

**PRESBYTERY OF TAMPA BAY, INC.**  
**STATED MEETING SUMMARY**  
**Thursday, August 23, 2018; 9:00 a.m.**  
**First Presbyterian Church, Brandon, Florida**

The Moderator, Rev. Libby Shannon, called the August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Tampa Bay to order at 9:05 a.m. The meeting served both as a meeting of the ecclesiastical governing body of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and a meeting of the Presbytery of Tampa Bay, Inc., a non-profit corporation of the State of Florida.

The meeting was opened with prayer by the Moderator.

The Stated Clerk declared a quorum was present.

The docketed agenda was approved.

Rev. Mike McCormack, pastor of FPC Brandon, welcomed the Presbytery. The Moderator then asked that first-time Commissioners, new Minister Members and Corresponding Members rise and introduce themselves.

The Moderator appointed the following tellers:

- Tamara Leonard Lara
- Elizabeth Coleman
- Cammie Williams
- Larry Rush

## **Consent Agenda**

The Presbytery voted to adopt the Consent Agenda:

### **Reports without Motions:**

Report of the Commission on Ministry  
Report of the Commission on Preparation for Ministry  
Report of the Commission on Church Vitality  
Report of Beth-El Farmworker Ministry  
Report of Cedarkirk Camp and Conference Center  
Report of Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network  
Report of Commissioners to Synod  
Report of Trustees

### **Reports with Motions:**

#### **Coordinating Team:**

1. That the Presbytery set its Stated Meetings for 2019 as follows:  
Thursday February 21st, 2019 at First Presbyterian Church of St. Petersburg

Saturday May 4th, 2019 at Northwood Presbyterian Church of Clearwater  
Thursday August 29th, 2019 at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church of Sun City Center  
Thursday November 7th, 2019 at First Presbyterian Church of Winter Haven

**Stated Clerk:**

1. That all requests for excused absences be granted for today's meeting.

**Presbytery Worship**

The Presbytery then moved into a time of worship where Rev. Sam Picard preached, and Rev. Callie Weber, Demoris Rhodes, Rev. John DeBevoise, Jonathan Owen, Rev. Jen Daysa, Cammie Williams, and organist Betty Chester also participated in the service. An offering in the amount of \$1464.70 was taken on behalf of the Judeo Christian Health Clinic.

**Reports, Part 1**

Committee on Nominations and Representation

Denise Lay

The following were nominated to the commissions or committees below:

Racial/Ethnic:

- W for people who identify as Caucasian
- H for people who identify as Hispanic or Latin
- B for people who identify as African American or Black
- A for people who identify as Asian or with their country/language of heritage

Gender:

- M for Male identity and F for Female identity

Ordination status:

- C for clergy who identify themselves ordained as ministers of word and sacrament or teaching elders
- E for those persons who are ordained as ruling elders

0=partial term less than one and a half years (filling a vacancy), and are eligible for two more terms.  
1=first term; 2=second term

**COMMISSION ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY (CPM)**

Fred Halde, CMW, East Region, 2019-1

**BETH-EL FARMWORKER MINISTRY, INC.**

Nancy Bertram, EFW, East Region, 2020-1

After an opportunity for open nominations, nominations were closed, and the slate was approved.

Commission on Ministry

*Ken Gruebel*

Ken Gruebel presented Rev. Dr. Mike Loudon to celebrate his honorable retirement. Many friends offered wonderful words regarding his ministry, and Ken closed this portion of the meeting with prayer for Mike.

## **Order of the Day**

Loli spoke to the networking group locations and topics, then closed this portion of the meeting with a blessing for lunch.

## **Plenary**

Jen Daysa, Vivian Bryant, Reg Dicky, Hank Belusa, and Ellen Stoup participated in the Learning Journeys panel discussion which Patrice Hatley moderated. The Presbytery learned about continuing education, General Assembly, mission trips and more.

