

# **PRESBYTERY OF ST. AUGUSTINE**

## **Winter Stated Meeting**

**February 7, 2015**

Community Presbyterian Church

Atlantic Beach, FL

*The mission of the Presbytery of St. Augustine is to serve Jesus Christ  
by strengthening our congregations in their ministries  
and enabling us to accomplish together what none could accomplish alone.*

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## **OPENING AGENDA**

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Welcome of Host	Gabe Goodman
Opening Prayer	Moderator
Declaration of Quorum	Stated Clerk
Approval of Docket	Stated Clerk
Welcome to First Time Commissioners and Guests	Moderator
Enrollment of Corresponding Members	Stated Clerk
Appointment of Tellers	Moderator

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## **CONSENT AGENDA**

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### **STATED CLERK COMMUNICATIONS**

Alexandra Hedrick, Stated Clerk

The Stated Clerk recommends that the presbytery take the following actions:

1. Excuse from attendance persons who submitted excuses as recorded in the roll of this meeting.
2. Record this meeting as the annual corporate meeting for both the Presbytery of St. Augustine, Inc. and Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center, Inc.
3. Receive and admit to record that Larry Hadrava (RE - Kirkwood) was commissioned to special pastoral service at the San Mateo Presbyterian Church on October 19, 2014. Earle Sickels (TE - Calvin) served as the moderator of the commissioning service.
4. Receive and record that the Trustees have (a) approved a contract to list for sale the property at 8084 Normandy Boulevard, Jacksonville, Florida, which has been vacated by the Nueva Esperanza Presbyterian Church (it is sharing space in mutual ministry with the Kirkwood Presbyterian Church); (b) elected the Operating Board of the Montgomery Presbyterian

Conference Center as contemplated by the presbytery action taken at the last stated meeting; and (c) approved the execution of the quit claim deed in connection with the dismissal of the Mandarin Presbyterian Church to ECO: A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians.

5. Receive and record the information that the effective date of dismissal of the Mandarin Presbyterian church to ECO and transfer of its installed teaching elders (Kevin Pound, Jennifer Arnold and Jeffrey Arnold) to that denomination was December 15, 2014. The stated clerk and president of the corporation have completed the requirements of the dismissal action.
6. Receive the report that the following persons, having completed their service on the Permanent Judicial Commission (PJC) in the last six years, would be eligible to serve on a PJC should there be a need (the listing will be provided in the Revised Docket to be published no later than February 2, 2015.)
7. Approve the list of churches that will send an additional commissioner to each meeting for the next year beginning with the Spring 2015 Stated Meeting. As background, the *Book of Order* requires that the presbytery annually redress the imbalance of teaching and ruling elder commissioners by asking churches to send additional ruling elders (see G-3.0301). In addition, our Manual of Operations states that the Stated Clerk shall create the list of congregations by rotating through the alphabetical list of congregations in the presbytery. (Note: the listing will be provided in the Revised Docket to be published no later than February 2, 2015.)
8. Receive the updated report regarding the reading of the 2013 session minutes (the listing will be provided at the presbytery meeting and included in the minutes).
9. Receive as information and admit to record the 2014 necrology report for the Teaching Elders and Ruling Elders of the Presbytery of St. Augustine, and observe prayer in thanksgiving for the lives and services of the individuals whose names are listed in the report:

**Teaching Elder Necrology**

Gabriel (Gabe) Abdullah	Honorably Retired	July 29
SheryllLynn Frazier	Pastor, Arlington	November 20
Oscar Floyd Hooker	Honorably Retired	December 16

**Ruling Elder Necrology**

Carolyn Alters	Lake Shore	November 28
Charles Anderson	Arlington	December 12
Jean Anderson	Marion Oaks	March 18
Kenneth E. Atkins	Riverside	April 1
Bill Baker	Lake City	March 1
Thelma Gay Boree	Riverside	September 11
Elizabeth Bullock	Riverside	January 5

Phyllis W. Campbell	Ocala, 1st	May 1
Donald S. Campbell	Ocala, 1st	May 29
Allen Clark	Highlands United	June 23
Anthony Clegorne	Fort King	December 21
Lauren Clough	Fernandina Beach, 1st	December 16
William "Bill" Colmery	St. Johns	February 27
June C. Cooke	Gainesville, 1st	April 28
Hoyt Scott Dansby	Alachua, 1st	July 20
Barbara Danskine	Dunnellon	May 25
Marjorie Decker	Gainesville, 1st	December 2
Richard Eggers	Trinity	June 16
Robert E. Falls	Lakewood	January 17
Ann Fiduk	Fort King	August 30
Wendell Ford	Woodlawn	May 25
Ann Foreman	Grace	October 27
George Forsyth	South Jacksonville	September 4
Dave Fullarton	Fort King	January 24
Richard Fuller	Dunnellon	April 10
Iva Jane Grove	Silver Springs Shores	November 17
Marvin Hall	Lake City	June 24
Margaret Harden	Peace	November 21
Ginny Hazouri	Arlington	November 10
Robert Head, Jr.	Gainesville, 1st	June 4
Ralph Lavern Henry	White Springs	October 19
Paul Hensgen	Marion Oaks	March 5
Letha McBride Iles	Woodlawn	August 7
Paul Jewett	Green Cove Springs	June 10
Melody Fry Jones	Murray Hill	October 13
Ray Kirkland	Lake City	March 17
Robert W. LeSage	Orange Park	December 27
Wendell MacKenzie	Trinity	April 7
Carla June Mason	Fairfield	July 9
Dick Maxwell	Palms	May 2
Thomas Melton	South Jacksonville	June 10
Edward Merkel	Lake City	November 16
John "Ernie" Meyer	Memorial	January 28
Herbert H. Miller	Riverside	November 7
Rudy Muckenfuss	Fort King	January 29
Donald A. Nelson	Riverside	July 3
Melissa Patton	Palms	March 2
Betty Pearson	Gainesville, 1st	February 15
Franklin Perritt	South Jacksonville	March 8
William Perry	Dunnellon	November 9
Carolyn Day Pfohl	Riverside	November 29

