

# Supplemental Reports to the Presbytery of Florida Summer Stated Meeting

September 10, 2013      9 a.m. CDT/10 a.m. EDT

First Presbyterian Church of Marianna  
4437 Clinton Street  
Marianna, FL 32446



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# Report from the Stated Clerk/Communications

The 2012 session record review was conducted in August for each district. Thanks to Joan Wooten for assisting in this review and to First, Pensacola, First, Marianna, and Fellowship, Tallahassee, for hosting the reviews.

The following records remain to be reviewed for 2012:

Blountstown  
Bethel, DeFuniak Springs  
Euchee Valley, DeFuniak Springs  
Pleasant Grove  
Korean, Fort Walton Beach  
Freeport  
Agape, Panama City  
Parkway, Panama City  
First, Port St. Joe  
Red Bay  
Sunny Hills  
Christ, Tallahassee,  
Korean Community NCD, Tallahassee  
First, Wewahitchka

Communications received:

- 1) From Stated Clerk of the General Assembly Gradye Parsons regarding EPC
- 2) From GA Stated Clerk Gradye Parsons regarding Christmas International House
- 3) Letter from First, DeFuniak Springs, regarding unified giving



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

August 29, 2013

To Middle Governing Bodies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Dear Colleagues,

I received a letter from the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC) in response to the letter I sent them on June 27, 2013. The main subject of my letter was to object to the EPC receiving congregations from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) that had declared unilaterally that they were independent churches. As you know, unilateral dismissal by a congregation or dismissal to independency is not allowed in our polity or the polity of the EPC.

I regret to inform you that in response to my letter the EPC has expressed that it will not stop receiving these congregations. This practice has not been a common occurrence during this chapter that we are currently in. The vast majority of congregations have respected and worked with a presbytery's dismissal policy.

Yours in Christ,

Gradye Parsons  
Stated Clerk of the General Assembly  
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

GRADY PARSONS  
STATED CLERK

August 27, 2013

Dear colleagues in ministry,

It is an exciting time of the year as we assess the goals and tasks set by the 220<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2012) and look with expectancy toward the 221<sup>st</sup> General Assembly (2014) in Detroit. We have much to be thankful for as a denomination, and it is with joy that we engage in our work as a church.

One of the important tasks I want to lift up in this season is our commitment to promoting [Christmas International House](#) (CIH), a ministry of hospitality for international students during the Christmas holiday. From December 18-January 2 families, churches and civic groups in communities around the country host international student, providing homes for them to stay in and programs of activities. I sent you a similar letter last year at the direction of the Assembly encouraging you to support this effort.

CIH has to turn away international students each year from this ministry because “there is no room in the inn,” so it is imperative that at least one church in each presbytery respond. I challenge each presbytery to communicate this vision of hospitality among its congregations for 2014, with our goal being to set up 200 programs that host at least two students each. Please contact Lisa Majoros at (404) 846-4396 for hosting and program information.

The experience is invaluable for international students who participate, and can be equally rewarding for individuals and congregations in your presbyteries as they share the splendor of Christmas. I hope you will take the opportunity find out more about CIH ([www.christmasih.org](http://www.christmasih.org)), and that you share this with your congregations in time for the coming Christmas season.

In Christ,

Grady Parsons  
Stated Clerk of the General Assembly

P.S. For your information, the full action of the General Assembly is included with this communication. You will also find it in PC-biz at <http://pc-biz.org/Explorer.aspx?id=4373>.

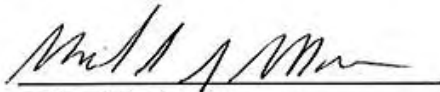


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Dear Rev. Stephen Yates, Stated Clerk:

The Session and congregation of First Presbyterian Church of DeFuniak Springs, Florida are taking a leap of faith in giving above and beyond our pledge for Unified Giving in order to support the work and mission of Florida Presbytery during these difficult times.

We encourage our sisters and brothers in Christ to prayerfully consider an additional pledge to support the work of our Presbytery as we work together to move forward into the future in service to our Lord.

