



DOCKET
PRESBYTERY OF ST. AUGUSTINE

Winter Stated Meeting

February 9, 2019

Moderator Mary T. Mickel

Highlands United Presbyterian Church

Jacksonville, FL

The mission of the Presbytery of St. Augustine is to support our faith community, so that together we may witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

8:15 a.m. - WELCOMING TIME

Welcome to the 2019 Winter Stated Meeting! Registration opens at 8:15 a.m. Please enjoy the coffee reception and the display tables. New commissioner training will be hosted by Ed Kelly, our Assistant Stated Clerk. Please look for him at a table in the reception area.

9:00 a.m. - WINTER MEETING CONVENES

Moderator's Greeting and Prayer

Host Welcome

Quorum and Docket Approval

Welcome to First Time Commissioners and Guests

Welcome to Corresponding Members

Appointment of Tellers

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

CONSENT AGENDA

Stated Clerk

Alexandra (Sandra) Hedrick

The stated clerk recommends that the presbytery take the following actions:

1. Excuse from attendance persons who submitted requests to be excused as recorded in the attendance roll of this meeting.

2. Record this meeting as a corporate meeting for both the Presbytery of St. Augustine, Inc. and Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center, Inc.
3. Receive as information and admit to record the 2018 Necrology Report for the Teaching Elders and Ruling Elders of the Presbytery of St. Augustine, and observe prayer in thanksgiving for the lives and service of the individuals whose names are listed. (Appendix A)
4. Receive the list of persons who have completed their service on the Permanent Judicial Commission (PJC) of the Presbytery of St. Augustine in the last six years and would therefore be eligible to serve on the PJC should there be a need. (Appendix B)
5. Approve the list of churches that are asked to send an additional commissioner to each meeting for one year beginning with the 2019 Spring Stated Meeting. As background, the Book of Order requires the presbytery to address (each year) any 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. (Appendix C)
6. Receive the report that the corporate articles of dissolution of the Fleming Island Presbyterian Church were filed on December 13, 2018, and the Stated Clerk is reporting the dissolution of the congregation in the presbytery's annual reports filed with the Office of the General Assembly.
7. Receive and record an updated status of session minute reading (list will be in packet distributed at meeting and will be provided on our website with the meeting materials).

Presbytery Coordinating Council

Jeff Welch, Chair

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

1. Receive the report that the Coordinating Council reviewed and approved the minutes of the Fall Stated Meeting (copies of the minutes will be available for review at the stated clerk's table).

2. Receive the approved minutes of Coordinating Council meetings. (Appendix D)
3. Receive the most recent approved financial statements of the Presbytery of St. Augustine and Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center, along with summary cover sheets. (Appendix E)
4. Receive the report that the Coordinating Council approved the celebration of the Lord's Supper during the year 2019 at presbytery and Presbyterian Women meetings and gatherings and in connection with summer camp at Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center.
5. Receive the information that the mortgage debt of the Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center was paid off in its entirety as directed by action taken at the Fall Stated Meeting. The payoff amount was \$633,508.
6. Receive the information that the Coordinating Council is working actively on an initiative to add a youth-focused group to the formal structure of our presbytery and hopes to recommend a formal action at the Spring Stated Presbytery Meeting.
7. Receive the following additional reports:
 - Don McGarity began his work as area relationship coordinator for Area One on January 16, 2019.
 - The Coordinating Council (Council) approved the request from the Arlington Presbyterian Church for a waiver of term limits for its session classes.
 - The Council appointed Edd Norris as official liaison to the MPCC Executive Operating Board beginning with the November 2018 meeting.
 - The Council approved the sale of a 2009 Honda vehicle owned by the presbytery that was loaned to MPCC for its use with the additional approval that MPCC may receive the proceeds of the sale (the Council also approved the sale of a boat owned by MPCC).
 - The Council approved repairing the roof of the presbytery's office building in Jacksonville with the Chair of the Administration Committee having the authority to approve the contractor and cost after review of bids.
 - The Council will be reading the book *Our Iceberg Is Melting: Changing and Succeeding Under Any Conditions* by Holger Rathgeber and John Kotter.

