

1 **SPRING STATED PRESBYTERY MEETING**

2 First Presbyterian Church of Quincy
3 QUINCY, FLORIDA

4
5 **April 29, 2008**
6

7 The Presbytery of Florida, Inc. of the Synod of South Atlantic of the Presbyterian Church
8 (U.S.A.) met for its Spring Stated Meeting at First Presbyterian Church of Quincy,
9 Quincy, Florida on Tuesday, April 29 2008.

10
11 The following 44 ministers and 43 elders were enrolled as commissioners:

12
13 **Ministers:** Nan Adams, Frank Beall, Bill Bess, Ronald Bradley, Tom Borland, Robert
14 Bohnsack, Mark Broadhead, Sally Campbell-Evans, Bruce Chapman, Tae Ho Cheong,
15 Huw Christopher, Ted Chumley, Joseph Chung, Bea Copeland, Brant Copeland, David
16 Darrow, Tom Douglas, Terry Dyer, Chris Erde, Hugh Hamilton, Eugene H. Harris, Ruth
17 Hempel, Cherie Isakson, Randy Jackson, Walk Jones, Kenneth Kelly, George Kessler,
18 William Lee, John Lown, Ruth Mashewske, Dan Mitchell, Paul Mixon, John Napoli III,
19 Roger Nicholson, Russell Owens, Taylor Phillips, Steven Schaick, Sharon Schuler,
20 Anghaarad Teague, James Urquhart, Mary Vance, Shuford White, Joan Wooten, Stephen
21 Yates, Ezra Yune

22
23 **Elder Commissioners;** **Chipley:** Margaret Dixon; **Crestview:** Tim Crawford;
24 **DeFuniak Springs:** Euchee Valley, Tommy Yates; **First,** Charles Cosson; **Pleasant**
25 **Grove,** Henry Goode III, Bryant Campbell; **Fort Walton Beach:** First, Theresa Nicks;
26 **First Korean,** Sunook Kimm, **Freeport:** Tony Gomillion; **Gretna:** Alexander Johnson;
27 **Havana:** Jim Love; **Laurel Hill:** Bertie Ann Curenton; **Lynn Haven:** Mary Ann
28 Pennington; **Marianna:** Ronald Goold; **Milton:** Jeanette Harman; **Navarre:** Larry
29 Plank; **Pace:** Walt Reese; **Panama City:** Grace, T. Vinson, Parkway, Al Borovich; St.
30 Andrews, Rose Stallins; **Pensacola:** First, Paul Goody, George Sapp, Northminster, Ken
31 Overholt, Trinity, Mary Ruth Dobie, Bill Tabb, Westminster, Larry Newman; **Port St.**
32 **Joe:** Mark Curenton; **Quincy-First:** Pat Woodward; **Red Bay:** Walter Ray; **Sawdust-**
33 **Woodland:** Larry Helm; **Shalimar:** DiAnn White; **Sunny Hills:** John Turner;
34 **Tallahassee:** Christ, Sue Chapo, Covenant, Christie Kimbrel, Faith, Sam Lester, Sarah
35 Hood, Fellowship, Clifford Jordan; **First,** Dave Curtis, Lafayette, Diane Dowling, Trinity
36 United, Lori Gordon **Elders/Members of Council:** Nesta Cumbie, Martha Jean Woodard
37

38 **Elder Christian Educators:** **Tallahassee-Fellowship:** Jeannie Dixon, **Ft. Walton**
39 **Beach:** Jennie Langham (Retired) and **Associate Executive Presbyter:** Jean Silva
40

41 **Certified Christian Educators:** **Tallahassee-First:** Christy Williams
42

43 **Visitors:** There were 15 visitors registered, including: **Monticello,** John Schuler; **Havana:**
44 Jonathan Hehn; **Lynn Haven:** Rich Kangas; **Milton:** Lynne Harman, Sarah Wooten;
45 **Laurel Hill:** Tracey Curenton; **First Ft. Walton Beach:** Mary Hahn; **First DeFuniak**
46 **Springs:** Joyce Kelly; **Northminster:** Barbara Overholt; **Panama City-St. Andrews:**

