

DOCKET

Presbytery of St. Augustine

Winter Stated Meeting

Moderator Joe Albright

February 5, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. (via Zoom)

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

9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. ARRIVAL/CHECK IN

Welcome to the 2022 Winter Stated Meeting! You may arrive on Zoom as early as 9:00 a.m. The meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. with the moderator's opening and prayer.

OPENING AGENDA

Moderator's Opening and Prayer

Zoom Overview and Practice Vote

Quorum and Docket Approval

Welcome to First Time Commissioners/Corresponding Members

Approval of Consent Agenda Items in Docket

MORNING WORSHIP

We welcome Hunter Camp, Pastor of Memorial Presbyterian Church, who will bring the morning message. The offering is designated for Mutual Mission. Please see the Order of Worship provided with our meeting materials.

ACTION AGENDA

Call Commission

Joy Laughridge, Chair, and Ron Watson, Vice Chair

The Call Commission recommends that the presbytery take the following actions (new member information is provided in Appendix A):

1. Welcome and hear from Jessica Means, our newest candidate for ministry.

2. Welcome and hear from four minister members:
 - a. Beverly Dempsey, Interim Pastor of Highlands United Presbyterian Church, received from the Presbytery of New York.
 - b. Priscilla Durkin, Area Relationship Coordinator for Validated and At-Large Ministers, received from the Presbytery of Western North Carolina.
 - c. Larry Graham-Johnson, honorably retired, received from the Presbytery of Santa Fe.
 - d. Ann Graham-Johnson, honorably retired, received from the Presbytery of Santa Fe.

Coordinating Council

Edd Norris, Chair

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

1. For the second year of our 2021-2023 Strategic Plan, approve “Vital Congregations, Youth, and Matthew 25” as our focuses. (Appendix B)
2. Receive updates concerning Presbyterian Youth Triennium, the Vital Congregations Revitalization Initiative, and grants available to congregations with 200 members and under.
3. Approve the 2022 Operating Budget (Appendix C)
4. Approve a change to the Manual of Operations which would increase from two to three Coordinating Council members on the Current and Emerging Ministries Committee (the change is shown below):

The Current and Emerging Ministries Committee shall consist of nine members, including ~~two~~ three Coordinating Council members (with one appointed as the chair or two co-chairs), a representative of the Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center (the Director or - if no Director - another representative selected by the Trustees of the Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center), the Moderator of the Presbyterian Women, the chair of the Mutual Mission and the chairs of the Disaster Preparation and Assistance Commission (at least nine members), the Youth Ministry Team (eleven members), and the Church Vitality Team (six members).

Administrative Commission for Middleburg Presbyterian Church

Joe Reggin, Chair

The written report and recommendation for action is provided in Appendix D.

11:30 to 11:40 a.m. BREAK

Call Commission (Cont.)

Joy Laughridge, Chair, and Ron Watson, Vice Chair

The Call Commission will continue its presentation at this time and recommends that the presbytery take the following actions:

1. Approve the “Restoration Policy” in Appendix E. This policy was developed as directed by the presbytery’s action at the Fall Stated Meeting, as also outlined in the appendix.
2. Remember the life and ministry of John (Jack) Allyn, minister member who died on December 2. (Appendix F)

Nominations - Officers/Volunteers

Patti Phillips, Chair of Volunteer Management Committee

Nominations are listed in Appendix G.

Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center

Tommy Lane, President

Alan Cummings, Treasurer

The written report is provided in Appendix H.

Presbyterian Women

Daryl Mullee, Moderator

The written report is provided in Appendix I.

Mutual Mission Team

Diane Watkins and Bob Bell, Co-Chairs

The written report is provided in Appendix J.

Highlands Regional Ministry Center

Geoff Spiegel, Chair of Trustees’ Highlands Committee

The written report is provided in Appendix K.

Special Presentations

The presbytery welcomes a representative from Living Waters for the World and also welcomes Sy Hughes, the Mission Engagement Advisor of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

Installation of the Moderator

Jerie Lukefahr will be installed to the office of Moderator at this time. The current Moderator, Joe Albright, will serve as Coordinating Council Moderator until the 2023 Winter Stated Meeting. The installation service materials are provided on our meeting website.

CLOSING AGENDA

Speak-out Time*

Call for the 2022 Spring Stated Meeting
Affirmation of Faith and Communion

Charge and Benediction/Adjournment

*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.