Member Preparation and Call Commission

Craig Davies, Chair

The Member Preparation and Call Commission has met regularly since the Fall Stated Presbytery Meeting, and it reports the following actions taken on behalf of the presbytery:

1. Examined Kevin Wright (Woodlawn) and approved receiving him as a Candidate for Ministry under our care as of October 16, 2018.
2. Examined Jo Anne Dyson and approved her examination, membership in the presbytery, call, and installation as the Pastor of the Fort King Presbyterian Church in Ocala, Florida. Her membership in the presbytery is effective on January 8, 2019. Rev. Dyson's new member information is contained in Appendix F.
3. Examined Joy Lynn Laughridge and approved her examination, membership in the presbytery, call, and installation as the Pastor of the Lakewood Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville, Florida. Her membership in the presbytery is effective on January 28, 2019. Rev. Laughridge's new member information is contained in Appendix G.
4. Approved a renewal of the commission of Tommy Lane to provide pastoral service to the McIntosh Presbyterian Church.
5. Approved the following temporary pastor relationships (dates will be recorded in the minutes):
 - Clifford Hayes and Faith (original and renewal contracts)
 - David Imhoff and Fort Caroline (stated supply renewal)
 - Sandra Hedrick and Kirkwood (stated supply renewal)
 - Paige Porter-Buhl and Covenant (stated supply renewal)
 - Craig Davies and Jess McCrosky and South Jacksonville (temporary stated supply contracts)
 - Joe Medearis and Arlington (stated supply renewal)
 - Joe Medearis and Peace (stated supply renewal)
 - John Helgeson and First Perry (interim pastor renewal)
6. Examined Robert Mills (Cooperative Baptist Fellowship) and approved his three-month contract to serve as the temporary stated supply pastor of the San Mateo church, including the authority to serve at the Lord's Table, baptize, and officiate at weddings.

John Diller (Orange Park) continues as the assigned moderator of the session and will also serve as a mentor to Dr. Mills.

7. Approved the following dissolutions of pastor relationships:
 - Bruce Hedgepeth and South Jacksonville (installed pastor) (date to be recorded in minutes)
 - Holly Medearis and Middleburg (stated supply pastor) (date to be recorded in minutes)
 - Bob Shettler and First Gainesville as of August 28, 2019 (installed pastor)
8. Approved the membership transfer of Ruth Elswood to the Presbytery of Tampa Bay as of January 9, 2019.
9. Approved a revised retirement date for Deb Henning of December 1, 2018. She continues to serve First Crescent City as its stated supply pastor.
10. Approved scholarships for the spring school term for the following inquirers and candidates for ministry under our care: CJ Dates, Forrest Foxworth, and Kevin Wright. The total provided was \$2,650. In addition, Kevin Wright was awarded the the Sloan Fund Annual Scholarship in the amount of \$500. This is a designated fund of the presbytery.
11. Approved a request from Ruth Elswood for a 2018 shared grant for seminary debt assistance in the amount of \$1,500, of which 50% comes from the Board of Pensions, and 50% comes from the 2018 presbytery budget.
12. Approved the presbytery membership roll as of December 31, 2018. (Appendix H)
13. Studied the possibility of raising the minimum guidelines for compensation to ministers and ruling elders serving as Sunday supply pastors. After polling ministers and congregations, the commission determined that an increase to the minimum guideline would not be put in place at this time. However, the commission is continuing its work and looking at ways to equip, develop, and empower ruling elders who are gifted in the area of teaching and preaching so that our sessions may call on them to preach and develop liturgy.

14. Received and acted on reports on the inquirers and candidates under our presbytery's care, including plans for completion of requirements toward ordination.
15. Approved the election of pastor nominating committees at churches in the presbytery and the request of the South Jacksonville Presbyterian Church to post a ministry information form for a pastor for a designated term.
16. Appointed temporary moderators to congregations that do not have installed or state supply pastors at this time.