Jane Pitrat	Mikesville	November 7
Madalin Price	Trinity	August 5
Lois Reed	Lake Shore	January 14
Earl Richardson	Jacksonville, 1st	April 18
Robert E. Rinker	Orange Park	June 26
Carl W. Rosebrough	Orange Park	March 27
Sue Rosebrough	Orange Park	August 28
Phillip J. Rosenberger	Arlington	June 15
Les Sheppard	Peace	December 30
Mary Frances Sheppard	Westminster	August 19
Louise Smith	Dunnellon	August 18
Clint Snyder	Palatka, 1st	November 23
Stephen Stachnick	Countryside	January 27
Xylida Stanley	Jacksonville, 1st	January 27
Mark L. Stater	Lakewood	May 31
Virginia Stembler	Palatka, 1st	July 11
Ralph Stiles	Middleburg	November 17
Gerald K. Taylor, Jr.	Riverside	May 18
William L. Tevepaugh	Community	October 13
Terrell Turner	Mikesville	July 12
Herbert L. Underwood	Fernandina Beach, 1st	September 16
Ella Wagner	Fort King	January 27
Carl Walter	Gainesville, 1st	November 12
Jim Weathersbee	Arlington	December 5
Robert Weaver	Lake City	April 25
Frances Wiggins	Silver Springs Shores	April 27
Donald Williams	Westminster	April 23
Joyce B. Windgasson	Starke, 1st	June 27
Joanne S. Yancey	Ocala, 1st	September 21
Sigmund "Sig" Zibart	St. Giles	June 5

## **PRESBYTERY COUNCIL**

Gabe Goodman, Moderator

The Presbytery Council recommends that the presbytery take the following actions:

1. Receive the report that the Council reviewed and approved the Fall 2014 Stated Meeting Minutes of the Presbytery of St. Augustine (a copy of the minutes will be available for review at the Stated Clerk's table).
2. Receive and approve the report that the Council has authorized celebration of the Lord's Supper at 2015 meetings of the presbytery, summer camps at Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center, and events of the Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of St. Augustine.

## **ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**

Bill Hoff, Moderator

The Administration and Finance Committee recommends that the presbytery receive and record the 2014 year-end financial statements (*Appendix A*).

## **COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY**

Ron Watson, Moderator and Amy Camp, Vice Moderator

The Committee on Ministry recommends that the presbytery take the following actions:

1. Approve the following temporary pastor relationships (note: temporary pastor relationships are limited to one year and may be renewed, and ruling elder commissions are limited to three years and may be renewed):
  - a. Cindy Benz and Lake City First (interim) as of November 17, 2014
  - b. Craig Davies and Arlington (temporary supply) as of November 30, 2014
  - c. Emily Proctor and Riverside (other temporary pastor) as of January 2, 2015
  - d. Terry Robertson and Faith (stated supply) as of January 1, 2015
  - e. Tim Simpson and Lake Shore (stated supply) as of January 1, 2015
  - f. Sam McCoy and Crescent City First (stated supply) as of January 1, 2015
  - g. Rhonda Link-Cummings and Mikesville (stated supply) as of January 2, 2015
  - h. Earle Sickels and Calvin (stated supply) as of February 1, 2015
  - i. Don Mossa and Peace (temporary supply) as of February 2, 2015
  - j. Tommy Lane and McIntosh (commissioned ruling elder) as of January 1, 2015 (the presbytery is also requested to approve a renewal of Tommy Lane's commission for special pastoral service for an additional three years)
2. Approve or record the following dissolutions of pastoral relationships:
  - a. Kathy McLean and Lake Shore as of March 11, 2014.
  - b. Jack Donovan and Highlands as of October 19, 2014.
  - c. Don Mossa and Lake City First as of October 9, 2014.
  - d. Cindy Benz and Palatka First as of October 31, 2014.
  - e. SherylLynn Frazier and Arlington Presbyterian Church, due to death on November 11, 2014.
  - f. Tara Thompson and St. Johns Presbyterian Church as of January 31, 2015.
3. Receive as information and admit to record the Committee on Ministry's approval of the following minister transfers (the committee's action has been taken as a commission of the presbytery):
  - a. Laura Joost-Kuhn to Santa Fe Presbytery as of the date received.
  - b. Tara Thompson to Tampa Bay Presbytery as of the date received.

