

1 Spring Stated Presbytery Meeting
2 May 17, 2016
3 St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Panama City, FL

4 The Presbytery of Florida, Inc. of the Synod of South Atlantic of the Presbyterian Church
5 (U.S.A.) met for its Spring Stated Meeting at St Andrews Presbyterian, Panama City, FL.

6 The following 24 teaching elders and 27 ruling elders were enrolled as commissioners:

7 **Teaching Elders/CREs:** Frank Beall, Bill Bess, Mark Broadhead, Gary Cecil, Joseph Chung,
8 Ric Connor, Brant Copeland, Danny Dieth, John Erthein, Stephen Graves, RC Griffin, Gene
9 Harris, James Huffaker, Ken Kelley, Paul Luthman, Ruth Mashewske, Dan Mitchell, Taylor
10 Phillips, Larry Plank, Sheldon Steen, Mary Vance, John Wamsley, Bonnie Wilkins, Joan Wooten

11 **Ruling Elder Commissioners:** Chipley, First- Ed Wood; Chipley, Sunny Hills Community-
12 Bob Knotts; DeFuniak Springs, Euchee Valley – Terri Jenkins; DeFuniak Springs, First –
13 Joyce Kelly; Freeport, Freeport - Everett Raspberry; Gretna, Gretna - Gale Thompson;
14 Havana, First- Nesta Cumbie; Lynn Haven, First – Donald Mowat; Marianna, First- John
15 Milton; Milton, First – Betsy Dodson; Navarre, Navarre – Stan Anzalone; Panama City,
16 Grace-James McQuagge; Panama City, Parkway – Bruce Davis; Panama City, St. Andrews-
17 George Carothers; Panama City Beach, Gulf Beach- Beve Lutz; Pensacola, First – Shelby
18 Andrews, James Brady; Pensacola, Trinity –Lori Prettyman; Ponce de Leon, Red Bay-Walter
19 Ray; Quincy, First – Sheryl Hinson, Rick Keyesen; Quincy, Woodland – Marshall Lee;
20 Tallahassee, Faith – Dan Fields, Alison Denny; Tallahassee, Fellowship – Anne Hall;
21 Tallahassee, First – John Guthrie; Tallahassee, Lafayette-Mary Keyt.

22 **Corresponding Members:**

23 **Christian Educators/Youth Directors:**

24 Elders: Jason Williams
25 Certified: Jeannie Dixon
26 Non-Certified:

27 **Presbytery Staff:** Melissa Morgan, Ben Powell

28 **Team Chairs:** James Vance, Leslie Yandle

29 **Visitors:** Mary Gibson, Margie Ely, Tom Gibson, Linda Wamsley, Thomas Whitley,
30 Trinity Whitley, Joanne Kublik, Beverly Knotts, Kathy Broyard, Bonnie Perry, Ken Perry,
31 Alexander Thompson, Leslie Kelley, Faye Jackson, Andrew Jackson, Tracy Schoppe, Edmond
32 Schoppe, Meredith Schoppe, Gerry Yandle, Christy McElroy, Hilda Jackson, Mary Bevis
33 Schmidt

34 **Visiting Teaching Elders:**

35 **ABSENSES**

36 **Excused Teaching Elders/CREs:** Mel Baars, Tae Ho Cheong, David Garnett, Hugh Hamilton,
37 Alan House, John Kelsay, Hailey Braden Lynch, Ben Lynch, Beth McCaw, Cydney Miller,
38 Lindsay Moffett, Emily Proctor, Sharon Schuler, Rob Sugg,

39 **Unexcused Teaching Elders/CREs:** Peder Carlson, Bruce Chapman, Emory Hingst, Jack
40 Homoney, Rachel Hood, Lee Johnson, Daniel Loffredo, CK Moore, Sheila Palmer, Pamela
41 Phillips, Leo Sandon, Steven Schaick, Ju-seob Yang

42 **Excused Churches:** Blountstown, Blountstown; Crestview, First; Destin, First; Laurel Hill,
43 Laurel Hill; Pensacola, Pensacola Korean;

44 **Unexcused Churches:** Argyle, Pleasant Grove; Defuniak Springs, Bethel; Fort Walton, Korean
45 First; Fort Walton, First; Gulf Breeze, Gulf Breeze; Monticello, First; Pace, Pace; Panama City,
46 Agape; Pensacola, Northminster; Pensacola, Westminster; Port St Joe, First; Shalimar, Shalimar;
47 Tallahassee, Christ; Tallahassee, Trinity United; Wewahitchka, First

48 **OPENING PRAYER AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM**

49 The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM CDT by moderator Mary Vance. Following the
50 opening prayer it was noted that a quorum was present. **The docket was approved as**
51 **presented.** Sheila Palmer gave a welcome from St. Andrews Presbyterian.

