

Minutes of CALLED MEETING of The Presbytery of Florida
February 27, 2018 3 p.m. CT/ 4 p.m. ET
First Presbyterian Church, Chipley, FL

The Presbytery of Florida, Inc., of the Synod of South Atlantic of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) met for a Called Meeting at First Presbyterian Church in Chipley, FL, on February 27, 2018.

The following 24 ministers and 18 elders were enrolled as commissioners:

Ministers/CLPs: Bill Bess, Mark Broadhead, Brad Clayton, Brant Copeland, Chris Erde, Steven Graves, Ralph "R.C." Griffin, Hugh Hamilton, Eugene Harris, Glen Hodges, Kenneth Kelley, John Kelsey, Joanne Kublik, John Lown, Ruth Mashewske, Dan Mitchell, Taylor Phillips, Robert Quiring, Sharon Schuler, Sheldon Steen, Rob Sugg, Mary Vance, John Wamsley, Joan Wooten.

Elder Commissioners: **Chipley, First** – Kevin Russell; **Crestview-First** – Carol (Jo-Ann) Williams, **Defuniak Springs, First** – Benton Southard; **Fort Walton Beach, First** – Phyllis March; **Gulf Breeze, Gulf Breeze** – Katherine Asbury; **Panama City, Gulf Beach** – Tammy Price; **Panama City, Parkway** – Bruce Davis; **Pensacola, First** – Ken Densmore; **Pensacola, Northminster** – Ken Overholt; **Quincy, First** – Sheryl Hinson; **Quincy/Sawdust, Woodland** – Jonathon McKinley; **Red Bay, Red Bay** – Walter Ray; **Tallahassee, Christ** – Carol Allman; **Tallahassee, Faith** – Janet Evans, Pam Leslie; **Tallahassee, Fellowship** – John Hurst; **Tallahassee, Lafayette** – Sandi Herrington; **Tallahassee, Trinity United** - Robert Woolfork.

Christian Educations/Youth Directors:

Presbytery Staff Members: Melissa Morgan, Ben Powell

Officers/Team Chairs: Jeannie Dixon, Linda Lovins.

Visitors: Lee Thomas – DeFuniak Springs, First; Barbra Overholt – Pensacola, Northminster; Josh Bledsoe – DeFuniak Springs, First; Joyce Kelly – DeFuniak Springs; Pam Dillon – DeFuniak Springs; Karen Sugg – Chaplain, Spouse; Earnest McNeil – Marianna, First; Lamerle Feitsma – Chipley; Carol J. Williams – Crestview-First; Don Mowat – Lynn Haven, First; Marcia Van Wingen – Tallahassee – Christ; John Schuler – Fort Walton-First.

Visiting Ministers: Lisa W. Martin, Roy A. Martin.

OPENING PRAYER, QUORUM, DOCKET

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM CT by moderator Chris Erde, a quorum was present, and Chris Erde opened the meeting with prayer. Docket was presented by Stated Clerk Jeannie Dixon and with no additions, the docket was approved as presented. Chris Erde welcomed the presbytery to the First Presbyterian Church of Chipley, FL.

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

WORSHIP was led by the Rev. Roy A. Martin, candidate for the position of General Presbyter, who preached on our call to serve, using as his texts Amos 5:21-24 and Romans 12:1-3.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL PRESBYTER SEARCH COMMITTEE: Ruth Mashewske

The Reverend Ruth Mashewske reviewed the process and priorities of the search committee and introduced their candidate for the position of General Presbyter, the Reverend Roy Abbot Martin, and their unanimous recommendation that the presbytery approve calling Dr. Martin to begin his work March 1, 2018.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY: Mark Broadhead

1. As directed by the COM, Dr. Martin shared his faith journey, his sense of call to ministry, and his prior service to the church. Biographical information, statement of faith, Personal Information Form (PIF), and Terms of Call were shared with the presbytery prior to the meeting and are attached to these minutes.
2. For an examination on the floor of Presbytery, the COM Chairman then asked Dr. Martin questions related to Bible, Doctrine, Sacraments, and Polity. Following questions and comments from the floor, the Presbytery voted to sustain the examination of Dr. Martin. Upon further recommendation from the COM via Chairman Broadhead, it was moved that we extend the call to Roy Martin to serve as General Presbyter; the presbytery unanimously approved the call.
3. Dr. Martin introduced his wife, the Reverend Mrs. Lisa Martin, who is now pastoring a congregation in Woodstock, Virginia, and hopes to secure a call to a congregation in our region.

