



DOCKET
PRESBYTERY OF ST. AUGUSTINE

Fall Stated Meeting

October 1, 2019

Moderator Diane Wilson

Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center

Starke, 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.*

8:00 a.m. - WELCOMING TIME

Welcome to the 2019 Fall Stated Meeting! Registration opens at 8:00 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. - PRESBYTERY WORSHIP

Moderator's Greeting

Preaching - Don Johnson

Celebrants - Jessi Higginbotham and Cliff Lyda

Musician - Wain Wesberry and Ron Watson

Offering - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
and Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network

10:00 a.m. - CONSENT AGENDA

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 ITEMS

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. Record the minutes of the installation of Jonathan Swanson as Pastor of Hodges Boulevard Presbyterian Church. (Appendix A-1)
4. Record the minutes of the installation of Don Johnson as Pastor of Woodlawn Presbyterian Church. (Appendix A-2)
5. Record the minutes of the installation of Michaele Wood as Pastor of Kanapaha Presbyterian Church. (Appendix A-3)
6. Receive the report that Synod Commissioner Jessi Higginbotham (Community) and Alternate Synod Commissioner Louis Venson (Woodlawn) attended the meeting of the Synod of South Atlantic on May 2-3, 2019. Meeting highlights are provided in Appendix B.
7. Receive the report that our annual Session Clerk Workshop will be held on Saturday, November 16, 2019, at First Presbyterian Church of Starke, Florida, beginning at 9:30 a.m. See flyer on registration table for additional details. All are welcome!
8. Receive an update on the status of session minute reading, which will be provided in a handout at the meeting or online on our website.

Presbytery Coordinating Council

Mary Mickel, 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 2019 Spring 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 that have occurred since the last stated presbytery meeting (months of May - August, 2019). (Appendix C)
3. Receive the most recent approved financial statements of the Presbytery of St. Augustine and Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center. (Appendix D)
4. Receive the following report of Coordinating Council highlights in addition to those reflected in the action Agenda for this meeting (see full minutes for all actions):
 - a. Approved moving our insurance coverage to The Insurance Board effective June 1, 2019 and added the former Highlands church property (now Gainesville Ministry Center) to that policy, effective on August 15, 2019, the date of transfer of title to the presbytery).
 - b. Approved paying the insurance deductible for repairing the roof at the presbytery office plus an upgrade to architectural shingles (the amount of \$5,000 is to be paid out of maintenance fund).
 - c. Approved the request of the Mutual Mission Team to provide a pastor's retreat in Cuba (this will be funded in ways other than by presbytery budget).
 - d. Approved a motion to form a Stewardship Group of the Coordinating Council.
 - e. Designated the year 2020 as "The Year of Unity and Diversity" and referred to a small group the task of further defining this designation.

- f. Continued to send a representative to each meeting of the MPCC Board of Trustees.
- g. Approved designating the offering for our Fall Stated Meeting to go half to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) and half to Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network (FLAPDAN).
- h. Upon the recommendation of the Relationship Coordination Committee and review of the documents submitted by the First Gainesville church, approved the Gainesville campus ministry. The stated clerk will inform the Synod of South Atlantic of this decision, and it will be reported to the Fall Stated Presbytery Meeting. (Appendix E)
- i. Approved paying \$2,372 in "SECA" reimbursement to Chris Lieberman as part of his terms of call for the year 2019. This is the amount that is designated as "FICA" in the 2019 Operating Budget.
- j. Approved a motion that the Coordinating Council will read and discuss the book *Waking Up White* by Debby Irving.
- k. Approved a motion for the Coordinating Council to establish and encourage a small mentoring/support group for recently called pastors led by a volunteer working in association with the Relationship Coordination Committee and Director.
- l. Recommended to the Presbytery Trustees that the funds for the roof replacement insurance deductible and any other major improvements at the Gainesville Ministry Center (formerly the Highlands Presbyterian Church location) be raised through a capital campaign(s) and not out of the presbytery's assets or budget.
- m. Approved a motion that the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program (PILP) loan documents for the MPCC loan not be signed and the loan not be closed until the presbytery takes a second look at the current plans and financial situation and allows a possible motion to rescind or amend the action approving the co-borrowing on the loan. The presbytery may receive the report of the current status as information and proceed with signing the loan documents with PILP.

