



ROLL CALL

ATTENDANCE TOTALS: Teaching Elders: 41, Commissioners: 28, Elders by Virtue of Office: 5, Total: 74 eligible voters. *[Appendix, pp. 11-12]*

VIBRANT PRESBYTERY WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

Moderator Debi Davis opened the Assembly with prayer at 9:30 am. Our privileged guests that were present were: Rev. Mark Wright (Mid-South Presbytery) and Elder Valerie Young (Synod of South Atlantic).

General Presbyter and Stated Clerk (GPSC), Daris Bultena, gave instructions on the voting format using pollev.com/tflorida992 for both online and in-person ministers and commissioners. Once it was confirmed that everyone was able to be on the app and do the run through, Daris declared that a quorum was present and the docket was adopted.

MOTION 1: APPROVED the docket for the Stated Presbytery Assembly of November 11, 2023, as presented. [MSA]

CONSENT MOTION

Recommendations of the Committee on Nominations and Representation:

1. THAT the following nominees be elected:

[Name]	[Entity]	[Class]
TE-Valdir Franca (MOS)	LC Member at Large	2026
-		
TE-Sung Joo (Korean PB)	COM Member Region 1	2026
RE-Emily Sloan (First Tequesta)	COM Member Region 1	2026
TE-Greg Rapier (First Delray)	COM Member Region 2	2026
TE-Pam Masten (First FTL)	COM Member Region 2	2026
-		
TE-Melanie Marsh (Riviera)	CON COR Member	2026
-		
TE-Brice Rogers (Sunset)	CPM Member	2026
TE-Hanlim Chae (MAL)	CPM Member	2026
-		
RE-Lauraine Hoensheid (Gardens)	FMC Member	2024
RE-Nancy Fine (First Delray)	FMC Member	2025
RE-Charles Groover (Ascension Peace)	FMC Member	2026
RE-Ken Sloan (First Tequesta)	FMC Member	2026
-		
RE-Linda McLeod (Trinity)	HRC Member	2026
RE-Diane Jones (Garden)	HRC Member	2026



Recommendations of the Stated Clerk:

1. THAT the commission to ordain Tricia Young be dismissed with thanks having held the service of ordination for Rev. Tricia Young on September 24, 2023 at First Presbyterian Church of Fort Lauderdale.

MOTION 2: APPROVED the two recommendations presented in the November 11, 2023 Consent Motion. [MA]

GENERAL PRESBYTER AND STATED CLERK REPORT

- During 2023, the Session Minute Review for 2022 has been conducted by the following method: Send the Stated Clerk a digital copy of your minutes along with the completed Session Minute Review Checklist [See Appendix, pp. 13-14] and the Session Minutes Review Form [See Appendix, pp. 15-17]. Once your minutes have been reviewed you will receive an acknowledgement sheet that can be inserted into your Session Minute book. The records review will be conducted by Presbytery representatives, so please remit your digitized records, and completed checklist and reviewer forms. PDF copies of all documents are preferred.
 - Clerks were reminded that the checklist includes verification of insurance and financials for the church. Insurance Requirements include: General Liability Insurance, Windstorm Insurance, Flood Insurance if in Zone A.
- Those churches having completed their 2023 records review of 2022 minutes are: All Nations, Central, First Boynton Beach, First Delray Beach, First Fort Lauderdale, First Lake Worth, First Miami, First West Palm Beach, First Spanish, Gardens, Glades, Lakeside, Myrtle Grove, New Covenant, Peace, Pinecrest, Plantation, Sanctuary, and Sunrise.
- Those churches NOT having completed their 2023 records review of 2022 minutes are: Ascension Peace, Community LBTS, Community DFB, El Cordero, Faith, First Hollywood, First Pompano Beach, First Port St. Lucie, First Stuart, First Tequesta, Goodwill, Grace, Hobe Sound Com., Korean Miami, Korean Palm Beach, Miami Shores, New Life, Palms West, Peace Covenant, Riviera, Sunset, and Trinity. Sessions are reminded that submitting records for review is a constitutional requirement. This must be completed before the end of the year.
- The Committee on Ministry has mandated to set a Cost of Living Adjustment annually for minimum Terms of Call. The COLA is set at 4% and is recommended for all calls. Pastors, Clerks, and Treasurers received a letter informing them of this. [See Appendix, pp. 18-22]
 - It was pointed out that our minimum pay is not sustainable and will not attract leadership. The Committee on Ministry (COM) is talking about this and urges church leaders to consider this as well. Current realities:

2023 Minimum Cash Salary and Housing Allowance: \$49,226.00 (All in - \$78,498.32)	2024 Minimum Cash Salary and Housing Allowance: \$51,195.00 (All in - \$81,345.40)
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**In Pastor's
Pocket to
Live On**



- **In Miami-Dade County**, a single person earning at the minimum would qualify for Public Housing as the Area Median Income is \$74,700
 - Low Income 80% of AMI = \$57,800
- **In Broward County**, a single person earning at the minimum would qualify for Public Housing as the Area Median Income is \$88,500
 - Low Income 80% of AMI = \$53,800
- **In Palm Beach County**, a single person earning at the minimum would qualify for Public Housing as the Area Median Income is \$98,300
 - Low Income 80% of AMI = \$54,550
- **In Martin County and St. Lucie County**, a single person earning at the minimum would nearly qualify for Public Housing as the Area Median Income is \$84,800
 - Low Income 80% of AMI = \$47,450
- **In Monroe County**, a single person earning at the minimum would qualify for Public Housing as the Area Median Income is \$97,100
 - Low Income 80% of AMI = \$60,800
- The Per Capita apportionment for 2024 is \$36.85 per member. The breakdown is the following: Presbytery at \$25.55, Synod at \$1.50, and General Assembly at \$9.80.
- The Pastors Convocation was held at the Hilton Resort in Marco Island on September 13-15. The Convocation included the Renewal of Ordination Vows worship service.
- There will be a Pastors Pause on December 6, 2023 at First PC, Boynton Beach.
- Presbytery Assemblies for 2024 will be held on February 10, May 18, August 24, and November 9. All Assemblies will begin at 9:30 am. The manner in which each assembly will be conducted (online, in-person, hybrid) will be determined by the Leadership Council and widely published in advance.
- Reports were given to the Presbytery from the two Administrative Commissions in service to the Presbytery, providing their required annual reports. The Administrative Commission for Calvary is in the process of concluding its business and will be dissolved prior to the end of the calendar year. It is noted in the report of the Leadership Council acting as the Presbytery that an Administrative Commission has been formed for Faith PC, First PC Lake Worth, and Grace PC. *[See Appendix, pp. 23-24].*
- The Presbytery was invited to the Service of Installation for Rev. Guillermo Figueredo as Pastor of First PC, Tequesta, on November 12 at 4:00 pm.

