

Lead Presbyterian's Report

God is doing great things here in the Presbytery of St. Augustine. The wide variety of mission efforts and outreach in our congregations continues to inspire me. In my first 19 months here, I have seen the level of collegiality and mutual support strengthened. We do so much of our presbytery committee work through zoom, which is efficient but not the same as meeting in person. Our regional gatherings have been well attended and give us the opportunity to break bread to be physically present, enjoy fellowship and nurture each other in our callings.

As a life-long student and someone who has been called into presbytery leadership, I really appreciate the denominations required Presbyterian Leader Formation training. It is a 3-year process, and I am mid-way through that journey. In fact, I am writing this report while preparing to attend my second residency. During the residency I will attend classes specifically designed for those in year two as well as electives on empowering new worshipping communities, Good Futures Accelerator, Courageous conversations that Build Connections, and the Ten-Year plan.

Listed below are some Highlights from the past few months

- Preached at Grace in Gainesville
- Worshiped at Mayport, Faith, Woodlawn, and Riverside
- Attended the Board of Pensions Benefit summit in Philadelphia.
- Visited Perry and enjoyed lunch with the pastor John David Bryant and several members from the church.
- Met with the session at Geneva Presbyterian Church. Preached at Geneva and led a question-and-answer session following lunch about pastoral transitions.
- Met with the Florida Presbytery executives/leaders
- Multiple conversations with Lake City about pastoral transition
- Met with trustees and the AC for Branford
- Visited Mayport with Beverly Dempsey looking at future possibilities

- Participated in some camp counselor interviews
- Discussed Camp Montgomery progress with both Clint Cottrell and Rebekah Rogers
- Began reviewing and filing background checks
- Hired a new part-time receptionist and began on-boarding and training
- Extended conversations with two churches about (non-pastoral) staff transitions and navigating the path forward
- Preached at Highlands United twice
- Continue to work with Synod of the Sun on an updated website
- Met with ARC's
- Met with point person from Louisville via zoom to learn more about new worshiping communities and denominational grants
- Attended Lake City for Rev. Ken Goodrich's last Sunday
- Participated in the installation of Kenny Ellis

Respectfully submitted,

David