- n. Approved a motion to submit an application for a \$10,000 grant to the Presbyterian Mental Health Ministry Grant Program, which provides "seed money" for congregations, presbyteries, synods, and seminaries to initiate or advance mental health ministries that educate, equip and empower churches to reach out to and with people living with mental health challenges and their loved ones. The name of the project is Comfort My People: Mental Health in Healthy Congregations. The designated point-of-contact person is Susan Lee, LCSW, who is a member of the Highlands United Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville. The project includes training and educational opportunities for pastors, members, care providers, and others.
- o. Approved a motion to revise the Crisis Response Team (CRT) member list to include existing members who are still serving as well as the members of the Problem Resolution and Reconciliation Teams.

Member Preparation and Call Commission

Craig Davies, Chair

The Member Preparation and Call Commission recommends that the presbytery approve an increase to the presbytery's minimum terms of call applicable to full time installed teaching elders effective September 17, 2019. The increase is from \$43,860 to \$44,517, which is approximately one and one-half (1 and 1/2) percent. As information, the increase approved in 2018 was from \$43,000 to \$43,860.

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 in addition to those included in the Action Agenda:

1. Examined and approved Forrest Foxworth (First Fernandina) for his Final Assessment as of May 21, 2019 and approved his readiness to circulate his Personal Information Form. Forrest Foxworth is a candidate for ministry under the care of our presbytery.
2. Held consultations with Justin Forbes (candidate for ministry under our care) and Chris Fowler (inquirer for ministry under our care).
3. Approved seminary scholarships given for the summer and fall of 2019: Kevin Wright - 12.5 hours - \$1,250; Dana Riley - 18 hours - \$1,800; and Carter Grant - 12 hours - \$1,200. These were paid from budgeted funds and from the Corbin Fund (designated account funded by offerings at ordinations and installations).

4. Examined Jonathan Swanson and approved his call as the installed pastor of the Hodges Boulevard church, approved the terms of call, and approved his transfer of membership from the Presbytery of Tropical Florida to the Presbytery of St. Augustine.
5. Examined Michael Wood and approved her call as the installed pastor of the Kanapaha church, approved the terms of call, and approved her transfer of membership from the Presbytery of St. Andrew to the Presbytery of St. Augustine.
6. Examined and approved Melanie Marsh Baum to serve as the Pastor of the Community church and approved her terms of call.
7. Examined and approved Carl J. (CJ) Dates to be ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament and to serve the South Jacksonville church as designated pastor for a term of three years. Also approved the terms of call provided by the church and agreed by the pastor.
8. Examined Conley Zomermaand and approved his service as interim pastor of the Riverside church (contract approval recorded below).
9. Examined Ruling Elder Yvan Kelly (Memorial) and approved his service as commissioned ruling elder to the Middleburg church.
10. Conducted the annual review of our ministers in validated ministries outside of Presbyterian congregations and the ministers on our at-large roll. A member listing is contained in Appendix F.
11. Approved Don Mossa's request to periodically lead worship at The Vines, which is a mental/behavioral health facility in Ocala, Florida.
12. Approved the following temporary pastor relationships (dates will be recorded in the minutes):
 - Vickie Bossuot and Lakewood (parish associate renewal)
 - Yvan Kelly and Middleburg (commissioned ruling elder)
 - Robert Mills and San Mateo (stated supply pastor renewal)
 - Conley Zomermaand and the Riverside church (as interim pastor)
 - David Imhoff and Fort Caroline (stated supply pastor renewal)
 - Karl Kling and First Gainesville (interim pastor)