VIBRANT LEADERS COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Chair Pamela Masten brought forth a recommendation for a new member:

Rev. Mark Wright was ordained by the Memphis Presbytery on July 1, 2001, has missionary experience in Honduras, and had been a pastor in Collierville, TN (Mid-South Presbytery).



Motion 3: RECEIVED Rev. Mark Wright into membership of the Presbytery Tropical Florida from the Mid-South, that he may pastor at Central PC, Miami. [MA - Appendix, p. 25]

**VIBRANT LEADERS
COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION ON MINISTRY**

Chair David Massey, brought forth a recommendation for ordination:

Ms. Chandler Gelb was examined by the presbytery on her Statement of Motivation to become an Inquirer. She shared her faith journey to inquirer, which includes being the Director of Youth and College Ministries at First Presbyterian Church of Fort Lauderdale. She began education at Duke Divinity on August 28th.

Motion 4: APPROVED Ms. Chandler Gelb as Inquirer of Word and Sacraments, and under care of the Committee on Preparation on Ministry. [MA - Appendix, p. 26]

**VIBRANT PRESBYTERY
Leadership Council Reporting**

Rev. Willy Figueredo, Rev. Dr. Valdir Franca, Moderator Debi Davis, and Elder Barbara Hassall shared the Vibrant Together Development Corporation update. As a review:

Its Mission Statement:

The Vibrant Together Development Corporation (VTDC) platforms the incubation of expanded ministry through innovatively repurposing church property for vibrant, sustainable ministries.

Its Offerings are:

Innovative Ministry Development, Property Repurposing, and Asset Management.

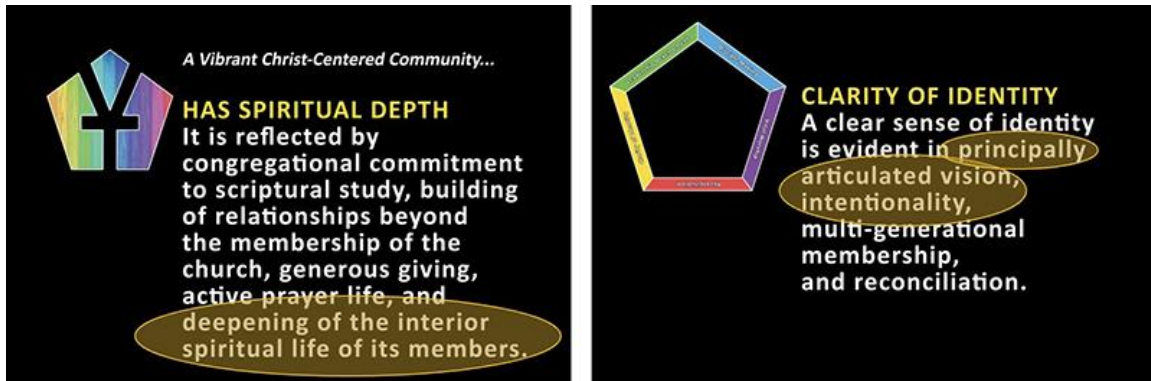
Its Values are:

Entrepreneurial Innovation, Trustworthy Transparency, Outward-Facing Focus, and Stewarding Abundance.

The update included the presentation of: an organizational chart, logo development, key tasks accomplished in the third quarter and tasks pending in the fourth quarter, the formation of the new Vibrancy Center (formerly Calvary PC), the invitation to be part of the prayer team, and finally the new website highlighting the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section. All this information is found at www.vibranttogether.com.

**VIBRANT TOGETHER
SPIRITUAL DEPTH AND CLARITY OF IDENTITY**

As part of the Vibrant Together ministry plan, the presbytery launched into the next segment of *HAS SPIRITUAL DEPTH*, with the topic of *CLARITY OF IDENTITY*:



Using John 15:1-11, GPSC Bultena shared that the pattern of the Christian life equals a principally articulated vision for deepening of the interior spiritual life of members.

John 15:5

“I am the vine, you are the branches.
Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit,
because apart from me you can do nothing.”

The questions for discussion were:

- What in your principally articulated vision as a congregation points to the type of spiritual depth described in John 15?
- In what specific ways have you seen members abide more deeply today than a year ago in your church? What might be done to enhance that?

The responses can be found in the Appendix, pp.27-28.

VIBRANT WITNESS WORSHIP

Synod Executive, Valerie Young, lead the worship titled GRACE & GRATITUDE. She spoke about being in liminal space, and believers are to step into open space, be a grateful church, enduring and resilience. The offering was designated to Christmas Joy Offering (PCUSA). [Appendix p. 29]

ADJOURNMENT

Moderator Davis thanked everyone for a successful hybrid meeting and adjourned the meeting with prayer at 11:27 am.



REPORTS

Report of the Stated Clerk:

- During 2023, the Session Minute Review for 2022 is being conducted by the following method: Send the Stated Clerk a digital copy of your minutes along with the completed Session Minute Review Checklist [See Appendix, pp. 13-14] and the Session Minutes Review Form [See Appendix, pp. 15-17].
- Once your minutes have been reviewed you will receive an acknowledgement sheet that can be inserted into your Session Minute book. The records review will be conducted by Presbytery representatives, so please remit your digitized records, and completed checklist and reviewer forms. PDF copies of all documents are preferred.
- Those churches having completed their 2023 records review of 2022 minutes are: All Nations, Central, First Boynton Beach, First Delray Beach, First Lake Worth, First West Palm Beach, Gardens, Glades, Plantation, Sanctuary, and Sunrise.
- Those churches that did not complete their records review in 2022 will need to submit two years of records in 2023 when completing the 2023 review. Sessions are reminded that this is a constitutional requirement.

Report of the Leadership Council

- APPROVED the Presbytery Assembly minutes for August 26, 2023.
- APPROVED a review committee for GPSC Daris Bultena, in acknowledgment for the effort and leadership he has brought to Tropical Florida and for its future endeavor with the development corporation.
- APPROVED to reinstate the previous GPSC review committee of David Grachek, Debi Davis, Greg Rapier, Valdir Franca, and Nic Merchant.
- RECEIVED the report from the Moderator of the Presbytery, Elder Debi Davis, having appointed the members of the Administrative Commission over Faith PC (Palm Springs), Grace PC (Lantana), and First PC of Lake Worth Beach. They are: TE-Paul Bayerl (Hobe Sound), RE-Jen Buse (First, Delray Beach), TE-David Massey (Plantation), RE-Harvey Mayton (First, Fort Lauderdale), TE-Tricia Young (Minister in Other Service).
- APPROVED the 2024 Calendar of Events and meetings of Entities, and that Presbytery Assemblies be held on Feb 10, May 18, August 24, and November 9.
- APPROVED to dismiss with gratitude for their service, the Administrative Commission over Calvary upon the completion of their final report to the Presbytery on November 11 and the transfer of the former church property to the Presbytery.