52 First time ruling elders were introduced.

53 A morning worship service was held with Trinity Whitley preaching. The Lord's Supper was
54 celebrated, with Rev. Mark Broadhead officiating. During worship, the delegates and alternates
55 to General Assembly (Bill Bess, Quinn Schoppe, Ken Kelley, Mary Keyt, and Mary Schmidt)
56 were commissioned.

57 A report of the recent Small Church Conference was presented. Sheila Palmer attended and
58 reported on the conference. Sheila is available to present workshops on how to merge the assets
59 of a small church with the needs of the community.

60 Kathy Broyard of FLAPDAN presented a report and slides showing the destruction from
61 disasters. She noted that PDA is funded though the One Great Hour of Sharing offering and
62 individual donations. FLAPDAN will assist churches in setting up a disaster plan at an upcoming
63 disaster training.

64 Trinity Whitley, director of Presbyterian University Center, updated presbytery on activities at
65 PUC. There will be four students living at PUC in the fall. There was a wish list available for
66 donations to PUC.

67 The report from Presbytery Stated Clerk was presented by Jeannie Dixon. Dates for record
68 reviews will be announced at a later date. The Sessions Record Review Checklist for clerks was
69 included in the report packet. There was communication from Tony De La Rosa from Mission
70 Agency in Louisville on the status of mission work as related to the shrinking budget.

71 Paul Luthman, Coordinating Presbyter, provided a report. He stressed our connected church and
72 the respect we should have for others and their views.

73 Ben Powell, Director of Dogwood Acres, presented a report. Ben gave an update on all the
74 improvements to the Dogwood Acres property. The income as of now is slightly above budget.
75 There is still a pressing need for post-high school aged counselors for the summer, he said.
76 Dogwood Acres will hold its 50th birthday/anniversary celebration on December 3rd, 2016.

77 Joan Wooten reported for the Presbytery Engagement Team and its work with Agape. The
78 Agape congregation wishes to be dismissed from the Presbytery of Florida and join the Covenant
79 Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO). The congregation of Agape wishes to convey their
80 prayers and thanks to the Presbytery. The terms of dismissal were presented in the packet of
81 meeting materials and reviewed by Joan. The congregation has a PILP loan, which must be paid
82 off before the dismissal is final. Other terms agreed upon include three payments of \$1170.15
83 (due at time of dismissal), \$772.30 (due beginning of 2nd year after dismissal) and \$386.15 (due
84 beginning of 3rd year of dismissal). **The dismissal was approved.**

85 Gary Cecil shared celebrations from most of the churches in the Presbytery.

86 The following reports were received for information:

- 87 • Congregational Mission Support Team (CMST); Gary Cecil reported that they need 5
88 computer skilled people who will take training on how to use Mission Insite and prepare
89 demographic reports for each congregation in the presbytery to assist these churches in
90 defining and implementing church missions. Grace Presbyterian Church in Panama City
91 will be hosting Chris Walker, evangelist and national speaker, who will teach Evangelism
92 for Ordinary People August 26-28.
- 93 • Personnel Committee submitted a written report by Ric Conner, team chair.
- 94 • Dogwood Acres Ministry team: James Vance reported on the ministry at Dogwood Acres
95 including how moving the Presbytery office from Chipley to Dogwood Acres would
96 benefit the Presbytery, both in finances and efficiency. Dogwood Acres continues to be
97 available for volunteers to assist in upkeep of the grounds and for congregational retreats.

98 Several team reports with action items were presented:

99 Mark Broadhead presented the report for the Committee on Ministry (COM).

100 It was noted that all ministers need to submit their Terms of Call to the COM, even if there are
101 no changes from last year. Mark reported on the recent Regional Benefits Conference of the
102 Board of Pensions. Effective January 1, 2017, churches will be responsible for the full 24.5% for
103 installed pastors.

104 Mark moved that the status of honorably retired be bestowed upon Rev. Kenneth Kelley
105 effective June 1, 2016. **This was approved.** A certificate of retirement was presented to Ken.