1 Jennifer Whisenoit; **Synod of South Atlantic- St. Augustine Presbytery:** Reg Parsons;
2 **Form of Government Task Force- St. Augustine Presbytery:** Paul Hooker;
3 **Presbyterian Foundation – St. Augustine Presbytery:** Jean Goodwin

4
5 **Presbytery Staff Members:** Darline Ray (Ministries Secretary)

6
7 **ABSENSES**

8
9 **Excused Ministers:** Barry Arnold, Jerry Blacklaw, Arthur Crosswell, Nancy Forinash,
10 Beth McCaw, Tully Hunter, Lawrence Greenslit, Dan Ottaviano, Joe Vaughn

11
12 **Unexcused Ministers:** Charley Grant, , John Kelsay, Pamela King Phillips, James
13 Stansbury

14
15 **Excused Churches:** None

16
17 **Unexcused Churches:** Blountstown, Crawfordville-Wakulla, DeFuniak Springs-Bethel,
18 Destin-First, Gulf Breeze, Monticello-First, Panama City-Gulf Beach, Wewahitchka-First

19
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21 **OPENING PRAYER AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM**

22
23 The meeting was called to order at 10:00 EDT with prayer by moderator Brant Copeland.
24 A quorum was present.

25
26 **WELCOME**

27
28 Chris Erde, Pastor, welcomed the Presbytery to First Presbyterian Church, Quincy.

29
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31 **ADOPTION OF DOCKET AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

32
33 A motion was made, seconded and approved to add 5 minutes to the docket under item
34 11 for a report from Finance & Budget. The docket was adopted with that change.

35
36 **WORSHIP**

37
38 Opening worship was held with Rev. Paul Hooker preaching and Rev. Tom Borland
39 presiding. During the service the delegation to South Africa was commissioned. The
40 delegation consists of Colleen J. Caro, Ginger K. Caro, Paul W. Caro Pamela P. Carroll,
41 Sheila J. Green, Patricia Griffin, Mary W. Hahn, Rebecca E. Kidd, Deborah A. Layton,
42 Constance Mickle, Andrew M. Patterson, Carol W. Powell, Robert R. Powell, Bonnie J.
43 Powers. The commissioners to General Assembly were commissioned; they are Nesta
44 Cumbie, Joan Wooten, George Kimm, Brant Copeland, Joe Silva (YAD).

1 At the conclusion of worship, prayers were offered for Rob Bohnsack as he goes to
2 Afghanistan as a military chaplain for 3-4 months.

3
4 Following worship, the meeting moved to the Fellowship Hall for the presentation and a
5 question and answer workshop led by Paul Hooker, who is a member of the Form of
6 Government Task Force.

9 **INTRODUCTION OF ELDERS, VISITORS AND CORRESPONDING MEMBERS**

10
11 Visiting ministers, first time elders and corresponding members were introduced
12 following the workshop on the Form of Government.

13
14 Moderator Brant Copeland announced that Jack Stotts died yesterday and a brief prayer
15 of thanksgiving for his life was offered.

16
17 The Rev. Reg Parsons – Synod Executive and Stated Clerk thanked the Presbytery for its
18 financial support of the Synod and talked about the restructuring of Synod.

19
20 The meeting reconvened after lunch at 1:45 with prayer in the sanctuary. To fulfill the
21 requirement for ordination, Mel Baars presented a sermon using Scripture from Ezekiel.

22
23 Rev. Jean Goodwin presented a report from the Presbyterian Foundation. She
24 distributed a document “Creating a lasting legacy” to those present.

25 26 **COMMUNICATIONS TO THE PRESBYTERY**

27
28 The Stated Clerk presented information on communications received. He noted the
29 document “General Assembly Council at a glance” which was included in the docket.

30 31 **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TREASURER**

32
33 Russ Owens presented the Treasurer’s report, noting pages 5-7 of the docket. He noted
34 that the Synod and GA per capita is not paid up front at the beginning of the year but as it
35 comes in from the churches. In the coming months the outstanding amount will be sent to
36 the Synod and GA. A correction to the Shalimar Unified Pledge was noted; it is \$2100.