Report of the Leadership Council Acting as the Presbytery:

- APPROVED that Nic Merchant (First PC, Ft. Lauderdale) be elected the Presbytery Treasurer, elected as the Treasurer of the Corporation, and that signature cards on financial instruments be so amended.



- APPROVED the Covenant Agreement between the Presbytery and FLAPDAN and signed for 2023-2024.
- APPROVED that the email notification of August 7, 2023, canceling the Fall Youth Event be taken as action by this council to cancel the event, and THAT the presbytery staff does not coordinate future youth events.
- APPROVED the Vibrancy Grant Proposal for The Howard Thurman Exploratory Seminar on Racism in America, to be held at the Montreat Conference Center in the Fall of 2023
- APPROVED that the Presbytery form an Administrative Commission over Faith PC (Palm Springs), Grace PC (Lantana), and First PC of Lake Worth Beach, and grant that commission the power to assume original jurisdiction and all other necessary powers to ensure the proper governance of the congregation wherein the session is no longer duly constituted, is unable to manage wisely the affairs of the church, has relinquished its role in having its work reviewed by the higher council, has acted outside of the presbytery's instruction, or is affected by disorder or discord.
- APPROVED that the moderator in consultation with the Stated Clerk appoint no less than five (5) to serve on the Administrative Commission for Faith PC, Grace PC, and First Lake Worth.
- APPROVED that the officers for the Development Corporation be elected as specified in the Articles of Incorporation: Daris Bultena (President), Debi Davis (Vice President), David Grachek (Treasurer), and Barbara Hassall (Secretary).
- APPROVED the DBA name of Vibrant Together Development Corporation.
- APPROVED the Mission Statement, Values, Three Year Goals, Offerings, Organizational Chart, and Implementation Timeline.
- APPROVED the 2023 Budget for the Development Corporation
- APPROVED the Proposal from Ministry Architects to serve in a launch capacity.
- APPROVED that the property of the former Calvary Presbyterian Church be retained by the Presbytery and be tentatively designated "The Calvary Center."
- APPROVED that the Calvary property be improved to house an events center and offices for the Development Corporation and the Presbytery.
- APPROVED the budget for renovations and improvements be drawn from Vibrancy Funds that were previously loan funds.
- APPROVED the tentative timeline for renovations.
- APPROVED that the offer to purchase the property by Alex Lukoanov be declined.
- APPROVED that the previous action to designate the former Calvary Presbyterian Church property as "The Calvary Center" be vacated and that the property be designated instead as "The Vibrancy Center."
- APPROVED that The Vibrancy Center property be transferred to the Presbytery by the Administrative Commission over Calvary PC, no later than November 30, 2023.



Report of the Leadership Council Acting as the Board of Trustees:

- APPROVED the lease between Community PC (Deerfield Beach) and Steeple on the Beach Montessori School, beginning February 2023.
- APPROVED and guaranteed the conversion into a PILP Loan for First PC, Pompano Beach.
- APPROVED the loan from the Presbytery to Sanctuary/Second PC and that the General Presbyter be authorized to fund the loan from the Line of Credit (variable interest rate, current weekly rate at 8.58%).
- APPROVED the Memo of Financial Obligation and Transfer of Deed for First PC of Port St. Lucie.
- APPROVED the Construction Easement of the Village of Palm Springs be approved in principle and if the way becomes clear. (It is noted that the Board of Trustees lacks the authority, at the time of this action, to approve the agreement. Currently such an agreement is in the purview of the session with the approval of the Presbytery Board of Trustees, or it is in the purview of the Administrative Commission following an assumption of Original Jurisdiction.)
- APPROVED the Construction Easement of the Village of Palm Springs at the Faith PC property. (While previous action of the Leadership Council approved this matter as the way became clear, Daris reviewed the easement in detail and felt it prudent to return to the village and ask that a kick out clause be added in order to ensure the ability of the Presbytery to sell the property.)
- APPROVED that the Presbytery sign the letter of intent with the Village of Palm Springs to enter into a negotiation for the Village to purchase the property at 275 Alemeda Drive, Palm Springs.

Report of the Committee on Ministry:

- RECEIVED the 2023 Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP) for Lakeside PC.
- RECEIVED the sabbatical plan for Rev. Dr. Steven Jhu, which runs between August 21 to November 30, 2023.
- RECEIVED the 2023 Miami Shores Mission Study.

Report of the Committee on Ministry Acting as the Presbytery:

- APPROVED the Terms of Call between First Tequesta and Rev. Guillermo Figueredo and that may be called and installed.
- APPROVED the Terms of Covenant between First West Palm Beach and Rev. Dr. Jennifer Stroud, expiring February 29, 2024.
- APPROVED to allow Rev. Dr. Jennifer Stroud to serve as Moderator at First West Palm Beach while serving as Bridge Pastor, only with the required presence of Presbytery staff at each meeting.
- APPROVED the Terms of Covenant between Ascension Peace PC and Rev. Dr. Ken White as Temporary Supply Pastor, expiring August 31, 2024.
- APPROVED the Terms of Call between First Fort Lauderdale and Rev. Nic Merchant for 2023-2024. (*Pending congregational approval.*)



- APPROVED the Terms of Covenant between First Pompano Beach and Rev. Dr. Tim Roberts as Transitional Pastor, expiring August 14, 2024.
- APPROVED to recommend to the presbytery that Rev. Mark Wright be received into membership of Presbytery of Tropical Florida, that he may be called to Central PC.
- APPROVED the Terms of Call between Central PC and Rev. Mark Wright as pastor.
- APPROVED the Moderators of churches without Installed Pastors:

NORTH

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| ○ Faith PC, Palm Springs | Greg Rapier (Moderator) |
| ○ First PC, Boynton Beach | Amalie Ash (Transitional Pastor) |
| ○ First PC, Lake Worth | Daris Bultena (Moderator) |
| ○ First PC, Port St. Lucie | David Grachek (Transitional Pastor) |
| ○ First PC, Tequesta | Willy Figueredo (Installation on 11/12) |
| ○ First PC, West Palm Beach | Jennifer Stroud (Bridge Pastor) |
| ○ Gardens PC, Palm Beach | Jeff Colarossi (Installation Pending) |
| ○ Goodwill PC, Ft. Pierce | Daris Bultena (Moderator) |
| ○ Grace PC, Lantana | Randy Gill (Moderator) |
| ○ Lakeside PC, West Palm Beach | Roger Richardson (Transitional Pastor) |
| ○ Peace PC, Port Salerno | Lonnie Darnell (Transitional Pastor) |

CENTRAL

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ○ Ascension Peace PC, Lauderhill | Dwayne Black (Moderator) |
| ○ Community PC, Deerfield Beach | Geoff McLean (Moderator) |
| ○ Community LBTS | Geoff McLean (Moderator) |
| ○ First PC, Pompano Beach | Tim Roberts (Transitional Pastor) |
| ○ Glades PC, Boca Raton | Geoff McLean (Moderator) |