**Trustees of the Presbytery of St. Augustine and the Montgomery Presbyterian
Conference Center**

Cynthia Montgomery, Vice President of the Corporations

The Trustees of the Presbytery of St. Augustine, Inc. and Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center, Inc. report the following actions to the presbytery:

1. Held an in-person meeting on November 28, 2018 for the primary purpose of reviewing the Trustees' role and responsibilities under the governing legal documents, presbytery documents, and the PC(USA) Constitution. The meeting included discussions on the Trustees' roles implementing various actions of the Presbytery. The Treasurer, the Stated Clerk, the Relationship Coordination Director, and our Synod Executive/Stated Clerk participated as resources for the training.
2. Engaged the Rogers Towers law firm to file documents clarifying the 501(c)(3) status of the Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center, Inc. (MPCC) which is considered to be under the group ruling for the Presbytery of St. Augustine, Inc.
3. Appointed Trustees to serve with members of the MPCC Executive Operating Board and Coordinating Council to consider transition issues as MPCC continues to move forward implementing the presbytery's actions at the called meeting on August 25, 2018.
4. Approved a contract to demolish (at a cost of \$30,000) the building at the property located at 8084 Normandy Blvd., Jacksonville, Florida which was previously occupied by the Nueva Esperanza Presbyterian Church and before that by the Covenant Presbyterian Church. The action was taken due to the condition of the building and the continued receipt of code enforcement notices from the City of Jacksonville. After an

asbestos survey discovered asbestos present at the property, the Trustees approved a contract to remove the asbestos prior to demolition (at a cost of \$3,400). The Trustees also approved a continuation of the property management services; grassing/maintenance of the property; and legal fees in connection with the actions of the private utility provider for the property. These costs will be deducted from the proceeds of the sale of the property and should enhance its value.

5. Voted to recommend Cynthia Montgomery to be elected to serve as President beginning as of the date of the Winter Stated Meeting and continuing through the Fall Stated Meeting of the Presbytery.
6. Received the proposed Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws for MPCC provided by the Coordinating Council and understand that they are being presented at the Winter Stated Presbytery Meeting.
7. Received the Coordinating Council's recommendation on creating the Gainesville Ministry Center at the Highlands property and are concerned about how the operations of the property and the lease agreement(s) would enable its success.

St. Augustine Presbytery Disaster Assistance Commission

Jim Pellot, Chair

The St. Augustine Presbytery Disaster Assistance Commission (SAPDAC) has provided a written report. (Appendix I)

Administrative Commissions

The reports of our administrative commissions will be contained in Appendix J. They are: Administrative Commission for the Highlands Presbyterian Church, Administrative Commission for the Nueva Esperanza Presbyterian Church, and the Administrative Commission for the St. Johns Presbyterian Church.

9:15 a.m. - PRESBYTERY WORSHIP

Preaching – David Lee (Highlands United)
Celebrants – David Lee and Jo Anne Dyson (Fort King)
Liturgists – Past and Present Members of Highlands PYC
Musician – Gibson Dixon
Offering – Mutual Mission
Necrology Report
Commissioning – Mutual Mission Trip to Cuba

10:15 a.m. - ACTION AGENDA

Area Relationship Coordinators (Areas One and Two)
Don McGarity and Rhonda Link-Cummings

The Area Relationship Coordinators for Areas One and Two will be inviting congregational leaders to share ministry highlights and joys from around the presbytery.

10:25 a.m. - FELLOWSHIP TIME

10:45 a.m. - ACTION AGENDA CONTINUES

Member Preparation and Call Commission
Craig Davies, Chair

The Member Preparation and Call Commission recommends that the presbytery take the following actions:

1. Welcome Kevin Wright (Woodlawn), who was approved as a new Candidate for Ministry under our care as of October 16, 2018.
2. Welcome new members of the presbytery, including Jo Anne Dyson and Joy Laughridge.
3. Welcome Robert Mills (Cooperative Baptist Fellowship) as temporary supply pastor of San Mateo Presbyterian Church.

4. Receive a memorial resolution and presentation for Benjamin E. Blumel (Honorably Retired), who died in Ocala, Florida on January 1, 2019. (Appendix K)

Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center

Lexi Green, Director and Maurie Dugger, Development Director

Tommy Lane and Jason Salvagni, Board Members

The Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center will make a presentation and provide a written report. (Appendix L)

Coordinating Council

Jeff Welch, Chair of the Coordinating Council

The Coordinating Council recommends that the presbytery:

