

Appendix T
Gainesville Campus Ministry
College Ministry Program
First Presbyterian Church of Gainesville

Appendix Contents:

College Report	2019-2020
College Expense Report	2019-2020
College Ministry Plan	2020-2021
Projected Expenses	2020-2021

Notes:

- Reviewed annually by our Coordinating Council (originally the annual review was done by the Committee on Ministry, but this was changed by presbytery action after the new presbytery structure went into place)
- Coordinating Council reports its approval to the presbytery
- The presbytery notifies the Synod of South Atlantic annually of its decision
- The synod sends funds semi-annually to the presbytery for the purpose of the ministry
- The presbytery forwards the funds to the First Presbyterian Church of Gainesville
- The first program year was 2014-2015

First Presbyterian Church of Gainesville
College Report 2019/2020

**BRIEF HISTORY OF COLLEGE
MINISTRY AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA**

First Presbyterian Church of Gainesville, Florida, has been engaged in ministry to students of the University of Florida since its inception. In 1951, a major step in campus ministry was taken by First Presbyterian Church when the Session approved the building of a Gainesville Student Center. The construction of the Student Center was funded 100% by First Presbyterian Church, Gainesville. The Student Center was constructed on land donated by a member of First Presbyterian Church for the purpose of housing a Student Center. Through the years, First Presbyterian Church maintained its relationship with the Student Center in a number of ways. The church provided annual financial support to the Student Center, members of the church served on Boards at the Student Center, and the church shared staff with the Student Center.

Sometime in 2012, the Synod, which obtained ownership of the Student Center through a conveyance by First Presbyterian Church several years earlier, made the decision to sell the Student Center. The conveyance by First Presbyterian Church was a gift and no money was paid by the Synod. The property was sold by the Synod for \$2.5 million. After costs were subtracted, the Synod received \$1.8 million from the sale.

In October of 2013, after completing its investigation, the Synod consultation team issued its recommendation for disbursement of the "Gainesville Student Center" sale proceeds. In support of their recommendation, they made the following findings of fact:

1. The Gainesville Student Center was 100% funded by First Presbyterian Church, Gainesville.
2. The Gainesville Student Center was dedicated for the purpose of campus ministry in Gainesville, Florida, exclusively.

Based on their findings of fact, they made the following recommendations:

1. The Synod of South Atlantic will be the owner of the \$1.8 million realized by the sale of the Gainesville Student Center.
2. The \$1.8 million dollars shall be invested in the Presbyterian Foundation.
3. Interest earned from the investment shall be given to the Presbytery of St. Augustine for Gainesville campus ministry.
4. Presbytery of St. Augustine shall provide 100% of the yearly Synod funding (minimum \$81,000 - maximum \$90,000) to the First Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) Gainesville for its Gainesville campus ministry.

Pursuant to the findings of fact and recommendations of the Synod consultation team, First Presbyterian Church has received the interest from the principal of \$1.8 million which has been invested in the Gainesville campus ministry.

GOVERNING BODY

As a ministry of First Presbyterian Church, the College Program is under the supervision and authority of the senior pastor, Reverend Mark Hults, the Board of Trustees, and the Session. The Session has constituted a “College Committee” which directly supervises the activities of the College Ministry. The College Committee is composed of members of First Presbyterian Church who are faculty members of the University of Florida, Elders of First Presbyterian Church, members of First Presbyterian Church, and college students. The College Committee submits an annual report to the Session. Director of College Ministry, Scott Stuart, attends Session meetings and keeps the Session updated on the various ministries in which the College Ministry is engaged.

COLLEGE MINISTRY STAFF

College Director

Scott Stuart

Church Staff providing support

Senior Pastor Reverend Mark Hults

Assistant to Senior Pastor

Laura Montgomery

Director of Music Ministry

Dr. Mark Coffee

MISSION AND MINISTRIES

The Mission Statement of First Presbyterian Church is “Glorify God, make Disciples of Jesus Christ, and meet human needs”. That Mission Statement is the Mission Statement for each of the committees and ministries of First Presbyterian Church, including the College Ministry.

As the Book of Order points out, we recognize that the life of the church is one, and that it’s worship, witness, and service are inseparable. The Mission Statement gives us guidance in the College Ministry and focuses us on the calling of the church which is to be a community of faith, hope, love, and witness.

GLORIFY GOD

While our intention is that all the activities of College Ministry would Glorify God, we have placed under this heading those activities generally described as Worship.