SOUTH

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| ○ All Nations PC, N. Miami Beach | Eve Tolley (Moderator) |
| ○ Central PC, Miami | Mark Wright (Installation Pending) |
| ○ First Miami PC, Miami | David Grachek [<i>Administrative Commission</i>] |
| ○ First Spanish, Miami | Angel Ortiz (Transitional Pastor) |
| ○ Miami Shores PC, Miami Shores | Kim Robles (Transitional Pastor) |
| ○ New Covenant PC, Miami | Daniel Morales (Temporary Supply) |
| ○ Peace Covenant PC, Key West | Joe Reggin (Transitional Pastor) |
| ○ Riviera PC, Miami | Melanie Marsh (Transitional Pastor) |
| ○ Sunrise PC, Miami | Yosneis Fleitas (Transitional Pastor) |
| ○ Trinity PC, Miami | Kennedy McGowan (Moderator) |

Report of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry:

- APPROVED to recommend Ms. Chandler Gelb to be received as Inquirer under care of the Presbytery of Tropical Florida.
- APPROVED to elect Rev. Dr. Brice Rogers and RE-Joel Yundt to be exam readers for the Synod of South Atlantic.



----- *End of Reports* -----

INFORMATION

From the Planning Team for Today's Assembly:

We will be using Mutual Invitation during the breakout discussion portion of the meeting.

The Principles of Mutual Invitation:

- Speakers will limit their response to one (1) minute or less.
- The first person to share will be the person whose first name begins with "A" or is closest to "A" in the alphabet.
- After that person has spoken, he or she then invites another to share. Whoever you invite does not need to be the person next to you.
- After the next person has spoken, that person is given the privilege to invite another to share.
- If you have something to say but are not ready yet, say "pass for now," and then invite someone else to share. You will be invited again later.
- If you don't want to say anything, simply say "pass" and proceed to invite another to share.
- We will do this until everyone has been invited.
- All are invited to listen but not to respond to someone's sharing immediately (no cross talk is permitted).
- After everyone has shared, that is the appropriate time for clarifying questions or comments.
- Each group will need to observe self-regulation to achieve the principles of Mutual Invitation.
- Those participating on Zoom will be placed in Breakout Rooms for discussions.
- Those in-person at First Ft. Lauderdale PC will be placed in discussion groups. The method will be shared by the moderator.
- Also, each group should select a recorder to take notes, and someone who will report back to the Presbytery Assembly. Send your notes to Sandra@vibrantpresbytery.org.

----- *End of Information* -----

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dr. Daris Bultena, Stated Clerk



ROLL CALL

M=Minister | C=Commissioner | EVO=Elder by Virtue of Office

ALL NATIONS-N. Miami Beach
M: [None]
C: 0/1

ASCENSION PEACE-Lauderhill
TS: Kenneth White (Absent)
C: Joyce Carty

CENTRAL-Miami
M: Mark Wright
C: Roma Hennings
C: Mike Mojares

COMMUNITY-Lauderdale-by-the-Sea
M: [None]
C: Deborah Sadriwalla

COMMUNITY-Deerfield Beach
TS: Skip Bush (Absent)
C: 0/2

EL CORDERO-Miami
M: Angel Ortiz
C: Cruz Juarez

FAITH-Palm Springs
M: [None]
C: 0/1

FIRST MIAMI-Miami
(Administrative Commission)
TP: Chris Benek

FIRST-Boynton Beach
TP: Amalie A. Ash
EVO: Pamela Cotant
C: 0/2

FIRST-Delray Beach
M: Douglas Hood
AP: Greg Rapier
EVO: Nancy Fine
C: 0/6

FIRST-Ft. Lauderdale
M: Nic Merchant
AP: Pamela Masten
EVO: Debi Davis
C: Barbara Hollowell
C: Susan Knapp
C: Kathy Mayers
C: Harvey Mayton
C: Barbara Sabin
C: Jim Sabin
C: Patty Stover

FIRST-Hollywood
M: Kennedy McGowan (Excused)
C: 0/2

FIRST-Lake Worth
M: [None]
C: Alan Lin

FIRST-Pompano Beach
M: Timothy Roberts
C: Norma Jenkins

FIRST-Port St. Lucie
TP: David Grachek
C: 0/2

FIRST-Stuart
M: David Grachek
C: 0/2

FIRST-Tequesta
M: Willy Figueredo
C: 0/3

FIRST-West Palm Beach
BP: Jennifer Stroud
C: 0/1

FIRST SPANISH-Miami
M: Angel Ortiz
C: Maria Sit

GARDENS-Palm Beach Gardens
M: Jeff Colarossi
C: 0/2

GLADES-Boca Raton
TS: Bruce Irwin
C: 0/2

GOODWILL-Fort Pierce
M: [None]
C: 0/1

GRACE-Lantana
M: [None]
EVO: Reese Leach
C: Leonor Yanez

HOBESOUND COM-Hobe Sound
M: Paul Bayerl
C: Karen Metzger
C: Arthur Ondich

KOREAN-Miami
M: Steven Jhu (Excused)
C: 0/4

KOREAN-Palm Beach
M: Sung Joo
C: 0/2

LAKESIDE-West Palm Beach
TP: Roger Richardson
C: Heather Ferguson
C: Fran Thew

MIAMI SHORES-Miami
TP: Kim Robles
EVO: Vilmarie Cintrón-Olivieri (Excused)
C: Barbara Biggart

MYRTLE GROVE-Miami
M: Leon Lovell-Martin (Absent)
C: 0/2

NEW COVENANT-Miami
TS: Danny Morales (Excused)
C: 0/2

NEW LIFE-Miami
M: Heidi Arencibia
C: Enrique Mesa
C: Manny Perez

PALMS WEST-Royal Palm Beach
M: Ruffin Stepp (Absent)
C: 0/4

PEACE COVENANT-Key West
M: Joe Reggin
C: 0/2

PEACE-Stuart
M: Lonnie Darnell
C: 0/3

PINECREST-Miami
M: Jacqueline Brovold
C: 0/2

PLANTATION-Plantation
M: David Massey
C: Claire Cubbin-Will
C: Becky Rountree

RIVIERA-Miami
M: Melanie Marsh (Excused)
C: 0/2

SANCTUARY-Ft. Lauderdale
M: Dwayne Black Jr. (Excused)
EVO: Barbara Hassall
C: 0/2

SUNRISE-Hialeah
TP: Yosneis Fleitas
C: Donna Penny
C: Carmen Stewart

SUNSET-Ft. Lauderdale
M: Brice Rogers
C: 0/2

TRINITY-Key West
M: [None]
EVO: Linda McLeod (Excused)
C: 0/1



November 11, 2023

APPENDIX

RETIRED CLERGY NOT IN ATTENDANCE ARE AUTOMATICALLY EXCUSED. THOSE NOT PRESENTLY SERVING IN A CHURCH AS AN INTERIM, DESIGNATED OR SUPPLY PASTOR ARE:

