of**  
205 **Leadership Development Moderator:** Members of presbytery had been invited to bring resources,  
206 suggestions, and ideas for planning worship and celebrations of Advent and Christmas. The presbytery  
207 separated into breakout groups according to church sizes and shared with one another stories of Advent  
208 successes and failures, recommended resources and varied approaches to planning activities, worship,  
209 music, and preaching for Advent and Christmas.

210 **LUNCH BREAK**

211 **MINISTRY & COMMISSION REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**

212 **Ministry of Congregational Health (MCH): Linda Lovins, Moderator**  
213 **For Information:**

214 Update on Freeport Pastoral Leadership Grant:

215 2024 – 50% of annual award (\$16,476) - disbursed

216 2025 – 100% of annual amount (\$32,952)

217 2026 – 100% of annual amount (\$32,952)

218 2027 – final 50% of annual award (\$16,476)

219 The current Presbytery map – Now reflects the closure of St. Andrews

220 **Presbytery Liaison Training** The liaison process is intended to be sensitive of the church’s pastor(s) and  
221 elders’ time, and to the sense of “impending doom” that seems to accompany most contact initiated by  
222 Presbytery representatives. The work of Presbytery Liaisons (PLs) is designed to be relational and  
223 communicative, and it’s hoped this face-to-face interaction will be of benefit to both our churches and the  
224 Presbytery overall.

225 **Emergency Funds:** First, Wewahitchka has repairs still needed and new additional needs. Further  
226 funding is required. MCH will encourage First, Wewahitchka to apply for further funding. First, Lynn  
227 Haven suffered recent storm damage to AC and office equipment. MCH cannot consider further funding  
228 until the required 18 months have elapsed since last aid was awarded. After the waiting period is up,  
229 First, Lynn Haven may apply, if they so wish.

230 **Blountstown First Presbyterian Church** had two remaining members. 5-7 people attend worship each  
231 week. Lack of finances and a small membership have brought the congregation to the realization it most

232 likely needs to be dissolved. The Ministry Coordinating Council (MCC) has approved an Administrative  
233 Commission (AC) with original jurisdiction, if needed. If approved by the Presbytery at the October  
234 meeting, the newly-formed AC will send in a listening team and, as appropriate, help the remaining  
235 members of Blountstown take the necessary steps. Two people in the community have already expressed  
236 interest in purchasing the property.

237 **Boundary Policies:** Anti-racism/discrimination and anti-harassment policies will be worked on  
238 collaboratively by the Ministry of Leadership Development (MLD) and the MCH.  
239 Often, congregants don't realize their pastoral leaders and people sitting next to them in worship serve on  
240 Presbytery ministry teams. To honor these **good works** in the Presbytery, the MCH will collaborate with  
241 the Ministry of Representation to publish and send to each Pastor and Clerk of Session the list of all  
242 persons who serve on a Presbytery ministry team for recognition and celebration by their church families.  
243 The Presbytery is grateful for the gracious service of its various ministry team members and wishes to  
244 thank and honor them annually each February.

245 **Ministry of Dogwood Acres (MDWA): Bill Lamont, Moderator**  
246 Camp registrations for elementary school-aged campers were higher this summer than in previous  
247 summers. Unfortunately, our middle school registrations were lower this year. This trend shadows what  
248 churches are reporting (post-Covid) regarding declining participation in church youth programming.  
249 MDWA is working to improve youth involvement by focusing on youth programming throughout the  
250 year and during our summer camp season. MDWA is challenged by a lack of qualified male counselors –  
251 especially ones who can articulate their faith, possess an understanding of children, and exude a love of  
252 nature. Hence, they had to cap registration for some weeks of camp because of inadequate supervision for  
253 campers and this lack has an adverse effect on retreats during the year, as well.

254 About 50 campers and chaperones gathered for SpiritFest on Oct 11-13, focusing on Colossians 3:12-15  
255 and Matthew 18:21-33. SpiritFest was a fun weekend of fellowship, affirmation of young people's  
256 leadership in the church, and awareness of how scripture and Spirit are shaping us into more faithful  
257 disciples.

258 Booking retreats for church groups in the panhandle and beyond has been strong. Recently a group of 7<sup>th</sup>  
259 graders from a school in Orlando came for a week of hiking and environmental education. In February, a  
260 group of women kayakers from Virginia will use Dogwood a for a week-long retreat MDWA continues  
261 to seek more groups interested in DWA for a day, weekend, or full week. We offer special rates for  
262 PCUSA congregations and non-profits, and there is a 10% discount given to anyone booking our property  
263 during the week.

264 The MDWA has been tasked with becoming a 501c3 organization. Lacking expertise in negotiating this  
265 transition, MDWA is seeking people with skills in law, personnel, insurance, marketing, policy, finance,  
266 business, healthcare, and non-profit management to help. MDWA requests and appreciates your help with  
267 names and contact information. MDWA is considering hiring a project manager to help walk us through  
268 this process, adding to the costs of this transition process.