NEW BUSINESS: None

There being no further business related to the call of the meeting, the presbytery was invited to a reception with the Martins in the church fellowship hall following the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: CLOSING PRAYER: Moderator Chris Erde informed the body that Coordinating Presbyter Paul Luthman was absent due to attending his aunt's funeral today, and prayers for the Luthman family were included in our closing prayers. Moderator Erde adjourned the meeting with prayer at 3:45pm Central Time/4:45ET

NEXT STATED MEETING OF PRESBYTERY: May 19, 2018, First Presbyterian Church of Marianna, FL

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Hugh Hamilton,
Recording Clerk.

Chris Erde, Moderator
Jeannie Dixon, Stated Clerk
Hugh Hamilton, Recording Clerk

Church Leadership Connection
The Call System for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Detailed Info for PIF #: 100027638.1		
Professional ID:	100027638	
Name:	Roy Abbott Martin	
Phone:	540-480-0030	
Alternate Phone:		
Fax:		
E-Mail:	rmartin398@aol.com	
Address:	411 South Commerce St. Woodstock, VA 22664	
Actively Seeking?:	Yes, Actively Seeking	
Ecclesiastical Status:	Teaching Elder	
Membership Presbytery:	SHENANDOAH PRESBYTERY	
Ordination Date:	10/30/1983	
Formal Education:	Mary Washington College (now University of Mary Washington) 1979 BA Religion major Union Theological Seminary in Virginia (now Union Presbyterian Seminary) 1983 Doctor of Ministry	
Continuing Education:	Bible Conference, Massanetta Springs Church Business Administration Training PCUSA Polity Conferences Continuing Ed courses for pastors at UPSem Presbytery Leader Formation Program	
Employment Type:	Full-time	
Minimum Effective Salary:	\$70,000 / Year	
Position Types and Experience Level	General Presbyter/Executive Presbyter/Presbytery Leader	2 to 5 Years
	Stated Clerk (Presbytery)	0 to 2 Years
	Synod Executive	No Experience
	Mid-Council Program Staff	No Experience
	General Assembly Staff	No Experience
Geographic Choices:	Unlimited	
Languages:	English	
Other Languages:		
Leadership Competencies:	Communicator Advisor	

	Change Agent Externally Aware Risk Taker Decision Making Organizational Agility Strategy and Vision Interpersonal Engagement Flexibility
Training / Certification:	(Not Specified)
Other Training:	
Clergy Couple?	False
Housing Type:	Open to Manse/Housing Allowance
Work Experience:	<p>Associate Pastor, Hudson, FL, 675, Suburban/Retirement, 1983-88. Pastor, Wilmington, DE, 345, Suburban/Rural, 1988-99. Head of Staff, Lake City, FL, 375, Town, 1999-2013. Transitional Presbyter/Stated Clerk, Harrisonburg, VA, 14000 members, 104 congregations, Geographical Region, 2013-present.</p>
Other Services:	<p>Chair, Committee on Ministry, St. Augustine Presbytery Presbytery Council, St. Augustine Presbytery Task Force on Presbytery Design, St. Augustine Presbytery Chair, Evaluation and Review Committee, St. Augustine Presbytery PJC, St. Augustine Presbytery General Assembly Commissioner, St. Augustine Presbytery</p>
Describe a moment in your recent ministry that you recognize as one of success and fulfillment.	<p>In my role as Transitional Presbyter, I was responsible for guiding the presbytery through a process of discerning, planning, and implementing a new direction for its ministry and mission. To that end, I organized a transition team made up of respected and skilled teaching and ruling elders from across the presbytery. Together, we developed a process of surveying and measuring perceptions of congregations and those active in the presbytery. From that process, we developed a new structure, staffing, and budget designed to strengthen what was working, remove what was not, and create what was lacking. We presented our proposals on the floor of presbytery, all of which were approved overwhelmingly. These changes included new committees focused on the needs of congregations and new committees responsible for Book of Order matters including work with congregations in pastoral transition and oversight of congregations and teaching elders not in transition.</p> <p>I have spent the last year working to get the new design up and running, training committee leadership, guiding policy and procedure development, and nurturing presbytery staff through these changes. While it is too early to see many results, several new people are now serving at the presbytery level and, already, issues facing our congregations are being addressed more effectively. I experience a renewed excitement about the presbytery and its work and it brings me great joy to have been a part of it all.</p>
Describe the ministry setting to which you believe God is calling you.	