- Jeffrey Weenink and Palms (interim pastor)
 - Jess McCrosky and Orange Park (part-time stated supply pastor)
13. Approved the following dissolutions of pastor relationships:
- Rhonda Link-Cummings and Kanapaha as of May 19, 2019
 - Natasha Sudderth and First Ocala as provided in the covenant approved by the congregation, Rev. Sudderth, and the commission
 - Conley Zomermaand and Community as of July 15, 2019
 - Larry Green and Westminster as of September 1, 2019
14. Confirmed Bob Shettler's retirement date to be August 28, 2019.
15. Approved changes in the terms of call of Laurie Furr-Vancini (increased salary) and John Diller (increased benefits during military leave) that will be recorded in their minister files and will be included in the next formal report of terms of call.
16. Approved the following membership transfers (dates will be confirmed with the receiving presbyteries and recorded in these minutes):
- Bruce Hedgepeth to the Presbytery of Peace River
 - Amy Hunt to the Presbytery of Flint River
17. Interviewed Susan Rose, member in good standing of the Presbytery of Arkansas, and approved her request to labor within our bounds as a pulpit supply preacher.
18. Received and acted on reports on the inquirers and candidates under our presbytery's care, including plans for completion of requirements toward ordination.
19. Approved the election of a pastor nominating committee at Westminster Presbyterian Church.
20. Appointed temporary moderators to congregations that do not have installed or stated supply pastors at this time. (Appendix G)

Trustees of the Presbytery of St. Augustine
Cynthia Montgomery, Chair

The Trustees of the Presbytery of St. Augustine will file a written report (Appendix H)

Administrative Commissions

The reports of our administrative commissions will be contained in Appendix I.

The Administrative Commission for the Highlands Presbyterian Church has completed its work and requests that it be dissolved by the action of the presbytery as of the date of this meeting.

[END OF CONSENT AGENDA]

ACTION AGENDA

Volunteer Management Committee

Joe Rigsby, Chair of Volunteer Management Committee

The Nominating Team recommends that the presbytery take the following actions:

1. Elect the following persons to serve as commissioners at the 224th General Assembly to be held in Baltimore, Maryland, in June 2020:

Ruling Elders: Bob Bell (WMRE) - Perry, and Yvette Grant (HFRE) - Nueva Esperanza

Teaching Elders: Alexandra (Sandra) Hedrick (WFTE) - Presbytery Stated Clerk/ Kirkwood, and Joe Medearis (WMTE) - Arlington/Peace

Young Adult Advisory Delegate: Emma Cottrell (WFRE) - Community

Alternates - Teaching Elders: Jessi Higginbotham (WFTE) - Community, and Rhonda Link-Cummings (WFTE) - Presbytery Area Relationship Coordinator and St. Leo

Alternates - Ruling Elders: Walter Laseter (WMRE) - First Ocala and CRE, Weirsdale, and Yvan Kelly (HMRE) Memorial and CRE, Middleburg

2. Elect the slate of individuals who have been nominated to the positions listed (Appendix J) as well as the following individuals nominated by the Coordinating Council pursuant to 3.04 of our Manual of Operations:

Nominating Team - Class of 2022: Yvan Kelly (HMRE) - Memorial/Middleburg and Andrea Mogg-Jacque (BFRE) - Marion Oaks

Nominating Team - Class of 2021: Steve Crowley (WMRE) - First Palatka

Representation Team: Class of 2022: Do In Kim (AMTE) - Baptist Health Chaplain

Young Adult Ministry Highlights

Emma Cottrell

Emma will share about her Triennium church experience, where she served as a young adult leader.

Member Preparation and Call Commission

Craig Davies, Chair

The Member Preparation and Call Commission will begin its presentation at this time and continue it after the morning Fellowship Time has concluded. (See below for specific agenda items.)

