

Get to Know Your Pastoral Care Committee

Did you know that your presbytery has a pastoral care committee? We are here to serve as confidential pastors and counselors to ministers and their families. We also help provide for your nurture and welfare through programs for fellowship and education. Our group includes elders, retired pastors, pastor's spouses, and chaplains with a variety of backgrounds and experiences.

If you have suggestions or the need for a listening ear, please contact one of us through the presbytery office.



Pastoral Care Committee Members
L to R: Elder Gayle Schmidt, Rev. Carrie Smith-Coons, Rev. Mike Ulasewich, Rev. Bryan Stamper, Rev. Sandy Hill, Rev. Bill Anderson. Not pictured: Rev. Bill Chegwin, Rev. Pam Masten, Cheryl Smith

Recently, new Regional Pastors were assigned to areas within the presbytery to provide individual contact with pastors within a given region. The Pastoral Care Committee encourages these regional pastors, and is in contact with them, but works separately from them. These regional pastors also work with Paige McRight, and will work with the new Transitional Presbyter. The Regional Pastors will contact pastors individually. Between the Regional Pastors and the Pastoral Care Committee, there are many folks seeking to provide support and prayers to pastors in their ministries.

PATH Photo Preview



These photos are witnesses to PATH funds at work for one of our partners: the Alliance for International Reforestation (AIR) in Guatemala. At left, Anne Hallum advises local farmers on sustainable farming practices. At right is a photo of the plaque dedicated to Anne's late husband and faithful companion in ministry Jan Wilgers. Read more about AIR and other PATH partners on p. 3.



Leadership Academy

The Leadership Academy is underway and over 20 people participated in Old Testament I and II led by Presbytery Executive Rev. Dr. Paige McRight in January and February. She taught "live" from Grace Covenant Presbyterian in Orlando and was streamed via Skype to Port Orange Presbyterian and First Presbyterian, Vero Beach. Pictured is part of the group at Grace Covenant: left to right Edda Mercado and Albert Pratts, Monte Sinai; Paige McRight; Monica Torres, El Redentor; and Kermit Gay, Grace Covenant.



Ogne, Pastor of Hope Presbyterian New Church Development, will teach New Testament I and II. Participants are asked to read the Gospel of Mark prior to the class. There will be a lively mixture of fellowship, lecture, group discussion, and interactive learning. You can find out more information about the Leadership Academy at <http://cfpresbytery.org/equip> and register online by clicking below:

<https://secure.jotformpro.com/form/13143501258>

The cost for the classes are \$25 each.

Coming in March and April, Rev. Dr. Nancy Graham

Good News from Paige

Dear Friends,

A few weeks ago, I was privileged to take part in the ecumenical service of prayer for Christian unity in Orlando at Trinity Lutheran Church. The pastor, Dr. Jeffrey Moore, in his sermon told us that Lutherans talk about two separate but related words: unity and concord. He observed that unity is Christ's gift to us. Concord is ours to practice in every generation as we seek to live out the unity Christ gives us.

Jeff's profound observation has stuck with me. Our Foundations of Presbyterian Polity says that "the Church is one because it belongs to its one Lord, Jesus Christ...There is one Church, for there is one Spirit, one hope, 'one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all" (Ephesians 4:5-6) [F-1.0301a.]. Any of us who is ordained has answered in the affirmative the first question asked of us at ordination and installation: Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? [W-4.4003a.]

We are living through a season in public life where evangelical candidates for public office criticize the President of the United States for quoting Scripture. We are living through another season in the Church where denominations divide over issues of biblical in-

terpretation. Some would argue that the question is biblical authority, but I would call your attention to the second ordination question. We all vow that we accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal. Again, all church leaders claim that we share one authoritative text.

As I prepare to teach a leadership development class in this presbytery for the last time on Saturday, I have had occasion to revisit the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA). In recent weeks, I have been invited to teach the contents of the Book of Order to church sessions. I am reminded that our Constitution is not the Bible but it contains the wisdom of the church through the ages in the Book of Confessions and it provides the way we order our lives in this part of the one Church in its Book of Order. I hope that all elders, ruling and teaching, and all deacons will find study of our Constitution worthwhile. We are ordained not for a season on a board but for life, ordinarily, because some group of God's people saw gifts and graces that fit us for leadership. We do well to know the resources provided for our leadership, the Scriptures and our Constitution.