Richard Anderson	Excused	Joann Germershausen	Excused	Pedro Rivera	Excused
Dennis Andrews	Excused	Randall Gill	Excused	Lawrence Schenk	Excused
Raymond Anglin	Present	James Goldsmith	Excused	Moises Senti	Excused
Martin Anorga	Excused	Maria Luisa Hernandez	Excused	Diane Shoaf	Excused
Patricia Ashley	Present	Roberto Hernandez	Excused	William Stepp	Excused
James Bailey II	Excused	Ervin Joslin	Excused	John Stewart	Excused
Dwayne Black, Sr.	Excused	James S. Kirk	Excused	Maurice Stone	Excused
Constance Bright	Excused	Elaine Klaasen	Excused	David Thomas	Excused
Albert W. Bush, Jr.	Excused	Joan Leroy	Excused	Carol Trax	Excused
Connie Caldwell	Excused	James Mead	Present	John Vaughn	Excused
Robert Coleman*	Excused	Leah Meador	Excused	German Vega-Feliciano	Excused
Thomas Culberson	Excused	Myron Miller	Present	Roger Verse	Present
Benjamin Davis	Excused	Mardoqueo Munoz	Excused	Robert Welsh	Excused
Donald Davis	Excused	Wayne Myers	Excused	Antonio Welty	Excused
Julio Delgado	Excused	James Nimmo III	Excused	Hai Keon Yang	Excused
Fred Depenbrock	Present	Rosalia Orta	Excused		
Leslie Depenbrock	Excused	Edward Peachey	Excused		
Raymond Gamble	Excused	Jose Rivera	Excused		
Daniel Gerhardt	Excused				

** No contact info*

OTHER CLERGY MEMBERS NOT SERVING AS CALLED, INTERIM, DESIGNATED OR SUPPLY: (Those laboring outside the bounds of Presbytery are automatically excused)

MINISTER IN OTHER SERVICE (MOS)

Gustavo Astudillo	Excused
Pamela Barras	Present
Brace Bateman	Excused
Daris Bultena	Present
Jose Manuel Capella Pratts	Excused
Valdir Franca	Present
Geoff McLean	Present
Eliane Menezes	Excused
Robert Norris	Excused
Dohyun Paik	Excused
Elizabeth Pankey-Warren	Excused
Jorge Sayago-Gonzalez	Excused
Evangeline Tolley	Excused
Tricia Young	Present

MINISTER AT LARGE (MAL)

Dawn Bryan	Absent
Hanlim Chae	Present
Katie Christie	Absent
Lucy Dergarabedian	Present
Charles Falcone	Absent
Raul Fernandez-Calienes	Absent
Linda Lader	Absent
Denise McLeod	Present
Audley Reid	Absent
Kenneth Smith	Absent
Ben Sorensen	Present

** No contact info*



PRESBYTERY OF TROPICAL FLORIDA
SESSION MINUTE REVIEW CHECK LIST

*** Clerk of Session put a stickie in the minute book noting this item for quick reference.

Church Name: _____ Year (of minutes to review): _____

NEEDS TO HAPPEN AT EACH MEETING

- Date, Time, Place, Moderator's name is clear at beginning of each set of minutes
- Attendees, Excused, and Absent Names are recorded.
- Others present are noted and duration of their stay.
- The presence of a quorum is noted.
- Meetings are opened with prayer.
- Meetings are closed with prayer.
- Motions are clearly defined, and the action recorded (passed, referred, tabled)

***** YEARLY ITEMS**

- Statement of composition of session and how it corresponds to composition of the congregation (G10.0301) at least annually
- Meetings of session are at least quarterly
- Record of training of elected officers by session
- Record of examination of elected officers by session
- Record of election of clerk of session and length of term
- Record of annual election of treasurer by the session
- Record of full financial review annually
- Record of approving the curriculum used in education programs
- Selection of members of the nominating committee by the congregation in an amount greater than the 2 elders from the session and a possible deacon
- Annual review of the adequacy of the pastor(s) compensation by the congregation



PRESBYTERY OF TROPICAL FLORIDA
SESSION MINUTE REVIEW CHECK LIST

*** Clerk of Session put a stickie in the minute book noting this item for quick reference.

*** AS NEEDED

- Record of commissioner to presbytery reports
- Record of review of work of organizations in the church
- Record of setting the times of worship and the celebration of the Sacraments
- Record of calling congregational meetings with sufficient notice (G-1.0502)
- Minutes of the congregational meetings

ROLLS AND REGISTER

- Baptized members roll
- Active members roll
- Inactive members roll
- Affiliate members roll
- Roll of elders with dates of ordination, terms of service
- Roll of deacons with dates of ordinations, terms of service
- *** Can the rolls be easily reconciled with the minutes that record an action concerning a member.

_____ Approved _____ Approved with Exception _____ Not Approved

Reviewer's Name: _____ Date: _____



**PRESBYTERY OF TROPICAL FLORIDA
SESSION MINUTE REVIEW FORM**

Church Name: _____ Year (of minutes to review): _____

The spirit of this form is to try and capture what this presbytery feels is essential to include in a church's minutes in order to ensure transparency and good order.

Section I:

1. Each congregation is to maintain the membership rolls (active, affiliate, baptized), deaths, pastors, elders, deacons (if applicable). This register of the rolls of the church was updated on (date): _____.
2. The Annual Meeting of the Congregation was held on (date): _____.
At this meeting, the following transpired:
 - a. Review Terms of Call for pastor - - - - YES or NO
 - b. Elected members of the Nominating Committee - - YES or NO
 - c. Elected new elders and deacons (if applicable) - - YES or NO

If the election of the Nominating Committee or new elders did not occur at the annual meeting, please indicate below when this occurred (date): _____.