4. Receive as information that a Clergy Retreat was held in October 2014 and that the Committee on Ministry has begun to plan a Clergy Retreat in October 2015.
5. Receive as information that the Committee on Ministry regularly reviews and approves the preaching supply list which may be found on the presbytery's website under "Resources" and "Preaching Supplies."
6. Approve the changes to the narrative portion of the presbytery's policy on "minimum terms of call" that are contained in *Appendix B*. These changes relate to the numerical changes approved in the 2014 Fall Stated Meeting that are also contained in *Appendix B*.
7. Receive, affirm and record the Committee on Ministry's approval of the election of a pastoral nominating committee (PNC) by First Presbyterian Church of Lake City.
8. Approve the award of a Williams Foundation Grant to the Highlands Presbyterian Church in Gainesville in the amount of \$1,700 for the purpose of window and flooring work at the church facility.
9. Grant Reddick Presbyterian Church an exception to the *Book of Order's* requirement of term limits for the service of ruling elders (see G-2.0404).
10. Receive as information that the Committee on Ministry has formed three working groups: Pastoral Relations, Care of Church Professionals, and Care of Congregations.
11. Receive as information and and record the current Roll of Teaching Elders, Commissioned Ruling Elders, Ruling Elders Certified to be Commissioned, and Certified Christian Educators of the Presbytery of St. Augustine for the year ending December 31, 2014 (see G-3.0305) (*Appendix C*).
12. Dismiss, with gratitude, the Administrative Commission for the Mandarin Presbyterian Church.

## **COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY**

Mark Hults, Moderator

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry recommends that the presbytery approve and admit to record that, at its meeting on December 16, 2014, the CPM accepted the following individuals as Inquirers for ministry under care of the Presbytery of St. Augustine:

James Kendrick (Palms)  
Scott Stuart (Gainesville First)  
Page Walwick (Palatka First)

## **ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION REPORT**

### **Korean Administrative Commission**

Carolyn Ettliger, Moderator

The Korean Presbyterian Church held a congregational meeting on Sunday, September 28, 2014, and adopted amended articles of incorporation and by-laws. The congregation also elected a nominating committee, with Judy Lothman as the Administrative Commission member of the committee. During the nominating process, it was noted that there were some differing understandings of the nomination and election process. Therefore, the election was postponed so that the processes can be clarified. There will likely be changes to the by-laws.

The Administrative Commission will continue to work on near and long term goals, educate the congregation as to polity, and operate as the session of the church. It welcomes new member Kristie Hall (RE - Kirkwood) to its work.

The church maintains an active weekly schedule, plus special events, and it is financially stable despite several non-budgeted expenses incurred during 2014.

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## **ACTION AGENDA**

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### **EXAMINATIONS COMMISSION**

Josh Braley, Moderator

The Examinations Commission reports the following actions taken on behalf of the presbytery (new minister member information is found in *Appendix D*):

1. Concerning the membership of George Timothy Head as an active member of the presbytery and his installation as Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Palatka, the Examinations Commission took the following actions on October 9, 2014:
  - a. Approved his Statement of Faith and Journey of Faith Statement;
  - b. Sustained the examination;
  - c. Received him as a member of the presbytery;
  - d. Approved the terms of call with the Palatka church;
  - e. Empowered the presbytery moderator to appoint a commission to install him as the Pastor of the Palatka church at an appropriate date and time;
  - f. Recommended that he (and the pastoral nominating committee) be permitted to address the presbytery at the next stated meeting; and
  - g. Empowered the commission moderator to appoint a mentor.

2. Concerning the membership of Craig S. Davies as an honorably retired member of the presbytery, the Examinations Commission took the following actions on November 13, 2014:
  - a. Approved his Statement of Faith and Journey of Faith Statement;
  - b. Sustained the examination;
  - c. Received him as a member of the presbytery;
  - d. Recommended that he be permitted to address the presbytery at the next stated meeting; and
  - e. Empowered the commission moderator to appoint a mentor.
  
3. Concerning the membership of William R. Russell as an honorably retired member of the presbytery, the Examinations Commission took the following actions on December 11, 2014:
  - a. Approved his Statement of Faith and Journey of Faith Statement;
  - b. Sustained the examination;
  - c. Received him as a member of the presbytery;
  - d. Recommended that he be permitted to address the presbytery at the next stated meeting; and
  - e. Appointed a mentor.
  
4. Concerning the membership, ordination, and installation of Charles Spence Freeman as the Pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church in Gainesville, the Examinations Commission took the following actions on December 11, 2014.
  - a. Approved his Statement of Faith and Journey of Faith Statement;
  - b. Sustained the examination;
  - c. Received him as a member of the presbytery, pending his ordination as Teaching Elder and installation as Pastor of the Grace church.
  - d. Approved the terms of call with the Grace church.
  - e. Empowered the presbytery moderator to appoint a commission to install him as the Pastor of the Grace church at an appropriate date and time.
  - f. Recommended that he (and the pastoral nominating committee) be permitted to address the presbytery at the next stated meeting; and
  - g. Appointed a mentor.

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**ORDER OF THE DAY: MORNING WORSHIP**  
**9:30 a.m.**

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Preaching: Cynthia Graham (Ruling Elder, Lakewood)  
Celebrant: Gabe Goodman (Pastor, Community)  
Offering: Jamaica Ecumenical Mutual Mission



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**ORDER OF THE DAY: FELLOWSHIP**  
**10:45 a.m.**

Please enjoy this time of refreshment in community.

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**EXAMINATIONS COMMISSION**

Josh Braley, Moderator

At this time, the Examinations Commission will continue its presentation and introduction of new teaching elder members of the presbytery.

**PRESENTATION**

Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program - Jim Rissler

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION FOR  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF JACKSONVILLE**

John Bartholomew, Moderator

The Administrative Commission for the First Presbyterian Church of Jacksonville recommends that the presbytery dismiss the church to the Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO) on the terms described in detail in the packet provided as *Appendix E*.