Sunday Worship - First Presbyterian holds an 8:30 and 11:00 Worship Service on Sunday morning. College students attend those services. College students regularly participate in Worship through the following activities: *ushering, singing in the choir, and leading the Children’s Lesson*. In addition, several are involved in teaching Sunday School.

College Café - After the 11:00 Worship Service, we have College Café. Members of First Presbyterian Church provide a home cooked meal for students who wish to remain after the 11:00 service. While it is hard to get a grasp on the number of students that attend the 11:00 Worship Service, last year we had 75 to 80 students participating in

College Café. It is a good time for them to relax over a meal and visit with our senior pastor, other staff, and leaders of our church.

College Sunday - One Sunday out of the year is College Sunday. Students are responsible for leading the Worship Service. They hand out bulletins, take up the collection, serve as lay readers, lead prayers, and often provide the message. In the last couple of years, the anthem has been presented by the brothers of KAPPA PHI EPSILON, a Christian fraternity which meets at First Presbyterian Church

Trajectory - Wednesday night at First Presbyterian Church is Trajectory. Trajectory is Bible Study, music, and breaking bread together. During the fall we usually focus on one or two books of the Bible, going through it together line by line. This year we studied the book of Hebrews. During the spring semester we did what we call "Fish Bowl." This is where students take a topic of discussion or a question and we answer it in view of scripture.

During the summer we usually go through a popular book and put scripture alongside what the author has to say. However, this summer (2020) we are trying something new. Each week I offer a different pod cast or YouTube video from an influential pastor or teacher and have them listen to it and answer a series of questions. We then meet via ZOOM as Covid will not allow us to meet in person.

At the end of the year we have served roughly 75 students on a Wednesday night.

Kappa Phi Epsilon - Monday night is Kappa Phi Epsilon night. Kappa Phi Epsilon is a Christian fraternity. They use several of the classrooms in our Education Building

for training. At the end of the training they gather in our Chapel for a Worship Service. Weekly attendance is between seventy-five to eighty young men. Several of the Elders who serve as professors at UF have also acted mentors for these young men. Together we have been closely involved with the leadership of Kappa Phi Epsilon providing encouragement and support.

I also take opportunity to meet with Officer Core every other week, to read scripture, pray with them, and to see how they are balancing with life and leadership.

Other PCUSA Churches - At the end of the summer/start of the fall semester we reached out to every PCUSA church in the state of Florida. We crafted a letter informing every highschool graduate coming to UF and Sante Fe that we were ready to receive them and get them plugged in to our various ministry opportunities.

We also throughout the course of the year invited other PCUSA churches who might have college students in the Alachua County area to various college events we hosted in the hopes of building unity.

MAKE DISCIPLES

Trajectory - Trajectory falls under two categories. It is Worship as we have pointed out, but it is also making Disciples. Trajectory is a weekly Bible Study with the desire of training up tomorrow's leaders in the Word of God.

Tabling - It has been said that more people walk through Turlington Plaza on Wednesday than the gates of Disney. With this in mind, one of the initial activities for the First Presbyterian College Ministry at the beginning of each academic year is tabling. Students are provided information regarding the College Ministry Program at First Presbyterian Church. For example, we handed out ice pops and flyers to students with the church's name, address, and phone number, to let them know who we are and what we are about. It is an important way to engage in conversation with students and meet freshmen who are not familiar with Gainesville.

Towards the end of the report you will notice the flyer that we hand out on campus that includes our information 106 SW 3rd St, Gainesville, FL 352-378-1527, 1stpc.org

Small Groups - During the year, small groups are formed within our college group. This is an opportunity for students to meet in smaller groups to go deeper with issues raised in our weekly Bible Study or other issues related to being a Christian on a college campus. This past year we had approximately 20-25 students participate in small groups.

The Mount - At the start of Fall I had the opportunity to speak to a 150 Freshmen, Sophomores, and leaders at a retreat called the Mount, on what it means walk with Christ throughout your college career. Many of these students within the first year face the academic pressures of what it means to succeed. Often times for the sake of grades and socials, students will let go their walk with Christ. I had the opportunity to encourage them to get involved earlier with a body of believers and to fix their eyes on Christ.

Pumpkin Carving - An event students look forward to every year is our pumpkin carving contest. This is a great time to invite friends, share a few laughs, and watch the creativity take place. Many times, students are not ready to join a Bible study for various reasons, but our hope in these moments is to build relationships with students so that when they are ready to ask questions or come to church they know where to find us. About 30 students showed up this year to show their skills and creativity.

