



e-News from the Presbytery of Tampa Bay

4704 Kelly Road, Tampa, Florida 33615

February 28, 2015

The Mission of the Presbytery of Tampa Bay is to identify and strengthen leaders so that every congregation makes new and mature disciples of Jesus Christ.

Summary notes from today's presbytery meeting (February 28, 2015)
Trinity Presbyterian Church, Clearwater

Dear Friends in Christ,

It was a long day. As our Moderator hoped, we managed to stay "meaningfully connected" with each other as we articulated our thoughts, feelings, theology, Bible readings and interpretations, hopes, and fears.

Moderator John Fullerton called us to order and we acknowledged a hearty quorum on a very rainy day. Marsha Rydberg was installed as Vice-Moderator. We worshiped with love for Christ and a reminder by our preacher, John DeBevoise, that Leviticus is a good book to read during this Lenten season. (Admittedly, that does not do his sermon justice). Ruling Elder Patrice Hatley was installed as Coach and Coordinator, then she paid homage to our Ruling and Teaching Elders who died in 2014. Teaching Elder Norm Hatter celebrated the Lord's Supper and we shared the bread and cup.

After Moderator John Fullerton gave the presbytery instructions on how we conduct ourselves in difficult debates, Nicole Abdnour, chair of Bills and Overtures, led us through the Proposed Amendments and the Bills and Overtures Recommendations. What follows are the tallies on the votes on the Proposed Amendments. Thank you, Tellers, for serving us well. Remember, the Proposed Amendments can be found in full on the PC(USA) website. www.pcusa.org

14-1	Belhar Confession	Approve: 137	Disapprove: 62
14-A	Renunciation of Jurisdiction	Approve: 111	Disapprove: 92
14-B-1	Final Assessment	Approve: 177	Disapprove: 22
14-B-2	Accommodations	Approve: 186	Disapprove: 17
14-C	Child Protection Policy	Approve: 196	Disapprove: 8
14-D	Minimum Presbytery Composition	Approve: 193	Disapprove: 9
14:E	Interreligious Stance	Approve: 142	Disapprove: 66
14-F	Marriage	Approve: 108	Disapprove: 94
	Synod Boundaries	Approve: 178	Disapprove: 18

(Synod Boundaries not a Proposed Amendment)

Fitz Conner presented us with a hearty group of Nominations for presbytery committees and commissions.

We approved the document brought by the Committee to Edit the Gracious Communion Policy, presented by John DeBevoise.

Two Inquirers were moved to Candidacy: Hyun Woo Lee and Kelly Fitzgerald.

One Candidate was examined and his examination sustained for Ordination, Paul Suich, to validated ministry at FPC, Lakeland.

Three retirements! Rich Dennis, Palm Harbor PC, Palm Harbor; Brian Dill, North Lakeland PC, Lakeland; and Tommy Nancy, Northeast PC, St. Petersburg.

The short-timer Treasurer, Earle Brown, presented a report that spelled out how we're doing: End of the year was very good, January was down. The presbytery gave gratitude for Earle's service of 3 ½ years.

Mike Loudon gave the Coordinating Team report: we voted Terry Dennis, Treasurer; elected a slate to the Nominations and Representation Committee; voted to acknowledge our relationship with Cedarkirk (for the PC(USA)); and approved the Covenant and Agreement with Beth-El Farmworker Ministry. We also heard that Dave Moore, who has directed that ministry, is retiring at the end of May.

We ended the day with short reports from Moderator John Fullerton and Coach and Coordinator Patrice Hatley. Patrice will make her longer report available this week on the Presbytery of Tampa Bay website.

The peace of Christ be with you,
Laurie Palmer, Temporary Stated Clerk