37 38 **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER/STATED CLERK**

39
40 Terry Dyer presented the annual report of the executive presbyter/stated clerk. The
41 annual statistical report for 2007 was noted. All congregations but one submitted annual
42 statistical reports on time. Churches are encouraged to enter their statistics on time, but
43 noted that if they cannot be entered online they should be sent to the Presbytery office to
44 be entered.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER

Jean Silva presented the annual report of the Associate Executive Presbyter. She highlighted the Hunger Action activities. The goal is to collect \$25,000 for the presbytery for 2-cents-a-meal; a challenge is to give a year’s worth of 2-cents-a-meal at once (which rounds up to \$22). She is working with Pam McVety to implement a program on Lifestyle Integrity to churches.

COUNCIL REPORT

Nesta Cumbie presented the report of Council. The council did not have a quorum at the last meeting; Nesta moved that items 1-10 on page 22 be adopted as part of the omnibus motion. This was approved. Some of those items included in the omnibus motion were:

1. That the Winter Stated meeting of the Presbytery of Florida be held in conjunction with Disciplefest 2009 on Saturday, January 31, 2009 at Blue Spring Baptist Conference Center in Marianna.
2. Concur with the Personnel Committee’s changes/additions to the Presbytery of Florida Personnel Policies (addition of item I to VIII Benefits regarding Active Military Personnel; section XXI Sexual Harassment and a change to Section XIX on the preparation and handling of the terms of call for the Executive and Associate Presbyters.
3. Contract for Mike Fransden as Interim Summer Camp Director at Dogwood Acres for the period of April 15 – August 22, 2008.
4. Election of nominees from the Nominating Committee to fill vacancies on 9 committees.
5. The Covenant Agreement between Presbytery of Florida and Florida A & M University

DOGWOOD ACRES TASK FORCE/VISIONING

Mark Broadhead reported on item 11 – Dogwood Acres Task Force/Visioning. A handout was reviewed and recommended as a first reading for changes to the Operations Manual.

- The Recommendations are:
- change name to Dogwood Acres Summer Camp and Retreat Center;
 - place the various DWA program areas under the Presbytery Missions and Ministries areas;

This gives ownership of DWA to the entire presbytery by involving all areas of Presbytery in Dogwood Acres. Questions were taken from the floor of Presbytery. A

1 clarification on first reading/second reading was given. There was discussion on the floor
2 as to the meaning of first/second readings. The motion to approve these changes as a first
3 reading was approved on voice vote.

4 **REPORT OF THE PC (USA) MINISTRIES**

5
6 Joan Wooten presented the report of the PC(USA) ministries. The report is found on
7 page 37 of the docket and page 2 of the supplemental docket. Thanks were given to
8 Martha Jean Woodward and the nominating committee for their hard work. The list of
9 committee vacancies was noted; each church was encouraged to find folks to fill these
10 vacancies. On behalf of the nominating committee, Joan nominated Lisa Wilder
11 (Program-Dogwood Acres), Thomas Guthrie (Program-Dogwood Acres), James Vance
12 (Dogwood Operations) Mary Hahn (Social Justice), Linda Pitts (Children), Jonathan
13 Hehn (Worship/Theology), Bea Copeland (Committee on Ministry), Cal Enstrom
14 (Compassion), Ted Chumley (Ecclesiastical Concerns). Dave Custis (Ecclesiastical
15 Concerns), Bob Henning (New Church Development). There were no nominations from
16 the floor. They were elected.

17 18 **COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY**

19
20 Roger Nicholson presented the report of the Committee on Ministry. An item of
21 information was the selection of Lindsey Moffett as temporary supply at FWB while Rev.
22 Bohnsack is in Afghanistan.

23
24 It was approved to grant the status of Honorably Retired to Rev. Dr. Steven Melamed
25 effective Jan. 8, 2008 and Rev. Ms. Ruth Hempel effective May 1, 2008.

