

# REVISED DOCKET PRESBYTERY OF ST. AUGUSTINE

Fall Stated Meeting
October 2, 2018
Moderator Mary T. Mickel
Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center
Starke, Florida

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 2018 Fall 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. - FALL 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 and record the minutes for the ordination of James Kendrick on May 27, 2018. (Appendix A)
- 4. Receive and record the minutes for the ordination and installation of Natasha Sudderth as Associate Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Ocala, Florida on June 24, 2018. (Appendix B)
- 5. Receive and record the news that the 2018 Clerk's Workshop will be held on November 10, 2018, beginning at 9:30 a.m., at the Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center. The meeting will conclude with lunch. A flyer will be available at the registration tables or in the commissioner's packets. Please distribute this information to all clerks and other interested persons.
- 6. Receive and record an updated status of session minute reading. (Appendix C)

# **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 2018 Spring Stated Meeting and the August 25 Called 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 of the following changes in employment with the presbytery:
  - Kristen Magda resigned her work as Communications Coordinator (June 28, 2018)

- Sheryl Sumlin-Walker resigned her work as Area Relationship Coordinator (June 30, 2018)
- Chris Lieberman began his work as Relationship Coordination Director (August 1, 2018)
- Gary Hardesty resigned his work as Area Relationship Coordinator (August 31, 2018)
- Rhonda Link-Cummings began her work as Area Relationship Coordinator (September 16, 2018)
- Marigrace Doran began her work as Communications Coordinator (September 20, 2018)
- 5. Receive the report that the Coordinating Council approved the recommendation of the Relationship Coordination Committee to approve the annual plan for the Gainesville College Ministry. In addition, the Coordinating Council recommends that the presbytery approve that the Coordinating Council will continue to be the approving body in place of the Committee on Ministry (which no longer exists). The most recent Gainesville College Ministry Annual Plan can be found in Appendix F.
- 6. Recognize the completion of its work and dissolve the Task Force appointed by the Trustees and the prior Presbytery Council in December 2016. The Task Force had the authority to gather information, take action regarding finances and staffing, and make recommendations by the first quarter of 2017 regarding the future of Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center. Bill Hoff, Glenn Dickson, Karen Hardesty, Kimberly Hyatt, Bill Scheu, and Al Tidball served on the Task Force.
- 7. Approved a \$1,453 grant request from Grace Presbyterian Church. The purpose of the grant is to provide support to the Alachua County Organization for Rural Needs. This request has been submitted to the synod which will take action on whether it is submitted to the denomination so that it can be funded by a restricted fund.
- 8. Receive the report that a Women Pastors Retreat was held on September 10 to 11, 2018.
- 9. Receive the report that the Coordinating Council has selected the Highlands United Presbyterian Church to host the 2019 Winter Stated Meeting, which will be held on February 9 (rather than February 2).
- 10. Receive the report that the Council voted to form a working group of three members from the Coordinating Council and three members from the MPCC Executive Operating Board to work together on corporate by-laws changes. The changes would

make the Executive Operating Board the corporate board of directors. This group is empowered to employ legal counsel at the expense of the presbytery.

#### **Member Preparation and Call Commission**

Craig Davies, Chair

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

- 1. Examined Jake Young and approved his examination, membership in the presbytery, call, and installation as the Pastor of the St. Giles Presbyterian Church in Orange Park, Florida. His installation will take place on October 28 at 4:00 p.m. His new member information is contained in Appendix G.
- 2. Examined Natasha Sudderth and approved her examination, ordination, call, and installation as the Associate Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Ocala, Florida. The minutes of her ordination and installation service that took place on June 24, 2018 are contained in Appendix B, and her new member information is contained in Appendix B-1.
- 3. Examined Walter Laseter and approved him to be commissioned to provide pastoral service to the Weirsdale Presbyterian Church, including administration of the sacraments and officiating at weddings directly connected to the church. The minutes of his commissioning service to take place on September 30, 2018, at 4:00 p.m. will be filed with the presbytery minutes.
- 4. Approved an increase to the effective salary portion of the minimum terms of call applicable to full-time installed pastors serving congregations. The current effective salary minimum of \$43,000 is increased by two percent (2%) to \$43,860, effective as of September 18, 2018.
- 5. Voted to set a specific quorum for examination for inquiry, candidacy, ordination, installed church calls, validated ministry, stated supply and interim contracts, ruling elder commissions, and membership in the presbytery. The quorum is at least nine members consisting of at least three teaching elders and at least three ruling elders.