CONSENT AGENDA

Stated Clerk

Alexandra (Sandra) Hedrick

The stated clerk provides the following report and requests that the presbytery take the actions recommended in it:

1. Those who submitted requests to be excused will be shown as excused in the attendance records of this meeting.
2. This meeting is a corporate meeting for both the Presbytery of St. Augustine, Inc. and Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center, Inc.
3. The 2021 Necrology Report is provided in Appendix L.
4. Minutes of minister installations taking place since the last stated presbytery meeting will be provided in Appendix M.
5. The list of persons who have completed their service on the Permanent Judicial

Commission (PJC) in the last six years and would therefore be eligible to serve on the PJC should there be a need is provided in Appendix N.

6. The stated clerk requests that the presbytery approve the list of churches that are asked to send an additional commissioner to each presbytery meeting for one year beginning with the 2022 Spring Stated Meeting. (Appendix O).
7. An update on the status of session minute reading will be provided in the “Clerk’s Resources” area of our web page by March 15, 2022.

Coordinating Council

Edd Norris, Chair

The Coordinating Council recommends that the housing allowance compensation for the stated clerk be increased by 3 percent, effective January 1, 2022.

In addition, the Coordinating Council reports the following summary/highlights of actions taken (see approved Coordinating Council minutes provided as Appendix P):

1. Reviewed each monthly Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements (Treasurer's Report and year-end statements are provided in Appendix Q).
2. Approved the minutes of the 2021 Fall Stated Meeting (copies available from the stated clerk) and the minutes of its meetings between the Fall Stated Meeting and the present.
3. Approved the celebration of the Lord’s Supper during 2022 at presbytery meetings and events, Presbyterian Women, and presbytery-sponsored youth meetings and gatherings; on trips sponsored by the Mutual Mission Team; and in connection with seasonal camps at Montgomery Presbyterian Conference Center.
4. Approved holding the 2022 Winter Stated Meeting as a hybrid meeting at Trinity Presbyterian Church and later approved holding the meeting by Zoom only.
5. Designated the 2022 Winter Stated Meeting offering for Mutual Mission.
6. Approved housing allowance designations for Holly Dillon Inglis and Erin Horne.
7. Appointed Holly Dillon Inglis as our presbytery’s Certified Christian Educator advisor.
8. Approved Coordinating Council member committee appointments.
9. Engaged in strategic planning and established the following 2022 priorities to recommend to the presbytery at the Winter Stated Meeting: Vital Congregations, Youth, and Matthew 25.
10. Approved the presbytery’s participation in “Giving Tuesday.”
11. Accepted the request of a session of one of our congregations to take original jurisdiction of the investigation of a disciplinary matter filed against a member.
12. Approved establishing a small task group (appointed by the presbytery moderator and the

- moderator of the Coordinating Council) to work on and present a proposal for the use of funds from dismissed churches and the sale of church property of closed churches.
13. At a subsequent meeting, appointed a task force co-chaired by Jerie Lukefahr and Barbara Darby that will include the treasurer, members of the Finance Team, the chair of the Presbytery Trustees, Joe Rigsby, Walk Jones, Steve Crowley, Susan Takis, Joe Albright, and Holly Dillon Inglis. This task force will work with the Administrative Commission for the Middleburg Presbyterian Church to come up with an overall strategy for use of funds from the sale of closed churches for recommendation to the presbytery at the 2022 Spring Stated Meeting.
 14. Endorsed the recommendation of the Administrative Commission for the Middleburg church to sell the church property.
 15. Referred to the Leadership Development and Care and Strategic Issues Committee whether to recommend making “Strategic Issues” a separate committee.
 16. Extended the deadline for grant requests from churches of 200 members or less to April 2, 2022.

Call Commission

Joy Laughridge, Chair, and Ron Watson, Vice Chair

Note: Minimum Compensation for Pulpit Supply Preachers: The commission reports that it approved an increase in the published guidelines for minimum compensation for a pulpit supply preacher from \$125 plus mileage to \$150 plus mileage for leading at one service, and from \$200 to \$225 plus mileage for leading at two services.