269 MDWA also requests recommendations of people with strong fundraising/development skills.

270 MDWA continues to focus on improvements to the site: the entire property was recently surveyed, giving  
271 us a clear definition of our boundaries. Plans are underway to make some improvements to the dining  
272 room/kitchen facilities and renovations to the adjacent bathrooms.

273 Dogwood provides a rich and meaningful ministry to the Presbytery of Florida, to its churches, and to an  
274 ever-growing group beyond our bounds. The members of MDWA are all united in their love of Dogwood  
275 and their desire to serve the Lord in this ministry.

276 **Ministry of Leadership Development (MLD): Cathy Mooney, Moderator**  
277 Work is underway on the MLD ministry handbook. MLD enrolled as an Inquirer Rose Walters, member  
278 of Faith Presbyterian Church, Tallahassee, and first year student at Austin Theological Seminary.

279 **Ministry of Pastoral Transition (MPT): Lisa Martin, Moderator**  
280 MPT has reviewed statistics from Church Leadership Connection and how to improve the matching  
281 process for candidates and search committees. MPT is working with the following churches in search for  
282 pastoral leaders: 1<sup>st</sup> Pensacola, Trinity Pensacola, Crestview, Laurel Hill, 1<sup>st</sup> Fort Walton Beach, Euchee  
283 Valley, 1<sup>st</sup> Quincy, Lafayette, 1<sup>st</sup> Tallahassee  
284 Work continues on the MPT Manual of Operations. MPT Approved the following: Terms of Call –  
285 Robert Quiring, 1<sup>st</sup> Pensacola, Parkway – Rev. Kim Stavenau contract revision; approved Ministry  
286 Discernment Profile (MDP) for Associate Pastor – 1<sup>st</sup> Pensacola; Appointed Rev. Sun Kim as moderator  
287 for 1<sup>st</sup> Destin;  
288 Approved revised interim contracts for Rev. John and Rev. Tai Cole – 1<sup>st</sup> Quincy; Rev. Hanlim Chae –  
289 Lafayette; appointed clergy colleagues: Cathy Mooney for Stacey Kaye White; Emily Proctor for Nicole  
290 Richardson; approved terms of call for candidate Jean Homrighausen to Trinity, Pensacola; approved  
291 Temporary Supply Pastor contract for Rev. Dr. John Stringer and 1<sup>st</sup> Fort Walton Beach; Received  
292 minutes from the installation of Rev. Dr. Nicole Richardson – South Walton Presbyterian New  
293 Worshiping Community of Santa Rosa Beach; Sustained the examination of Minister of Word and  
294 Sacrament candidate Jean Homrighausen.

295 **Ministry of Presbytery Operations (MPO): Eric Spoon, Moderator**  
296 **Financials:** As of Augst 31, 2024 we are \$28,736.72 in the red. However, MPO is confident that if all  
297 churches complete at least their minimum shared support in 2024, we will finish the year in the black.  
298 **Stewardship:** Separate from the 2024 pledge reminders, MPO will submit to churches a stewardship  
299 brochure urging sessions, treasurers, and congregations to establish and reply with their 2025 pledges, per  
300 the \$78.00/per capita request before the end of 2024.  
301 **Presbytery Property:** A few areas of the Presbytery Office need attention from construction issues but it  
302 is understood that the builder will take care of it at no charge.

303 **Administrative Commission- St Andrews Presbyterian Church: Eric Spoon, Chair**  
304 The commission met with the realtor to discuss the status of the property and marketing options going  
305 forward. The property has been shown to several organizations including churches, a daycare facility, and  
306 other interested groups, but no official offers have been made on the property. Commission decided the  
307 best plan was to place a for-sale sign on the property and reduce the list price to \$1,450,000.00. There are  
308 still some items in the church that have not been given away; to walk through to see what is left, contact  
309 Rev. Eric Spoon to set up an appointment. The vital documents of the congregation have been boxed and  
310 will be shipped to the Presbyterian Historical Society.

311 **Administrative Commission – Red Bay Presbyterian Church: Mark Broadhead, Chair**  
312 The congregation currently has 4 active members, with possibly 2 or 3 other members that have not been  
313 seen in worship for a very long time. There are currently 2 Session members. The congregation is in very  
314 good shape financially. Worship services are rotated between the three congregations, averaging about 20  
315 people each Sunday.  
316 Because of the unique relationship of the three congregations in the immediate area (Presbyterian, Baptist,  
317 and Methodist), their close proximity and shared community, the AC feels closing the church at this time  
318 is not necessary. The AC is aiding the aging members of the congregation to continue their work and  
319 mission. Due to challenges in record-keeping and financial tracking, the AC is assisting the congregation  
320 with its recordkeeping and financial management and future guidance as needed. Commissioned Ruling  
321 Elder Joanne Kublik has been doing an excellent job moderating the session and congregational meetings,  
322 providing pastoral care, and much more. Session records and financial recordkeeping are beyond the



323 scope of her contract; the work of this AC is as much to help her as it is the congregation. The late Rev.  
 324 Durl Odom, who had a long relationship with this congregation, digitized Session minutes and church  
 325 records, which will be shared with the administrative commission. Talks with the church treasurer, Walter  
 326 Ray, continue on to how best assist with financial record-keeping.  
 327 The administrative commission is enthusiastic about its work with the Red Bay congregation, looking  
 328 forward to assisting in its life and ministry.

