



DOCKET
PRESBYTERY OF ST. AUGUSTINE

Fall Stated Meeting
October 6, 2020
Moderator Edd Norris
Via Zoom

*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.*

9:00 a.m. - ARRIVAL/CHECK IN

Welcome to the 2020 Fall Stated Meeting! You are welcome to login as early as 9:00 a.m.

9:30 a.m. - OPENING AND CONSENT AGENDA

Moderator's Welcome and Opening Prayer
Zoom Overview and Practice Vote
Quorum and Docket Approval
Welcome to First Time Commissioners and Guests
Welcome to Corresponding Members
Approval of Consent Agenda Items in Docket

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. Receive a summary of our presbytery's 2019 statistics reported to the Office of the General Assembly. (Appendix A)

4. Record the minutes of the ordination of Forrest Foxworth, who is serving as Parish Associate of First Presbyterian Church of Fernandina Beach. (Appendix B)
5. Receive the report that Synod Commissioners Jessi Higginbotham (St. Giles) and Hansler Bealyer (Woodlawn) attended the stated meeting of the Synod of South Atlantic on August 6, 2020, via Zoom. Meeting highlights provided by the Synod are contained in Appendix C.
6. Receive the report that in the time period since the Winter Stated Meeting, the stated clerk has received written statements of alleged offenses against two teaching elder members of the presbytery. This report is made pursuant to D-10.0103 of the Rules of Discipline of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
7. Receive an update on the status of session minute reading and plans for the 2020 Clerk's Workshop.

Presbytery Coordinating Council

Diane Wilson, Chair

The Coordinating Council reports the following summary of actions taken since the Winter Stated Meeting in addition to those contained in the Action Agenda (a complete record is contained in the approved Coordinating Council minutes provided as Appendix D):

1. Approved the minutes of the 2020 Winter Stated Meeting.
2. Reviewed the presbytery's monthly financial statements, including the most recent statements dated August 31, 2020. (Appendix E)
3. Designated the offering at the called presbytery meeting on August 25, 2020 for the Candidate's Support Fund which provides scholarship funds for seminary students who are under our care. The Coordinating Council also approved the Call Commission's request for permission to send an email asking for donations to the Candidate's Fund through online giving.
4. Designated the offering at the 2020 Fall Stated Meeting for Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (one-half to each).
5. Designated Silver Springs Shores Presbyterian Church in Ocala as the location of the 2021 Winter Stated Meeting.

6. Began weekly meetings (March 13 and after) and weekly presbytery communications in order to respond to COVID-19, designated that staff would work at home, designated that all presbytery committees, commissions and teams would meet using electronic platforms, and established weekly pastor support meetings and a prayer chain. The Coordinating Council also determined that the Spring Scheduled Meeting and a presbytery-wide training event would not be held.
7. Approved a donation of \$1,000 to support healthcare mask sewing by Days for Girls and a donation of \$1,000 to Downtown Ecumenical Services Council (DESC) which provided funds for materials used in sewing masks.
8. Approved giving the Finance Team permission for the presbytery to apply for a Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan in coordination with the Presbytery Trustees; also approved Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center obtaining a PPP loan. Information was sent to our congregations about the CARES act, including a brief online information-sharing meeting. Presbytery teams, committees and commissions were asked not to make unnecessary expenditures of funds.
9. Approved an expedited process for reviewing our congregations' requests to the Board of Pensions for the temporary suspension of benefits payments.
10. Engaged in strategic planning, including continued visioning, action plans, and consideration of structural changes to committees, teams and job description. Worked with Strategic Issues Committee to respond to the resolution adopted at the Winter Stated Meeting to "explore hiring a full time presbytery executive who will serve as head of staff of the presbytery office, providing and/or assigning staff support to the various committees, commissions, task forces, and other entities of the presbytery."
11. Approved called meetings on June 23, July 28, and August 25 for the purposes of: allowing for electronic meetings, proposing staffing and committee design changes in the Manual of Operations (and responding to the resolution described above), approving an amended budget and reallocation of previously designated accounts, and commissioning Ruling Elder Belinda (Bea) Newhart to pastoral service to Fairfield Presbyterian Church.
12. Appointed a stated clerk search committee for the 2020-2022 term, received the committee's recommendation, and prepared recommended terms of call to be presented at the Fall Stated Meeting.