26
27 The examination of Mel Baars was conducted. Her call is to the J.L. Zwane Presbyterian
28 Church in South Africa for three years. She shared her faith statement and her call to that
29 church. She plans following that time to enter full-time chaplaincy in the Army. Bill
30 Bess asked questions in the area of Bible. Mark Broadhead asked questions in the area of
31 Theology. Sharon Schuler asked questions in the area of Sacraments and Worship.
32 Roger Nicholson asked questions in the area of polity. Roger moved that the sermon be
33 approved; this was approved. He then moved that the exams in Bible, Theology,
34 Worship and Sacraments, and Polity be approved and that the exam be approved in
35 whole. These were approved. The call is as Minister in Association position at J. L.
36 Zwane Presbyterian Church. The presbytery and congregation in South Africa would not
37 make financial contribution to the ministry. A three-year budget was prepared by Mel
38 and she has made arrangements to cover the financial needs. The motion from COM is to
39 ordain Mel, approve her call to South Africa as a Minister in Association at J. L. Zwane.
40 This would be as a validated ministry. The motion was amended with a motion from
41 John Lown that “in so far as the financial arrangements, that the Presbytery lay aside its
42 minimum terms of call.” This was seconded and approved.

43
44 Permission was granted to Mel to labor outside the bounds of this presbytery. Permission
45 was given to her to administer the sacraments under the jurisdiction of the session of the
46 J. L. Zwane church. Permission was given to the chair of the COM to appoint the

1 ordination commission at an appropriate time. At the time of ordination, she will also be
2 commissioned to this validated ministry.

3
4 Roger presented a recommendation from the COM concerning the Wakulla Presbyterian
5 church. The recommendation was distributed as part of the supplemental reports. The
6 COM recommends that the Presbytery of Florida establish an Administrative
7 Commission to inquire into matters at Wakulla Presbyterian Church.

8
9 **The recommendations of the Committee on Ministry are:**

- 10
11 1. “Whereas the triennial visit to Wakulla Presbyterian Church by the Committee on
12 Ministry raised significant concerns in the areas of declining membership,
13 financial viability, pastoral leadership, and session leadership and;
14
15 2. Whereas a subsequent visit with the members, the session , and the pastor of the
16 Wakulla Presbyterian Church by Terry Dyer, the Executive Presbyter, and Bob
17 Crabtree, a member of the Committee on Ministry, reiterated these same concerns
18 and exposed a level of conflict and lack of common vision that seem to be
19 debilitating and;
20
21 3. Whereas a meeting of the Committee on Ministry with the pastor and the Clerk of
22 Session of the Wakulla Presbyterian Church confirmed that these concerns are
23 real, that there are a core of dedicated members who affirm the pastor’s preaching
24 and worship skills and their commitment to the pastor and;
25
26 4. Whereas the Committee on Ministry is charged with responsibility for the
27 minister members and congregations of the Presbytery including matters of
28 viability, finances, pastoral care, and leadership;
29
30 5. The Committee on Ministry recommends that the Presbytery of Florida establish
31 an Administrative Commission to inquire into matters at Wakulla Presbyterian
32 Church including, but not limited to, matters of declining membership, financial
33 viability, financial management, pastor and session leadership, options for the
34 future including the possibilities of selling the property, relocating the
35 congregation, and/or dissolving the congregation. The powers of this
36 Commission shall include inquiry, dissolving the session and assuming original
37 jurisdiction, dissolving the relationship between the pastor and the congregation,
38 and/or dissolving the congregation. This Administrative Commission shall be
39 appointed by the Moderator of Presbytery in consultation with the Stated Clerk
40 and Moderator of the Committee on Ministry.”

41
42 Roger addressed the background and reasons for this recommendation. The moderator
43 reminded the body of the powers of an administrative commission. Questions were
44 received from the floor. The motion was approved; the commission will be appointed
45 and reports given to the Presbytery as appropriate. Following the vote, the moderator
46 offered a prayer for the commission, congregation and the pastor.

