

FLORIDA PRESBYTERY

**ASSOCIATE REFORMED
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**



**FALL STATED MEETING
CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
BRADENTON
OCTOBER 22, 2019**

**CALLED MEETING – VIRTUAL
APRIL 28, 2020**

**Florida Presbytery Fall Stated Meeting
October 22, 2019
Christ Presbyterian Church, Bradenton, Florida**

Presbytery began with worship at 10:10 a.m. It was led by the Rev. Leon Brown. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper was observed. An offering was received for the Morrison Student Aid Fund in the amount of \$347.25.

Moderator Frank Hunt, III called the meeting to order with prayer at 11:05 a.m. A quorum was established as present.

Greetings were given by host pastor, Kent Adrian.
Guests were welcomed by Moderator Hunt. Introductions were offered.

The Agenda was adopted as presented. **M/S/C**

Communications from the Clerk, noting requests to be excused. Several requests for prayer were expressed and particularly requested by Kim Payne for health concerns.

Approval of Minutes of Florida Presbytery Spring Stated Meeting, April 23, 2019. **M/S/C**

Report of the **Presbytery Council** presented by the Clerk.

Treasurer's Report presented by Steve Richardson. Financial reports were not available due to his recent return from out of the country, and our bank changing online banking access. He noted that he would like to conclude his term as Treasurer when nominations are made for officers and committee members for next term.

David Pendergrass gave an update on Erskine College and Seminary and answered questions. He also requested opportunity for visits with pastors and other church leaders while he is in Lake Wales during the week.

Steve Nichols gave a report on the work of the ARP Foundation on behalf of congregations as well as Synod ministries. He made himself available during lunch to meet with leaders.

Lunch break began with prayer at 11:50 am.

The meeting resumed after lunch with an address by Mrs. Maxine Johnson, President of Florida Presbytery ARP Women's Ministry. She specifically noted the pressing need for a new President and Secretary to succeed her in the coming year. Trevor Raborn led presbyters in prayer for the ARP Women's Ministry and leadership needs.

Rev. Tanner Cline gave a presentation regarding a workshop the Presbytery asked him to attend on Evangelism Explosion. He spoke highly of the encouragement and challenge that was presented and made himself available to speak with presbyters and congregations on this.

Mr. Amjad Mahand, who serves with Muslim outreach ministry in London, was visiting family in Vero Beach and presented on his work. Trevor Raborn led presbyters in prayer for Amjad & Sarah Mahand and their family.

Stewardship Committee – no report. Darrell Peer not present. He had eye surgery yesterday. Prayer was offered by Juan Unda. A called meeting may become necessary in order to adopt a Presbytery Budget for 2020.

Missions Liaison – Scott Smith reported on Bridge Europe and World Witness ministry among Muslim refugees in Europe. He encouraged the continued prayer and outreach by congregations toward the 2-2020 goal of 2 potential missionaries to be raised up from each congregation in the ARPC.

Church Extension – Drew Severance – Noted ONA change with Mike Jones' resignation as Executive Director.

Recommendation 1 – Approve a \$16,000 continuation for Tim Sewell's second year of Presbytery's financial support. ONA will consider approval of its \$12,000 continuation on 11/5/19 – 11/6/19. **Carried**

Recommendation 2 – Approve a \$15,000 continuation for Leon Brown's second year of Presbytery's financial support. Catawba Presbytery is still supportive of its four-year funding plan. **Carried**

Recommendation 3 – Receive a report from Tanner Cline regarding the recent EE workshop. **Carried**

Recommendation 4 – Contribute up to \$700 for workshop materials and travel expenses for Tanner's travel. **Carried**

Recommendation 5 – Receive updates from all church planters in attendance. **Carried**

Leon Brown (Montage) – praying for contacts being made; **Steve Reynolds** (Renew - Fort Myers) – praying that God would double the membership over the next year toward enabling them to organize in the near future; **Jeff Liu** (Tampa Chinese PC) – requested prayer for leadership training in order to be able to organize in 2020; **Charlie Lewis** (Christ Community) – raising up leaders, working with two men's Bible studies; **Justin Westmoreland** (Trinity, Norman, OK) – praying that God would raise up people aspiring to serve the Lord as Elders and Deacons; hopeful to organize in 2020

Recommendation 6 – Pray for all church plants. **Carried**

Recommendation 7 – Pray for all our churches to be more spiritually healthy (i.e., more effective in sharing the gospel with their people and with their community). **Carried**

Tanner Cline led in prayer for church plants and the health of our congregations to the glory of God.

