

Fall Stated Presbytery Meeting
December 3, 2013, 9 a. m. CST/10 a. m. EST
Lafayette Presbyterian Church, Tallahassee, FL

The Presbytery of Florida, Inc., of the Synod of South Atlantic of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) met for a Stated Meeting at Lafayette Presbyterian Church in Tallahassee, FL, on December 3, 2013.

The following 35 ministers and 31 elders were enrolled as commissioners:

Teaching Elders/CREs: Bill Bess, Tom Borland, Mark Broadhead, Gary Cecil, Bruce Chapman, Jae Wan Chung, Joseph Chung, Brant Copeland, Danny Dieth, Chris Erde, Robert Fuehrer, Hugh Hamilton, Eugene Harris, Dolores Ingraham, Randy Jackson, Kenneth Kelley, George Kessler, Ted Land, William Lee, John Lown, Hailey Braden Lynch, Ben Lynch, Sandra Martin, Ruth Mashewske, Cydney Bea Miller, James Monroe, Michael Moore, Taylor Phillips, Larry Plank, John Schuler, Dru Tyler, Mary Vance, Anne Veldhuisen, Kevin Veldhuisen, Joan Wooten.

Ruling Elder Commissioners: **Crestview, First** – Tim Crawford; **DeFuniak Springs, Bethel** - Sandra Macon; **DeFuniak Springs, Euchee Valley** – Tommy Yates; **DeFuniak Springs, First** – Rebecca Mooney; **DeFuniak Springs, Pleasant Grove** – Henry Goode; **Fort Walton Beach, First** – Fred Pryor; **Freeport, Freeport** – Mike Standley; **Gretna, Gretna** – Gale Thompson; **Laurel Hill, Laurel Hill** – Tracy Curenton; **Marianna, First** – Kip Blighton; **Milton, First** – Linda Lade; **Pace, Pace** – Walt Reese; **Panama City Beach, Gulf Beach** – Lenny Zacher; **Panama City, Agape** – Jim Roncaglione; **Panama City, Parkway** – Art Morden; **Panama City, St. Andrews** – Ed Faile; **Pensacola, First** – Susan Rapier; **Pensacola, Northminster** – Samuel Smith; **Pensacola, Trinity** – Jean Norman, Angie Shehee; **Pensacola, Westminster** – Jroanne Bergman; **Quincy, First** – Randy Pople; **Sawdust, Woodland** – Harvey Mashweske; **Shalimar, Shalimar** – Phil Ireton; **Tallahassee, Faith** – Peter Ray, Ruth Bedell, John Dailey ; **Tallahassee, Fellowship** – James Vance; **Tallahassee, First** – David Custis; **Tallahassee, Lafayette** – Mary Keyt; **Tallahassee, Trinity United** – Lula Allen

Christian Educators/Youth Directors: Shannon Guse, Trinity Whitley;

Certified: Jeannie Dixon, Christy Williams

Presbytery Staff Members: Melissa Morgan

Officers/Team Chairs: Jim Davis, Treasurer; Henry Goode, Self Development of People; Jean Norman, Presbytery Leadership Team; Ben Powell, Dogwood Acres Ministry Team; Gerry Yandle, Congregational Mission Support Team

Visitors: Cindy Howell, Rosa Houston Autrey, Sarah Hood, Rachel Hood, Denise Moore, Francis Priester, Vern Ballard, Leslie Yandle, Andonica Gieger, Leslie Kelly, Jane Bachrer, Ruth Reynolds

Visiting Teaching Elders: Emory Hingst

ABSENSES

Excused Teaching Elders/CREs: Tae Ho Cheong, Richard Connor, Anghaarad Dees, John Erthein, Jeff Hayes, Victoria Isaacs, John Kelsay, Joanne Kublik, Dan Mitchell, Keith Posehn, Robert Price, Sharon Schuler, Ezra Yune

Unexcused Teaching Elders/CREs:

Excused Churches: Blountstown, Blountstown; Chipley, First; Destin, First; Gulf Breeze; Havana, First; Lynn Haven, Navarre, Navarre; First; Pensacola, First; Pensacola, Korean; Red Bay, Red Bay; Sunny Hills, Sunny Hills Community;

1 **Unexcused Churches:** Ft. Walton Beach, First Korean; Monticello, First; Panama City, Grace; Port St Joe,
2 First; Tallahassee, Christ; Wewahitchka, First

3 **Other excused absences:** Beth House (DCE)

4 **OPENING PRAYER AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM**

5 The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM EST by moderator John Lown. Following the opening prayer it was noted
6 that a quorum was present. **The docket was presented and approved as presented.** John Lown gave a warm welcome
7 and introduction from Lafayette Presbyterian Church, Tallahassee.