329 **Strategic Plan Implementation Taskforce: Tim Crawford, Chair**

330 **Topics Addressed:** Work continues on all Ministries’ handbooks. The Ministry of Representation is  
 331 responsible for finding six members for each ministry, should a ministry need/request additional members  
 332 it is the ministry’s responsibility to find those members  
 333 Year One Goals – per strategic plan  
 334

Year 1 March 1, 2024 – February 28, 2025	
Move from static to ecstatic.	
Goal	Status as of October 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce and eliminate duplication and unnecessary or detrimental efforts.</li> </ul>	In work – Ministry Handbook work and completion will identify areas where improvement is needed and provide the presbytery an assessment tool for meeting the goal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change presbytery meetings to become more educational and supportive in nature.</li> </ul>	Working – Initial implementation has been successful. Ongoing effort will continue to be monitored closely as Year 1 effort proceeds.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop an atmosphere more in line of an assembly of pastors, elders, leaders, staff persons, and congregational members.</li> </ul>	In-work – August meeting invited church stewardship members/teams. More work is essential to fully engage church sessions and congregations. One measure of this effort’s results should show an increased participation at presbytery meetings and other functions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommended Ministry Structure</li> </ul>	In place and functioning – increased performance should be realized with ministry handbook completion

335 **Transitional Presbyter Search Committee: Tim Crawford, Chair**

336 As was reported to the last presbytery meeting, after 6 months of intentional and intensive work, prayer,  
 337 and discernment, the Transitional Presbyter Search Committee selected a candidate who we  
 338 wholeheartedly believe God equipped and called to be our Transitional Presbyter. In September, the  
 339 Ministry Coordinating Council elected to chart a new direction for this position. The search committee  
 340 met with MCC in October, where it was suggested that MCC leaders would draft a new position  
 341 description in the coming months; our committee work will remain on hold until a new position is  
 342 approved. We remain grateful for the opportunity to work together and will continue to pray for our  
 343 presbytery and whoever will one day lead it through this transition period.  
 344 Discussion, Questions and Answers: Due to misunderstandings, miscues, a process that bogged down,  
 345 confusion as to what examination was appropriate for the candidate and by whom (search Committee,  
 346 MPT, MCC?), whether this was a contractual hire or a called position, and factors which led to the  
 347 contract being revoked and the candidate withdrawing, questions were asked and addressed by those  
 348 involved in the search process.

349 It was moved, seconded, and approved 1) that the Ministry Coordinating Council will issue a letter of  
 350 apology to the candidate now disengaged, 2) that the MCC will form a core group to clarify expectations  
 351 of Stated Clerk, General Presbyter, and/or a combined position, and fulltime vs parttime, 3) that the job  
 352 description will be brought to the presbytery for a vote, and 4) that current members of the Search

353 Committee be invited to continue the search process and any members that do not wish to continue be  
354 replaced.

355 In a final motion, Alan House moved, Trinity Whitley seconded, and the presbytery approved: *That the*  
356 *presbytery ask the Ministry Coordinating Council (MMC) to conduct in-person listening sessions by*  
357 *regions/districts across our membership regarding the direction of our future paid leadership positions of*  
358 *our presbytery and the stated clerk, and that they bring back a recommendation to the next stated meeting*  
359 *(February 2025) or a meeting called for that purpose.*

360 **Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of Florida: Vicki Bell, Moderator**

361 PW Fall Coordinating Team Meeting and Workshop will be held on November 9<sup>th</sup> at First Presbyterian  
362 Church in Chipley. The 2024-2025 Presbyterian Women's Directory is completed and will be distributed  
363 at the meeting. The meeting will feature breakout sessions for Moderators, Treasurers, Historians and  
364 Together-In Service Coordinators. PWPF continues to search for Presbyterian Women to join our  
365 Coordinating Team. Please encourage the Presbyterian Women of your congregations to consider  
366 volunteering on the Coordinating Team. Presbyterian Women will be representing our Presbytery at the  
367 he Mission Haven Board Meeting and the PW Synod of South Atlantic Coordinating Team Meeting at  
368 Columbia Seminary starting on October 24<sup>th</sup> through October 26<sup>th</sup> 2024. Mission Haven is doing a  
369 cookbook fundraiser, and they welcome recipes submitted by Columbia theological Seminary alumni.