## **Reports, Part 2**

Synod Executive and Stated Clerk

*Joyce Liebermann*

Joyce gave greetings from the Synod and reported on the life of our Synod, including several upcoming conferences and staff changes in local presbyteries.

Board of Pensions

*Clark Simmons and Keenan Rodgers*

Clark and Keenan reported on several new offerings from the Board of Pensions. Clark also reported that the cost of the pastor's medical plan in 2019 will remain steady at 25% while pension benefits have recently increased by 3.9%.

Report of the Coordinating Team

*Mike Loudon*

The CT moved that the Presbytery approve an Administrative Commission (appointed by the Moderator) to come alongside Northwest Presbyterian Church at their request to help them resolve some financial concerns. The motion passed.

The CT moved that the Presbytery approve the revised Bylaws. Mike Clark moved an amendment to the Bylaws concerning the regional nature of the Commission on Ministry, which was seconded and passed. The Bylaws were approved as amended.

The CT moved that the Presbytery approve the revised Presbytery Manual of Operations. The Manual of Operations was approved as revised.

The CT moved that Presbytery Per Capita remain unchanged at \$21.75 for 2019. Given increases to General Assembly Per Capita, with Synod Per Capita likely to stay the same, the figure churches should use in their planning for next year's total Per Capita would be \$32.20. Please note that this figure is dependent on Synod Per Capita remaining unchanged. The motion passed.

## **Reports of Staff, Officers and Partners**

*Moderator*

*Libby Shannon*

Libby appointed the Administrative Commission for Northwest Presbyterian Church: Helen Huntley, Sam Picard, Shannon Smith, Clem Street, Jeff Guild, and John Scott.

She also spoke about the connectional nature of our Presbytery and on the joy of her work as Moderator.

*Vice Moderator*

*Loli Ros Reiter*

Loli reported on healthy boundaries in ministry and pastoral self-care through counseling and spiritual direction. She referred the Presbytery to her report for a list of resources.

*Treasurer*

*Terry Dennis*

Terry updated the Presbytery about mission and Per Capita giving. Undesignated mission giving is very close to last year, but a little down, while overall mission giving (including designated gifts) is up around \$20,000. Per Capita goes towards the work of the Presbytery, the majority of which is salary. Per Capita and expenses are both doing as expected, and the Presbytery should end the year well. Net assets are doing very well.

Terry also reported on the sale of the Presbytery office building, on which the Presbytery receives mortgage payments. This arrangement is also going well for the time being.

The Presbytery's investments from the sale of church properties are likewise going well.

*Coach and Coordinator*

*Patrice Hatley*

Patrice reported on her recent continuing education, an experience with "not church". She invited discussion regarding the non-institutional church.

Cedarkirk Camp and Conference Center

*John Reiter*

John did not bring cookies, but promised those as well as cinnamon rolls at the November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Presbytery meeting. John also reported on the successful traditional and traveling summer camp programs. There will be several upcoming events at Cedarkirk over the next year for adults as well, and John made himself available to church as a Minute for Mission speaker.

Beth-El Farmworker's Ministry

*Tamara Leonard Lara*

Tamara brought greetings from Beth-El. She also reported on the success of their backpack program, and the opening of a new dental clinic on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

Westminster Communities

*Walk Jones*

Walk brought greetings from Westminster Communities. He invited local churches to use Westminster's facilities for sessions, youth groups, and so on. He also made himself available to churches as a speaker.

Stated Clerk and Director of Communications

*David Baker*

The Stated Clerk reminded the Presbytery to return their lanyards and to include feedback regarding the networking groups on the (now online) evaluation forms.

**Unfinished Business and Thanks**

Having no unfinished business, Libby thanked the host church for their hospitality and entertained a motion to dismiss, which was seconded and passed.

Mike Loudon dismissed us with prayer at 2:40pm.

Submitted by,

Rev. David Baker, Stated Clerk for the Presbytery of Tampa Bay