13. Elected Kevin Wright (Woodlawn) as Theological Student Advisory Delegate and hosted a commissioning service for General Assembly commissioners and delegates.
14. Appointed Walk Jones provisionally to the St. Augustine Preparation and Disaster Assistance Commission (SAPDAC) pending election by the presbytery at a later meeting.
15. Approved an application to the Lilly Foundation for a Thriving Congregations Grant.
16. Approved appointing a provisional group to work with the First Presbyterian Church of Reddick in the closure of that church. The group was later elected at the presbytery's called meeting on August 25, 2020 to serve as an administrative commission: Ana Lugo-Berrios, Rhonda Link-Cummings, Richard Mueller, Jeff Welch, and Becky Wolf.
17. Accepted Nancy Brown's (bookkeeper) resignation and approved a gift of \$6,000 in appreciation for her 21 years of service.
18. Approved authority to Chris Lieberman, in consultation with Suzi Lemen (Administration Committee Chair) and Jon Lovelady (Personnel Team Chair), to hire and assign duties to current and/or new employees for a temporary time.
19. Gave its approval for the Chair (Diane Wilson) to give consent to Area Relationship Coordinator Don McGarity to serve as stated supply pastor at Faith Presbyterian Church and for Area Relationship Coordinator Rhonda Link-Cummings to serve as interim pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church, while continuing to serve as area relationship coordinators.
20. Approved pastoral support groups working with congregations in the presbytery.

Call Commission

Mary Beth Neely, Chair

The 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 August 18, 2020. The increase is from \$44,517 to \$44,962 (an increase of one percent). As information, the increase approved in 2019 was from \$43,860 to \$44,517.

The Call Commission has met regularly since the Winter Stated Meeting and reports the following actions taken on behalf of the presbytery in addition to those included and presented in the action agenda:

1. Approved the following guidelines for filling non-installed pastor openings effective July 21, 2020: When a church has an opening for a temporary pastor position (stated supply, interim, paid parish associate, etc.), (a) the position shall be posted and circulated throughout the presbytery; (b) the presbytery's EEO policy shall be followed; and (c) a liaison will be appointed by the Call Commission to work with the church in connection with its search.
2. Approved a new program for boundaries training, including sexual misconduct prevention training. (Appendix F)
3. Approved an updated report of terms of call for pastors serving the congregations of our presbytery. (Appendix G)
4. Enrolled Jessica Means, a member of Riverside Presbyterian Church, as an inquirer for ministry under our care as of August 18, 2020.
5. Following the examination of Dana Riley, a member of Riverside Presbyterian Church, approved her Final Assessment and readiness to circulate her Personal Information Form (PIF) as of March 19, 2020.
6. Approved seminary scholarships for Carter Grant (Geneva), Jessica Means (Riverside) and Kevin Wright (Woodlawn) in the amount of \$100 per credit hour for the Fall 2020 term and applied for the synod "Spencer Grant" of \$500 on behalf of Kevin Wright. With the endorsement of the Coordinating Council, sent a request to the presbytery to contribute online to the "Candidate's Support Fund," a designated account used to fund seminary scholarships.
7. Approved covenants with persons under care, including alternate plans for clinical pastoral education (CPE) and supervised ministry (SM) to accommodate particular circumstances.
8. Received a letter from Carl James (CJ) Dates, a candidate under the care of our presbytery, "dissolving" his candidacy as of February 4, 2020. Following receipt of his letter, the stated clerk removed his name from the roll of inquirers and candidates under our care.

9. Following the examination of the following individuals, approved receiving them as minister members of our presbytery (highlights of new minister information is contained in Appendix H):
 - a. William Joseph (Joe) Reggin (from Tampa Bay)
 - b. Walk Jones (from Central Florida)
 - c. Conrad Sharps (from Pittsburgh)
 - d. Ruth Elswood (from Tampa Bay)
 - e. Brian Lays (from Sheppards and Lapsley)
 - f. Dale Ambler (from Blackhawk)

10. Following the examination of Brian Lays, approved his call and terms of call as pastor of Riverside Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville.