Minister and His Work Committee – Mike Avato

Mark Nelsen (Lake Placid) gave his Christian testimony and his sense of call to continue studies for preparation for Gospel ministry. He is a student at RTS Orlando. The Session commends

Mark to the Florida Presbytery. Chad Reynolds presented the questions from the FOG for students coming under care of Presbytery. Mark affirmed. Chad then gave a charge to Mark on behalf of the Moderator. Gilbert Moore led in prayer for Mark and his family.

Mark Nelson be received as a student under care of the Florida Presbytery.

Carried

Bob Hovey be approved for work out of bounds of Florida Presbytery in his wedding business for one year as set forth in FOG 9.13. **Carried**

He is currently working 15-20 hours each week with Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Bob Brown be granted until October 2020 to transfer into a NAPARC presbytery or congregation in the area he now resides in California. **Carried**

His year of cancer treatments has delayed this process over the past year. At this time Bob is cancer-free, all thanks to God!

Brooks Pipher is working a full-time secular job in California and seeking a path to gather people for a future church plant. He would like to be approved for this work outside the bounds of Presbytery according to FOG 9.13. His plans include would include consulting with a coach and oversight by the Session of Chapel by the Sea. Approval recommended. **Carried**

This will be a one-year commitment.

Christian Education Committee – Mackay Smith

It was noted that a major change for the coming year is discontinuing the Winter Retreat at Lake Aurora and explore making use of the Word of Life Youth Center this winter. The report makes note of the reasoning for this consideration.

Recommendation – That our Winter Retreat trips with Lake Aurora will discontinue, with the emphasis to use the Word of Life Youth Center, for the upcoming trip Winter Retreat, as an exploratory year. **Carried**

Recommendation – It was recommended that the budget of \$3,000 to be dispersed for youth conferences be appropriately dispersed to any church wanting to attend the final weekend of February, to assess “Pursuit Camp”. **Carried**

Thanks was expressed to the Presbytery on behalf of Camp Joy for Presbytery support.

July 2020 there will be a mission training opportunity with Chapel by the Sea.

Nominations Committee – Mark Bolhofner

Darrell Peer be named as Florida Presbytery representative for the Dunlap Board. **Carried**

Moderator’s Committee on Pastoral Compensation Severance Packages – Chad Reynolds was asked to serve as Chairman and given authority to add to the committee as needed.

Micah Burklin made request to be removed as a student under care of the Presbytery. **M/S/C**

It was announced that a **Psalm-Sing** is scheduled for November 3rd at Avon Park, 4:00 pm.

The Presbytery adjourned with prayer led by Mackay Smith followed by the singing of Psalm 133.

The **Moderator's Committee to Review Sessional Records** (Ray Cameron, Karl Davis, Shane Miller) reviewed the minutes of Avon Park. They were approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Cameron, Clerk

Attendance –

Ministers: Bobby Adams, Kent Adrian, Mike Avato, Mark Bolhofner, Ray Cameron, Tanner Cline, Jac Coad, Tom Edwards, Bob Hovey, Jeff Jacobs, Bob Johnson, Charlie Lewis, Jeff Liu, Gilbert Moore, Brooks Pipher, Trevor Raborn, Chad Reynolds, Steve Reynolds, Chad Sadorf, Drew Severance, Timothy Sewell, Christopher Smart, Mackay Smith, Juan C. Unda, Justin Westmoreland, Pat Williams

Ministers Excused: Wyatt Folds, Chris Hardeman, Mike Jones, Bryan Jurkowski, William McClain, Kim Payne, Christopher Reeder, David Rockness, Dennis Rupert

Ministers Absent: Bob Brown, Brent Holladay, John Kim, Darrell Peer, David Walkup

Licentiate: none

Students Under Care: Karl Davis (Lake Placid), Shane Miller (Lake Wales)

Students Under Care Excused:

Students Under Care Absent: Micah Burklin (Lake Wales), Ed Gardner, Matt Sboto (Lake Placid), Wenbin Ben Chi (Tampa Chinese Presbyterian)

Elders: Frank Hunt, III (Moderator), David Draper (Avon Park), Hugh Crawford, Ernie Cooper (Bartow), Randall Anderson (Chapel by the Sea), Tim Smith (Christ Presbyterian), Steve Richardson (Faith, Merritt Island), Frank Busch, Randy Gilde, Karl Davis (Lake Placid), David Nelson (Lake Wales), Ted Stitzer (North Creek)