370 **MINISTRY & COMMISSION REPORTS FOR ACTION**

371 **Ministry Coordinating Council (MCC): Don Mowat, Moderator:**

372 MCC recommended and presbytery approved

- 373 1. That presbytery amend the Bylaws of the Presbytery of Florida Section IV: Government by  
374 adding a new paragraph 8:
- 375 7. The Presbytery Women Moderator, the PW Vice-Moderator and Youth Council member shall  
376 have voice on the floor of presbytery.
- 377 8. *Church musicians that attain the level of Certified Church Musician credentialed by the*  
378 *Presbyterian Association of Musicians (PAM) shall have voice on the floor of presbytery.*
- 379 9. Floor privileges do not include the right to vote or to make motions. Visitors may be accorded  
380 the privilege of the floor when the council (presbytery) so desires.

381 2. In response to complaints about unsolicited handouts distributed at presbytery meetings by non-  
382 commissioners, MCC recommended and presbytery approved the following addition to the Presbytery  
383 Manual of Operations, Section VII – Presbytery Meetings, Presbytery Meeting Planning:

384 *Any organization, individual, or entity wishing to present petitions, handouts, flyers, or*  
385 *presentations on socio-political issues that are not part of the business of the presbytery or denomination,*  
386 *and are not endorsed by a presbytery ministry or the Ministry Coordinating Council (MCC) must submit*  
387 *the request and materials to the MCC for approval before the presbytery docket is compiled.*

388 It was agreed that we need to create guidelines for such approvals/disapprovals.

- 389 2. MCC recommended and presbytery approved the following Titles and Terms for temporary  
390 pastoral relationships in accord with the current Book of Order G-2.05040b:

391 Interim Pastor – for up to 12 months and renewable  
392 Interim Associate Pastor – for up to 12 months and renewable  
393 Interim General Presbyter – for up to 12 months an renewable  
394 Stated Supply – for up to 12months and renewable.

- 395 3. MMC recommended and Presbytery approved the election of the Rev. Mark Broadhead (Retired)  
396 to continue to serve as Stated Clerk/Acting General Presbyter until March 1, 2025, renewable if  
397 needed and negotiated.

398 **Ministry of Congregational Health: Linda Lovins**

399 MCH recommended and presbytery approved an Administrative Commission (AC) with authority up to  
 400 and including establishment of original jurisdiction, as warranted, to dissolve the congregation of the  
 401 Blountstown First Presbyterian Church. This comes at the request from the congregation due to low  
 402 membership (2) and the ages of the remaining members. The members of the AC approved: Rev. Dr.  
 403 Brant Copeland (Retired), Chair; Rev. Stacey Kaye White, Elder Deborah Potter, Rev. Blair Beaver, Elder  
 404 Linda Shelley.

405 **Ministry of Presbytery Operations: Eric Spoon**

406 The MPPO recommended and the presbytery approved the 2025 Preliminary Budget.  
 407 Final budget will be presented at the February 2025 Stated Winter meeting of the presbytery.

**2025 Proposed Budget**  
**(As of 10/4/24)**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	
<b>Receipts</b>			
Shared Support	\$ 347,596.00	\$ 339,144.00	4,348 Members
Other Income	\$ 500.00	\$ -	4,360 -
Amount From Reserves	\$ -	\$ -	GA/Synod
			\$78/Member
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b><u>\$ 348,096.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 339,144.00</u></b>	
<b>Disbursements</b>			
<b>Per Capita</b>			
Per Capita - General Assembly	\$ 43,502.00	\$ 44,472.00	\$10.20/Member
Per Capita - Synod	\$ 6,659.00	\$ 6,540.00	\$1.50/Member
<b>Total Per Capita</b>	<b><u>\$ 50,161.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 51,012.00</u></b>	
<b>Ministry of Congregational Health (MCH)</b>			
Minister's Emergency Assistance Fund	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	
Church Liaison Expenses	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	
Resources (Holy Cow/MissionInsite)	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,700.00	
Ministry Expense	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	
<b>Total MCH</b>	<b><u>\$ 4,200.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 3,200.00</u></b>	
<b>Ministry of Dogwood Acres (MDWA)</b>	<b><u>\$ 66,586.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 63,512.00</u></b>	
<b>Total MDWA</b>	<b><u>\$ 66,586.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 63,512.00</u></b>	
<b>Ministry of Leadership Development (MLD)</b>			
FLAPDAN Membership Dues	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 1,750.00	
Campus Ministry (Ukirk Tallahassee)	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 14,000.00	
Annual Consultation with Candidates	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	
Candidates' Aid Fund	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	
Disaster Relief	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	
Moderator Training (online)	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	
Leader Development Events	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	
CLP Support, Workshop Leaders, etc.			
Guatemala Partnership Development	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	
Racial Justice Subcommittee	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	
Ministry Expense	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	
<b>Total MLD</b>	<b><u>\$ 25,100.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 25,100.00</u></b>	

**Ministry of New Congregation Formation (MNCF)**

Ministry Expense	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
<b>Total MNC</b>	<b>\$ 500.00</b>	<b>\$ 500.00</b>

**Ministry of Pastoral Transitions (MPT)**

Ministry Expense	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
<b>Total MPT</b>	<b>\$ 1,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,500.00</b>