11. Approved the following honorable retirements:
 - a. Chuck Harmon as of March 17, 2020
 - b. Ruth Elswood as of May 19, 2020
 - c. Bruce Seaman as of August 1, 2020

12. Approved the transfer of Conley Zomermaand to Presbytery of Genesee Valley as of June 1, 2020.

13. Approved the following temporary pastor agreements in the order shown (dates will be included in the minutes):
 - a. Joe Reggin - Interim Pastor at First Green Cove Springs
 - b. Conrad Sharps - Amelia Plantation Chapel (Validated Ministry)
 - c. Steve Goyer - Interim Pastor at Independent Presbyterian Church (Birmingham, AL) in the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley
 - d. Walk Jones - Interim Associate at First Ocala
 - e. Karl Kling - Interim Pastor at First Fernandina
 - f. Belinda (Bea) Newhart - Commissioned Ruling Elder at Fairfield
 - g. James Kendrick - Stated Supply at South Jacksonville
 - h. Do In Kim - Chaplain at Vitas Healthcare (Validated Ministry)
 - i. Don McGarity - Stated Supply at Faith (six months)
 - j. Ruth Elswood - Parish Associate at First St. Petersburg in the Presbytery of Tampa Bay
 - k. Rhonda Link-Cummings - Interim Pastor at Westminster

14. Approved the following temporary pastor contract renewals in the order shown (dates will be included in the minutes):
 - a. Earle Sickels - Stated Supply at Calvin
 - b. Steve Hulsey - Stated Supply at Lake Shore
 - c. Deb Henning - Stated Supply at Crescent City
 - d. Bob Mills - Stated Supply at San Mateo
 - e. Yvan Kelly - Commissioned Ruling Elder at Middleburg
 - f. David Imhoff - Stated Supply Fort Caroline
 - g. Vickie Bossuot - Parish Associate at Lakewood
15. Approved the following pastor dissolutions:
 - a. Mark Hults and Green Cove Springs as of February 12, 2020
 - b. Clifford Hayes and Faith as of June 30, 2020
16. Provided mentors for new ministers and designated additional support when needed.
17. Approved the requests of the following churches to elect pastor nominating committees: South Jacksonville, Palms, and First Green Cove Springs.
18. Approved applying for a shared Board of Pensions emergency assistance grant for Marcia Graham. The presbytery's contribution is \$800.
19. Met with Tim Cargal of the Office of General Assembly for two training sessions regarding ordination examinations and with Clark Simmons of the Board of Pensions for an update on Board of Pension benefits.
20. Met with the leadership of Columbia Theological Seminary regarding its experience with a student while under our care and our working relationship going forward.
21. Approved temporary moderators to serve the churches noted: Jim Black - Murray Hill; Cliff Lyda - San Mateo; Sandra Hedrick - Nueva Esperanza/Administrative Commission as Session; Harry Horne (member of the Presbytery of Florida) - Jasper; Joe Rigsby - Green Cove Springs; Ina Boyd - Westminster; Chris Lieberman - South Jacksonville; Laurie Furr-Vancini - Mayport.

St. Augustine Disaster Preparation and Assistance Commission
James Kendrick, Chair

The commission reports the following actions since the Winter Stated Meeting:

1. Elected James Kendrick as its new chair, with gratitude to Jim Pellet for his service, and appointed Walk Jones as one of our representatives to the Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network (FLAPDAN).
2. Requested and received an \$80,000 National Recovery Grant from the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program in February 2020 for the Northeast Florida Longterm Recovery Organization. The grant funds support continued recovery from Hurricane Irma (2017).
3. Requested and received a \$4,000 COVID-19 Emergency Grant from the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program in May 2020 for Peace Presbyterian Church's food pantry ministry.
4. Participated in establishing the "Commuter Volunteers" Program of the Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network.
5. Requested and received \$45,000 National Recovery Grant from the Presbyterian Disaster Program in August/September 2020 for the Northeast Florida Long Term Recovery Organization. This is a follow up to the grant provided earlier in the year so that the organization can complete the remaining support it is providing to victims of Hurricane Irma.

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

The report of the Presbytery Trustees is contained in Appendix I.

Administrative Commissions

The reports of our administrative commissions will be contained in Appendix J, except for the report of the Administrative Commission for Nueva Esperanza Presbyterian Church which is presented in the Action Agenda.