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

1. Approve the member roll as of December 31, 2021. (Appendix R).
2. Amend the presbytery policy #3 relating to the “Candidate’s Fund” collected through offerings at ordinations and installations by expanding it as follows:

CANDIDATES PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY SUPPORT FUND OFFERING

The loose offerings at ordinations and installations of ministers and services of commission for ruling elders commissioned to special pastoral service shall be designated for the Candidate’s Preparation for Ministry Support Fund. The Call Commission may approve disbursement for scholarship support for students pursuing a course of study in preparation for ministry as a teaching elder or to serve as a commissioned ruling elder.

Adopted 29 April 1986; Revised 5 February 2022

3. Amend the presbytery policy #11 relating to the examination process of candidates and ministers by simplifying it and conforming it to current practice under the Manual of Operations:

EXAMINATION PROCESS OF CANDIDATES & MINISTERS

The ~~Member Preparation and~~ Call Commission shall be empowered:

1. To conduct any and all parts of examinations for ordination and/or installation (~~including sermons~~) for all ministers of Word and Sacrament and candidates seeking admission to the presbytery, ~~and to conduct any other examinations specifically assigned to it by the presbytery on an occasional basis (such as examinations for ministers outside the presbytery seeking to fill stated supply positions within the presbytery)~~. The commission shall report to each meeting of the presbytery, and the ~~clerk~~ moderator of the commission shall report to each meeting of the Coordinating Council its actions regarding each minister or candidate seeking admission to the presbytery, i.e., that it:
 - a) Sustains the examination in all its parts and as a whole and declares the minister or candidate approved for ordination and/or installation; or
 - b) Does not sustain part or all of the examination.
2. To enroll ministers into the presbytery and to approve the terms of call for ministers entering the presbytery.
3. To recommend to the Leadership Development and Care Committee that a minister or candidate receive extended supervision, mentoring, or such remedial work as the commission deems necessary and appropriate.

Once the examination is sustained, the ordination and/or installation shall proceed as scheduled by the minister/candidate and the moderator of the presbytery in consultation with the session of the church served or the church where the service will take place. The moderator of the presbytery and the chair of the Call Commission will approve the ordination/installation commission prior to the service.

At the next meeting of presbytery subsequent to actions of the Call Commission, ~~commission~~, the ~~chair~~ moderator of the commission shall introduce each minister or candidate whom it has approved for ordination and/or installation. A statement of faith and a biographical paragraph written by the minister or candidate shall be included with the presbytery packet. After presentation by the chair of the commission, each minister or candidate shall be given a brief period to make a statement concerning his or her call and Christian experience. ~~Presbytery may then proceed to elect commissions for ordination and/or installation and to set the date for services of ordination and/or installation.~~

Meetings of the ~~Member Preparation and~~ Call Commission shall ordinarily be open, and members of presbytery not on the commission may be accorded the right to address the commission with permission from the chair ~~moderator~~.

~~The Nominating Team shall seek to identify persons with expertise in the various academic and practical disciplines pertinent to ministry described in Book of Order G-11.0402. Careful attention shall also be given to insure both fair ethnic and gender representation and balance in theological perspective on the Member Preparation and Call Commission.~~

Adopted 10 July 2004; Amended 1 January 2018; Amended 5 February 2022

The commission also reports the following actions taken on behalf of the presbytery:

1. Elected Joy Laughridge as Chair and Ron Watson as Vice Chair, with gratitude for the service of Mary Beth Neely for her service as most recent past Chair.
2. Continued to nurture and guide the inquirers and candidates under our presbytery's care, which included regular reports and approval of covenants between the individuals under care, the presbytery, and the church..
3. Sustained the examination of Jessica Means and enrolled her as a candidate in preparation for ministry under our care.
4. Approved the request of the Pines Presbytery and Kevin Wright (Woodlawn), candidate under our care, that Kevin Wright serve as stated supply pastor of Hollywood Presbyterian Church in Shreveport, Louisiana, if the way be clear upon approval by the session of the Hollywood church.
5. Received the following ministers into presbytery membership:
 - a. Beverly Dempsey as Interim Pastor of Highlands Presbyterian Church, as of November 28, 2021. The commission also approved Rev. Dempsey's terms of call.
 - b. Priscilla Durkin as Area Relationship Coordinator for Validated and At-Large Ministers as of November 1, 2021.
 - c. Larry Graham-Johnson, honorably retired. Rev. Graham-Johnson transferred from the Presbytery of Santa Fe as of November 16, 2021.
 - d. Ann Graham-Johnson, honorably retired. Rev. Graham-Johnson transferred from the Presbytery of Santa Fe as of November 16, 2021.
6. Approved the following membership transfers (dates to be recorded in the minutes):
 - a. Marc Jones to the Presbytery of Abington when the way be clear.
 - b. Tim Roberts to the Presbytery of Tropical Florida when the way be clear.