**PRESBYTERY COUNCIL**

Gabe Goodman, Moderator

The Presbytery Council recommends that the presbytery take the following actions:

1. Approve the following changes to the second and fourth paragraphs of Section 2.07 of the Manual of Operations of the Presbytery of St. Augustine (see underlined italics), which is entitled “Membership of the Presbytery.” The purpose of these changes is to confirm that ruling elders commissioned to pastoral service are members of the presbytery with voice and vote during the terms of their commissions.

Membership of presbytery shall consist of all enrolled, ordained teaching elders, together with ruling elder commissioners elected by the session of each church of the presbytery. Sessions shall elect ruling elder commissioners according to congregational membership, according to the following table:

1-500 members	1 commissioner
501-1000 members	2 commissioners
1001-1500 members	3 commissioners
1501-2000 members	4 commissioners
2001-3000 members	5 commissioners

3001 or more – one additional commissioner for each 1000 members (or major fraction thereof) above 3000 (G-3.0301).

Any ruling elder not commissioned by his/her church to serve as a commissioner to presbytery, while serving as the chairperson of a committee of presbytery, shall be enrolled as a member of presbytery during his/her tenure as chairperson. Any ruling elder commissioned to pastoral service shall be enrolled as a member during the tenure of his/her commission. Further, any ruling elder elected to an office in presbytery or serving as executive presbyter (including an interim or transitional executive presbyter) shall also be enrolled as a member of presbytery during the term of his/her office.

Certified Christian Educators who are ruling elders are entitled to the privileges of voice and vote at meetings of presbytery. (G-2.1103b).

At the winter stated meeting of each year, the stated clerk shall report to the presbytery the number of resident active teaching elder members of the presbytery, and the number of ruling elders in the following categories: ruling elder commissioners eligible to be elected from each session, ruling elders who are Certified Christian Educators or commissioned to pastoral service, and ruling elders who are moderators of committees or commissions of the presbytery. If the number of resident active teaching elders exceeds the sum of the ruling elders eligible, the stated clerk shall put forward a motion asking particular congregations to elect an additional elder commissioner in such numbers as will equalize the eligible ruling elder commissioners with resident active teaching elder members. The clerk shall create the list of congregations by rotating through the alphabetical list of congregations in the presbytery (G-3.0301).

2. Approve the following changes to the second paragraph of Section 4.16 of the Manual of Operations of the Presbytery of St. Augustine (see underlined italics and strike-outs). The purpose of these changes is to conform the terminology in the manual with the structure and terminology of the corporate documents adopted at the last stated meeting:

The Presbytery of St. Augustine exists in covenant relationship with Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center, a wholly-owned camp, conference, and retreat facility located near Starke, Florida. The membership of the corporation, Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center, Inc. is co-terminous with the membership of the Presbytery of St. Augustine, Inc., and the officers and trustees of one are the officers and trustees of the other.

The presbytery supports the ministry of Montgomery Conference Center through contributions from its operating budget; the participation of its congregations and members in the programs and

ministries of Montgomery Conference Center; through volunteer groups that help with improvements to the Conference Center site; through *participation in* the *Trustees'* election of the Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center ~~Board of Directors~~ *Executive Operating Board*, upon nomination of that Board; and through the regular welcome and grant of privilege of voice to members of the Montgomery Conference Center program staff.

Montgomery Conference Center contributes to the ministry of the presbytery by offering a ministry of hospitality on behalf of the presbytery to congregations, members, ministers, and others; by conducting a high-quality, Christ-centered ministry of camping and retreat to the presbytery and, on behalf of the presbytery, to groups and organizations who seek the benefits of such ministry; by providing a place for groups and individuals to experience the goodness of God's creation; by offering opportunities for spiritual growth and education for pastors, leaders, and members of congregations; by supporting leadership development in the presbytery through ministry with youth and young adults; and by providing both a place and leadership for occasions of recreation and retreat.

The Executive Director of Montgomery Conference Center shall participate with the executive and administrative staff of the presbytery in staff planning and coordination.

3. Receive a written and oral report from the presbytery's Transition Steering Committee:

One year ago, in the winter 2014 stated meeting of our presbytery, the Transition Team was first charged with:

“Assisting the presbytery with defining its identity, mission and focus as the gathered saints of St. Augustine Presbytery, and making recommendations regarding the structure and funding necessary to bring about the new vision.”

Over the last two and a half years, our presbytery has undergone a tremendous amount of transition:

\*We have split the Executive position into two positions: a part-time Clerk and full-time Interim Transitional Executive.

\*We have permanently lost presbytery staff (John, Alison, Dorothy), and a managed Resource Center.

\*We have lost all of the MPCC staff and hired new personnel.

\*Fractured relationships between churches and the presbytery have transpired.

At this juncture in our presbytery's re-formation, it is clear that we have moved well-beyond a transition phase. We have lived transition for 2 ½ years. The Transition Team believes that we have entered into a visioning phase, and, consequently, the presbytery must move beyond the confusing semantics of “transition,” to more suitable language. We suggest the phrase “Discernment and Design.” We are now ready to discover and implement God's plan and purpose for the Presbytery of St. Augustine.

To this end, the Transition Team encourages the presbytery to engage fully in the “Holy Listening” sessions. These listening sessions will help initiate and deepen relationships among churches in our presbytery, as well as unearth identity issues, missional objectives, and a focus for our presbytery. Subsequent to the listening sessions, the Transition Team hopes to make recommendations regarding the structure and funding necessary to bring about the new vision.