1. Approve the 2019 Presbytery Operating Budget (Appendix M) following a short presentation regarding per capita and unified mission giving.
2. Designate 2019 as a year with youth and young adults.
3. Amend the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center, Inc., elect the current members of the Executive Operating Board to the office of Trustees of the corporation in place of the current Trustees, and elect corporate officers. (Appendix N)
4. Amend the Manual of Operations by making the changes shown in Appendix O.
5. Ratify its approval at the August 2018 meeting to refinance the MPCC debt, with such refinance being a loan in the amount of \$750,000.
6. Receive the report that on January 17, 2019, the Coordinating Council authorized the presbytery to grant a “bridge loan” to MPCC if required to pay its ordinary business expenses, to be paid back within 90 days of the date of the funding of the bank loan, with a limitation of \$50,000, and that the presbytery ratify this action at the Winter Stated Meeting.
7. Create the “Gainesville Ministry Center” of the Presbytery of St. Augustine at the location that was most recently occupied by the Highlands Presbyterian Church in

Gainesville, Florida. This center will specifically include the Gainesville Counseling Center (Larry Green, TE, Director) as a focus and will also include current and future non-profit tenants including the church tenant known as Enduring Faith Ministries. The property will be conveyed to the Presbytery of St. Augustine, Inc., and the Coordinating Council recommends that presbytery approval include all related legal filings and documents, authorization for the Trustees of the Presbytery of St. Augustine to oversee ownership, approve leasing, and oversee all management issues. The Trustees are authorized to delegate that authority to sub-committee(s) it creates, and the Trustees may incur reasonable and necessary legal fees. The presbytery will review the Gainesville Ministry Center on an annual basis, and it will otherwise relate to the structure of the presbytery through the Relationship Coordination Committee. (Appendix P)

Area Relationship Coordinators (Areas Three and Four)

Craig Davies and Joe Rigsby

The Area Relationship Coordinators for Areas Three and Four will be inviting congregational leaders to share ministry highlights and joys from around the presbytery.

Mutual Mission Team

Diane Watkins and Bob Bell, Co-Chairs

The Mutual Mission Team will make a presentation and provide the following report:

The Mutual Mission Committee of the Presbytery of St. Augustine began the New Year with a meeting with our Jamaican Partners. We met with the goal of evaluating our partnership and learning from each other how we can better spread the Good News of the Gospel through word and deed. We want to further explore church-to-church partnerships, how we can use technology to communicate better with each other, and how we might use Bible studies and music to enhance our relationship.

The Cuba Partnership from the presbytery will be visiting six congregations in Cuba beginning February 14, 2019. We will also be meeting with the leadership of the Matanzas Presbytery to discern whether it may be appropriate to develop a partnership with these Presbyterian brothers and sisters in Christ.

The Dental and Medical Team of the presbytery will be working in the St. Ann Parish of Jamaica the week of March 10-16, 2019. We will be providing dental and medical services

to our Jamaican friends that are in areas of the country that do not have these services available to them. The dental team will provide not only dental care but also will be making dentures for those people that need them. The medical team will provide primary care for those who are underserved in the area.

Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of St. Augustine

Gayle Bone, Moderator

The Moderator of our Presbyterian Women will make a presentation and provide a written report. (Appendix Q)

Volunteer Management Committee

Joe Rigsby, Chair of Volunteer Management Committee

Patti Phillips, Chair of Nominating Team

Howard Taylor, Chair of Representation Team

In addition to a brief presentation, the Nominating Team will offer a slate of individuals to be nominated for election. (Appendix R)

Constitutional Amendments from the 223rd General Assembly

Sandra Hedrick, Stated Clerk, and Ed Kelly, Assistant Stated Clerk

Following a brief presentation and question and answer period, the presbytery will vote on the proposed amendments to the Book of Order forwarded by the 223rd General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The proposed amendments and related materials and recommendations are contained in Appendix S.

Other Introductions and Presentations

Clare Lewis of the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program (PILP) and Cindy Howell of The Insurance Board will make brief presentations.

Speak-out Time

Speak-out Time is open to ministers and commissioners who would like to share about glimpses of grace or expressions of gratitude in the community of the Presbytery of St. Augustine. Speak-out time is limited to one-minute per person.

INSTALLATION OF MODERATOR

The meeting will conclude with the installation of Diane Wilson as Moderator of the Presbytery of St. Augustine. Diane Wilson is a teaching elder/minister member of our presbytery and currently serves as the Stated Supply Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Starke. Prior to that, she served as the Interim Pastor of the St. Giles Presbyterian Church. Mary Mickel, our outgoing Moderator, will begin her service as Chair of the Coordinating Council once Diane Wilson is installed as Moderator.

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 7, 2019, at Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center.

CLOSING PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT

LUNCH – 12:30 P.M.