7. Approved the following temporary pastor and commissioned ruling elder agreements:
 - a. David Imhoff and Fort Caroline (stated supply) as of August 15, 2021 (renewal).
 - b. Shirley Mergan and Mikesville (CRE) as of January 1, 2022 (renewal).
 - c. Joe Medearis and Arlington (stated supply) as of January 1, 2022 (renewal).
 - d. Joe Medearis and Peace (stated supply) as of January 1, 2022 (renewal).
 - e. Scott Stuart and Gainesville First (parish associate) as of the date of his ordination, which is scheduled for February 6, 2022.
8. Validated the ministry of Janice Clark as Hospital Chaplain with North Florida Regional Medical Center, effective January 1, 2022.
9. Approved the retirement of Joe Reggin as of January 1, 2022.
10. Validated the ministry of Joe Reggin with the Arlington United Church of Christ (UCC), effective January 2, 2022.
11. Approved the following pastor dissolutions and terms of dissolution as applicable:
 - a. Marc Jones and St. Andrews (stated supply) as of January 4, 2022.
 - b. Forrest Foxworth and Fernandina Beach First (parish associate) as of January 10, 2022.
 - c. Laurie Furr-Vancini and Palms (associate pastor) as of February 6, 2022.
 - d. Natasha Sudderth-Davis and Perry First (pastor) as of February 28, 2022.
12. Approved an exemption from the open search policy for Scott Stuart, candidate under our care, to become ordained to serve as a parish associate at First Gainesville, if the way be clear following Mr. Stuart's ordination examination.
13. Sustained Scott Stuart's ordination examination and approved his parish associate relationship with First Gainesville to begin on the date of ordination (scheduled for February 6, 2022).
14. Following an interview of Robert McCrary (RE - Community) and Melanie Marsh-Baum (Pastor - Community), certified Robert McCrary to be commissioned for special pastoral service should he be called to serve in a commission and that call is separately approved.
15. Approved the request of the Palms church to elect an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee.
16. Recognized that Robert McCrary (Community), Jesse Bozeman (Murray Hill), and Yvette Grant (Kirkwood) completed the commissioned ruling elder (CRE) preparation polity requirement through class sessions with the stated clerk.
17. Planned for annual reviews/updates for commissioned ruling elders in early 2022.
18. Received reports regarding churches in transition, and approved the following moderators while the congregations did not have installed or stated supply moderators serving: Jo Anne Dyson - Perry First; Vickie Bossuot - Calvin; Jess McCrosky - St. Andrews; Jim Black - Murray Hill; Cliff Lyda - San Mateo; Charles Freeman - Faith and Covenant; Rhonda Link-Cummings - High Springs; Larry Neal - Branford.

Trustees of the Presbytery of St. Augustine

Ana Lugo-Berrios - President

The report of the Trustees of the Presbytery of St. Augustine is provided in Appendix S.

St. Augustine Presbytery Disaster Assistance Commission

Hunter Camp, Chair

When we think of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) Program and our own Disaster Assistance Commission (SAPDAC), hurricanes, tornadoes, and floods may come to mind. We forget that human-caused disasters also impact our churches and communities in deep ways. In early December, we were honored to support the Hodges Boulevard church in the aftermath of the tragic shooting of the Music Director's family and his arrest. Through our Ministry and Mission Coordinator, Holly Dillon Inglis, there was PDA presence at the following Sunday's morning worship and evening vigil services. Ministers of the presbytery and other churches, SAPDAC, and presbytery staff attended as well. While we pray that God's children will not suffer in any disaster, we are called and committed to provide support to one another.

The 2022 Atlantic hurricane season officially begins on June 1, 2022, and ends on November 30, 2022. We will provide updated resources and support to our congregations and mission communities in the coming months.

Administrative Commissions for Reddick Presbyterian Church

The written report of the Administrative Commission for Reddick Presbyterian Church is provided in Appendix T.