The Steering Committee and Transition Team have reviewed the Presbytery Council’s action to recommend that the presbytery empower the Transition Steering Committee to hire a consultant and to spend up to \$40,000 from unrestricted funds in connection with such action. One of the team’s members will offer a motion to postpone consideration of this proposed action by the presbytery until the 2015 Spring Stated Meeting.

Steering Committee Members: Vickie Bossuot, Dawn Conti, Hunter Camp, Carolyn Ettlinger, Peggy Humbert, Ed Kelly, Cynthia Montgomery, Edd Norris, Sheldon Steen, Sheryl Sumlin-Barclay, and Ron Watson.

4. Empower the Transition Steering Committee to hire a consultant, if that is the action that the presbytery should take in the judgment of the Transition Steering Committee, and to spend up to \$40,000 from unrestricted funds in connection with such action.
5. Approve the Operating Budget (*Appendix F*).
6. Elect the following individuals to the Nominating and Representation Committee (TE means “teaching elder” and RE means “ruling elder”) effective today.

2017 - Alfred Christopher (RE - Marion Oaks) (BM)

2017 - Joe Rigsby (TE - Woodlawn) (BM)

7. Elect Kristie Hall (RE - Kirkwood) (OF) to the Administrative Commission for the Korean Presbyterian Church effective today.

## **COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY**

Ron Watson, Moderator

The Committee on Ministry recommends that the presbytery take the following actions:

1. Approve the retirement of Sam McCoy, a teaching elder member of this presbytery, and receive and record the following retirement resolution:

*Whereas* almighty God was pleased to knit together the bones of Samuel Lee McCoy in the womb, to form his flesh and breathe into him the breath of life; and

*Whereas* Sam entered this earthly life on October 2, 1942 in Morgantown, West Virginia simply because he wanted to be with his mother for the occasion; and

*Whereas* in those mountains known as “Almost Heaven,” Sam came to experience the sovereignty and benevolence of God; and

*Whereas* God so loved Sam that he gave his only begotten son, so that Sam should not perish but inherit eternal life, causing Sam to claim Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior; and

*Whereas* God called Sam to the ministry at age fourteen; and

*Whereas* Sam earned his Bachelor of Arts from King College in Bristol, Tennessee in 1964 and his Master of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary in Virginia in 1968, and then was ordained to the ministry of Word and Sacrament by the Presbytery of Memphis on February 23, 1969; and

*Whereas* after leading senior high youth of Hanover Presbytery on two summer-long mission trips to Mexico and serving as Assistant Pastor at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House in Alexandria, Virginia, Sam pursued a CPE internship and residency in Tennessee and Maryland, and then established a CPE program at the Crownsville State Psychiatric Hospital in Maryland; and

*Whereas*, after ministering at the mental hospital for twenty-one years, Sam left to persecute the saints at Hermon Presbyterian Church in Potomac, Maryland, where he served fourteen years as Stated Supply; and

*Whereas*, simultaneously with the foregoing activities, Sam served one interim pastorate in Arkansas followed by nine more interim pastorates in the Greater Washington area (National Capital Presbytery); and

*Whereas* Sam’s love for God’s undersea creatures led him to be a volunteer scuba diver for fifteen years at the National Aquarium in Baltimore, where he fed the sharks, stingrays and fishes and officiated at one nationally televised underwater wedding; and

*Whereas*, after forty years of friendship, Sam finally proposed to Alice and came to live with his sweet bride in Jacksonville, Florida; and

*Whereas* Sam became a minister member of the Presbytery of St. Augustine and served as Parish Associate at Lakewood Presbyterian Church for three and a half years; and

*Whereas* the Lord God continues to use Sam as he proclaims God’s Word and love to the congregation at First Presbyterian Church in Crescent City; and

*Whereas* Sam hopes to enjoy boating and walking the beaches in Florida with Alice;

*Now therefore be it resolved* that the Presbytery of St. Augustine does hereby grant to the Reverend Samuel Lee McCoy the status of Honorable Retirement, effective January 1, 2015, giving thanks to God for his faithful service to the Lord Jesus Christ; and

*Be it further resolved* that this resolution of thanksgiving and appreciation for Sam and his ministry be spread across the minutes of this meeting, dated February 7, 2015.

2. Approve the following memorial resolution celebrating the life of the Reverend Sheryl Lynn Frazier, a teaching elder member of this presbytery, who died on November 11, 2014:

*This resolution will be included in the Revised Docket to be published no later than February 2, 2015.*

3. Approve the following memorial resolution celebrating the life of Oscar Floyd Hooker, a teaching elder member of this presbytery, who died on December 16, 2014.

*Whereas* Oscar Floyd Hooker was born on 22 November 1922 to Jonathan Claude and Hattie Mary Grantham Hooker in Nashville, TN, the sixth of seven children and the youngest of five sons, being baptized into the Christian faith and membership of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church; and

*Whereas* Floyd was educated in the public schools of Nashville, graduating from Hume-Fogg High School in 1939; and

*Whereas* being faced with limited prospects for advancement, Floyd went to work as a carpenter's apprentice in the Tennessee Central Railroad shop, where his father had worked throughout his adult life, and where he left part of his middle finger as a result of careless use of the planer, thereby creating the occasion for a story to be told for decades to anyone unwise enough to ask; and

*Whereas* with the outbreak of World War II, Floyd's four older brothers entered the armed forces, and Floyd, though he sought to enlist, was denied enlistment because he worked in an essential industry; and