  
Michael A. Moore  
Pastor

  
Joyce Kelly  
Clerk

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*Pastor - Reverend Michael Moore*  
*Christian Education Director - Laurice Andrews*      *Administrative Assistant - Mary M. Hall*

## Supplemental Report from the Ministry Team

*The Presbytery maintains a **Ministry Team** in accordance with Book of Order G-3.0307, composed of equal numbers of teaching elders and ruling elders.*

- Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Hayes of Sheppards and Lapsley Presbytery was examined and approved to serve as the Transitional Teaching Elder at Gulf Breeze Presbyterian Church. He was also granted permission to labor in the bounds of Florida Presbytery pending permission from Sheppards and Lapsley Commission on Ministry for him to labor outside the bounds. (This was strictly a timing issue of our respective Ministry teams.)
- Ruling Elder Tanya Fernandes was approved for the Pulpit Supply list. Her contact information is: Ms. Tanya Fernandes, 1137 Nestling Court, Gulf Breeze, FL 32563; (419) 560-5225; her email address is kunzetanya@yahoo.com.
- Approved the request for transfer of Rev. Dr. Huw Christopher to the Presbytery of Los Ranchos.
- Approved the dismissal of Rev. Dr. Stephen Yates to the Presbytery of East Tennessee when the way is clear.
- Approved the covenant/contract between Rev. Robert Fuhrer and Shalimar Presbyterian Church.
- Approved the Interim Contract between Rev. Ted Land and First-Marianna.
- Approved the Ministry Team's 2014 Asking Budget.
- Reviewed the Pastoral Search Process for: Pace, Northminster, Gulf Beach, First-Monticello, and First-Marianna – The PNC continues to read PIF's.
- Reviewed an Examination Process that would standardize our examinations of candidates for ministry and those seeking membership in the Presbytery of Florida. It will be voted on at the next stated meeting.
- Approved transfer of Charles E. "Tripp" Porch, III, to Scioto Valley Presbytery. His ordination is scheduled for October 20, 2013, at 5:30 p.m. to be held at First-Pensacola.

The Ministry Team's next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 12, 2013, 9:30 a.m. (Central), at the Presbytery Office

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark Broadhead, Team Chair

**Other Team members:** Bob Crabtree, Jim Green, Ruth Mashewske, Will McCorkle, Bill Rumph, Beth House, Randy Jackson, Bea Miller, Dan Mitchell, Beckie Mooney, Larry Plank, Chris Erde, Gene Harris, Victoria Isaacs, Taylor Phillips, Jim Roncaglione

1 **Supplemental Report from the**  
2 **Presbytery Leadership Team (PLT)**

3 *The Presbytery Leadership Team is responsible for engaging in the ongoing shaping and*  
4 *reshaping the life and mission of the presbytery by being responsive to the changing needs of*  
5 *the presbytery, the community and the world.*

6 **For information:**

7 At the request of Chipley attorney Jeff Goodman, appraiser Phillip Pippin appraised the presbytery  
8 office at 1314 Jackson Avenue, Chipley, FL. The appraisal value is \$182,500. Presbytery paid  
9 \$295,000 for the property in 2006. Mr. Goodman is making an offer of \$182,500 to purchase the  
10 property. If the Presbytery does not accept an offer at or above the appraised value, Presbytery will  
11 pay the \$1,000 appraisal fee.

12 To evaluate alternative office locations should presbytery decide to sell the building, office  
13 specifications were developed (attached) and sent to three locations considered to be geographically  
14 central to the presbytery: First, Chipley; Dogwood Acres and First, Marianna. First, DeFuniak  
15 Springs, declined to be considered due to lack of space. The three locations submitted their responses  
16 to the office specifications, and site visits were conducted by PLT members Andy Jackson and Jean  
17 Norman; Administrative Assistant Melissa Morgan and Interim Administrator John Schuler.  
18 Attached is the comparison of what each location could provide based on the specifications. The  
19 current location is also included.

20 The PLT is recommending that we not sell the current office. While each of the three alternative  
21 locations has benefits, the drawbacks are considerable, and there is not a compelling reason to sell the  
22 building at this time. Below are thoughts that contributed to this decision:

- 23 • The economic benefits are not clear since we will lose \$112,500 on the office sale.  
24 Property values have probably bottomed out and are beginning to rebound, though we  
25 do not anticipate the value will return to what we paid for it anytime soon, if ever.
- 26 • Changes approved at General Assembly in July 2014 will take at least two years to  
27 impact local presbyteries. The prospect of reconfiguration/realignment of presbyteries  
28 with differing priorities is a strong possibility. We should stay where we are until we  
29 see how things shake out.
- 30 • There is not a plan for how the property sale funds would be used.
- 31 • There is some concern that we would lose objectivity if we locate at a church.
- 32 • If we move to Dogwood Acres, we are tied to that location.

33 **For action:**

34 The Presbytery of Florida will not sell the current office.

35 Respectfully submitted,  
36 Jean Norman, Team Chair

37 Other Team members: Bill Bess, Beulah Brinson, Jae Wan Chung, Danny Dieth, Jeannie Dixon, Hugh  
38 Hamilton, Andrew Jackson, Bill Kerrell, Debbie Layton, John Lown, Sandra Faye Macon, Sharon  
39 Schuler, Joan Wooten.