3. New officers were examined by the Session on (date): _____.
4. New officers were ordained/installed during worship on (date): _____.
5. The Session established the annual budget on (date): _____.
(Please attach a copy of the budget in your minutes.)
6. The Session elected the treasurer on (date): _____ for a term of: _____.
7. The Session elected the Clerk of Session on (date): _____ for a term of: _____.
8. The church had a financial review (G-3.0113) with the findings reported to the session on (date): _____.
9. The Annual Statistical Report has been attached to the minutes at the end of the calendar year. YES or NO

Section II:

Please take an average month and check if the following information has been recorded in the session minutes.
(month looked at: _____)

1. The meeting was opened and closed with prayer. - - - YES or NO
2. Date, hour and place of the meeting was recorded. - - - YES or NO
3. Name of the moderator is given. - - - YES or NO
4. A quorum was declared. - - - YES or NO
5. Names of those absent and excused were listed. - - - YES or NO
6. The minutes of the last meeting were approved. - - - YES or NO
7. All action items are recorded. - - - YES or NO
8. Clerk and the Minister has signed the minutes. - - - YES or NO



**PRESBYTERY OF TROPICAL FLORIDA
SESSION MINUTE REVIEW FORM**

Section III:

The following items should be contained in the minutes if applicable:

1. The Session has authorized baptisms on (date): _____
2. The Session has authorized the observance of the Lord's Supper on (dates):

3. The Session received new members (dates):

 - a. By letter of transfer on (dates):

 - b. By reaffirmation of faith on (dates):

 - c. By adult baptism on (dates):

4. The minutes contain a detailed financial report within the year. - YES or NO
5. The Session took a candidate under care on (date): _____

Section IV:

Congregational Meetings may contain the following information. Please indicate if appropriate:

1. A new pastoral relationship was established on (date): _____
2. A pastoral relationship was dissolved on (date): _____
3. Any matters relating to property issues such as purchase, lease, sale, were discussed and voted on (dates):

Section V:

The annual meeting of the corporation was held on (date): _____
(This meeting can be the same as the annual meeting of the congregation.)

Section VI:

The Presbytery of Tropical Florida mandated in 2014 that session minutes be signed by both the Clerk of Session (the person taking and presenting the minutes for session approval) and the Moderator (the person who moderated the meeting) after the subsequent session meeting has approved the previous session's minutes. During the annual inspection of the churches' minutes and record books, the Stated Clerk shall note the presence or absence of both signatures on approved session minutes.

Minutes – final minutes shall be kept on acid-free paper, bound in a permanent form, numbered so that material may not be inserted at a later time. Unused spaces shall be marked through with the phrase: "Intentionally left blank". Temporary minutes may be kept in a loose-leaf form, but the signed, final form shall be the permanent record.

1. Has Per Capita been paid? - - - - - YES or NO
If not, why not? _____



**PRESBYTERY OF TROPICAL FLORIDA
SESSION MINUTE REVIEW FORM**

2. Are there any loans from the Presbytery? - - - - YES or NO
Are they current? _____
3. Has/have your Pastor(s) completed the Presbytery Boundaries Training? YES or NO
4. Has/have the Session/Trustees reviewed the adequacy of the church's insurance program? YES or NO
5. Has any change in Terms of Call been filed with the COM? - - YES or NO
_____ Check if the church has re-done their by-laws
_____ Check if your church needs help with the re-writing of by-laws

Because each church determines the quorums for sessions and congregations, it would be advisable in the beginning of your minutes for a calendar year, to state: the quorum for a session meeting is _____ people/percentage of the session.

The quorum for a congregational meeting is _____ percentage of active members.

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REVIEWER:

Items to be worked on for next year's review:

The minutes of _____

Church were reviewed and approved as: - - - **WITHOUT exception** **WITH exception**

Reviewer's Signature: _____ Date: _____

PTF Representative's Signature: _____ Date: _____



November 3, 2023

Dear Pastors, Clerks, and Sessions,

I am writing you today on behalf of the Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery. We are so blessed by pastors who generously and graciously serve congregations here in South Florida.

The Committee on Ministry has acted to provide a Cost-of-Living Adjustment to our minimum terms of call and is recommending that all calls and covenants with pastors be adjusted accordingly.

The Cost-of-Living Adjustment for 2024 is 4%.

The cost of living has risen by more than 4%. In our region it has risen by 7.2%. This data is gathered from the Consumer Price Index for Urban Consumers. 4% was recommended by the Committee on Ministry as it seeks to balance rising costs for pastors and congregations while keeping the adjustment near that of the Social Security COLA.

Cost-of-Living Adjustments are simply that, they are not merit increases for pastors. A Cost-of-Living adjustment essentially provides that the pastor's pay does not effectively decrease by that amount due to the shift in buying power of the terms of call.

You will find attached two documents: The Minimum Terms of Call for 2024, and the 2024 Reporting Form for Terms of Call.

Should we be able to answer questions or assist you in any way with Terms of Call, please do not hesitate to contact us.

In Christ,

Daris Bultena, General Presbyter and Stated Clerk





PRESBYTERY OF TROPICAL FLORIDA
2024 MINIMUM TERMS OF CALL/COVENANT
 Applies to All Serving Pastors

Cash Salary and Housing Allowance - - - - - \$51,195.00

Housing Allowance Minimum: \$18,000
 If Manse is provided – Cash Salary is \$33,195

SECA Tax Allowance (7.65% X Cash Salary & Housing Allowance) - - - \$ 3,916.42

Major Medical Benefits (29% X Cash Salary & Housing Allowance) - - \$14,846.55
(Minimum Dues \$ 11,500.00, Maximum Dues \$ 35,000.00)

Pension, Death & Disability Benefits, and Temporary Disability Benefits
 (10% X Cash Salary & Housing Allowance) - - - - - \$ 5,119.50
(Minimum Dues \$ 1,620.00, Maximum Dues \$ 35,000.00)

Medical Flexible Spending Account*:

Limited to the maximum amount allowed by law - in 2024 it is \$3,200.00.

Single 1.5% of Cash Salary and Housing Allowance (*vouchered*)- - - \$ 767.93

Family 3.0% of Cash Salary and Housing Allowance (*vouchered*) - - - \$ 1,535.85

Professional Expenses (*vouchered*) - - - - - \$ 4,250.00
 Including but not limited to mileage at the current IRS rate per mile plus tolls, and parking; cell phone; meals; professional publications, dues, and other expenses as allowed by the IRS.

Continuing Education: Pre-approved (*vouchered*) - - - - - \$ 1,250.00
 Pre-approved by the Session - Two (2) weeks per year
 cumulative for three (3) years to a maximum of six (6) weeks

Vacation One (1) month

Sabbatical – Recommended: At least 90 days eligible in the seventh year of service.

Note: Terms of Call are renewed annually and reported to the Presbytery annually.
 Vacation and Continuing Education time are to be taken within the year.

*These deductibles are without Call to Health.
 With Call to Health, Single = 1% or \$511.95; Member & Family = 2% or \$1,023.96.

(Part time pastor’s salary, vacation, and other required expenses shall be prorated.)