**Ministry Coordinating Council (MCC)****Staff**

General Presbyter Salary	\$ 42,000.00	\$ 42,000.00
GP IRA	\$ -	\$ -
GP Housing	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 11,000.00
GP Utilities	\$ -	\$ -
GP Mileage Reimbursement	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
GP Continuing Ed and Books	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
GP Other Travel & Business Expense	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
GP BOP	\$ -	\$ -
GP SECA	\$ 4,055.00	\$ 4,055.00
Subtotal General Presbyter	\$ 63,555.00	\$ 63,555.00
Administrator's Salary	\$ 38,445.00	\$ 39,791.00
Administrator's Annuity	\$ 720.00	\$ 720.00
Administrator's Medical Insurance	\$ 10,225.00	\$ 10,225.00
Administrator's Travel	\$ 4,600.00	\$ 4,600.00
Administrator's Continuing Ed	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Subtotal Administrator	\$ 54,990.00	\$ 56,336.00
Treasurer Salary	\$ 13,873.00	\$ 14,359.00
Treasurer Mileage	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
Subtotal Treasurer	\$ 14,673.00	\$ 15,159.00
Stated Clerk Salary	\$ 15,870.00	\$ 16,426.00
Stated Clerk Travel	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Subtotal Stated Clerk	\$ 17,870.00	\$ 18,426.00
Recording Clerk	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Staff Payroll Taxes	\$ 5,484.00	\$ 11,741.00
Salary Adjustments (Prop 2% increase)	\$ 1,363.00	\$ -
Workers Compensation Insurance	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00
Total Staff	\$ 160,835.00	\$ 168,117.00
Presbytery Meeting Expense	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
Ministry Expense	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
<b>Total MCC</b>	<b>\$ 161,935.00</b>	<b>\$ 169,217.00</b>
<b>Ministry of Presbytery Operations (MPO)</b>		
Memorials/Flowers	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Equipment Service	\$ 400.00	\$ 500.00
Postage	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Utilities / Office	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,400.00
Office Telcom & Communications	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 3,750.00

Property Maintenance	\$ 600.00	\$ 900.00
Supplies & Expenses	\$ 1,330.00	\$ 1,330.00
Copier Lease	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 2,700.00
Insurance & Bonding	\$ 10,123.00	\$ 10,123.00
Bank Service Charges	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
Financial Records Review	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Publications/Resources	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Ministry Expense	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
<b>Total MPO</b>	<b>\$ 24,103.00</b>	<b>\$ 24,503.00</b>
<b>Ministry on Representation (MR)</b>		
Ministry Expenses	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
<b>Total MR</b>	<b>\$ 500.00</b>	<b>\$ 500.00</b>
<b>Permanent Judicial Committee (PJC)</b>		
Ministry Expense	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
<b>Total PJC</b>	<b>\$ 100.00</b>	<b>\$ 100.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 334,685.00</b>	<b>\$ 339,144.00</b>
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$ 13,411.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

408 **Ministry of Pastoral Transitions (MPT): Lisa Martin**

409 1.Examination for Ordination – Jean Homrighausen. Due to illness with COVID, Ms. Homrighausen was  
410 absent from the meeting and unable to preach before the presbytery as planned and to stand examination  
411 on the floor of presbytery. After discussion of options, presbytery commissioned the Ministry  
412 Coordinating Council, with Chairs and Vice-chairs and any pastors wishing to attend, to meet in person at  
413 the presbytery office to hear Candidate Homrighausen preach and to sustain her suitability for the  
414 Associate Pastor position at Trinity Presbyterian Church – Pensacola. The Examination Committee of  
415 MPT had previously examined and approved Mrs. Homrighausen and recommended her to presbytery for  
416 approval.

417 2. MPT Manual of Policies and Procedures: Submitted to commissioners for review prior to the meeting  
418 of presbytery, and with no questions or discussion, the presbytery approved the MPT manual.

419 3. Retirement of the Rev. Dr. Hugh Hamilton. The Rev. Mark Broadhead shared personal remarks about  
420 the ministry of Dr. Hugh Hamilton, Pastor/Head of Staff to Trinity Presbyterian Church – Pensacola, FL  
421 for almost 26 years and presented a Resolution of Retirement for Hugh Hamilton. The presbytery  
422 approved with thanks said retirement effective January 26, 2025. Dr. Hamilton then expressed his love  
423 and appreciation for the presbytery.

424 **Retirement Recognition of the Rev. Dr. William Hugh Hamilton, III**

425 As I was preparing this eulogy, I mean resolution of retirement, I was reminded of a bumper sticker I saw  
426 many years ago during the Jesus Revolution of the 1970's: "Jesus is coming! Look busy!" Hugh has  
427 been a very busy colleague in ministry.

428 It has been my privilege to have known the Rev. Dr. William Hugh Hamilton, III since 1999. He came to  
429 this presbytery after serving a 16-year ministry in Tennessee, at which time he was much, much younger  
430 and less gray. Over the years, it has been a privilege to share in ministry with him.