Blessings always,

Paige

Administrative Personnel Association News

The deadline is quickly approaching for your administrative staff to attend this year's Florida Region Administrative Personnel Association Conference in Sarasota from May 16th to May 20th. Don't let this important educational opportunity for your valuable staff members pass.

By attending the conference, your church employees will be nurtured both spiritually and educationally. They do not have to be a Presbyterian to join the APA or attend the conference. We have members of all faiths who want a deeper understanding of PCUSA issues and theology. The knowledge gained by joining and attending conferences will benefit them, their fellow staff members and congregation by allowing them to be more effective in their roles in your organization.

The APA improves the quality of professionalism in those offices that are generally the first contact with

congregations, governing bodies and agencies for our denomination. It affirms the Ministry of the Lay Church Professional and recognizes the importance of efficient office procedures and competent personnel who strive to provide a deeper commitment and understanding of the issues and theology of our Church.

Visit the Florida Region website at www.floridaapa.org to find out more about this association. The benefits of networking, classes and friendship will benefit you and your congregation.

Contact Barbara Prieto, President of the Florida Region of the Administrative Personnel Association of the Presbyterian Church (USA) at 305-666-8586 or rivierachurch@bellsouth.net. She will gladly take the time to explain how the APA will benefit your administrative staff members.

PATH News

PATH Benefit Part 1

Hope Presbyterian Church in Lake Nona sponsored a benefit concert for PATH on Sunday, February 12 at Buffalo Wings and Rings in Hunters Creek. The Boucan Brothers Band entertained Presbyterians and friends who enjoyed a fun and relaxing afternoon of great food and fellowship with those from the Lake Nona community.

The \$5 cover charge and change from the 2 cent cans placed on the tables during the event will be donated entirely to benefit all five PATH partners. Representatives from the two local PATH partners, Society of St. Andrew and Second Harvest Food Bank attended the event, along with presbytery staff and folks representing various churches in the presbytery. On behalf of all the PATH partners, we extend a heartfelt thanks to the Lake Nona church, the band and the restaurant for their gifts of time, talent and organization for this event that will provide nutritious food for those in our community as well as in Haiti, Guatemala and Madagascar.

PATH Benefit Part 2

The Orange County/Winter Park CROP Hunger Walk being hosted by Winter Park Presbyterian Church on Saturday, March 31 has selected the 2 Cents Per Meal Program as the beneficiary of the local 25% of the funds! To sign up to walk for PATH, contact Amy Killgallon of Church World Service at 386-747-5231.

Dan Turk/Madagascar

"Dear Friends, Happy New Year! A sincere desire of ours for this new year is to let you know how much your prayers and support mean to us and the Malagasy people. These last 3 years of crisis in Madagascar have been very difficult for Madagascar, the FJKM church, and for us. It is not easy to watch a nation and people suffer. PC(USA) has been present and has walked with the Malagasy church and people through the suffering. The ministries that you help support in fruit trees, reforestation, safe drinking water, community health, and HIV/AIDS care & prevention are more critical now than ever. Thank you very much for partnering with us, the PC(USA), and the FJKM church to bring hope and Christ's love to the people of Madagascar. It is a sign to the Malagasy church and people that they have not been forgotten, that they do not walk alone."

Dan's letter arrived before Cyclone Giovanna, a category 4 storm, came ashore in eastern Madagascar the night of February 13-14. The towns of Brickaville, Moramanga, and the capital Antananarivo suffered direct or near direct hits as the storm crossed the island from east to west.

So far, the damage from the cyclone is 17 dead, scores of wounded, and over 24,000 people with damaged homes. However, these figures could rise considerably.

UNICEF is warning that water-borne diseases could become a major problem in the weeks ahead. The FJKM church suffered considerable damage in the Moramanga area: 13 churches reportedly destroyed, damaged roofs at the Synod President's house/office and at one of the large FJKM school buildings; and major damage to at least one other school building. The FJKM development department's facilities sustained damage to buildings in two locations as well as tree nurseries and orchards at several places.

Please pray for the people suffering as a result of the cyclone and for cyclone relief efforts.

A.I.R. UPDATE (from liaison Rev. Dr. Radford Rader)

Dr. Anne Hallum spent a week in Guatemala in January in order to visit three new villages and a shade-grown coffee cooperative. She also met with the 12 AIR scholarship students and attended a special memorial service in memory of her husband Jan Wilgers, an elder of First Presbyterian (DeLand) who joined the church triumphant on September 5, 2011. Jan traveled with Anne to Guatemala at least 20 times. There, he planted thousands of trees, built 100 fuel-efficient stoves, and constructed much of AIR's Training Center. Approximately 40 people came from four villages to attend the service, where the AIR staff members dedicated the garden to Jan with a stone plaque (seen on p.1).

SOCIETY OF ST ANDREW (SoSA)

Still reeling from the tremendously successful Presbyterians Day in the Grove, SoSA began the first week of the New Year celebrating God's amazing surprises. Facing what many would refer to as "a good problem," we had the challenge of more volunteers than places to glean in the coming months.

As we prayed for guidance regarding a group of 300 coming in two weeks with no place to put them, the phone rang and the voice on the other end may as well have been an angel of God: "I have a grove of 1600 trees, would you be interested in gleaning them for me?" The very next day another "angel" with a large grove called, and the next day a pledge letter from a major donor arrived!

As people in Central Florida are hungry and struggling to feed their families healthy nutritious food, God continues to open doors that enable us to help those in their time of need. The Society of St. Andrew staff extends a heartfelt thank you to PATH for your support.

March Celebrations

Minister

Rev. Janie Barrows	3/5/89
Rev. Gary Lester	3/6/83
Rev. Sandy Hill.....	3/9/97
Rev. Carmen Graziano.....	3/10/67
Rev. Robert Early.....	3/12/90
Rev. David Keazirian.....	3/13/88
Rev. Dr. John Cole	3/15/88
Rev. Paul Anderson	3/21/99
Rev. Johanna Lee.....	3/22/09
Rev. debbie husband.....	3/29/98
Rev. Pam Masten	3/29/09

Ordained

Quick News and Notes

St. Cloud Presbyterian Church invites you to join us each Lenten Friday at 7:00 pm for worship and a cup of coffee with the Rev. Sandra Luciano-Andujar. Bring a mug with you, and enjoy informal worship, informal music, and a Bible lesson/message each week with an emphasis on God's healing in Christ. Feel free to invite friends, family, and neighbors. Vanesa Davila and Frank Jusino will lead the music. These services will be held at our beautiful "Promised Land" property, 4965 Ralph Miller Road (Narcoosee Rd at Ralph Miller Rd.)

Central Florida Presbytery Youth will be having a Spring Lock-in on Friday, April 27-Saturday, April 28. The theme will be " True Life: Living Out Our Faith." It will start at 7pm on Friday and end around noon on Saturday. The location is not yet determined—email Jen McGee at youth@cfpresbytery.org

Ecumenical Advocacy Days for Global Peace with Justice is an annual gathering that involves worship, theological reflection and education on a variety of domestic and international policy issues. The event is sponsored by the ecumenical Christian community and is grounded in biblical witness and our shared tradition of justice, peace and integrity of creation. This year's event is themed around Psalm 58 and entitled **Is THIS The Fast That I Seek? Economy, Livelihood and Our National Priorities**. The dates are March 23-26 in Washington, D.C. Your congregation may want to consider a scholarship for one of your members to attend this very worthwhile event. For details, visit <http://advocacydays.org/>

The Diocese of Orlando and the Orlando Diocesan Council of Catholic Women are hosting an ecumenical women's prayer breakfast on Friday, March 30 from 11:30 – 1:30pm at the Diocese of Orlando, 50 E. Robinson St., Orlando, FL 32801. The cost to attend is \$5.00 and you may RSVP to eclayton@orlandodiocese.org or 407-246-4819.

Life in Central Florida Presbytery



Jean Meredith, Commissioned Ruling Elder from Port Orange Presbyterian, led a workshop on Services of Healing and Wholeness at COLE (Church Officer and Leadership Education) on Feb. 18 at Park Lake Presbyterian in Orlando. Approximately 100 people participated in training for lay and clergy at all levels of church leadership.

Presbytery Meeting Reminder

Don't forget that the next meeting of presbytery is fast approaching! Plan to attend Saturday, March 3 at Riverside Presbyterian Church in Cocoa Beach beginning at 9:30 am.

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