[END OF CONSENT AGENDA]

PRESBYTERY WORSHIP

Preaching - Alan Cummings (Silver Springs Shores)

Musicians - Jill Haymon-Aponte (Weirsdale)/Chandler Johnson (Woodlawn)

Offering - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
and Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center

BREAK (10:10 - 10:20)

ACTION AGENDA

Call Commission

Mary Beth Neely, Chair

The Call Commission recommends that the presbytery take the following actions:

1. Remember with thanksgiving the life and ministry of the following minister members of our presbytery who have died since the Winter Stated Meeting and adopt the resolutions contained in Appendix K:
 - a. Jack Hurse
 - b. Bert Swearingen
 - c. Jim Tinsley

2. Welcome and hear briefly from the following individuals and their pastor search committees where applicable.
 - a. Joe Reggin - Interim Pastor, First Green Cove Springs
 - b. Walk Jones - Interim Associate Pastor - First Ocala
 - c. Conrad Sharps - Amelia Chapel (Validated Ministry)

Note: action items from the Call Commission will continue later in the meeting.

Coordinating Council

Diane Wilson, Chair of the Coordinating Council

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

1. Receive the 2021 Asking Budget. (Appendix L)
2. Appoint the Coordinating Council as a commission to update the sexual misconduct policy of the presbytery prior to the Winter Stated Meeting.
3. Approve the nomination of Alexandra (Sandra) Hedrick to serve as Stated Clerk for the three-year term beginning November 1, 2020, and to approve the terms of call provided in Appendix M. (The Nominating Team's report is contained in Appendix R.)
4. Elect Marcia Graham (WFTE) and Shirley Mergan (WFRE) as members of the Representation Team - Class of 2023.
5. Recognize the service of Nancy Brown, who retired July 1, 2020 after 21 years of service to the presbytery.
6. Welcome new presbytery staff member Cyndi Rigley, Office Manager.

Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center

Monica Williams, Executive Director

Alan Cummings, Treasurer

The Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center will make a presentation and provides the report in Appendix N.

Administrative Commission for Nueva Esperanza Presbyterian Church

Cathy Sanders, Chair

The Administrative Commission recommends that the presbytery take the actions described in Appendix O.

Report of General Assembly Commissioners and Delegates

*Bob Bell, Emma Cottrell, Yvette Grant, Joe Medearis,
Sandra Hedrick, and Kevin Wright*

The report from our General Assembly Commissioners and Delegates is contained in Appendix P.

BREAK (11:30 - 11:40)

Call Commission - Continued

Mary Beth Neely, Chair

The Call Commission recommends that the presbytery take the following actions:

1. Welcome and hear briefly from the following individuals and their pastor search committees where applicable (note: new minister highlights are contained in Appendix H):
 - a. Ruth Elswood - Honorably Retired/Parish Associate First St. Petersburg (within the bounds of Tampa Bay)
 - b. Dale Ambler - Honorably Retired
 - c. Brian Lays - Pastor at Riverside
2. Recognize the retirements of Chuck Harmon, Ruth Elswood and Bruce Seaman.
3. Receive the results of the annual update of our at-large ministers and those serving in validated ministry outside of our congregations with appreciation for their ministry and participation in the life of our presbytery. (Appendix Q)

Volunteer Management Committee

Joe Rigsby, Chair of Volunteer Management Committee

The Nominating Team nominates the slate of individuals listed in Appendix R.

Presbyterian Women
Daryl Mullee, Moderator

In addition to the Moderator's presentation, a report is provided in Appendix S.

Mutual Mission Team
Diane Watkins and Bob Bell, Co-Chairs

In addition to a presentation, the following report is provided:

St. Augustine Mutual Mission and Jamaica Ecumenical Mutual Mission are celebrating and excited about the "Tooth Bus" making it to Jamaica. The bus is outfitted with all of the equipment necessary to make dentures for our friends in Jamaica. The bus will travel to outlying areas of the island and be able to reach persons who are not able to pay for dentures. We will be planning a Dental Trip to Jamaica as soon as it is deemed safe for the team to travel because of the COVID pandemic.

Thank you for your continued support of the Mutual Missions program through your gifts to the "Hearts and Hands Offering."

Other Introductions and Presentations

The presbytery welcomes Kathy Broyard of the Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network (FLAPDAN) and Clark Simmons from the Board of Pensions.

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 on Saturday, February 6, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., at Silver Springs Shores Presbyterian Church in Ocala, Florida.

CLOSING PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT