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**PRESBYTERY  
OF  
TAMPA BAY**



***Our Mission:***

*To identify and strengthen leaders so that every congregation makes new and mature disciples for Jesus Christ.*

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## **Better Know a Presbyter**

There are some truly amazing things going on in our Presbytery, being led by some great people. For instance, did you know that one of our churches is starting a ministry to strip clubs?

An avenue of leadership that is making some exciting ministries possible is our Commissioned Ruling Elder program (or CRE; we *love* acronyms in the PTB of the PCUSA). Commissioned Ruling Elders are Elders that have undergone seminary training and are then commissioned to go above and beyond, leading particular churches from the pulpit and even planting new worshipping communities!

For more information about the CRE program, check out the [recently approved policy for CREs](#), or [contact the CPM \(Commission on Preparation for Ministry\)](#).

But right now, please take 2 and a half minutes to "Better Know" Ruling Elder (and soon to be Commissioned Ruling Elder) Barry Dowdy, of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Dunedin in our 5th installment of our 368 part series, "Better Know a Presbyter":



As always, if you've got a resource, tip, praise or just a really interesting story you want to share, please, let me know!

Rev. Dave Baker,  
Stated Clerk and Director of Communications  
Presbytery of Tampa Bay



**[News from Around the Presbytery:](#)**

### **Closing Service for Keystone Presbyterian Church**

Following an action at the September 19th Called Meeting of Presbytery, [Keystone](#) will be having its final service on Sunday October 4th at 11am. Please come and support the saints of this congregation for its final service. In true Presbyterian fashion, there will be a potluck following the service; if you'd like to join them for that, please bring a dish.

[Directions to Keystone Presbyterian Church](#)

### **Installation of Rev. Dr. Michael McCormack**

Please join the Presbytery as we welcome a new colleague in ministry to [First Presbyterian Church of Brandon](#). Minister members in the Hillsborough Region are especially encouraged to attend and welcome Mike to the Presbytery. Reception to follow the installation service.

*Details:*

*Sunday, October 4, 2015*

*4:00pm - FPC, Brandon*

*121 Carver Ave, Brandon, FL 33510*

*813-689-4597*

### **Regional Commission Reports:**

Thanks everyone for coming out to get to know one another better and to do the business of the Presbytery! Reports for each region will be coming next week, but I can share the final results of our voting on the [5 Affirmations](#) now:

	Item 1	Item 2	Item 3	Item 4	Item 5
Yes	109	77	90	79	72
No	4	15	7	22	22
Abstain	3	15	2	8	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>116</b>

If this conversation has sparked an interest in peacemaking for you, you may want to encourage your church to take part in the upcoming [peacemaking offering](#), normally held on World Communion Sunday, or the yearly "[Season of Peace](#)" studies which are facilitated by the denomination:



### **Lecture Series at Eckerd College**

The Burchenal Fall Lecture Series at Eckerd has already started! Find out more about these biblically themed lectures are here:

[Burchenal Lectures](#)

### **Haiti Mission Trip**

Join St. Andrew Presbyterian Church of New Tampa on a mission trip to Ganthier, Haiti as they help build a school for the community!

The trip will take place Friday, January 8 to Friday, January 15! For all the vital details, see below:

[Brochure](#)

[Registration Form](#)

[Fundraising Letter](#)



Haiti School

### **\$10,000 Grant for New Initiatives**

The Developmental, Risky, Experimental, Adaptive Mission (DREAM) Grant is being offered by the Presbyterian Mission Agency in order to encourage dreamers, risk-takers, pioneers and trailblazers.

This grant is designed to encourage the birth of new ventures through congregations and presbyteries rather than to support the expansion of existing programs within congregations. For the purpose of this grant, new is defined as an initiative that was created no earlier than January 1, 2014. This grant is not intended for new worshiping communities or new church developments.

**Please note that the deadline for this grant is November 15th.** If you are interested in applying, please download the application below and return it completed to the Presbytery Office. This grant will likely be offered in 2016 as well.

[DREAM Grant Application Form](#)

### **Presbyterian Women Regional Teas**

The topic will be human trafficking, with a guest who is a trafficking survivor. Please RSVP if you plan to attend.

#### Pinellas South

Wednesday, October 21 2-4 pm  
Westminster Suncoast  
Dia Stoner  
727-868-3515

#### Pasco

Thursday, October 22 2-4 pm  
St. Mark, Hudson  
Barbara Gardner  
727-378-6657

#### Hillsborough

Saturday, October 24 2-4 pm  
St. Andrew, New Tampa  
Margaret Shaw  
813-655-2795

For more info, please see [the flyer](#)

### **Transportation Help for Beth-EI**

Beth-EI Farmworker Ministry is looking for transportation help. On October 16th we have the opportunity to transport up to 30 women from Beth-EI to Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa for free mammograms. Then on November 23rd we need assistance bringing up to 60 kids to Beth-EI for a special Advent workshop. Our existing bus can only fit 14 passengers at a time so we really need help! If a church has a bus we could use for those dates, or volunteers willing to help transport people, please call the mission and speak to Javier at 813-633-1548 ext. 228. ¡Gracias!

## Mission Giving Opportunity in Honduras

Good news! Two people have come forward to help purchase a horse for our partner pastor in Honduras. Thanks for your generosity, Presbytery of Tampa Bay!

Presbytery of Tampa Bay  
813-868-4800  
[office@pbty.com](mailto:office@pbty.com)

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Presbytery of Tampa Bay | 4704 Kelly Road | Tampa | FL | 33615