After thirty years in pastoral service to congregations, it has been something of a revelation for me to discover my gifts for ministry have translated well to the work of Mid-Council leadership. I believe God is calling me to continue in Mid-Council work where I can offer the gifts of vision, planning, and support. I believe that these gifts are helpful in such work whether they be needed to guide a presbytery or synod through an intentional transition or for their ongoing ministry and mission. Any presbytery or synod, whether in transition or not, requires leadership that can think through issues coherently and with an open mind and heart, who can offer creative approaches to accomplishing the work, and who can speak with clarity when there are questions about direction.

A presbytery or Synod would find that I bring an active and disciplined mind, skill and experience in working through challenging issues, "outside the box" thinking, organizational and writing competence, and a team spirit. From my years as a pastor, I bring sensitivity, an ability to listen to and converse with people with disparate points of view, biblical and theological integrity, and a love for the Church. I would bring a pastor's heart to Mid-Council leadership especially in the support of teaching elders in their joys and trials of pastoral work.

What areas of growth have you identified in yourself?

I have learned a great deal about patience. In our fast-paced society where instant gratification and results are the expectation, it is important for the church to give space and time for God to work. New ideas and directions need to be tested, God's people need to consider prayerfully where God is leading, and new discoveries may alter agreed upon goals. In my ministry, I have grown to appreciate patience as a gift of grace that frees us from thinking we have to be totally in control.

In the area of professional growth, my work as a Transitional Presbyter has taught me a great deal about Mid-Council ministry. While I have always been active in presbytery work serving on or chairing many presbytery committees prior to my current call, it really wasn't until I sat in this seat that I began to understand the length and breadth of the work. I discovered early on that the title of Transitional Presbyter is somewhat misleading. While the transition work is significant, the General Presbyter or Presbyter Executive work governs most of my time and effort. I oversee the staff, advise committees, train presbytery leadership, preach in congregations, and serve as pastor to teaching elders just to name a few of the responsibilities I have beyond the transition work. I have enjoyed and been grateful for every minute of it and I remain open to and eager for continued growth in all areas of my life and ministry.

Describe a time when you have led change.

In my current call as a Transitional General Presbyter, one example of my role as change agent would be the different direction I recommended for the work of presbytery's COM. In this presbytery, COM was responsible for all matters related to the work and health of teaching elders, engagement with congregational difficulties, congregations in pastoral transition, approval of contracts, policies and procedures related to Book of Order requirements, and training CREs. But it simply wasn't possible to cover all of that work well, especially with a consistent 25 to 35 congregations in pastoral transition every year.

My recommendation was to divide that work between two new committees, one dealing with all things related to churches in pastoral transition and one focused on teaching elders and pastors not in transition. I was able to bring about this change by developing written purpose and responsibility descriptions for each committee, presenting and defending it on the floor of presbytery, working with presbytery's nomination committee to find the right people to serve on each committee and the right individuals to chair them, training each committee in their work, and sitting in every meeting of these committees to give further guidance as needed. The end result is that congregations in pastoral transition have been experiencing more timely and helpful guidance, CREs are getting better training, and congregational difficulties are being addressed more effectively.