PRESBYTERY OF TROPICAL FLORIDA
2024 TERMS OF CALL REPORT FORM
 Applies to Called and Installed Pastoral Positions

Church: _____ Minister Name: _____

This call is for: _____ full time OR _____ % FTE (serving approximately _____ hours per week)

Effective Salary

1. \$ _____ Cash Salary
2. \$ _____ Housing Allowance
3. \$ _____ Manse Amount (must be at least 30% of lines 1, 2, 4-8 for members in a manse)
4. \$ _____ Equity allowance (for those residing in a manse-403 (b)(9) contribution)
5. \$ _____ Non-Vouchered Allowances
6. \$ _____ Bonus
7. \$ _____ SECA (for reimbursement in excess of 50% of the minister's SECA tax obligation (#10))
8. \$ _____ Employing Organization Contributions to 403(b)(9) plans
9. \$ _____ **Total Effective Salary (sum of lines 1-8)**

SECA (Self-Employed Contribution Act)

10. \$ _____ SECA Tax Allowance (7.65% of line 1, 2, 5-7)

Board of Pensions

11. \$ _____ Pastors Participation Plan For 2024 – 39% of Effective Salary (# 9)
 Medical Benefits (29% of Effective Salary (# 9))
Minimum Dues \$ 11,5000.00, Maximum Dues \$ 35,000.00
- \$ _____ Pension, Death & Disability, and Temporary Disability Benefits
 (10% of Effective Salary (# 9))
Minimum Dues \$ 1,620.00, Maximum Dues \$ 33,000.00
12. \$ _____ Additional Coverages (Dental, Supplemental Death & Disability)

Vouchered Professional Expenses (Note: any non-vouchered allowances must be included in cash salary)

13. \$ _____ Medical Flexible Spending Account
Limited to the maximum amount allowed by law - in 2024 it is \$3,200.00.
 Single 1.5% of Effective Salary (# 9)
 Family 3% of Effective Salary (# 9)
14. \$ _____ Professional Expenses
15. \$ _____ Continuing Education _____ Amount accumulated
16. \$ _____ Other Vouchered reimbursements _____
17. \$ _____ **Total Package (sum of lines 9-16)**

Vacation and Continuing Education Time

18. _____ Vacation Time (1 month/year minimum)
19. _____ Continuing Education Time (2 weeks/year min) _____ Amount accumulated

Terms of Call were approved at a Congregational Meeting held on (date): _____.

 Clerk of Session Signature

 Print Name

 Date

Send completed form to sandra@vibrantpresbytery.org by **February 29, 2024**.
 For assistance completing the report please call the Susan at 954-785-2220, ext. 104.



PRESBYTERY OF TROPICAL FLORIDA
2024 TERMS OF COVENANT

Applies to Transitional, Bridge, and Temporary Pastoral Positions

The **Church Presbyterian Church**, being well satisfied with your qualifications for ministry and confident that we have been led to you by the Holy Spirit as one whose service will be profitable to the spiritual interests of our church and fruitful to the Kingdom of our Lord, earnestly and solemnly covenants with you **Rev. Name** to undertake the office of **Transitional Pastor** of this congregation beginning the **1st** day of **July, 2020**, for a period of **six months/year**, renewable, promising you in the discharge of your duty all proper support, encouragement, and allegiance to the Lord.

That you may be free to devote **part/full time (the agreed time)** to the ministry of Word and Sacrament among us, we promise and obligate ourselves to provide you with the following.

	Contract Term	
	6 months Full Time	Annual Full Time
Cash Salary and Housing Allowance Housing Allowance Minimum \$ 18,000 If Manse is provided – Cash Salary is \$ 33,195	\$ 25,597.50	\$ 51,195.00
SECA Tax Allowance 7.65% x Cash Salary & Housing Allowance	\$ 1,958.24	\$ 3,916.42
Medical Benefits 29% x Cash Salary & Housing Allowance (annual amount) <i>(Minimum Dues \$ 11,500.00, Maximum Dues \$ 35,000.00)</i>	\$ optional	\$ optional
Pension, Death & Disability, and Temporary Disability Benefits 10% x Cash Salary & Housing Allowance (annual amount) <i>(Minimum Dues \$ 1,620.00, Maximum Dues \$ 33,000.00)</i>	\$ optional	\$ optional
Medical Flexible Spending Account * Vouchered <i>Limited to the maximum amount allowed by law - in 2024 it is \$3,200.00.</i> Single 1.5% x Cash Salary & Housing Allowance Family 3% x Cash Salary & Housing Allowance	\$ optional	\$ optional
Professional Expenses Including but not limited to mileage at the current IRS rate per mile plus tolls & parking; cell phone; meals; professional publications; and dues; and other expenses as allowed by the IRS.	Vouchered \$ 2,125.00	\$ 4,250.00



Continuing Education	<i>Vouchered</i>	\$ 625.00	\$ 1,250.00
		1 week	2 weeks
Pre-approved by the Session - Two (2) weeks per year cumulative for three (3) years to a maximum of six (6) weeks			
Vacation	One (1) month	2 weeks	1 month

Vacation and Continuing Education time are fully available at the beginning of the contract and to be taken within the year.

Terms: Serving approximately **40 hours** per week for **six months (annually)**.

Renewal: At least 30 days prior to the end of the covenant period, the **Bridge/Transitional Pastor**, representatives from the session, and representatives from Committee on Ministry shall meet to assess the ministry and to discuss renewal of the contract or next steps in pastoral leadership.

Termination of Covenant: It is agreed that this covenant may be terminated upon thirty (30) days written notice by either the Bridge/Transitional Pastor or the Session.

Clerk of Session

_____	_____		_____
Signature	Printed Name		Date

Transitional Pastor

_____	_____		_____
Signature	Printed Name		Date

Committee on Ministry

_____	_____		_____
Signature	Printed Name		Date

- ALL churches shall provide minimum health insurance coverage for an individual through PCUSA Board of Pensions for Temporary Pastors, effective January 1, 2019 (policy excludes bridge pastors of less than 6-month contract).
- Part time pastor's salary, vacation, and other required expenses shall be prorated.
- Full Board of Pensions package is not required for Temporary Pastor.



ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION FOR FIRST MIAMI Report

The Administrative Commission for the First Miami Presbyterian Church was formed by the Presbytery of Tropical Florida at its meeting on August 24, 2019. The mandate of the Administrative Commission was as follows:

... grant that commission the power to assume original jurisdiction and all other necessary powers to consider and conclude matters related to the taxable status of the church, the on-going tax lien, the on-going accrual of ad valorem tax, the school, and any other matters of disorder or discord. The commission shall have the power to initiate or resolve any pending or future litigation...

After careful and prayerful consideration of the mandate set before us, taking into account the authority, roles, and responsibilities entrusted to it by the presbytery, the Administrative Commission dedicated most of the past year to addressing legal considerations related to the development of the property as well as rebuilding a foundation for ministry. The primary goal of this effort was to pave the way for the church to move forward and refocus on its ministry.

First Miami embraced new members, celebrated the baptism of infants, engaged in communal Bible study, proclaimed the Word, developed a new and vibrant youth program as well as a new mothers program and young adult program, and praised God through song with an additional classical worship service. First Miami also extended its outreach to individuals in need and strived to deepen its love for Jesus Christ and for one another. During this period, as we see the pandemic's influence wane, First Miami even inaugurated a cleanup program for the community immediately surrounding the area.