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

9 A morning worship/prayer service was held with Rachel Hood, candidate for ministry, providing the message.

10 **Report from Synod was received**

11 **Joan Wooten, teaching elder synod commissioner,** gave a report of the latest Synod of South Atlantic
12 meeting. The Synod met at Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary in Atlanta, GA, October 10, 2013. She
13 highlighted the following key points from her full report for the interest of the presbytery: The synod will now
14 only meet once a year to save costs. There is a lot of discussion and need for discernment as to how all of us,
15 each presbytery, have choices to make. Great resources, including a workshop in the spring, are available for
16 small churches in the denomination. The sale of the Gainesville Student Center is complete. It was determined
17 that 100% of the proceeds will go to the Synod of South Atlantic. Florida campus ministry as a whole will
18 benefit from the funds from the sale. 1st Presbyterian, Gainesville, the church that originally funded the building
19 in 1951, is responsible for developing a campus ministry plan for the funds.

20 **Reports of Presbytery Staff and Officers were received.**

21 **Kevin Veldhuisen, Director of Outdoor Ministries and Spiritual Development,** gave a report of his
22 activities. He expressed his heartfelt thanks to the presbytery and the Dogwood Council for their support and
23 participation in the ministry at Dogwood Acres. The summer brochure is ready to go to the printer and online
24 registration is up and running for summer camp. He is finalizing his “brain book” for the incoming director and
25 Dogwood Council.

26 **Jeannie Dixon, Stated Clerk,** gave a report. There were a few communications received: an email, “Sharing
27 God’s Mission,” from Presbyterian Mission Agency; the Presbyterian Mission Agency Florida Presbytery Third
28 Quarterly Report; EQ-HR workshop information; and the General Assembly Mission Council request for
29 people to fill positions in the national church.

30 The following session records for 2012 remain to be reviewed (per *Book of Order G-3.0108*):

31 Pleasant Grove

32 Freeport

33 First, Port St. Joe

34 Red Bay

35 Sunny Hills

36 Christ, Tallahassee

37 Korean Community NCD, Tallahassee

38 First, Wewahitchka

39 NOTE: The following churches have had their minutes reviewed as of Dec. 3:

- 1 Pleasant Grove
- 2 First, Port St. Joe
- 3 Red Bay
- 4 Sunny Hills
- 5 First, Wewahitchka

6 The Presbytery minutes for 2012 were approved without exception.

7 She noted that all churches are encouraged to incorporate (*Book of Order G-4.0101* states “Where permitted by
8 civil law, each congregation shall cause a corporation to be formed and maintained.”)

9 Reminder that the gathering of annual statistics for each congregation is approaching. The website will be open
10 this week through mid February to enter each church’s numbers. The session, not the congregation, needs to
11 approve the report before it is submitted.

12 **Jim Davis, Treasurer,** gave a report. There has been a decrease in funds as expected this year, but we are in
13 line with the deficit budget that presbytery approved for this year.

14 **The Reports of Presbytery Teams were given.**

15
16 **Mark Broadhead** gave the report for the **Ministry Team**. He reported the activities of the committee. He
17 reminded the presbytery that, beginning January 1, 2014, the Board of Pensions is increasing medical dues from
18 21% to 23% of the effective salary for teaching elders. Effective January 1, 2015, medical dues will change
19 from 23% to 24.5% for members with covered partners and/or dependent children, and 23% for member-only
20 coverage. Churches will have the ability to share with the plan member none, some, or all of the additional
21 1.5% dues charged for coverage of eligible family members.

22 There was a brief discussion about the purpose of Liaison visits from the Ministry Team, Congregational
23 Mission Support Team and Presbytery Leadership Team.
24 He brought two items for action.