*Whereas* after his father's untimely death in 1944, Floyd received notice of impending induction into the military and was denied further deferment, even though he was the only remaining male in his household, and he voluntarily entered the Army Air Corps, so that all five brothers in his family were simultaneously enlisted in military service; and

*Whereas* he served as a gunnery instructor aboard a bomber, and later as a chaplain's assistant in the occupation forces Germany, where he observed devastation wrought by the very weapons he was trained to use, even when wielded in the service of a so-called good, making of him a lifelong opponent of wars and weapons both great and small, a value he taught his children, and

*Whereas* upon his discharge from the military and using his government benefits, Floyd attended George Peabody College (now part of Vanderbilt University, explaining thereby his lifelong sympathies for losing teams and other underdogs) and graduated in 1950 with a degree in History; and

*Whereas* Floyd met Norma W. Porter, daughter of James Anderson and Ruth Louise Spann Porter, at a retreat sponsored by McKendree Methodist Church at a Tennessee resort formerly used as a gambling casino, thereby giving rise to the story he told people for the rest of his life that he met his wife at a casino run by the Methodist Church; and

*Whereas* he and Norma married on 27 August 1948 (or, to hear him tell it whenever asked in Norma's presence, 28 August), and to their union were born two children, Paul and Susanne, and, through them, two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; and

*Whereas* Floyd discerned a call to ministry, perhaps under the influence of his eldest brother Malcolm, also a Presbyterian minister, and enrolled in Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, graduating in 1953 with a Bachelors of Divinity; and

*Whereas* Floyd was ordained to the Ministry of the Word in the Presbyterian Church in the United States in 1953, and installed as pastor of the Bethsalem Presbyterian Church of Wartrace, TN, where he served until 1956; and

*Whereas* Floyd and Norma served pastorates at the Madison Presbyterian Church in Nashville (1956-1966), the Central Park-Ensley Presbyterian Church in Birmingham, AL (1966-1976) where he dealt with racial hatred and segregation in quiet but unyielding witness to justice and humanity, and the St Andrews Presbyterian Church in Charleston, SC (1976-1986); and

*Whereas* upon his retirement from active ministry, Floyd served joyfully in interim ministries in Nashville, TN; Edisto Island, SC; Darlington, SC; and Monck's Corner, SC; saying more than once that he discovered late in his ministry that his true calling was to interim pastorates; and

*Whereas* after his final interim he and Norma moved first to Memphis, then to Nashville, and finally to Jacksonville, where he joined the Presbytery of St. Augustine as an honorably retired member, and where he, along with his son Paul and grandson Chris, represented three generations of the same family in simultaneous membership of this presbytery; and

*Whereas* he and Norma became active participants at Riverside Presbyterian Church, where he taught in the Adult Sunday School program; and

*Whereas* late in life he and Norma moved to Westminster Woods at Julington Creek, where they joined a vibrant community of friends whom he came to love; and

*Whereas* on 16 December 2014, at the age of 92, Floyd died peacefully in the presence of his wife of sixty-six years and enfolded in the love of his family, his baptism now completed in his death in the Lord Jesus Christ, whom he served throughout his long life;

*Now be it resolved* that the Presbytery of St Augustine does this day remember in love its brother Oscar Floyd Hooker, does express its gratitude for his long and faithful ministry to many people in

many places over many years, and does give thanks to God for his presence in our midst and in our hearts.

*Blessed are they that die in the Lord, says the Spirit. They rest from their labors, and their works follow them.*

4. Approve, with gratitude for its service, the dismissal of the Administrative Commission for the Mandarin Presbyterian Church.
5. Note: Lester L. Hale, who died on January 20, 2015, at the age of 101, will be honored with a memorial resolution at the Spring 2015 Stated Meeting.

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## **ORDER OF THE DAY**

**LUNCH - 12:00 p.m.**

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### **MONTGOMERY PRESBYTERIAN CONFERENCE CENTER**

Jim Montgomery (Board Moderator) and Terry Patterson (Executive Director)

Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center submits the following written report in addition to financial materials contained in *Appendix A*. The Montgomery budget is in *Appendix G*. An oral report will also be made.

- 1) The Montgomery Executive Operating Board met on Saturday, January 10, and decided to utilize the funds received for Montgomery in the Mandarin church dismissal for debt reduction, capital improvements and to establish a reserve account.
- 2) You have established a wonderful group of individuals to serve on our Board and we are excited about where Montgomery is heading. We have 14 individuals and 7 different committees working presently to make Montgomery Presbyterian Center even better.

Committees are:

Personnel

Finance and Budget Committee

Fundraising

Marketing and Promotion Committee

Facilities and Grounds Committee

Program Development Committee

Risk Management Committee (short term)



- 3) We finalized the budget to submit it to the upcoming presbytery meeting docket.
- 4) We welcome Previn Moore as Associate Director for the Montgomery Presbyterian Center. Previn is from Kansas City, Missouri and has worked for several years at the Heartland Presbyterian Center in Missouri.
- 5) We continue to make Montgomery Presbyterian Center more aesthetically pleasing with removing tree limbs, removing old items and general cleanup of the facility.
- 6) By the date of the presbytery meeting, camp registrations will be live online for parents to sign up their young people, including two new camp offerings: Camp JAM (music/theater camp) and Camp Wild Water (a water-based camp).

### **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

Patti Phillips, Moderator

Presbyterian Women will provide an oral report.

### **MUTUAL MISSION**

Richard Kirk, Moderator

The Mutual Mission Committee submits the following written report in addition to an oral report to be made at the meeting and the financial materials contained in *Appendix H*.