The Administrative Commission is actively working on crafting precise job descriptions for the church's various committees, as well as for all positions, whether held by employees or volunteers. A new intern program is being developed in conjunction with The University of Miami to help in Children's Ministry. Additionally, a thorough review and restructuring of the Policies & Procedures manual is underway, with plans to incorporate the aforementioned job descriptions. Once this process is complete, a copy will be presented to the congregation for formal acceptance.

Knowing that a part of our call as Presbyterians is to seek reconciliation of the world, we commit ourselves to these issues of faith and life and look forward to the day when we can fully celebrate the diversity that is the Body of Christ. All glory and honor be to God!

In Christ,

Rev. David A. Grachek, Chair



ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION FOR CALVARY Report and Dissolution

Annual and Final Report of The Administrative Commission Over Calvary Presbyterian Church November 1, 2023

Since its last report to the assembly in November 2022 the main work of the Administrative Commission has been to oversee the fiduciary responsibilities of the corporation.

Actions take were:

Submitting an Annual Report to Sunbiz.

Approving AGP McLean to represent the Corporation with regards to needed repairs and contracts to have them completed.

Oversight and Signatory of bank documents by Corporate Treasurer Debi Davis.

Finally, the AC took action to transfer the deed of the property to the Presbytery of Tropical Florida and empower the corporate officers to complete said transfer.

Respectfully Submitted

Paul Bayerl, Chair of the Administrative Commission
President of the Calvary Presbyterian Church of Coconut Creek Corporation.



Rev. Mark Wright Statement of Faith

I believe there is one God
who has created all that is,
Who proclaims it good
and sustains it with a love
beyond all human metaphor.
In all my living, and even in my dying,
This One God is my only hope
and the hope of all the world.

God is righteous.
God has extended God's own righteousness
to those whom God has called
through the forgiveness of our sin
both personal and corporate.
This forgiveness and gift of righteousness
is fully and utterly an act of God's own grace
and leads us to endless
thankfulness, praise, worship
and commitment to the work of God in the
world.

God is love.
God sent his own son
to dwell among human beings.
This same Jesus spoke the words of life
and became life itself
through death on the cross
and resurrection to a life
which is God's gracious gift to all God's people.
We are bought with a price;
Helpless on our own,
Christ gave himself up on our behalf
freeing us from guilt and the bondage of sin.

God continues to dwell among his people
through God's own Spirit
which is continuously at work within the world
renewing, and reconciling all things to God.
Through this same Spirit,
God builds a community
and sends it into the world
to witness to God's mighty act of salvation
through Jesus Christ.

The Bible is Holy Scripture,
and our delight.
It is the faithful witness of Israel's
and the church's encounters
with the one True God.
Through the power of the Spirit
it is the trustworthy and faithful interpreter
of our own encounters with God
and a place of transformative encounter with
God.

The church is the body of Christ in the world,
a family whose head is Christ Jesus;
A called community
and a light to the nations,
sent as a witness
to the truth we know in Christ.

Baptized into Jesus' death,
we are raised to new life
together with the saints of all time and places,
and together we are bound
and sustained in Christ's feast
remembering his death
and celebrating God's final victory.

It is the work of the church,
through its word and life together,
to proclaim the Kingdom of God
and salvation through Jesus,
the Son of God,
to all the world
and to do justice,
love kindness,
and walk humbly with our God.



CHANDLER GELB Statement of Motivation

Often on my childhood report card, I would receive teacher feedback to the effect of, “won’t stop asking questions.” Years later in adulthood, I think I still maintain that piece of my childhood self. In the last six years while serving as a Director of Youth and College Ministries, I have asked many questions about myself, about God, about where God is calling me and who God is calling me to be. Ultimately these questions and conversations have revealed my call to pursue ordained ministry. There are still more questions I want to explore, and I know there are questions I haven’t even thought to ask yet, which is why I want to become an inquirer. I want to walk through this season of discernment under the care of our presbytery. I am thankful for having been raised in a PCUSA church, it has shaped the way I handle doubt, faith, service, compassion, and justice. I’m grateful for my experience with Princeton Theological Seminary where I received my certificate in Youth & Theology and I’m grateful for my call to pursue my MDiv at Duke University. I look forward to learning and growing in my call to ministry in the PCUSA church and deepening my love and appreciation for reformed theology and polity.



Responses/Feedback to Conversation on Spiritual Depth & Clarity of Identity

What in your vision points to the spiritual depth of John 15?

- Unity in Christ.
- Connectedness to one another and Christ.
- Relationship.
- It's all about Jesus.
- Building disciples.
- Love one another.
- Sense of connection with God and others.
- Jesus is the vine, I am not – I'm a branch.
- More people caring for others in and beyond the church.
- Love wins and all are welcome.
- New growth on the "tree".
- Faith + Commitment.
- Making decisions together.
- Revitalizing Bible study. Getting folks who usually don't participate due to feelings of inadequacy to play important roles in leading the study.

How are members abiding more deeply today than previously?

- Trusting God and each other.
- I'm not sure they are.
- Connectedness.
- More small group engagement.
- Relationships.
- Inclusivity is the answer.
- Reinvesting in community and spiritual formation.
- Loving one another and forming stronger community.
- Mission playing out to love our neighbors.
- Working in community, small groups, prayer meeting.
- There are new members who replaced some old members who weren't interested in spiritual growth.
- Caring more about one another and honoring that of God in one another.
- Small group participation.
- Intentional investment in their faith through small group involvement.
- Many members are not which is troubling.
- Accountability.
- Enhanced reaching out with others in prayer.
- Discerning God's will.
- More committed and dedicated.
- Looking for ways to build relationships with those outside the church; looking for ways to serve.



Are most in your church able to articulate your congregation's vision?

- No.
- Some.
- Yes.
- No.
- No.
- Yes.
- Meh.
- Some.
- Yes. It is everywhere and we mention it often.
- No.
- No.
- Yes.
- No.
- No.
- Yes.
- I hope so. We try to articulate it in many ways.
- No, they have an idea but it is not crystal clear.



December 3 - December 24, 2023

Christmas Joy

By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you honor God's gift of Jesus Christ by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

developing & sustaining our leaders

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we turn our eyes to Bethlehem and celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

God has blessed the Church with incredible leadership in every time and place, but those leaders often need to be supported by their communities as well. This Offering addresses the support needed by some of our leaders, including supporting leadership development for communities of color, and providing support for Presbyterian church workers in their time of need.



Providing comfort to church leaders



Supporting leadership development



Building up the future of the Church

your impact

Supporting Past, Present, and Future Leaders

\$1.1 million in gifts from 2021

are being used to provide critical financial support and grants for current and retired Presbyterian church workers in their times of need

26 countries

represented in the last 25 years at Presbyterian Pan American School

98% of graduates

from Menaul School go on to college

4% of faculty

Stillman College hold terminal degrees