Guests: Frank Miller (Chapel by the Sea), Wayne Metcalf, George Dudas, Steve Holztorian (Christ PC), Scott Smith (Lake Placid / Iglesia en Movimiento), Wes Spring, Mark Nelsen (Lake Placid), Maxine Johnson (Florida Presbytery ARP Women's Ministry), David Pendergrass (Erskine College), Mike Pendergrass (Greenville, SC ARPC), Nader Awad (Boynton Beach), Leon Brown (Montage, LA, CA), Amjad Mahand (KKF – UK), Fred Lin (Tampa Chinese PC), Steve Nichols (ARP Foundation)

Florida Presbytery Agenda
October 22, 2019, 10:00 A.M.
Christ Presbyterian Church, Bradenton, Florida

9:30 a.m. Registration & Fellowship
10:00 Worship
 Rev. Leon Brown
 Rev. Kent Adrian

Call to Order – Moderator Frank Hunt, III
 Roll Call
 Welcome from the Host Pastor
 Recognition of Guests
 Confirmation of a Quorum

Adoption of Agenda

 Communications from the Clerk
 Approval of Minutes (April 23, 2019)
 Report of the Presbytery Council
 Treasurer's Report
 Mr. David Pendergrass, Erskine College
 Mr. Steve Nichols, ARP Foundation

Noon Lunch
1:20 p.m. Mrs. Maxine Johnson – Florida Presbytery Women's Ministry

 Tanner Cline – Report on Evangelism Explosion Workshop

Business/Committee Reports

 Missions Liaison
 Stewardship
 Church Extension
 Minister and His Work
 Christian Education
 Nominations
 Ad Hoc Committee on Pastoral Compensation Severance Packages
 Unfinished Business

Old Business

New Business

Announcements

Next Stated Meetings: April 28, 2020 – Faith (Oxford)
 October 27, 2020 – Morning Star

Adjournment with Prayer and Psalm 133

Florida Presbytery Council 10/1/19

Moderator Hunt opened with prayer at 2:10 pm.

A quorum for the meeting was confirmed.

Present: Frank Hunt, III (Moderator), Mike Avato, Randall Anderson, Ray Cameron, Drew Severance, Mark Bolhofner (phone)

Worship Plans: Rev. Leon Brown will preach. Kent Adrian will lead the service of the Lord's Table.

An offering will be received for the Morrison Student Aid Fund during the service of worship.

Requests to speak from David Pendergrass, Erskine Church Relations. Allow 10 minutes to speak and 5 minutes for questions. Prior to lunch.

Allow Steve Nichols, ARP Foundation, immediately before lunch. 2-3 minutes.

Maxine Johnson – Women's Ministry – 5 minutes. Afternoon.

M&HW Committee: Receive 2-3 students under care. Reports as requested by Florida Presbytery at the Spring 2019 meeting.

Recommendations regarding requests from Bob Hovey and Bob Brown, ministry and standing in Florida Presbytery.

Christian Education has a brief report with 1 Recommendation.

Ad Hoc Committee Report regarding pastoral compensation severance packages.

Church Extension: 2 Recommendations – Continue funding for Mission Developers Timothy Sewell and Leon Brown.

Hear from Pastors Sewell, Brown and other Mission Developers.

Hear from Tanner Cline regarding his participation in an Evangelism Explosion workshop.

Meeting Room needs: Church Extension Committee; M&HW - during lunch.

The meeting adjourned with prayer at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ray Cameron, Clerk

Church Extension Committee Report (4/23/19)

For Information Purposes

- 1) Committee continues to cast the vision regarding the “sending church” church planting model
- 2) On 3/18/19, committee representatives met with the session of Community Chapel by the Sea regarding this vision
- 3) Plans are in the works to have a follow up discussion with Lake Wales via their Evangelism and Outreach Committee on 5/7/19
- 4) Plans are in the works to meet with the session of Shepherd Road in June 2019
- 5) Committee is working on a draft of “Blessings of the Sending Church Church Planting Model”
- 6) Both of Florida Presbytery’s funded church plants that are holding worship services (i.e., Lake Placid, FL and Norman, OK) are regularly giving to the Denominational Ministry Fund
- 7) Committee members have been assigned to each church planter to provide regular encouragement and prayer