- 6. Approved the following temporary pastor relationships (dates will be recorded in the minutes):
  - Tom Borland and Lakewood (interim pastor contract renewal)
  - Cindy Benz and Hodges Boulevard (interim pastor contract renewal)
  - David McChesney and Fort King (co-interim pastor)
  - Marianne Niesen and Fort King (co-interim pastor, United Methodist Church)
  - Diane Wilson and First Starke (stated supply pastor)
- 7. Approved the following dissolutions of pastor relationships (all dates in 2018):
  - Gabe Goodman and Community (as of July 1)
  - Chris Lieberman and Fort King (as of July 20)
  - Jim Black and St. Matthew's Lutheran (as of August 1)
  - Don Mossa and San Mateo (as of June 1)
  - Eric Chavis and Woodlawn (as of October 1)
- 8. Approved the membership transfer of Sheryl Sumlin-Walker to the Presbytery of Central Florida as of July 1, 2018.
- 9. Received the report that the Community Presbyterian Church congregation voted to approve a "pastor emeritus" status for Gabe Goodman.
- 10. Conducted the annual review of minister members who are serving in validated ministries outside the church and members on the at-large roll. The results are contained in Appendix H.
- 11. Approved scholarships for the fall school term for the following inquirers and candidates for ministry under our care: CJ Dates, Forrest Foxworth, Dana Riley, and Kevin Wright. The total provided was \$2,200 from the 2018 Presbytery Operating Budget.
- 12. Received the report that our Inquirer Cindy Cole passed away unexpectedly on May 30, 2018.
- 13. Received the report that our Candidate Bailey Pickens was ordained in the Presbytery de Christo on June 2, 2018.

- 14. Received and acted on reports on the inquirers and candidates under care, including plans for completion of requirements toward ordination.
- 15. Received a report on the completion of Donald Mossa's supervised rehabilitation pursuant to the requirements of the Permanent Judicial Commission.
- 16. Received a report on a gathering of interim pastors of the presbytery, with more planned for the future.
- 17. Appointed temporary moderators to congregations that do not have installed or stated supply pastors at this time.
- 18. Conducted constitutional and process training on several topics of importance to the work of the commission.

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

Kimberly Hyatt, President of the Corporations

The Trustees of the Presbytery of St. Augustine and Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center (MPCC) report the following actions to the presbytery:

- 1. Authorized an extension to the inspection period in the contract for the Normandy Boulevard Property and authorized counsel to undertake additional work with respect to the issues presented.
- 2. Elected Cynthia Montgomery as Vice President of the corporations.
- 3. Approved the corporate dissolution of the Fleming Island church corporation.
- 4. Approved a resolution to change signers on a UBS account that the presbytery has for certain designated funds.
- 5. Reviewed the overtures to be submitted to the August 25, 2018 meeting and approved an action passing all of them on to the presbytery for its discernment and decision (with the condition that they add what is necessary to conform to the overture guidelines).

6. Approved engaging legal counsel to assist the Executive Operating Board of MPCC in resolving an ongoing issue with respect to an expired submerged land lease.

#### **Administrative Commissions**

The reports of our administrative commissions are contained in Appendix I. 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.

# 9:10 a.m. - ACTION AGENDA

The action agenda will begin with reports from the Area Relationship Coordinators and Chris Lieberman, our Relationship Coordination Director.