10:30 a.m. - FELLOWSHIP TIME

Member Preparation and Call Commission

Craig Davies, Chair

The Member Preparation and Call Commission recommends that the presbytery:

1. Welcome and hear briefly from the following individuals and their pastor search committees where applicable (note: new minister highlights are contained in Appendix K):
 - a. John Harland, Honorably Retired
 - b. Jonathan Swanson, Hodges Presbyterian Church
 - c. Michael Wood, Kanapaha Presbyterian Church

- d. Melanie Marsh Baum, Community Presbyterian Church
 - e. Carl J. (CJ Dates), South Jacksonville Presbyterian Church
 - f. Karl Kling, First Gainesville Presbyterian Church, Interim Pastor
 - g. Justin Forbes, Candidate for Ministry
2. With regard to Justin Forbes (Candidate for Ministry), the commission recommends that the presbytery approve the following action by a three-quarters (3/4) vote pursuant to G-2.0610 of the Book of Order (a handout with additional background will be available in the meeting packet).

Whereas, Justin Forbes (Candidate for Ministry) did not have the courses in Hebrew language and exegesis required under G-2.0607c, and there are very good reasons at this point for such study not to be undertaken through enrollment in such courses from an Association of Theological Schools (ATS) accredited seminary, we adopt the recommendation of the Member Preparation and Call Commission that the competencies required under G-2.0607c may be demonstrated through successful completion of approved tutorials in Hebrew language and exegesis under the direction of a retired professor (Dr. Buzz Brookman). This retired professor will provide notification to the Member Preparation and Call Commission once both tutorials have been completed including whether the candidate demonstrated the requisite competencies at a satisfactory level, and the Member Preparation and Call Commission will report back to the Presbytery whether or not the tutorials were satisfactorily completed. This process will provide the means for Justin Forbes to be exceptionally well qualified, but through a different route.

3. Recognize the retirements of Bob Shettler (First Gainesville) and Tom Walker (Palms).
4. Recognize our teaching elders who serve in validated ministries outside of Presbyterian congregations and those who are members at-large (see item 10, Member Preparation and Call Commission, Consent Agenda, for report of action taken as detailed in Appendix F).

Coordinating Council

Mary Mickel, Chair of the Coordinating Council

The Coordinating Council recommends that the presbytery:

1. Amend the Manual of Operations to add language that would permit appointment to vacant positions in between presbytery meetings. The specific language would be inserted after Section 2.06 and would read as follows:

"Should a vacancy in any elected position other than stated clerk or treasurer need to be filled between meetings of presbytery, the Coordinating Council, in consultation with the Nominating Team, may make a temporary appointment which shall stand until confirmed at the next meeting of presbytery. The stated clerk shall report the appointment to the presbytery. If the position of stated clerk or treasurer becomes vacant and needs to be filled, the Moderator of the presbytery shall call a special meeting so that the election may take place. The Coordinating Council may appoint an acting clerk or treasurer for the time period until that special meeting takes place."

2. Approve the new Presbytery of St. Augustine Employee Handbook. (Appendix L)
3. Endorse Alexandra (Sandra) Hedrick to stand for election as Moderator, Co-Moderator or Vice-Moderator of the 224th General Assembly.
4. Receive the 2020 Asking Budget. (Appendix M)
5. Before closing the loan with the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program (PILP), review the current plans and financial situation of the Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center (MPCC). (Appendix N)

Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center

Lexi Green, Director

Tommy Lane and Jason Salvagni, Board Members

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

Mutual Mission Team

*Diane Watkins and Bob Bell, Co-Chairs
Bob Bell and Amy Camp, Reporting*

The Mutual Mission Team will make a presentation.

Presbyterian Women

Gayle Bone, Moderator

The Moderator of our Presbyterian Women provides the written report in Appendix P.

Other Introductions and Presentations

The presbytery welcomes our speakers from:

Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network (FLAPDAN) - Kathy Broyard
The Board of Pensions - Clark Simmons
Thornwell - Buddy Ferguson

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 1, 2020, at Memorial Presbyterian Church in St. Augustine, Florida.

CLOSING PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT

LUNCH – 1:00 P.M.