1 **Presbytery of Florida Office Specifications**

2 1. Approximately 700+ square feet, 2 rooms minimum

3 2. Office Needs:

4 Administrative Assistant – 5 days a week; server, copier, files could be in this office

5 Bookkeeper – 1day weekly; Melissa & Melanie can share space if office is large enough

6 Coordinating Presbyter – one day a week?; large enough to hold meetings of 6-8

7 3. Access to restrooms, break room/kitchen, parking, meeting space as needed seven days a week,  
8 morning, afternoon, evening; up to about 20 people (Presbytery Leadership Team meets 6 times, 15  
9 people; Ministry Team, 6 times, 20 people; Congregational Mission Support Team, 3 times, 15 people;  
10 Budget, Finance, Stewardship, 2 times, 8 people; Commitment to Representation, 2 times, 7 people;  
11 Personnel, 2 times, 7 people

12 4. Wireless Internet

13 5. Phones & FAX

14 6. Space for storage & file cabinets, copier, server, etc. (Could be in Melissa's office depending on  
15 size)

16 **Selection Criteria**

17 1. Availability of space and technology listed on specifications

18 2. Approximate timeframe when space could be occupied

19 3. Cost to adapt space/renovate/provide network connectivity

20 4. Lease terms, rental cost

21 5. Ability to fit existing presbytery office furniture into space

22 6. Cost of insurance

23 7. Concerns/challenges

24



Comparison of Specifications Criteria for Presbytery Office										
	First, Chipley		Dogwood Acres		DWA-Laurel Lodge*		First, Marianna		Current Chipley Office	
Space	Rent Manse	Cost \$	Expand Bearss Bldg	Cost \$	Use existing trailer	Cost \$	Shared office space	Cost \$	Do not Move	Cost \$
<b>Quantity</b>	about 2600 sq. ft		775 sq. ft plus k/b		1000 sq. ft.		700 sq. ft plus k/b		1883 sq. ft. plus k/b	
<b>Cost up front</b>	sharing \$20-30K in renovation expense	\$15,000	\$58K-new const./payback in 6 yr.	\$58,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	0	0	0	\$0
<b>Availability</b>	90 days		90 days		30 days		30 days		already there	
<b>Rent</b>	\$695/mo - negotiable	\$8,340	\$0		\$0		less than \$500/mo negotiable	\$6,000	0	\$0
<b>Technology (ph/int.)</b>	same as current: \$3000/year	\$3,000	\$1K/year; satellite/rain issue	\$1,000	\$1K/year; satellite/rain issue	\$1,000	\$600/year	\$600	\$3000/year	\$3,000
<b>Utilities</b>	billed separately	?	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	Water, sewer, elect., pest, lawn - \$450/mo	\$5,400
<b>Restroom/kitchen</b>	OK-private		OK-shared		OK-private		OK-shared		OK-private	
<b>Copier</b>	\$700/mo	\$8,400	\$700/mo	\$8,400	\$700/mo	\$8,400	share their copier	\$0	\$700/mo	\$8,400
<b>Furniture Fit</b>	OK		OK		OK		OK; sell unused		OK	
<b>Insurance</b>	Renter's est. \$300/yr (not auto)	\$300	Renter's est. \$300/yr (not auto)	\$300	Renter's est. \$300/yr (not auto)	\$300	Renter's est. \$300/yr (not auto)	\$300	\$650/yr (not auto)	\$650
<b>Maintenance/cleaning</b>	\$41.50/week	\$2,158	\$41.50/week	\$2,158	\$41.50/week	\$2,158	0	\$0	\$41.50/week	\$2,158
<b>Moving</b>	Est. \$2500	\$2,500	Est. \$2500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	Est. \$2500	\$2,500	0	\$0
<b>Mileage, Melissa</b>	0		60 mi/day@\$.565	\$8,305	60 mi/day@\$.565	\$8,305	25 mi/day@\$.565	\$3,461	0	\$0
<b>Retain Bookkeeper</b>	yes		no		no		yes		yes	
<b>Adequate Mtg Space</b>	yes		yes		yes		yes		yes	
<b>Convenience</b>	yes; Pen-110mi;Tall-86mi;PanCity-48mi		? Rural area; dirt roads, Pen-103mi;Tall-102mi;PC-36mi		? Rural area; dirt roads, Pen-103mi;Tall-102mi;PC-36mi		yes;Pen-128mi; Tall-66 mi; PanCity-56mi		yes; Pen-110mi;Tall-86mi;PanCity-48mi	
<b>Meet Presbytery Goals</b>	no		yes		yes		no		no	
<b>First Year Expense</b>		\$39,698		\$80,663		\$24,663		\$12,861		\$19,608
<b>Recurring Expense</b>		\$22,448 + utilities		\$20,163		\$20,163		\$10,361		\$19,608

\* For 3 – 5 years

\* Window AC/space heaters