Recommendations

- 1) Approve \$10,000 continuation for Justin Westmoreland’s third year of Florida Presbytery financial support. ONA approved their \$6,000 continuation on 4/2/19.
- 2) Encourage the existing church planters to meet together quarterly to get to know one another better, to share ideas, to pray for one another, etc. Church Extension will pay for gas and meals.
- 3) Encourage pastor and elder from potential sending churches to attend Acts 29 Church Planting Conference in Orlando this summer.
- 4) Receive updates from all church planters in attendance
- 5) Pray for all church plants
- 6) Pray for Brooks/Amanda Pipher

Submitted by Drew Severance, Chairman

**Christian Education Committee
Florida Presbytery
Sept 23rd, 2019
Lake Wales, Florida
First Presbyterian Church ARP**

In attendance were:

Randall Anderson (Chair-Chapel by the Sea)
Chad Reynolds (Lake Wales)
Tim Sewell (Iglesia en Movimiento)
Mackay Smith (Lake Wales)
Reid Thayer (Lake Placid)
Shane Miller
Trevor Raborn (Morning Star)

Mr. Randall Anderson, the committee chair, opened in prayer.

Mr. Anderson of Chapel By The Sea updated the committee on a recent trip to Greenville, in regard to Youth Conferences, specifically the Quest Conference, supported by the ARP.

The committee reviewed the possibility of using a new conference center for the upcoming Winter Retreat 2020. Word of Life is a unique campground, visited by Randall Anderson, Reid Thayer, and Trevor Raborn in September.

It was recommended that our Winter Retreat trips with Lake Aurora will discontinue, with the emphasis to use the Word of Life Youth Center, for the upcoming trip Winter Retreat, as an exploratory year.

It was recommended that the budget of 3,000 dollars to be dispersed for youth conferences be appropriately dispersed to any church wanting to attend the final weekend of February, to assess "[Pursuit Camp](#)".

Part of the decision to use the Winter Retreat 2020 as an exploratory year was that there is a medical oversight, greater oversight for leaders to be with their youth groups, activities that are well organized, and cost effective overall.

There was a motion by Chad Reynolds of Lake Wales to:

Recommend to explore Word of Life ministries as individual Florida ARP churches for the Winter Retreat 2020

Whereas we hope that by 2021 use their facilities with our ARP approved speakers

Whereas Lake Aurora Winter Retreat will be discontinued for Winter Retreat 2020

Whereas the CEC will disperse funds for churches wanting to use the "[Pursuit Camp](#)" during the last week of February.

Whereas One Thousand Five Hundred (\$1,500) of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) be used to for youth students to attend on scholarship

Whereas One Thousand Five Hundred (\$1,500) of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) to be used to reimburse travel expenses among the Florida ARP churches that attend.

Whereas upon a positive report submitted by the attending churches Florida ARP churches to the committee chair, there will be future Winter Retreats to be held at World of Life, with the hopes to include our own guest speakers alongside their christian spiritual formation services and activities.

Motion Seconded by Trevor Raborn of Morning Star Church

Mr. Tim Sewell closed the meeting with prayer.

Florida Presbytery Called Meeting

April 28, 2020

Zoom Room (due to Coronavirus shelter-in-place requirements)

Moderator Frank Hunt, III called the meeting to order with prayer at 11:00 a.m.

A quorum was certified for the meeting.

The purpose of this Called Meeting of the Florida Presbytery (meeting on the day scheduled for the regular Stated Meeting, now postponed to June 9, 2020) is to examine the Rev. Garrison Taylor to transfer from Catawba Presbytery, having been called to serve the First Presbyterian Church, Frostproof, as Minister. The Presbytery will also hear the Call to Rev. Taylor for approval by the Presbytery.

Garison Taylor opened with prayer and a devotion from 1 Corinthians 1:18-31.

Rev. Mike Avato, Chairman of the Minister and His Work Committee, led the examination of Rev. Taylor by asking him to share his Christian testimony. This was followed by a time of questions and answers from the Presbytery.

Mike Avato examined Mr. Taylor regarding questions on theology, followed by a time of questions from the Presbytery.

Jac Coad moved that the examination be sustained. Seconded. Carried.

Mike Avato led the Presbytery in prayer for Garison and his family, and the Frostproof congregation and community.

The details of his transfer from Catawba Presbytery will be worked out, anticipating a starting date of June 14, 2020.

The Call from the Frostproof Church was read. It was amended as follows to make provisions for the family in the event of the death of the Pastor.