1
2 **COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY**
3

4 The report on the Committee for Preparation of Ministry was presented by Brant
5 Copeland. The CPM received Laura Palmer as an inquirer; approved Candidate Diana
6 Bell as ready to receive a call; approved Candidate Mel Baars as ready to receive a call
7 and passed her to COM; approved Myong Kim for Candidacy. It was moved and
8 approved that Jacqueline Henderson's name be removed from the Roll of Candidates.
9 Myong was examined by the Presbytery for candidacy. Questions were entertained from
10 the floor. A motion was made that the examination be sustained and she be enrolled as a
11 candidate. This was approved. A charge was given to Myong by Rev. Brant Copeland
12 and a prayer offered.
13

14 **REPORT OF THE MINISTRY OF ADMINISTRATION**
15

16 Randy Jackson presented the report of the Ministry of Administration. The report on
17 pages 38 and 39 were part of the omnibus report and previously approved. The five
18 minutes previously approved will not be needed as it was already included in the docket
19 time.
20

21 **BUDGET AND FINANCE**
22

23 Dan Mitchell presented a report from Budget & Finance. Faith, Tallahassee wants to
24 establish a 3 year line of credit for a building expansion and will pay it back from
25 congregational pledges. The amount requested is up to \$2.5 million; the project is
26 expected to cost \$1.5 million. This was approved.
27

28 It looks like there will be a shortfall of about \$35,000 in the Presbytery budget;
29 committees, etc. are asked to be frugal in spending for the rest of the year.
30

31 **REPORT OF THE MISSION FOR OUTREACH**
32

33 Ruth Mashewske presented the report for the Mission for Outreach. The report begins on
34 page 42. She noted that the Evangelism and Revitalization Committee has a copy of the
35 book Unbinding the gospel for each church. \$4250 has been spent on 2-cents-a-meal
36 projects. Agape NCD is looking for a new pastor as Sam has moved to Kentucky.
37 Pensacola Korean has asked to be chartered.
38
39
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41 **REPORT OF THE MISSION FOR SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT**
42

43 Huw Christopher presented the report for the Mission for Spiritual Development. The
44 report is on pages 47-48. Pentecost materials are available at the resource table for each
45 church. In the supplementary reports there is a survey for each church to complete (in the
46 areas of children, adult and youth ministry). A brochure for the workshops planned for

1 Sept. and October was noted. Disciplefest is scheduled for January 30-31, 2009 at Blue
2 Springs Baptist Retreat in Marianna.

3
4
5 **REPORT OF THE MISSION FOR DOGWOOD ACRES/OUTDOOR MINISTRY**

6
7 Christy Williams presented the report for the Mission for Dogwood Acres/Outdoor
8 Ministry. A new water tank is on order; it came in below bid. Work continues on the
9 pool. Terry noted that Christy was recognized on Sunday, April 22, 2008 for her 20
10 years as DCE at First, Tallahassee and Brant Copeland on behalf of the congregation
11 presented to Terry a check for \$3000 in her honor to be used for scholarships to DWA.

12
13 **REPORT OF THE MISSION DISASTER PREPAREDNESS/RESPONSE**

14
15 Hugh Hamilton presented the report of the Mission Disaster Preparedness/Response.

16
17 **NEW BUSINESS**

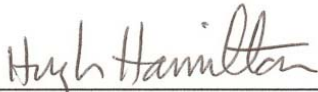
18 There was no new business.

19
20 Cherie thanked the Presbytery for the partnership and encouragement at Shalimar.

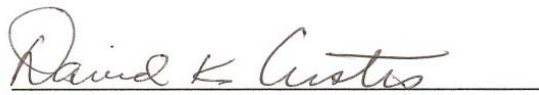
21
22 There were several announcements.

23
24 There was no other business before the body. The moderator offered a closing prayer at
25 4:29 EDT. The meeting was adjourned.

26
APPROVAL OF MINUTES



The Rev. Hugh Hamilton, Pastor, Pensacola, Trinity



Dave Custis, Elder, Tallahassee 1st

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