431 Hugh arrived in Pensacola with his lovely wife, Sandy, and two daughters, Lindsay who now lives in  
432 Nashville, and Jenny who serves as an associate dean at the University of West Florida. As I reflected on

433 all the ways Hugh engaged in his life, ministry, and community involvement, I found myself wondering:  
434 How did he find time for his family *and* do all that he did??

435 **His pastorates include:**

- 436 • 1980-1983 : Associate Pastor, Campus Ministry, First Presbyterian Church, Starkville, MS, 3  
437 years
- 438 • 1983-1999 : Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Covington, TN, 16 years
- 439 • 1999-present: Senior Pastor/Head of Staff, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Pensacola, FL -  
440 forever

441 In addition to pastoring these congregations, Hugh served in many different capacities. I found myself  
442 getting exhausted going through all he has, and is, accomplishing. For example...

443 **Other service to the Denomination:**

444 While serving in Memphis Presbytery from 1983-1999, he served as chair of the Committee on Ministry;  
445 was a member of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, chaired the Presbytery Coordinating  
446 Council; was Moderator of the Presbytery – *twice!* (He either did a fantastic job and they wanted him to  
447 do it again, or he did a terrible job and wanted him to serve again so he could get it right. Don't know  
448 which); served as Co-Chair for the Presbytery Strategic Planning Task Force; and in 1991 was a  
449 Commissioner to General Assembly

450 After arriving in the Presbytery of Florida, the whirlwind of activity continued.

451 He served on the Dogwood Acres Committee, was a Presenter at the LOGOS National Leadership  
452 Training School, was a small group leader and Back Home leader for the Montreat Youth Conference,  
453 was the Moderator of the Presbytery of Florida – *twice!* (I refer you to my previous comment), served on  
454 the Coordinating Council, chaired the Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network, and was on the  
455 Alumni Council of Columbia Theological Seminary and was President *twice!* Although they were 25  
456 years apart (again - please note my previous comment).

457 Hugh served on the Presbytery Permanent Judicial Commission, chaired the Presbytery Disaster  
458 Preparation and Response Team, served on the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, was a  
459 Commissioner to PCUSA General Assembly for a second time, was part of the South Africa Mission  
460 Partnership Team with Gugeletu, South Africa; was part of several administrative commissions and  
461 listening teams (which provided a few more gray hairs than normally would have appeared at a later date),  
462 chaired the Committee on Mission and Outreach, served on the Strategic Planning Task Force, and is  
463 currently part of the Ministry of Leadership Development.

464 Okay. You tired yet? There's more. Beyond his service to the local congregation, presbytery, and  
465 General Assembly, Hugh was also very involved in community matters.

466 He was part of the Pensacola Area Ministerial Association (PAMA), was on the board of the Interfaith  
467 Committee, *BRACE* (Be Ready Alliance Coordinating for Emergencies, hurricane/disaster relief and  
468 served as its chair.

469 He is a member of Rotary International, served on the Board of Directors of the Rotary Club of Pensacola,  
470 is on the Board of Directors of the Lakeview Center and currently serves as the President of the board.

471 He is the chair of the Families First Network Team, and part of the Pastors Advisory Council for United  
472 Ministries of Escambia County.

473 Now, add to this, being a loving and faithful husband to Sandy, and father to Lindsay and Jenny and all  
474 that entailed – school activities, vacations, household chores, loving and caring shared all around.

475 Honestly, I don't know how he found time to be the Senior Pastor/Head of Staff for his congregation!  
476 But by all reports, he did very well.

477 Hugh likes to collect things. One particular collection is that of cameras. If you were to go into his office  
478 at the church, you would see scattered among the shelves, various cameras spanning much of the history  
479 of photography. He also has a fondness for fountain pens. In fact, there are various types of ink on  
480 display on the shelves in his office.

481 But, more than anything else, he has a rich collection of anecdotes from his many years of ministry. And  
482 he willingly shares them. He and I have shared rides to various meetings in the presbytery. Telling those  
483 stories made the long miles from one end of the presbytery to the other seem to melt away. Laughter  
484 usually filled the car in both directions.

485 We have heard some of the anecdotes here during presbytery meetings, bringing laughter and lightness.  
486 There was a recent meeting of the presbytery council when Hugh said he needed just one minute to make  
487 a quick announcement at an upcoming presbytery meeting. Everyone looked at each other, and with an  
488 eye roll said, "Hugh, you cannot give an announcement without telling a story. You'll need more than  
489 one minute." All had a good chuckle over that. And with a smile Hugh said, "Challenge accepted." And  
490 by golly, during that presbytery meeting, he made a quick announcement without telling a story –  
491 although, everyone on the council could tell it was a painful experience for him to not tell a story.

492 You know, as we get older, there can be a tendency for people to retell the same stories more than once.  
493 Apparently this has been the case with Hugh on occasion. If ever you are in a circle of people listening to  
494 some of Hugh's stories – and Sandy is present – watch Sandy out of your peripheral vision. If you see her  
495 take two of her fingers and place them on her forearm, that's a signal to Hugh that he has already told that  
496 story enough times and he needs to move on.

