



### ***Our Mission:***

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

## Presbytery Stated Meeting Summary

Thanks to everyone who was at Presbytery today! Below you'll find a summary of that meeting which you can share as part of your report back to session, or that you can read if you were unable to attend.

Additionally, several of you asked for a link to the video that was shared by Clifton Kirkpatrick during the Keynote:



The Confession of Belhar and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

As well as the video that he shared during the Breakout (49 minutes to 1 hour 9 minutes 30 seconds in):



Finally, I also had a request to include the books mentioned during this breakout:

[Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race](#)

(don't miss the [Co-Moderator's Study Guide](#))

[Dear White Christians](#)

[Hillbilly Elegy](#)

[America's Original Sin](#)

In Christ,

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

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**PRESBYTERY OF TAMPA BAY, INC.**  
**STATED MEETING SUMMARY**  
**Thursday, May 18, 2017; 9:00 a.m.**  
**St. Mark's Presbyterian Church, Hudson, Florida**

The Moderator, Rev. Dr. Mike Loudon, called the May 18, 2017 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Tampa Bay to order at 9:01 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. Jack Alwood, pastor of St. Mark's, welcomed the presbytery. The Moderator then asked that first-time Commissioners, and Corresponding Members rise and introduce themselves.

The Moderator appointed the following tellers:

- Rev. Bob Scott
- Rev. Bill Wildhack
- Paula Salter
- Rev. Laurie Palmer
- Rev. Peg Roy
- Henry Elam
- Gary Duff

**Consent Agenda**

The Presbytery voted to adopt the Consent Agenda:

**Reports without Motions:**

**Report of the Commission on Church Vitality**

**Report of the Board of Trustees**

**Report of the Treasurer**

**Reports of the Regional Commissions**

**Report of Beth-El Farmworker Ministry**  
**Report of Cedarkirk Camp and Conference Center**  
**Report of Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network**  
**Report of Presbyterian Women**  
**Report of Thornwell Homes**

**Reports with Motions:**

**Coordinating Team:**

1. That the Presbytery set its Fall Stated Meeting for Thursday November 9th, 2017 at Eckerd College.
2. That the Presbytery set its Spring Stated Meeting for Saturday May 5th, 2018 at Hope Presbyterian Church, Winter Haven.

**Stated Clerk:**

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

## **Keynote Speaker**

Rev. Dr. Clifton Kirkpatrick led the Presbytery through an examination of the Belhar Confession, titled, "Race, Reconciliation, and the Belhar Confession".

## **Commission, Committee and Mission Reports, Part 1**

*Committee on Nominations and Representation Denise Lay*

The following were nominated to the commissions or committees below:

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

\* These have received interim appointments by the Coordinating Team, allowing them to begin working with their particular commissions pending election today by vote.

### **COMMISSION ON MINISTRY (COM)**

\*Kitty Rawson, Ruling Elder, West Region, 2018-0

Ben Pabst, Ruling Elder, Central Region, 2019-1

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

\*Paul Suich, Teaching Elder, East Region, 2017-0

Jack Taylor, Teaching Elder, East Region 2019-1

### **PRESBYTERIAN CAMPS & CONFERENCES (PCC) CEDARKIRK BOARD**

\*Robert Fort, Jr., Ruling Elder, East Region, 2019-2

After an opportunity for open nominations, Gladys Adams, Ruling Elder, West Region was nominated for the same position as Kitty Rawson, COM, 2018-0.

Nominations were then closed, and all appointments other than Kitty Rawson were approved by the Presbytery as slate. After a vote by ballot, Kitty was appointed to the Committee on Ministry 105 to 11.

Additionally, the Committee on Nominations and Representation reported that it has approved the process for nominating GA Delegates for the 223<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly. Applications will be available online at [www.presbyteryoftampabay.com/Nominating.php](http://www.presbyteryoftampabay.com/Nominating.php). Applications and endorsements should be submitted prior to September 15, 2017 and nominations will be presented at the November 2017 stated Presbytery meeting.

### Healing Roots Ministry - Edie Rhea

A representative from Healing Roots Ministry, Edie Rhea, informed the Presbytery of its work and thanked the Presbytery for its support.

### Commission on Preparation - David Shelor

The Commission on Preparation moved that the Presbytery Candidate Indebtedness Policy be approved as amended and approved by CPM and COM.

This motion passed.

The Commission on Preparation moved that the Presbytery approve an alternative for of examination for the Bible Content Exam for Candidate Kitti Ginn, administered orally, under the supervision of three teaching elders of the Presbytery, appointed by the Commission on Preparation for Ministry.

This motion passed.

### Commission on Ministry - Charlie Perrine

The Commission on Ministry moved that the Presbytery approve the merger between Hope and Highland Presbyterian Churches in Clearwater.

This motion passed with celebration and prayer.