Thanksgiving Feast - Many of our students are not able to go home for Thanksgiving. This is a great opportunity for us to come together to enjoy a meal and celebrate Thanksgiving. It gives us a time to remind students and visitors of the Mayflower Compact and share with them that the Pilgrims left England in part to pursue their freedom to worship Jesus Christ. This past Thanksgiving we had about 40 students show up.

Christmas Celebration - After a long semester this is a great time to unwind, share a meal, and participate in our annual White Elephant gift exchange. It not only serves as time to share in fellowship, but it also gives our students a chance to have conversations about why we celebrate Christmas. Roughly 30 students were welcomed here at the church as we celebrated the end of the semester and our Saviors birth.

Atlanta Passion - In January 15 us went to the Passion Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. These three days consist of speakers challenging students, great music, and encouragement to be in the presence of tens of thousands of college students seeking to live lives as Disciples of Jesus Christ.

Hungry Week - The purpose of Hungry week centers around continued dialogue with students through a series of lectures. Each day there were 3 different lectures, two during lunch and one in the evening and special event which included a faculty panel where students could ask professors about their faith in Christ. By the end of the week including outreach to Santa Fe College we were able to host fifteen different talks with the hope that at least one or two talks would resonate with students passing by. At the end of the week we were able to engage with 1000's of students on multiple levels, such as "Flyer Conversations," "Mark the Board (Tri fold board where students could chalk their answer for the day's question)," and the talks themselves with follow up conversations.

MEET HUMAN NEEDS

Gainesville Community Ministry - GCM serves as one of our mercy ministries down-town offering food, dental, and educational classes. Due to a series of unfortunate events such as a tree landing on their building and flooding their food pantry GCM had to let go of their lawn care. With time and no funding their building soon looked overgrown and covered in mold. My students and I at the beginning of the school year took the opportunity to wash their building and landscape their property.

Guatemala - This year for spring break we had the fortunate opportunity to partner with Filters of Hope and go into the village of Parramos and give clean water to every resident. We were also able to use the filters as an illustration to share the Gospel, such as, "Jesus is a lot like this filter, when Jesus comes into our lives, he makes us clean."

This year roughly 40 students, plus leaders, joined together to take filters and share the hope of the Gospel with the people of Guatemala.

Family Promise - First Presbyterian Church of Gainesville is part of the Family Promise network in Gainesville, Florida. Generally two times a year First Presbyterian Church is home to three to four homeless families for a period of two weeks (4 weeks total). Sunday school rooms are converted into apartments. Volunteers are needed to prepare meals, provide transportation, and serve as hosts. This year approximately 10 college students served as hosts for our visiting families.

Note, due to Covid we were scheduled to host our spring schedule and had to cancel the week before we were to house our spring families. This limited our volunteer time to 1, two-week period this year. Realizing we couldn't do much this year with Family Promise I did take the opportunity to contract out 3 dinners to our families and had them sent to the hotels they have been housed at.

St. Francis - During the school up until Covid several of my students took it upon themselves to serve every other Monday at St. Francis house. St. Francis house is one of our local soup kitchens for the homeless. Every other week these students would show up ready to serve and even sit and eat with those who just needed someone to talk too.

Within the Church - One of the things I have enjoyed watching over the years is seeing our students volunteer within the various programs our church has to offer. Seeing them sign up for things like LOGOS, Vacation Bible School, Music Camp, Choir and more shows me that when they graduate they are going to look to get involved wherever they go.

Covid 19

Upon returning from our trip to Guatemala Covid 19 began to spread more rapidly than when we left. Little did I realize that after I returned members of the session suggested that I be quarantined after traveling abroad and traveling through two international airports. Upon the end of my two weeks of quarantine the University decided to take action in making all classes on-line. In this time our church began to take similar measures to closing our campus. We as church began to figure out ways that we could continue on with our ministries from a safe distance. Through watching and listening to others we have used the resources of Youtube and Zoom as ways to communicate to our respected groups.

While my college students and I have not met physically since March 11th we started meeting via Zoom once a week for Bible study on Wednesdays and something I call Coffee Talk on Thursday mornings. Bible study has been a time where we go through the Word and have discussion centered around how it applies to our lives. While Coffee talk is a time where students can just share with where they are at emotionally and physically.