References:

# 1	Name	The Rev. John Leggett
	Relation	Teaching Elder active in Presb
	Phone	540-383-1458
	Address	50 Indian Trail Rd., Penn Laird, VA 22846
	E-Mail	jleggett@massanuttenchurch.org

# 2	Name	Kim Kline
	Relation	Ruling Elder active in Presbyt
	Phone	304-358-8328
	Address	3512 Blue Gray Tr., Franklin, WV 26807
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# 3	Name	The Rev. Malcolm Brownlee
	Relation	Teaching Elder active in Presb
	Phone	540-348-6588
	Address	130 Walkers Creek Rd., Rockbridge Baths, VA 24473
	E-Mail	mandsbrownlee@gmail.com
# 4	Name	Bill Blair
	Relation	Ruling Elder active in Presbyt
	Phone	540-828-4948

	Address	99 Kyles Mill Rd., Mt. Solon, VA 22843
	E-Mail	billarvella@hotmail.com
# 5	Name	The Rev. Beth McCrary
	Relation	Teaching Elder active in
	Phone	Presb 540-292-5101
	Address	PO Box 118, Ft. Defiance, VA 24437
	E-Mail	beth @augustastone.comcastbiz.net
# 6	Name	Betsy Donohoe
	Relation	Ruling Elder active in
	Phone	Presbyt 304-886-2815
	Address	1505 Bunker Hill Dr., Charlottesville, VA 22901
	E-Mail	betsydonohoe@gmail.com

Sexual Misconduct Self-Certification Statement:	I certify below that no civil, criminal, ecclesiastical complaint has ever been sustained or is pending against me for sexual misconduct; and I have never resigned or been terminated from a position for reasons related to sexual misconduct.
	I have read this certification and release form and fully understand that the information obtained may be used to deny my employment or any other type of position from the employing entity. I also agree that I will hold harmless the employing or judicial authority or any other entity from any and all claims, liabilities, and causes of action for the legitimate release of any information related to sexual misconduct.

This PIF was last updated at 12/17/2017 10:38:05 AM. Roy Abbott Martin is a member of the Presbytery of SHENANDOAH PRESBYTERY. As of this date, no allegation or charges are pending against the member, nor is the member currently under judicial censure limiting the ministry or under supervised rehabilitation. The receiving body should always call the presbytery to ask for further information about any applicant, including their ministry and activities within the presbytery of membership.

This PIF is in the Church Leadership Connection database

Statement of Faith

Roy A. Martin

I believe that God is the creator and sustainer of all things. Because God loved the created order, God allowed it to be free; free to enjoy and free to suffer the consequences of its own actions. In the beginning, God willed for that part of the creation made in God's own image to respond freely in love and faithful obedience for the gift of life that God had given it. In the beginning, humanity was free to love and live in harmony with its creator God (*posse non peccare*). But humanity chose, instead, to reject its creator and turn to itself as though humanity was its own god. In so doing, humanity sacrificed its freedom because, in freedom, it had forsaken its God, the author and giver of free and abundant life.

Humanity, by nature created to be free, is now by nature bound. It no longer has the freedom in and of itself to follow after God's will for creation (*non posse non peccare*). But, because God loved wayward humanity, God would not reject it as it had rejected God. Therefore, God acted to heal humanity's broken relationship with God by sending God's son to take upon himself the sin of the world and to reveal to the world God's will that all humanity live in harmony with its creator God once again. In Christ, the past is finished and gone and, even though we still sin, our sin is not counted against us. We are not yet saved in the sense that salvation is an accomplished fact in us but, in Christ, we are marked for salvation and set free from the bond of sin which is eternal separation from God. Through his life, death, and resurrection, Jesus Christ is the key to the fulfillment of our restored relationship with God. As Christians, we await that day when there will be a new heaven and a new earth and sin will be no more (*non posse peccare*) because God and the created order are united in love.

In the meantime, however, I believe that our triune God has established those who faithfully await the eschaton as the Church, and has provided that faithful gathering with the Holy Spirit to nurture and sustain them and to enable them to proclaim God's love to the world. Further, I believe that God has provided the scriptures as inspired testimony of God's plan and purpose for creation. I also believe that, through God's son, Jesus Christ, God gave to the Church the sacraments of baptism and holy communion to be, in the words of Augustine, "signs and seals" of God's freely given grace and love. To each and every member of the community of faith, I believe God bestows special gifts empowering them to be instruments of God's love in the world.

Finally, I believe that the Presbyterian Church (USA) is a part of the Church Universal. In its theology and in its polity, I believe it attempts to make a faithful witness to the love of God in Jesus Christ.

Biographical Statement: The Rev. Dr. Roy A. Martin, Jr.

I was born and raised in Fredericksburg, VA by loving parents who married later in life. My father was 62 and my mother 41 when I was born two years after their marriage. My father was an active member and elder in the Disciples of Christ Church and my mother was an active member and elder in The Presbyterian Church of Fredericksburg. I grew up attending worship and other functions in both churches until I was 11 years old and went through Communicant's Class at The Presbyterian Church.

Sunday school and church were favorite activities for me. While still in high school, I was a youth member on the church's Christian Education committee and went on a presbytery youth mission trip to Mexico. The minister who led that trip apparently saw something in me which led him to recommend to the presbytery that I be a Youth Advisory Delegate to the PCUS General Assembly. That experience awakened in me a deep interest in how the Church did its work. The moderator of the Assembly asked me to serve as one of two youth members of an ad interim committee to study whether or not Synods were a needed part of our denominational structure. The adult members of that committee were a veritable who's who of Presbyterian leaders at both the presbytery and synod level, and what I learned from them about the functions of the various councils of the church was priceless.

Simultaneous with that work as well as beginning my college years, I served for four summers as a counselor at Camp Massanetta, part of Massanetta Springs Camp and Conference Center, then a synod ministry in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia.

I went to college at The University of Mary Washington, graduating with a BA in Religion in 1979. While there, I continued to be active in my home church and was elected and ordained a Ruling Elder. I entered Union Presbyterian Seminary in 1979 and took the four-year Doctor of Ministry track. After starting seminary, I was invited to become the director of Camp Massanetta and served in that capacity for two years. I spent my third year as a student minister in Charlotte, NC at Caldwell Memorial Presbyterian Church. I graduated from Union in 1983.

My first call was to St. Mark's Church in Bayonet Point, FL where I served as associate pastor for four and a half years. In 1989, I accepted a call to serve as pastor of Lower Brandywine Church in Wilmington, DE and served there for 11 years. In 1999, I received a call to be the pastor of First Church in Lake City, FL and served there for 14 years. My ministry took an unexpected path when, in 2013, I was asked to serve as transitional presbyter for Shenandoah Presbytery, which I completed in October 2017.

During my 35 years in ministry, I have had the honor of serving the Church in a variety of ways: camp ministry, campus ministry, Synod commissioner, commissioner to two General Assemblies, chairing COM and CPM, serving on church-related agency boards, and a PJC. I am grateful for the variety of service I have been permitted to render over the years.

I am the father of two adult children, Caroline, who lives with her family in Lake City, and Sam, who lives in St. Augustine. I am also a grandfather to two young ladies, Rachel and Mary Elizabeth, both of whom will one day be in charge of all they survey. Just this past

August, I was privileged to marry the Rev. Lisa Wilson, who serves as pastor of Woodstock Presbyterian Church in VA.

As I look back on my life, I can see clearly the hand of God guiding me. I am thankful to God for the many men and women in the Church who mentored me and modeled for me what it means to be a faithful Christian in service to Christ through the Church. Through family and Church, my life has been richly blessed.