106 The Committee on Ministry requests the Presbytery appoint an Administrative Commission to
107 make a final determination on the status and viability of the Shalimar church, granting the
108 Administrative Commission the authority of the Presbytery up to and including assuming
109 original jurisdiction if deemed necessary. Those that have agreed to serve if appointed are:

- 110 • Teaching Elder Danny Loffredo – Gulf Breeze
- 111 • Ruling Elder John Schuler – First- Ft. Walton Beach
- 112 • Ruling Elder Tim Crawford – First-Crestview
- 113 • Ruling Elder Lori Prettyman – Trinity-Pensacola
- 114 • Teaching Elder John Wamsley – First-Marianna

115 **This was approved.**

116 The Committee on Ministry requests presbytery appoint an Administrative Commission for First,
117 Wewahitchka, with powers limited to assisting the Session in framing the future of the church,
118 and grant the Moderator of Presbytery authority to approve and appoint members of the AC
119 when the Chair of COM secures three to five persons willing to serve. **This was approved.**

120 Mark moved that Trinity Whitley's sermon be approved as part of her examination. **This was**
121 **approved.** Trinity was then examined for knowledge in the areas of worship, sacraments,
122 theology, Scripture, and polity. Following the exam, Mark moved that the examination be
123 sustained in part and in whole, and that the Presbytery of Florida grant permission to move
124 forward with the ordination of Trinity Whitley. **This was approved.**
125 Reverend Sheldon Steen was introduced as Parish Associate at Faith-Tallahassee pending his
126 membership transfer from Presbytery of St. Augustine.
127 Mark provided a written report listing the actions approved by the COM.

128 Toya O'Hora submitted a written report from the Commitment to Representation Team. In
129 Toya's absence, Jeannie Dixon recommended approval of nominees with the addition of Don
130 Mowat as a member of the Committee on Ministry, class of 2018.

131 **Committee on Ministry (COM)**

132 Class of 2016 –Linda Shelley, (RE – Faith, Tallahassee)
133 Class of 2017 –Jo Kublik (RE – 1st Crestview)
134 Class of 2018 – John Wamsley (TE – 1st Marianna)
135 Class of 2018 – Don Mowat (RE – 1st Lynn Haven)

136 **Congregational Mission Support Team (CMST)**

137 Class of 2016 – Mary Ann Gibbs RE –1st, Marianna)

138 **Disaster Preparedness and Response Team DPR**

139 Class of 2017 – Art Morden (RE – Parkway, Panama City)
140 Class of 2018 – Stephen Graves (TE – Lafayette, Tallahassee)

141 **Personnel**

142 Class of 2017 – Ben Lynch (TE –1st Pensacola)

143 **Self Development of People SDOP**

144 Class of 2018 – Rosa Houston Autrey (RE – Trinity United, Tallahassee)

145 **These nominations were approved.**

146 In the absence of Hugh Hamilton, Leslie Yandle presented the report of the Presbytery
147 Leadership Team (PLT). The Presbytery Leadership Team recommends that the office of the
148 Presbytery of Florida located in Chipley, FL, be moved to Dogwood Acres and the current office
149 building be sold. Leslie explained the rationale behind the recommendation and provided the
150 history of this request. In 2011 a Relocation Task Force had studied the feasibility of moving the
151 presbytery office to Dogwood Acres or renovating the Chipley building. They recommended
152 continuing in the direction of moving to Dogwood Acres, but no action was taken by presbytery
153 on the move at that time. A 2013 report to Presbytery from the PLT reported that an offer to
154 purchase the Chipley property for \$182,500 had been tendered. PLT solicited information from
155 First Chipley, First Marianna, and Dogwood Acres at that time. Options were evaluated by PLT
156 and at that time it was recommended that the current presbytery office be maintained. Presbytery
157 voted to reject the offer at that time. After a short discussion **the motion to sell the Chipley**

158 **building and move the presbytery office to Dogwood Acres was approved on voice vote**
159 **with one dissenting vote.**

160 Following lunch the final report for action was presented:


161 In the absence of Jim Davis, Paul Luthman presented the Budget, Finance and Stewardship Team
162 report and the report of the Treasurer. It was noted that for the first quarter: Mission Giving is
163 running 18% under budget; ten churches have not made any payment on their per capita. A
164 recommendation was made that the 2016 budget shortfall be reduced from over \$35,000 to
165 \$9,900 by cutting those line items noted in the Operating Budget (attached to the report). The
166 cuts will be reviewed after proceeds from the sale of the Chipley building have been received.
167 **The recommendation was approved.**

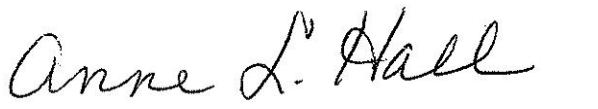
168 There was no other business before the body.

169 The next stated meeting of the Presbytery is scheduled for October 25, 2016 at Dogwood Acres.
170 The moderator offered a closing prayer at 1:10 PM (CDT). The meeting was adjourned.

171 Mary Vance, Moderator
172 Jeannie Dixon, Stated Clerk

173 Approval of minutes:


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175
176
Jeannie Dixon, Stated Clerk


Anne Hall, Ruling Elder, Fellowship - Tallahassee