25 **For Action:**

- 26 1. The Ministry Team recommends that the Presbytery of Florida grant the status of Honorably Retired to
27 Rev. John Lown, effective January 1, 2014.
 - 28 **a. The motion was approved.**
- 29 2. Examine Rachael Hood for ordination.
 - 30 **a. After her examination, Mark Broadhead moved that her examination be sustained in part and as a**
31 **whole. There was a second. The motion was approved.** She will be ordained in Florida
32 Presbytery on December 22 at First Presbyterian, Tallahassee.

33 **Brant Copeland** gave the report on behalf of Ric Connor for **Personnel**. The Presbyterian Leadership Team
34 accepted the recommendation of the Search Committee to offer the position of Coordinating Presbyter to the
35 Rev. Dr. Ted Land, which he accepted. Ted began work in this position on November 1 with the understanding
36 that the Presbytery would vote to accept this action at the presbytery meeting on December 3. A “Letter of
37 Agreement” was written and signed by the Moderator of the Presbytery Leadership Team, Jean Norman, and
38 Ted.

39 The Personnel Ministry Team received the resignation of the Rev. Kevin Veldhuisen, Director of Outdoor
40 Ministries and Spiritual Development and Director of Dogwood Acres. Effective resignation date is December
41 31, 2013. A group of representatives of the Presbytery met with Kevin at the Presbytery Office on November 16
42 to make decisions regarding the transition of Dogwood Acres and the upcoming camping season. We are
43 grateful for Kevin’s dedication and inspiring leadership in outdoor ministry and at Dogwood Acres.

1 **For Action:**

2 Approve the following recommendations for appointing a Director of Outdoor Ministries and Spiritual
3 Development:

- 4 a) That we appoint a Search Committee of five people to obtain a Director of Outdoor Ministries for Dogwood
5 Acres: Ben Powell – RE, First, Quincy, Chair of Dogwood Acres Ministry Team; James Vance – RE,
6 Fellowship, Tallahassee, member of Dogwood Acres Team; Trinity Whitley – Director of Christian Education,
7 Faith, Tallahassee; Ric Connor –TE, Panama City, Parkway - Convener; Patty Arnett – RE, Gulf Breeze
8 b) ~~That we use the present job description for Director of Outdoor Ministries, Dogwood Acres;~~ That we use the
9 job description provided by the Dogwood Acres Ministry Team for the Director of Outdoor Ministries,
10 Dogwood Acres.
11 c) That we seek to call that person by the January 25, 2014 presbytery meeting;
12 d) That we aim to have him/her on board by March 1, 2014;
13 e) ~~That we seek a non-clergy director (if an ordained teaching elder applies and is hired, that's a bonus);~~ That
14 the search be open to clergy and non-clergy candidates
15 f) That we send our job description and invitation to apply to the Presbyterian Church Camps and Conference
16 Association (PCCCA) listings and other denominational posting boards;
17 g) That we use our present terms of employment and financial terms of employment.

18 **An Amendment to the Motion was submitted:** Strike the language in item “e” and replace with the following
19 – “That the search be open to clergy and non-clergy candidates.” The motion was seconded and discussion
20 followed. **The amendment passed.**

21 **An amendment was submitted:** Regarding item “b” – “That we use the job description provided by the
22 Dogwood Acres Ministry Team for the Director of Outdoor Ministries, Dogwood Acres.” The motion was
23 seconded and discussion followed. **The amendment passed.**

24 **The original motion was then brought before the body.** There was discussion on the floor. **The motion was**
25 **passed.**

26 **An additional motion was presented by the committee:** To change the title of Melissa Morgan from
27 “Administrative Assistant” to “Administrator.” This change is to reflect Melissa's recent certification. The motion
28 was seconded. There was discussion and **the motion was approved.**

29 **Sandra Martin** gave the report for the **Commitment to Representation Team.** She highlighted a few points
30 from the report. Many positions have been filled but a few remain open. There is a “volunteer registration
31 sheet” from those who are willing to serve in these positions. She brought two motions before the presbytery.