A team of 14 individuals were part of our most recent Dental mission trip to Jamaica, held this January. Participants performed cleanings, extractions and helped make dentures during the week long trip. Funds were also sent to be used in constructing a home for a needy family identified by our partner denominations and the Jamaican Ministry of Health.

Many thanks to the congregations of Hodges Boulevard, Orange Park, Westminster, Lake City and Fort King for hosting focus groups in the past month. These sessions were designed to highlight the history and current efforts of Mutual Mission in Jamaica, and to solicit ideas for ways to reenergize support for this endeavor throughout the Presbytery. We are happy to bring a focus group to other churches as requested.

Team members are needed for the upcoming June Medical/Dental/Housing trip. The trip will run from June 14-20, and the cost is approximately \$1,000. Doctors, dentists, pharmacists, nurses, dental hygienists, and other medical personnel are needed, as well as those interested in building and repairing homes.

Applications are now available on the Presbytery website for the annual summer youth exchange. This trip is open to high school students, and costs \$900. Participants spend one week in Jamaica and one in the Jacksonville area doing mission work, and interacting with fellow team members made up of Jamaican youth and their leaders. This year's trip will run from July 8-21.

If you are interested in traveling to Jamaica to see what life is like, and to see our mission work in action, consider taking part in this year's Adult Exchange. We will be heading to Jamaica November 12-17, and you will have the chance to stay with a host family and learn about the local culture and cuisine. We will also take part in a volunteer activity, and learn more about our long partnership with several Jamaican denominations. Please consider going and seeing how your own church can become more involved in this important ministry. Cost for this trip is approximately \$600.

For additional information about any of these trips, or to schedule someone to come speak to your church about Mutual Mission, contact Richard Kirk at 352-425-8526.

## **NOMINATING AND REPRESENTATION**

Betsy Berry, Moderator

The Nominating and Representation Committee places the following names into nomination effective today (TE means “teaching elder” and RE means “ruling elder”):

*Moderator-in-Nomination* - Jeff Welch (TE - Dunnellon) (WM)

*President of the Corporations* - Wayne Flowers (RE - Geneva) (WM)

*Treasurer* - Chuck Atkins (RE - Lakewood) (WM)

*Committee on Preparation for Ministry - Class of 2015 (unexpired terms)*

Marie Hix (RE - Hodges) (WF)

Janice Kirk (TE - Chaplain with Haven Hospice) (WF)

*Examinations Commission - Class of 2016 (unexpired term)*

Sheryl Sumlin Barclay (TE - Chaplain with Halifax Health and Parrish Associate, Trinity) (BF)

## **PRESENTATION**

College Conference at Montreat - Emily Proctor

**PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS  
BILLS AND OVERTURES COMMITTEE  
OF PRESBYTERY COUNCIL**

Del Wallace, Chair

The Bills & Overtures Committee of the Presbytery Council makes the following recommendations based on its review and study of the proposed amendments to the *Book of Order of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)* sent by the 221st General Assembly (2014) for vote by the presbyteries. Note: the following web link will provide additional background information:

*<http://www.pcusa.org/resource/ga221-proposed-amendments-constitution/>*

**As to Amendments 14-A through 14-F (Amending the current Book of Order)**

**14-A. Renunciation of Jurisdiction  
On Amending G-2.0509**

Shall G-2.0509 of the Form of Government be amended by adding the following new paragraph at the end of that section? [Text to be added or inserted is shown in italic.]

*“Whenever a former teaching elder has renounced jurisdiction in the midst of a disciplinary proceeding as the accused, that former teaching elder shall not be permitted to perform any work, paid or volunteer, in any congregation or entity under the jurisdiction of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).*

The Committee recommends that the amendment be *disapproved*.

*Rationale:* Although the intention behind the proposed amendment is positive, the amendment as written is overly broad. It does not allow a local session the flexibility to make decisions about staff and volunteers that take into account the nature of the job position/volunteer work and the particular candidate’s background.

**14-B.1. Final Assessment  
On Amending G-2.0607**

Shall G-2.0607 be amended as follows? [Text to be deleted is shown with strike-through; text to be added or inserted is shown in italic.]

“A candidate may not enter into negotiation for his or her service as a teaching elder without approval of the presbytery *of care*. The presbytery shall record when it has certified a candidate ready for examination *by a presbytery* for ordination, pending a call. Evidence of readiness to begin ordered ministry as a teaching elder shall include:

“a. [Text in a.–c. remains unchanged.]

“d. ~~satisfactory grades, together with the examination papers~~ *examination materials, together with evaluations that declare those materials satisfactory* in the areas covered by any standard ordination examination approved by the General Assembly. Such examinations shall be prepared and administered by a body created by the presbyteries.”

The Committee recommends that the amendment be *approved*.

*Rationale:* The amendment requires an evaluation that the examination materials are satisfactory but removes the specific reference to “seminary grades.” The proposal also clarifies that the presbytery approving a candidate’s readiness is the presbytery of care (not the calling presbytery).

#### **14-B.2. Accommodations On Amending G-2.0610**

Shall G-2.0610 be amended as follows? [Text to be deleted is shown with strike-through; text to be added or inserted is shown in italic.]