Due to the social distancing that has taken place over the past several months we were not able to meet from most of March to the present day. Thus, we were not able to finish

out some of our traditional service projects like, Flowers to the Homebound, and our visit to Thornwell.

Currently we have committee in place that is investigating what it would be like to re-open and move forward. As for now it looks like we will remain closed for the summer and continue to evaluate as we get closer to the fall semester.

Our desire is to continue to look for ways to grow the ministry even through Covid. We will be having our leadership meeting in August to discuss plans on how to move forward. As it is right now we not only plan on continuing with our Zoom Bible studies, but we are in the midst of discussing how we can do virtual outreach and welcoming incoming students even if they never set foot on campus. For example, our church did an experiment with a reverse drive through a few weeks ago. We set up large bins for church members to throw food into and keep going. The response was so overwhelming we are trying to figure out what other needs we can fulfill. We realize during these times we have some unique opportunities to try things that have never been done before.

MEASURING SUCCESS

One of the questions we were asked by the Committee on Ministry was “How do you measure success?” It is a hard question to answer when you look at the mission of the church and its ministries. The Book of Order makes clear that the mission of the church is to participate in God’s mission for the transformation of humanity by proclaiming to all people the good news of God’s love and calling all people to Discipleship in Christ.

At First Presbyterian we seek to carry out that mission through our Mission Statement, “Glorify God, makes Disciples, and meet Human Needs”. All of the ministries in the College Program are evaluated against that Mission Statement. Each one is looked at to see whether it glorifies God, makes Disciples, or meets human needs. If they do, and we believe each one does, then we believe we are engaged in the mission of transformation described in the Book of Order.

Graduates of the University of Florida and Santa Fe College are leaders in the areas of business, law, medicine, and education. The goal of college ministry is the development of spiritual leaders. Part of how we measure success is seeing students who become Sunday School teachers, lead a Worship Service, teach a Children’s Lesson, organize and lead service projects, lead mission trips, as well as train the leaders of tomorrow to take Christ into their jobs . We are seeing students taking on these rolls and be successful in them. Or as Andrew Scott said it with the cover of his latest book Scatter, “Go Therefore And Take Your Job With You.”

At the end of the day, the true measure of success is probably whether lives are being changed by inviting people to find meaning and purpose in their life through the person of Jesus Christ. In the conversations we have with students at College Café, in small groups, at Bible Study, while participating in service projects, we see lives being changed as students commit themselves to a more mature walk with Jesus Christ.



COLLEGE BIBLE STUDY
Wednesdays @ 7:30 pm

WORSHIP (and a free lunch)
Sundays @ 10:55 am



@uftrajectory
1stpc.org

First Presbyterian Church of Gainesville

Come Join Us!

**Trajectory
College Ministry
at First Presbyterian
Church**

**106 SW 3rd St
Gainesville, FL**

352-378-1527

W University Ave

SW 3rd St

SW 2nd St

SW 1st St

S Main St

DOWNTOWN



Trajectory

SW 2nd Ave



Parking

SW 3rd Ave



COLLEGE EXPENSE REPORT

The attached page shows the expenses for the College Ministry at First Presbyterian Church for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020. Total expenses are \$98,174.

Revenue received from the Synod for the same time period was \$81,000.00. The difference between the expenses captured on the attached report and the income received from the Synod is \$17,174. That was paid out of the General Budget of First Presbyterian Church.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COLLEGE EXPENSE REPORT

(Fiscal Year July 1st 2019 – June 30th 2020)

Ministries	Amount
College Outreach	
• Trajectory (Weekly Bible Studies)	
• Special Events (Hungary Week)	
• On Campus Ministry (Tabling)	
• College Missions (Filters of Hope to Guatemala)	
• College Ministry Support (Global Connections)	\$ 11,548
Food and Meals	
• College Café	
• Special Event Meals	\$ 3,114
Staffing	
• Student assistant	
• Personnel Costs including benefits	\$ 83,512
TOTAL	<u>\$98,174</u>

**Received from Synod* \$ 81,000.00

** A difference of* \$ 17,174.00

College Ministry Plan 2020-2021

Leadership Retreat – As the school year starts it's important for us to start off on the right foot together. This time is used to pray, reflect on the past, and plan the year before us.

Wednesday Night Trajectory – Wednesday night will continue to be a staple of who we are and what we are about. This will be a time where we will continue to come together, study God's word, and ask ourselves how we can apply God's Word to our daily life.