### Board of Trustees - John Hehn

John reported on the financial state of the Presbytery. Per Capita giving is up over last year, Mission giving in line with budgeted expectations, and the Trustees are in the process of investing money from the sale of church properties.

## **Order of the Day**

Vice Moderator Libby Shannon dismissed the body for a mini-break prior to breakouts, with a blessing for our lunch.

## **Presbytery Worship**

The Presbytery then moved into a time of worship where Rev. Joy Laughridge preached, and Ruling Elder Roslyn Linnen read the Necrology. Rev. Bobby Musengwa, Commission Ruling Elder Andy Staley, and Rev. Julio Travieso, also participated in the service. A collection in the amount of \$1,180 was taken on behalf of a Civil Rights and Interfaith Tour of the South from Eckerd College, leaving in Spring 2018.

## **Commission, Committee and Mission Reports, Part 2**

### Committee on Bills and Overtures - Dan Johnson

The following proposed changes to the Book of Order have been unanimously recommended and approved by the Bills and Overtures Committee. The Committee moved that the Presbytery approve an omnibus motion to approve these amendments:

- 16-A: Amending existing policy to include the word "youth"
- 16-B: Adding "in numbers as nearly equal as possible"
- 16-D.1 & D.2: Rules and process to return to church service for parties who have renounced jurisdiction in the mist of disciplinary action.
- 16-E: To remove language that says "handbook".
- 16-F: Add "Caring for God's Creation" to G-1.0304

This omnibus motion passed.

The Committee presented majority and minority reports related to the approval of amendment 16-C, and moved that this amendment be approved:

16-C: Reinstating original designations of Minister of Word and Sacrament, Ruling Elder and Teaching Elder

This motion passed.

The Committee also moved that the Presbytery approve the following amendments:

16-G: Access to the Lord's Table

This motion passed.

16-H: Revised Directory of Worship

This motion passed.

*Cedarkirk Camp and Conference Center - John Reiter*

John Reiter brought greetings from Cedarkirk and informed the Presbytery that there were still openings for worship leadership and campers for the summer. John also reported that their traveling camp program continues to grow, and that their capital campaign is now underway. Additionally, any capital campaign gift between now and September up to a total of \$250,000 will be matched.

*Thronwell Homes - Jean Homrighausen*

Jean Homrighausen reported on the ministry of Thronwell Homes. They now have a program in Florida called Building Families to go into the homes of families to help with a variety of struggles. Churches are welcome to send referrals to this program.

*Beth-El Farmworker's Ministry - Kathy Dain*

Kathy Dain reported on the state of Beth-El Farmworker's ministry, introducing Rev. Julio Travieso, who is helping in a time of need. She also requested help for volunteers for the youth of Beth-El. There was a time of prayer for Beth-El.

*This Child Here - Robert Gamble*

Robert Gamble spoke about his ministry in the Ukraine, helping orphans and foster families.

**Reports of Staff and Officers:**

*Coach and Coordinator - Patrice Hatley*

Patrice reported on the connectional nature of our denomination and Presbytery, lifting up several local ministries and our mutual support of one another. There are many exciting new ideas, initiatives and worshiping communities in the works. She also lifted up the Belhar devotional, which is available upon request, and some of the work on reconciliation being done at the committee and commission level.

*Coordinating Team Chair - Marsha Rydberg*

The Coordinating Team moved that the following persons be elected to the Committee on Nominations and Representation:

Meghann Pabst, TE-C 2019-1

After an opportunity for nominations from the floor, this motion passed.

*Moderator - Mike Loudon*

The Coordinating Team moved that the Presbytery form an Administrative Commission

appointed by the Moderator to provide oversight and present a plan to the Presbytery to continue the various important ministries on St. John Presbyterian Church Tampa's campus. This AC will have a budget of \$25,000.

The members of this AC would be: Ramiro Ros, John DeBevoise, John Hehn, Marsha Rydberg, Paula Salter, Robert Shaw, Gloria Aguayo, and Patrice Hatley.

This motion passed.

Vice Moderator - Libby Shannon

Libby lifted up an upcoming event, Wednesday November 8<sup>th</sup>. Eckerd will be co-hosting an anti-racism conference with the Presbytery the day before the Presbytery meeting. This will be an opportunity for discussion and reflection on the issue of race.

Stated Clerk and Director of Communications - David Baker

The Stated Clerk reported that the new website was still forthcoming and reminded the Presbytery to hand in their lanyards and evaluation forms.

**Unfinished Business and Thanks**

Bill Trautwein moved that the Administrative Commission to Dissolve Garden Crest Presbyterian Church be dismissed with thanks. The motion was seconded and passed.

Vice-Moderator Libby Shannon dismissed us with prayer.

The Presbytery voted to adjourn at 2:32pm.

Submitted by,

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