# 9:30 a.m. - PRESBYTERY WORSHIP

Preaching – Chris Lieberman

Celebrants – Chris Lieberman and Rhonda Link-Cummings

Offering – Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program

Musician: Linda S. Andrews

# 10:30 a.m. - FELLOWSHIP TIME

Gatherings with Area Relationship Coordinators

# 11:00 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 new members of the presbytery, including Natasha Sudderth and Jake Young.

- 2. Receive memorial resolutions and presentations for Jack Swann, who died on June 9, 2018, and Peyton Hopkins, who died on August 17, 2018. (Appendix J)
- 3. Welcome Erin Horne, who was approved as a new Candidate for Ministry under our care as of May 15, 2018.
- 4. Amend its written policies to permit inquirers and candidates under our care to receive funds for counseling (in the same way we do for our minister members). The amount reimbursed would be up to \$40 per hour.
- 5. Honor our our minister members in validated ministries who will be asked to stand and be recognized with our gratitude.

#### **Coordinating Council**

Jeff Welch, Chair of the Coordinating Council

The Coordinating Council recommends that the presbytery:

- 1. Receive the 2019 Presbytery Asking Budget. (Appendix K)
- 2. Amend the Manual of Operations, Section 4.06, as follows: The Member Preparation and Call Commission is empowered to [add the following]:

Approve Board of Pensions (BOP) grants and matching grants for members of the presbytery, such as seminary debt assistance, emergency grants, special need grants, etc., all subject to the presbytery budgeting process and the guidelines of the Board of Pensions.

- 3. Determine that the motion to "authorize spending of up to \$688,000 out of the proceeds of real property sales to retire the MPCC debt out of the proceeds of the sale" that was made at the 2017 Fall Stated Meeting (one year ago) and was postponed to this meeting has been answered by the overture entitled "Preserving Montgomery's Mission and Ministry" that was adopted at the Special Called Presbytery Meeting held on August 25, 2018.
- 4. Approve that the presbytery immediately repay the MPCC debt that is guaranteed by the presbytery and that the presbytery forgive any debt from MPCC to the presbytery that has been put on the presbytery's books as a loan.

5. Approve that the presbytery give its financial guaranty to up to \$775,000 in additional loans that MPCC takes out to achieve the goals of the adopted overture.

#### **Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center**

Glenn Dickson, Chair of the Executive Operating Board, and Lexi Green, Interim
Executive Director

The Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center will make a presentation and has provided the written report contained in Appendix L.

#### **General Assembly Commissioners and Advisory Delegates**

Mary Brown, Emma Cottrell, Forrest Foxworth, Ed Kelly, David Lee, and Paige Porter-Buhl

Our General Assembly Commissioners and Advisory Delegates will make a presentation and have provided the written reports in Appendix M. Joe Rigsby, who accompanied our delegation, has also provided a report.

#### Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of St. Augustine

Gayle Bone, Moderator

The Moderator of our Presbyterian Women will make a presentation and has provided the written report in Appendix N.

#### **Mutual Mission Team**

Diane Watkins and Bob Bell, Co-Chairs

The Mutual Mission Team will make a presentation and has provided the written report in Appendix O.

## **Nominating and Representation Teams**

Patti Phillips, Chair of Nominating Team Howard Taylor, Chair of Representation Team

The Nominating Team will offer a slate of individuals to be nominated for election. The Representation Team will provide an oral report. The nominating slate will be provided in Appendix P.

# St. Augustine Presbytery Disaster Assistance Commission Jim Pellot, Chair

The Chair of the St. Augustine Presbytery Disaster Assistance Commission will make a presentation.

#### **Presentations**

Clark Simmons and Jake Wilson

Clark Simmons (Board of Pensions) and Jake Wilson (Texas Presbyterian Foundation) will make 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.

# CALL FOR THE WINTER STATED MEETING

The Winter Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of St. Augustine will take place at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 9, at the Highlands United Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville, FL. *Please note that this is one week later than it was originally scheduled.* 

# CLOSING PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT

**LUNCH - 12:30 P.M.**