College Sunday – Train and lead our students to lead worship. We are a firm believer that when leaders lead, they gain a rich knowledge and understanding of what goes into the work that is before them. During this time they will preach, lay-read, do the time for young disciples, usher, sing, and conduct the various moments that it takes to lead worship.

Tabling – Reaching out to students in the midst of where they live is a heart pounding experience. Some students come hungry, ready to receive the Word, while others are skeptical. Our hope is to be a light on the campus, so that when students are ready to engage in meaningful conversation, we are right there to listen, give them information about who we are, and offer whatever word of hope we can.

Special Meals – For as long as there are college students, there will be hungry college students. Meals have a special way of bringing out togetherness, conversation, and fellowship. Certain meals come with an emphasis of the seasons; our goal is to use these special times to draw students in and experience the warmth of home.

College Café – For many student's home is not exactly around the corner; for some it may be half way around the world. While we won't ever be able to compete with Ma Ma's home cooking, we can at least try to offer a taste of home. College café is critical time for getting to know one another and expressing upcoming events throughout the year.

Christian Fraternity – Though the Greek life often looks polished, it can many dark sides. This is an area we continue to try to reach. By allowing the Christian Fraternity Kappa Phi Epsilon to meet on our campus here at FPCG and meeting with the officers every other week, it allows us to pour into them so that they can reach non-Christian fraternity's.

Atlanta Passion – For many of my students this is a large highlight of the year. Students look forward to listening to some great worship and powerful messages as they prepare for the spring semester. While it is likely that the in-person Passion will be cancelled this year we are looking to other opportunities to join via digital.

Hungry Week – The vision behind this week is to cover a multitude of topics for students to connect with. Through a series of 15+ different talks that included 10 lunches, we are able to give students and faculty a chance to hear various topics that might lead them to the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

Missions – Jesus reminds us of the Great Commission in Matthew 28, *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.* We want to continue to be a group that grows beyond our own walls by reaching out to others both globally and locally. Whether this is serving our local food bank or continuing to travel to Estelí Nicaragua, we want to be the hands and feet God has called us to be. We pray that we will be able to return to Nicaragua next year as we continue our partnership with Shalom Presbyterian Church.

Men's and Women's Group – Though ministry is important to do collectively, it's also important to give men and women a safe avenue where they go and talk about certain topics alone in a comfortable setting.

Seasonal Events – Nearly every month there is a unique opportunity to use fellowship and events to point students to the Gospel. Whether it's a Pumpkin carving contest, Thanksgiving dinner, or Christmas celebration, our desire is to use these seasonal moments to welcome new friends and share the hope of Christ.

Flowers – Some of our congregational members are growing in age and they are not able to get to church anymore. One of my students had the idea to take the left-over flowers from Sunday worship and deliver them to those who can't always make it. We found so much joy in this we plan on doing it again throughout the course of the year.

Thornwell Orphanage – Our experience with Thornwell has been so moving in the past it is our desire to do another trip to Thornwell.

State Outreach – It seems as though every year Florida is in need of able hands and feet. Whether it is hurricanes or flooding, there always seems to be a place where we can serve. Our hope is to be ready when we hear of certain needs. Due to hurricanes and heavy rainfall we have been able to lend our help in Pensacola, Jacksonville, and Gainesville. Though we don't wish harm on any city, our desire is to be ready when disaster strikes.

With Covid being a constant source of adjustment our hope as we move forward is to listen to God's call and concentrate on kingdom building. We want to continue to build bridges between other Presbyterian churches as well partner with other churches and para churches all for the sake of Jesus Christ. We look forward to what God has instore for us throughout this year and as we say every week in worship, "Let thy will be done."

Thank you all for playing a large role in what we do here locally and globally.

First Presbyterian Church Projected College Expenses
(Fiscal Year July 1st 2020- June 30th 2021)

Ministries	Amount
College Outreach	
- Trajectory (Weekly Bible Studies)	
- Special Events (Hungry)	
- On Campus Ministry (Tabling)	
- Atlanta Passion	
- Family Promise	
	\$26,600
Food and Meals	
- College Café	
- Special Meals	
	\$8,000
Missions	
- Mission Trip	
- Disaster Relief	
- International Ministry	
- Local Partners	
- Thornwell Orphanage	
	14,800
Staffing	
	\$84,000
Total	\$132,800