32 **Presbytery Leadership Team (PLT)**

33 *Moderator-Elect*

34 Bill Green (RE-Euchee Valley, DeFuniak Springs)

35 *Class of 2015*

36 Tom Stadskev (RE-First, Marianna)

37 Tom Borland (TE-Faith, Tallahassee)

38 *Class of 2016*

39 Ruth Mashewske (TE-Gretna/Woodland)

40 Sandra Winslett (Member-First, Pensacola)

41 Bill Rumph (RE-Grace, Panama City)

42 Christy Williams (DCE-First, Tallahassee)

43 **Dogwood Acres Ministry Team (DWA)**

44 *Program – Class of 2016*

1 Susie Barber (Member – First, Marianna)

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

3 *Chair*

4 Michael Moore – Class of 20114 (TE-First, DeFuniak Springs)

5 *Class of 2014*

6 Mary Lou Edwards (Member-Parkway, Panama City)

7 *Class Of 2016*

8 Linda Lade (RE-First, Milton)

9 Ellen Hicks (RE – Christ, Tallahassee)

10 **Budget, Finance and Stewardship Team (BFS)**

11 *Class of 2016*

12 Walter Ray (RE-Red Bay)

13 **Personnel**

14 *Class of 2014*

15 Sharon Schuler (TE-First, Ft. Walton Beach)

16 **Ministry Team (MT)**

17 *Chair*

18 Randy Jackson – Class of 2014 (TE-First, Pensacola)

19 *Class of 2016*

20 Robert Fuehrer (TE-Shalimar)

21 Jim Green (RE-Trinity, Pensacola)

22 Bob Crabtree (RE-Christ, Tallahassee)

23 **Preparation 1 for Ministry Team (PMT)**

24 *Class of 2015*

25 Marty Henderson (Member, Gulf Breeze)

26 *Class of 2016*

27 Bruce Chapman (TE-Presbyterian University Center, Tallahassee)

28 Bob Palmer (RE-Trinity, Pensacola)

29 Martha Ann McCaskill (RE-Lafayette, Tallahassee)

30 **Self Development of People (SDOP)**

31 *Chair*

32 Michael Askew (TE-Member-at-large)

33 *Class of 2015*

34 Rosa Houston (Member-Trinity United, Tallahassee)

35 *Class of 2016*

36 Tae Ho Cheong (TE-Pensacola Korean)

37 Mary Schmidt (RE-First, Marianna)

38 **Disaster Preparedness and Response Team (DPR)**

39 *Class of 2016*

40 Scott Yant (RE-First, Marianna)

41 Harvey Mashewske (RE-Woodland)

42 **Permanent Judicial Committee (PJC)**

43 *Chair*

44 Frank Beall (TE-Trinity/First, Pensacola)

45 *Class of 2017*

1 Mark Broadhead (TE-First, Crestview/Laurel Hill)

2 **Synod/General Assembly Commissioners**

3 *Synod Commissioner (Teaching Elder) Alternate – 2017*

4 Ruth Mashewske (Gretna/Woodland)

5 *Commissioner to GA (Teaching Elder) Alternate – 2014*

6 Bill Bess (First, Havana)

7 *Commissioner to GA (Ruling Elder) – 2014*

8 Leslie Yandle

9 *Commissioner to GA (Ruling Elder) Alternate – 2014*

10 Mary Schmidt (First, Marianna)

11 *Youth Advisory Delegate to GA – 2014*

12 Walt Kelleher (First, Quincy)

13 **For Action:**

14 **1st Motion:** Approve the nominations presented by the committee. With two additions: Christy Williams first
15 Tallahassee, 2016, Leadership Team; Ellen Hicks Christ Presbyterian, 2016, Congregational Missional Support
16 Team. **The motion was approved.**

17 **2nd Motion:** The committee nominates Jeannie Dixon for the position of Stated Clerk for a three year term.
18 There were no nominations from the floor. **The motion was approved.**

19 **Jean Norman** gave the report for the **Presbytery Leadership Team**. She thanked John Schuler for his service
20 to the presbytery as interim presbyter. The PLT will have a retreat January 10-11, 2014, for the out-going and
21 incoming PLT members and team chairs to review and evaluate accomplishments and actions of the year and to
22 make recommendations going forward.

23 The PLT unanimously approved the Search Committee recommendation of Rev. Dr. Ted Land as Coordinating
24 Presbyter, beginning November 1, 2013, pending ratification at the December 3, Presbytery meeting. They also
25 approved the recommendations made by a team appointed and led by Moderator John Lown to determine the
26 process for identifying a replacement for Kevin Veldhuisen.

27 **Mary Vance** gave the report for the **Preparation for Ministry Team**. The following are in good standing with
28 the Preparation for Ministry Team:

29 Inquirers:

30 Lori Prettyman (Trinity, Pensacola)

31 Linda Pitts (Lafayette, Tallahassee)

32 Trinity Whitley (Faith, Tallahassee)

33 Candidates:

34 Glenn Hodges (First, Tallahassee)

35 Candidates ready to receive a call:

36 Michael Frandsen (Faith, Tallahassee)

37 Rachel Hood (Faith, Tallahassee)

38 **Michael Moore** gave the report on behalf of Joe Dobson for the **Reconfiguration Task Force**. The task force
39 is still in the “information-gathering-phase.” He shared some of that information with presbytery.
40 Representatives of the task force have met with Dogwood Acres staff and representatives of the St. Augustine,
41 Flint River and South Alabama presbyteries. On November 17, the task force met with Samford Turner, the executive
42 presbyter for the Presbytery of South Alabama. The task force has scheduled a meeting with Heahwan Rim,
43 transitional executive for the Synod of the South Atlantic, on December 14 in Tallahassee to discuss our internal
44 structure as a presbytery and the potential for taking steps to work with, or merge with, another presbytery or
45 presbyteries.

1 **Gerry Yandle** gave the report for the **Congregational Mission Support Team**. Congregational Mission
2 Support Team (CMST) has organized into three districts; East, Central and West. The primary goal is to
3 develop relationships with churches within their district and to promote use of the Healthy Church Framework
4 with ministers, sessions and church members. CMST members have been matched with team members from the
5 Ministry Team (MT) and Presbytery Leadership Team (PLT) to begin building relationships with the churches
6 in their district. The three representatives are in the initial stages of visitations to listen and learn from each
7 other with the goal of maximizing our resources across the Presbytery.

8 **Ben Powell** gave the report for the **Dogwood Acres Ministry Team**. He directed people to read the report from
9 the committee, as it is very thorough. There is a new weekend retreat available for Florida Presbytery Youth.
10 The Dogwood Youth Conference is for 6th-12th graders who are looking for a time to retreat, relax, recharge,
11 and reconnect. The conference will take place at Dogwood Acres February 21-23, 2014 and the cost will be \$80
12 per person. Registration forms are available and chaperones are needed, so get your youth signed up ASAP.

13 **Danny Dieth** gave the report on behalf of Ric Connor for the **Presbyter Search Committee**. The committee
14 received five applications and interviewed four candidates for the part-time Coordinating Presbyter position.
15 The committee selected Ted Land for the position, and he graciously accepted. The committee believes this
16 action will help encourage those congregations that need support in achieving their potential goals to be a
17 thriving congregation and to encourage healthy and vital congregations to continue their ministry efforts. They
18 also believe that the Coordinating Presbyter will help in our continuing efforts to strengthen our Dogwood
19 Acres ministry to continue to be a vital ministry as the heart of our Presbytery. He brought one item for action.


20 **For action:**

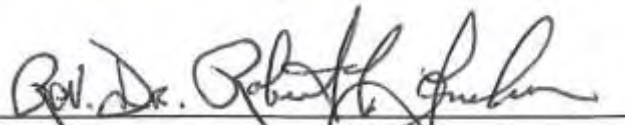
21 Approve the appointment of Rev. Dr. Ted Land as Coordinating Presbytery effective November 1, 2013,
22 through October 31, 2014. **The motion was approved.**

23 There was no other business before the body. The next stated meeting of the presbytery will be January 25,
24 2014, 9 a. m. CST/10 a. m. EST. The location is to be determined. The moderator offered a closing prayer and
25 the meeting was adjourned at 1 p. m. EST. Lunch was provided by Lafayette Presbyterian Church.

26 John Lown, Moderator
27 Jeannie Dixon, Stated Clerk
28 Anne Veldhuisen, Recording Clerk

29 APPROVAL OF MINUTES


Jeannie Dixon, Stated Clerk


Rev. Dr. Robert Fuehrer, Teaching Elder