497 Over the years, Hugh has been a good pastor to the folks of Starkville, Covington, Trinity Presbyterian  
498 Church and beyond. He has been busy, but it wasn't busy work. He was responding to the call he felt in  
499 his heart to serve the kingdom of our Lord as best he could, in as many ways as he could.

500 Going through several hurricanes and devastating storms, he navigated the treacherous waters flowing  
501 around, in, and through the church facilities.

502 In a world that is full of pain and confusion, Hugh provided a voice of reason and calm when confronting  
503 challenging circumstances, helping make difficult decisions – whether in the church or within the  
504 presbytery.

505 There are many more accomplishments in Hugh's history. And in many ways the accomplishments I've  
506 mentioned, and others that are too numerous to mention he achieved during his 44 years of ministry are  
507 fantastic.

508 But there is something to be remembered. People will not always remember what you did, but they will  
509 always remember how you made them feel. And, people don't care how much you know until they know  
510 how much you care.

511 The underlying foundation for Hugh's ministry has been sharing the love of Jesus Christ that he himself  
512 has known all these years. He has said his mission in life is to increase in others their love of God and  
513 neighbor. By living the parable of the sheep and the goats from Matthew 25, many have been fed, many  
514 have been clothed, many have been rescued from a life of despondency and have risen to new levels of  
515 self-worth, stature, and faith.

516 Now, if you think after sharing all these things about Hugh makes him sound larger than life, like he  
517 walks on water... the only reason Hugh looks like he walks on water is because he knows where the  
518 stumps are. And those stumps are the teachings of Jesus Christ, the foundation on which Hugh based his  
519 life and ministry.

520 So, having said all this, I put before the Presbytery of Florida the following resolution:

521 **Resolution of Retirement for The Rev. Dr. William Hugh Hamilton, III**  
522 **January 26, 2025**

523 *Whereas*, the Reverend Doctor William Hugh Hamilton, III accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Lord  
524 and Savior and committed his life to serving God as led by God's Holy Spirit; and

525 *Whereas*, Hugh was called by his Savior to serve the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ, and responded to  
526 that call, graduating Columbia Theological Seminary in 1980; and

527 *Whereas*, Hugh's first call to serve was as the Associate Pastor for Campus Ministry with First  
528 Presbyterian Church of Starkville, Mississippi in 1980; and

529 *Whereas*, God moved in his heart to journey further along his path, so he accepted a call to serve as Pastor  
530 of First Presbyterian Church of Covington, Tennessee in 1983; and

531 *Whereas*, God desired to have Hugh continue to open his mind to even deeper education and led him to  
532 earn a Doctorate of Ministry through Memphis Theological Seminary in 1994; and

533 *Whereas*, God moved Hugh to serve as Senior Pastor/Head of Staff at Trinity Presbyterian Church of  
534 Pensacola, Florida from 1999-2025; and

535 *Whereas*, Hugh fulfilled his 44 years of ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ under the authority of  
536 Scripture, was governed by our church's polity and abided by its discipline, was a friend among his  
537 colleagues in ministry and worked with them, sought in his own life to follow Jesus Christ, loved his  
538 neighbors, worked for the reconciliation of the world, strove to further the peace, unity, and purity of the  
539 church, and touched the lives of countless others, living the gospel of Jesus Christ in thought, word, and  
540 deed, having served with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love;

541 *Therefore*, now be it resolved that the Presbytery of Florida grants to the Reverend Doctor William Hugh  
542 Hamilton, III the honorable status of Retired as of January 26, 2025 giving thanks to Almighty God for  
543 the breadth, depth, intensity, and creativity of his ministry, and for the faithful and graceful ways that he  
544 envisioned and lived his call.

545 *Be it further resolved* that this resolution be spread upon the minutes and the hearts of the Presbytery of  
546 Florida at this, its Fall 2024 Stated Meeting, and that a fair copy be presented to the Reverend Doctor  
547 William Hugh Hamilton, III.

548 **Ministry of Representation: Rich Kangas**

549 The MR recommended and presbytery approved the following:

550 Greg Seltzer – Vice Moderator of Presbytery, Class 2025, Northminster, Pensacola

551 Rev. Stacey Kaye White – Class 2026, Ministry of Pastoral Transitions, Freeport

552 Craig Chormann, Class of 2027, Ministry of Congregational Health, Northminster, Pensacola

553 **STAFF REPORTS**



554 **Accountant/Treasurer Michael Martin:**

555 In addition to the printed financial reports submitted, Mr. Martin shared that 2025 asking budgets are in  
556 process by the ministries prior to the presbytery's appeal to congregations for financial pledges for 2025.  
557 Mr. Martin also appealed to churches to catch up on their pledged giving to-date. Bottom line, as of  
558 September 2024: though expenses are below budget, still expenses exceed income, leaving net operating  
559 income (-\$29,774.86)

560 **Stated Clerk: Mark Broadhead**

561 • **Jeannie Dixon, former Stated Clerk**

562 Please keep in your prayers the family of our former Stated Clerk, Jeannie Dixon. Her passing has left a  
563 huge hole in many lives, including her extended family, many friends and colleagues around the country  
564 and in our denomination, as well as the life of the Presbytery of Florida. She is sorely missed by those  
565 left behind, but, I am sure, she is greatly rejoicing in the presence of our Lord, hearing the words, "Well  
566 done, good and faithful servant."