6. In the event you should die during the terms of this call, we promise to continue the provisions of this call dealing with annual salary and housing for a minimum of three months. M/S/C

The Moderator will work with Rev. Taylor to plan a service of installation in the near future, at a time when the Presbytery will be able to join together.

The reminder was given for the Stated Meeting scheduled for June 9, 2020 at Faith Presbyterian Church, Oxford.

Mackay Smith closed the meeting with prayer at 1:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Raymond W. Cameron, Jr. – Clerk

Teaching Elders Present: Bobby Adams, Mike Avato, Mark Bolhofner, Ray Cameron, Tanner Cline, Jac Coad, Jeff Jacobs, Charlie Lewis, Bill McClain, Gilbert Moore, Kim Payne, Darrell Peer, Brooks Pipher, Trevor Raborn, Major Christopher Reeder (USAF Chaplain), Chad Reynolds, Chad Sadorf, Drew Severance, Christopher Smart, Mackay Smith, David Walkup, Justin Westmoreland, Pat Williams

Teaching Elders Excused: Wyatt Folds, Chris Hardeman, Bob Johnson, Bryan Jurkowski, Dave Rockness, Dennis Rupert

Teaching Elders Absent: Kent Adrian, Bob Brown, Tom Edwards, Brent Holladay, Bob Hovey, John Kim, Jongho Kim (Inter-Varsity Korea), Jun Jian (Jeff) Liu, Steve Reynolds, Timothy Sewell, Juan Carlos Unda, Adam Williams

Ruling Elders Present: Frank Hunt, III (Moderator), Randall Anderson (Chapel), Phillip Rucks (Frostproof), Frank Busch, Randy Gilde, Scott Smith (Lake Placid); Vince Treadway, Doug Pace (Lake Wales); Ted Stitzer (North Creek), David Perron (Tradewinds)

Licentiate Present: None

Students of Theology Present: Shane Miller

Guests: Rev. Garison Taylor, Hill Griffin, George Milliken, Bob Bogart, Wayne Collier, (Frostproof); Wes Spring (Lake Placid)

First Presbyterian Church of Frostproof, Florida Associate Reformed Synod Call for a Pastor

We, the officers and members of the First Presbyterian Church of Frostproof, Florida Presbytery, Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, being well satisfied with your ministerial qualifications, and confident that we have been led to you by the Holy Spirit as one whose ministry will be profitable to our spiritual interest, do earnestly call you, **Garison Taylor**, to undertake the office of Pastor of this congregation, effective June 14, 2020. On the acceptance of this call we promise you in the discharge of your duty all proper support, encouragement, and obedience in the Lord.

That you may devote yourself wholly to the Ministry of the Word, we promise and obligate ourselves to:

1. Pay you an annual salary of \$46,000.00, paid in semi-monthly amounts.
2. Provide you with the use of the church manse, together with an annual utility and housing allowance of \$6,000.00, paid monthly.
3. Provide you an accountable professional expense allowance of \$4,000.00 annually, which includes auto expense allowance of .57.5 per mile.
4. Pay into the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Retirement Plan Fund as prescribed by the General Synod [currently 12% of the sum of your annual salary, housing (recognized as equivalent to 40% of your base salary), and annual utility, as a combined housing allowance and annual auto allowance].

5. Pay 100% of the cost of your participation in Synod's Family Plan insurance programs (term life, medical, accidental death and dismemberment and long term disability) as well as your family's medical Family Plan insurance coverage thru the Synod. In the event of total disability, as defined in the Synod's insurance program, we promise to continue for a minimum of three months the provisions of this call awaiting commencement of benefits from Synod's insurance program.
6. In the event you should die during the term of this call, we promise to continue the provisions of this call dealing with annual salary and housing for a minimum for three months.
7. Pay 50% of the FICA.
8. Grant you annual vacation of four (4) weeks.
9. Grant you one (1) week for continuing education.
10. Pay your moving expenses to Frostproof.
11. Pay 100% of attending Presbytery meeting and Synod.
12. Review with you annually the adequacy of the compensation.
13. Strong consideration given that after 7 years of employment, will allow a 2 month paid sabbatical.

Attestation of the Call

On _____, I presided in the moderation of a call for Garison Taylor as Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Frostproof, Florida. The Vote to Call was _____ FOR and _____ Against.

_____, Moderator

In testimony whereof we have respectively subscribed our names this _____ day of _____, A.D. _____: