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Spring Stated Presbytery Meeting
April 29, 2014, 9 a.m. CDT/ 10 a.m. EDT
Fellowship 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 Fellowship Presbyterian Church in Tallahassee, FL, on April 29, 2014.

The following 27 ministers and 23 elders were enrolled as commissioners:

Teaching Elders/CREs: Bill Bess, Tom Borland, Bruce Chapman, Richard Connor, Brant Copeland, Anghaarad Dees, Danny Dieth, Chris Erde, Hugh Hamilton, Eugene Harris, Victoria Isaacs, Randy Jackson, Kenneth Kelley, John Kelsay, Ted Land, William Lee, John Lown, Hailey Braden Lynch, Ruth Mashewske, Bea Miller, James Monroe, Michael Moore, Taylor Phillips, Larry Plank, Robert Sullivan, Drucilla Tyler, Mary Vance

Ruling Elder Commissioners: **DeFuniak Springs, Euchee Valley** – Tommy Yates; **DeFuniak Springs, First** – Lee Thomas; **DeFuniak Springs, Pleasant Grove** – Henry W. Goode III; **Gretna, Gretna** – Gale Thompson, **Marianna, First** – Mary Bevis Schmidt; **Pace, Pace** – Walt Reese; **Panama City, Parkway** – Bruce Davis; **Pensacola, First** – Jack McNulty, Brenda Robinson, Susan Rapier; **Trinity, Pensacola** – Andrew Hinton, Mary Catherine Hinton; **Quincy, First** – Randy Pople; **Red Bay, Red Bay** – Walter Ray; **Sawdust, Woodland** – Marshall Y. Lee; **Sunny Hills, Sunny Hills Community** – Jennifer Deinhardt; **Tallahassee, Christ** – Earl Easter; **Tallahassee, Faith** – Peter Ray, John Dailey, Chris Kinsley; **Tallahassee, Fellowship** – Anne Hall; **Tallahassee, First** – David Curtis; **Tallahassee, Lafayette** – Mary Keyt; **Tallahassee, Trinity United** – Barbara C. Black

Christian Educations/Youth Directors: Vickie Dieth, Shannon Guse, Trinity Whitley
Certified: Jeannie Dixon, Beth House, Christy Williams

Presbytery Staff Members: Melissa Morgan

Officers/Team Chairs: Jim Davis, Bill Green, Ben Powell

Visitors: Leslie Kelley, Rosemary Sullivan, Andy Jackson, Toya O’Hora, Helga Edmonds, Harvey Mashewske, Ellen Hicks

Visiting Teaching Elders: Jonas Georges, Heahwan Rim

ABSENCES

Excused Teaching Elders/CREs: Mel Baars, Mark Broadhead, Tae Ho Cheong, Jae Wan Chung, Joesph Chung, John Erthein, Lawrence Greenslit, Jack Homoney, Joanne Kublik, Ben Lynch, Lindsay Moffett, Durl Odom, Keith Posehn, Sharon Schuler, Joan Wooten

1 **Unexcused Teaching Elders/CREs:** Michael Askew, Frank Beall, Peder Carlson, Gary Cecil,
2 Terry Dyer, Nancy Forinash, Jeff Hayes, Emory Hingst, George Kessler, Pamela King Phillips,
3 Beth McCaw, Leo Sandon Jr, Steven Schaick, John Schuler, Ezra Yune

4 **Excused Churches:** Chipley, First; Crestview, First; Destin First; Fort Walton Beach, Korean
5 First; Laurel Hill, Laurel Hill; Lynn Haven, First; Milton, First; Navarre, Navarre; Pensacola,
6 Korean; Pensacola, Westminster

7 **Unexcused Churches:** Blountstown, Blountstown; DeFuniak Springs, Bethel; Fort Walton
8 Beach, First; Freeport, Freeport; Gulf Breeze, Gulf Breeze; Havana, First; Monticello, First;
9 Panama City Beach, Gulf Beach; Panama City, Agape; Panama City, Grace; Panama City, St.
10 Andrews; Pensacola, Northminster; Port St. Joe, First; Shalimar, Shalimar; Wewahitchka, First

11 **Other excused absences:**

12 **OPENING PRAYER AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM**

13 The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM EDT by moderator Hugh Hamilton. Following the
14 opening prayer it was noted that a quorum was present. **The docket was approved as**
15 **presented.** Mary Vance gave a warm welcome and introduction from Fellowship Presbyterian
16 Church, Tallahassee.

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

18 Bruce Davis, a representative from the Bay County Presbyterian Men, offered a gift to Rev. Ted
19 Land in appreciation for his service to their group.

20 A morning worship/prayer service was held with John Lown providing the message.

21 Teaching elders Ezra Yune and Ruth Masheweske were recognized for their honorable
22 retirement.

23 **Reports of Presbytery staff and officers were received:**

24 **Ted Land, Coordinating Presbyter,** provided an update on his activities. He has visited 1/3 of
25 the churches of our Presbytery and hopes to make it out to the remaining churches in the near
26 future, he said. He was leaving after the meeting to attend a benefits conference on behalf of the
27 Presbytery.

28 **Jeannie Dixon, Stated Clerk,** gave a report. She presented information of the BOP *Call to*
29 *Health* and encouraged members to go online and sign up. The deadline for completing the two
30 goals is in September of this year in order to get a reduction in next year's premiums.

31 **Jim Davis, Treasurer,** reviewed the financial picture of our Presbytery and the overall budget.
32 With the personnel changes the Presbytery has experienced in the past few years and the
33 projected contributions, we are in a good position financially, he said. The budget has been
34 adapted to offer more transparency with the Mission Support for Dogwood Acres being listed as

1 a disbursement line item and then a separate budget for Dogwood Acres being submitted, he
2 added. **The revised operating budget for 2014 was approved as presented.**

3 **Report from the Synod was received:**

4 **Rev. Dr. Heahwan Rim**, brought greeting from the Synod. He gave update on the tradition of
5 the Synod. There is a recommendation to reduce the number of synods from 16 to eight. The
6 western synods are already vocalizing opposition, due to the great span that western synods
7 already cover. If this passes, our synod will merge with another synod. Before this would
8 happen, our presbytery would be consulted. Additionally, Rim reported that the Synod is
9 working to support different racial and ethnic ministries through grants and covenants with many
10 educational institutions and homes.

11 **The reports of Presbytery teams were given:**

12 **John Lown** presented Overture 08-01, a request for endorsement of fundraising support among
13 Presbyterian Churches and individuals for IMCK – the Insitut Medical Chretien Du Kasai.
14 Lown made a motion for its endorsement; there was a second. There was discussion after which
15 it **was approved** to endorse the overture.

16 **Randy Jackson** gave the report for the **Ministry Team**. He expressed need for more members
17 on their team and urged the Presbytery members to contact the Commitment to Representation
18 Team if they know of an interested person. The Ministry Team recommends that the Presbytery
19 of Florida confer the title of Honorably Retired to Rev. Ruth Mashewske effective May 1, 2014.
20 **The motion was approved.**

21 **Mary Vance** gave the report for the **Preparation for Ministry Team**. The written report noted
22 Lori Prettyman, Linda Pitts and Trinity Whitley are inquirers; Glenn Hodges is a candidate;
23 Michael Frandsen is a candidate ready to receive a call. All are in good standing with the PMT.

24 **John Lown** gave the report for the **Presbytery Leadership Team**. Request was made for
25 sessions to give feedback if needed on the mission statement sent to them from the PLT for
26 review. The PLT now has a sub-group that meets to handle administrative issues. The PLT
27 recommended Cursillo as a resource for spiritual development.

28 **Michael Moore** gave the report for the **Congregational Mission Support Team**. He reported
29 on the visits from the PLT/MT/CMST liaisons that have occurred with sessions across the
30 Presbytery. One strength resulting from these meetings is a shift in mentality from Presbytery is
31 them to Presbytery is us. Ellen Hicks was recognized as a member of the CMST to share about
32 answers to prayers within her community.

33 **Ric Connor** gave the report for the **Dogwood Acres Director Search Committee**. The
34 committee presented the new Director of Dogwood Acres, the Rev. Dr. Jonas Georges. Dr.
35 Georges will begin May 1, 2014.

1 **Ben Powell** gave the report for the **Dogwood Acres Ministry Team**. When sharing about
2 summer camp, special attention was drawn to the need for a nurse for two weeks of camp and a
3 chaplain for one week. Additionally, Mr. Powell shared the Team's great excitement for Dr.
4 Georges accepting the director position and look forward to his time beginning.

5 The written report for the **Commitment to Representation Team** noted the following
6 vacancies:

- 7 **Presbyterian Leadership Team** - Class of 2014, 1 member from western district
- 8 **Dogwood Acres Ministry Team, Operations** – Class of 2016, 1 member
- 9 **Congregational Mission Support Team** – Class of 2014, 2 members; Class of 2016, 3
10 members
- 11 **Budget, Finance and Stewardship** – Class of 2015, 1 member; Class of 2016, 2 members
- 12 **Personnel** – Class of 2016, 2 members
- 13 **Ministry Team** – Class of 2015, 1 member; Class of 2016, 4 members (2 teaching elders, 3
14 ruling elders)
- 15 **Preparation for Ministry Team** – Class of 2015, 1 member
- 16 **Disaster Preparedness and Response Team** – Class of 2014, 1 member; Class of 2015, 1
17 member; chair
- 18 **Permanent Judicial Committee** – Class of 2017, 1 member (teaching elder)


19 Prayers were requested for the many who have been touched by the devastation of tornados.
20 Members were encouraged to offer support to PDA.

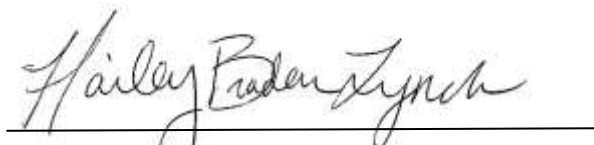
21 Question was raised about receiving Dr. Georges as a member of the Presbytery of Florida.
22 Clarification was made that, after receiving him for this contract position, Director of Dogwood
23 Acres, the Clerk will send a request to the Presbytery of Tropical Florida to allow him to labor
24 outside of the bounds. Additionally Dr. Georges will meet with the Ministry Team on May 13.

25 There was no other business before the body. The next stated meeting of the presbytery will be
26 September 9, 2014, 9 a. m. CDT/10 a. m. EDT at First Presbyterian Church, Milton, FL. The
27 moderator offered a closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:41 p.m. EDT.

28 Hugh Hamilton, Moderator
29 Jeannie Dixon, Stated Clerk
30 Trinity Whitley, Recording Clerk

31 APPROVAL OF MINUTES


Jeannie Dixon, Stated Clerk


Hailey Braden Lynch, Teaching Elder