567 • **Hurricane Recovery**

568 Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network (FLAPDAN) has been extremely busy with providing  
569 information and assistance following the two hurricanes that have recently decimated portions of Florida.  
570 I have attended most briefings, which have included FLAPDAN personnel, Presbyterian Disaster  
571 Assistance personnel, rescue workers, general presbyters, stated clerks, and others from around the Synod  
572 and North Carolina. The heartbreak is very real.

573 Also very real is the determination and resilience of those mourning the loss of loved ones, those  
574 struggling to reestablish their lives, and those aiding the process. The healing process will take years, if  
575 not decades.

576 Dogwood Acres has become a site for FLAPDAN aid. A pole barn was recently built to house supplies to  
577 be made available for such catastrophic events. Expressions of gratitude have been given for the  
578 willingness and availability to utilize this space for making accessible desperately needed recovery  
579 supplies.

580 If you are aware of anyone that is needing assistance in dealing with the emotional impact of these  
581 hurricanes, please refer them to:

582 [The National Child Traumatic Stress Network | \(nctsn.org\)](https://nctsn.org)

583 [Trauma-Informed Care \(Webpage\) | SAMHSA](#)

584 [Disaster Distress Helpline: Get Immediate Crisis Counseling and Support | SAMHSA](#)

585 • **Book of Order Mandated Functions**

586 The Book of Order no longer requires, by name, a Committee on Ministry nor a Committee on  
587 Preparation for Ministry. Instead, it requires that the functions of those former committees be carried out  
588 by presbyteries. Within the Strategic Plan that was engaged in February of this year, those required  
589 functions are still in effect and being met.

590 The Ministry of Leadership Development (Moderator Rev. Cathy Mooney) is now responsible for all  
591 duties identified by *The Book of Order*, G-2.06; G-20503a; sections of G-3.0302; and duties not assigned  
592 to other ministries. This includes preparing persons for ordained/commissioned ministry, as well as the  
593 requirement for Boundary Training.

594 The Ministry of Congregational Health (Moderator Ruling Elder Linda Lovins) is now responsible for  
595 duties listed in *The Book of Order*, G-2.1103 b, G-3.0303, G-3.0106 and not assigned to other ministries.  
596 This ministry has been granted commission authority by the presbytery.

597 Some of the requirements that were under the former Committee on Ministry now under Congregational  
598 Health are: to develop and promote policies that protect the health and welfare of Presbytery's leaders and  
599 the children within presbytery congregations and ministries, annually review our Sexual Misconduct

600 Policy, Child Safety Policy, and the Minor Persons and Vulnerable Adults Protection Policy, providing  
601 interpretation and training for minister members and congregational leaders for these policies. This  
602 ministry also provides support for pastors in crisis through available resources and referrals, including  
603 allegations of impropriety, and coordinates the annual review of session records in cooperation with the  
604 Stated Clerk.

605 The Ministry of Pastoral Transitions (Moderator Rev. Lisa Martin) is responsible for duties identified by  
606 *The Book of Order*, G-2.05, 2.07-2.11 and G-3.0306-3.0307 and not assigned to other ministries. A major  
607 portion of their ministry is assisting congregations in saying good-bye to a pastor or an associate pastor  
608 who is leaving the congregation and guiding the congregation as they secure future pastoral leadership.  
609 This ministry has been granted commission authority by the presbytery.

610 Other responsibilities include examine ruling elders seeking to serve in a commissioned position,  
611 candidates for ordination, and Ministers of Word and Sacrament, seeking membership within the  
612 Presbytery of Florida, review and approve initial Terms of Call for Ministers of Word and Sacrament,  
613 dissolve pastoral relations when the Minister of Word and Sacrament and congregation concur, dismiss  
614 Ministers of Word and Sacrament to other presbyteries, grant requests from Ministers of Word and  
615 Sacrament for release from exercise of ordered ministry.

616 This is only a portion of what each ministry provides to the presbytery. We are grateful for all the  
617 ministries of the presbytery as we work into our new structure.

618

619 ADJOURNMENT AND CLOSING PRAYER

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

621 NEXT MEETINGS:

622	Tuesday, February 25, 2025	Grace Presbyterian Church, Panama City
623	Saturday, May 17, 2025	Dogwood Acres Summer Camp and Retreat Center
624	Tuesday, August 12, 2025	TBD
625	Tuesday, October 28, 2025	First Korean Presbyterian Church, Ft. Walton Beach

626 Minutes respectfully submitted,

627 Hugh Hamilton,  
628 Recording Clerk

629

630

Mary Hodges, Moderator  
Mark Broadhead, Stated Clerk