“G-2.0610 ~~Exceptions~~ *Accommodations to Particular Circumstances*

“~~By a three-fourths vote, a presbytery~~ *When a presbytery concludes there are good and sufficient reasons for accommodations to the particular circumstances of an individual seeking ordination, it may, by a three-fourths vote, waive any of the requirements for ordination in G-2.06, except for those of G-2.0607d. If a presbytery judges that there are good and sufficient reasons why a candidate should not be required to satisfy the requirements of G-2.0607d, it shall approve by three-quarters vote some alternate means by which to ascertain the readiness of the candidate for ministry in the areas covered by the standard ordination examinations. A full account of the reasons for ~~exception~~ any waiver or alternate means to ascertain readiness shall be included in the minutes of the presbytery and communicated to the presbytery to which an inquirer or candidate may be transferred.*”

The Committee recommends that the amendment be *approved*.

*Rationale:* The amendment makes it more clear when and how a presbytery may make accommodations for the particular circumstances of an individual seeking ordination.

#### **14-C. Child Protection Policy On Amending G-3.0106**

Amend the fourth paragraph of G-3.0106 as follows: [Text to be added or inserted is shown in italic.]

“All councils shall adopt and implement a sexual misconduct policy *and a child protection policy.*”

The Committee recommends that the amendment be *approved.*

*Rationale:* This amendment reflects the church’s responsibility to provide a safe, thriving and nurturing environment for children.

**14-D. Minimum Composition of a Presbytery  
On Amending G-3.0301**

Shall the second paragraph of G-3.0301 of the Form of Government be amended as follows?  
[Text to be added or inserted is shown in italic.]

“The minimum composition of a presbytery is ten duly constituted sessions and ten teaching elders, *unless an exception is approved by its synod and the General Assembly giving consideration to the responsibilities assigned to presbyteries in G-3-01 and G-3.03.*”

The Committee recommends that the amendment be *approved.*

*Rationale:* This amendment permits flexibility for configuring presbyteries in parts of our nation where there are few PCUSA congregations in a large geographic area. Exceptions will be reviewed and approved by the presbytery’s synod and the General Assembly.

**14-E. Interreligious Stance  
On Amending G-5.010**

Shall G-5.0102 be amended as follows: [Text to be deleted is shown with a strike-through; text to be added or inserted is shown as italic.]

“The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) at all levels ~~seeks new~~ *will be open to and will seek opportunities for conversation and understanding respectful dialogue and mutual relationships with non-Christian entities and persons from other religious [entities] traditions. It does this in the faith that the church of Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, is a sign and means of God’s intention for the wholeness of all humankind and all creation.*”

The Committee recommends that the amendment be *approved.*

*Rationale:* This is an updated statement of our denomination’s local, regional, national and global ecumenism and its relationships with other faith traditions.

**14-F. Marriage**  
**On Amending W-4.9000**

Amend W-4.9000 by striking the current text and replacing it with the following: [Text to be added or inserted is shown in italic.]

*“Marriage is a gift God has given to all humankind for the well-being of the entire human family. Marriage involves a unique commitment between two people, traditionally a man and a woman, to love and support each other for the rest of their lives. The sacrificial love that unites the couple sustains them as faithful and responsible members of the church and the wider community.*

*“In civil law, marriage is a contract that recognizes the rights and obligations of the married couple in society. In the Reformed tradition, marriage is also a covenant in which God has an active part, and which the community of faith publicly witnesses and acknowledges.*

*“If they meet the requirements of the civil jurisdiction in which they intend to marry, a couple may request that a service of Christian marriage be conducted by a teaching elder in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), who is authorized, though not required, to act as an agent of the civil jurisdiction in recording the marriage contract. A couple requesting a service of Christian marriage shall receive instruction from the teaching elder, who may agree to the couple’s request only if, in the judgment of the teaching elder, the couple demonstrate sufficient understanding of the nature of the marriage covenant and commitment to living their lives together according to its values. In making this decision, the teaching elder may seek the counsel of the session, which has authority to permit or deny the use of church property for a marriage service.*

*“The marriage service shall be conducted in a manner appropriate to this covenant and to the forms of Reformed worship, under the direction of the teaching elder and the supervision of the session (W-1.4004–4006). In a service of marriage, the couple marry each other by exchanging mutual promises. The teaching elder witnesses the couple’s promises and pronounces God’s blessing upon their union. The community of faith pledges to support the couple in upholding their promises; prayers may be offered for the couple, for the communities that support them, and for all who seek to live in faithfulness.*

*“A service of worship recognizing a civil marriage and confirming it in the community of faith may be appropriate when requested by the couple. The service will be similar to the marriage service except that the statements made shall reflect the fact that the couple is already married to one another according to the laws of the civil jurisdiction.”*

*“Nothing herein shall compel a teaching elder to perform nor compel a session to authorize the use of church property for a marriage service that the teaching elder or the session believes is contrary to the teaching elder’s or the session’s discernment of the Holy Spirit and their understanding of the Word of God.”*

In lieu of a recommendation, the Bills and Overtures Committee has invited the Stated Clerk to make a brief presentation on the history of the current provision and the proposed amendment. That will be followed by two presentations from members of the presbytery, one speaking in favor, and one opposed. Debate and discussion will follow these presentations.

## **INSTALLATION OF THE MODERATOR**

- Remarks by the Outgoing Moderator
- Introduction of the New Moderator
- Questions of Intent
- Declaration of Installation and Presentation of the Moderatorial Cross
- Charge to the Moderator
- Installation Prayer
- Presentation of the Commemorative Cross

## **REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER**

Steve Benz

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## **CLOSING AGENDA**

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## **CALL FOR THE SPRING STATED MEETING**

The Spring Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of St. Augustine will take place at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 5, 2015, at the Montgomery Conference Center.