

Summer 2023 Stated Presbytery Meeting

CENTRAL FLORIDA PRESBYTERY

ADDENDUM REPORTS

May 25, 2023

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NOTES:



**MONTGOMERY
CENTER**
EST. 1957



***For all Volunteers and Professionals in
Church Ministry and Leadership***

Join us for FISH 2.0

SEPTEMBER 22-23, 2023

at Montgomery Center in Starke, Florida

***FISH 2.0 is for Sunday School teachers, Bible Study Leaders, Pastors, Deacons,
Elders, Youth Leaders, Christian Educators... all are welcome!***



REGISTER BY SEPTEMBER 8!

www.bit.ly/fishsept2023

Choose 2 workshops at registration.

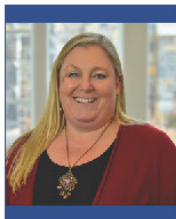
Topics include:

- *Spiritual Practices*
- *Mental Health*
- *Recreation for All Ages*
- *Exploring the Bible*
- *Conversations about Race*

Options Include:

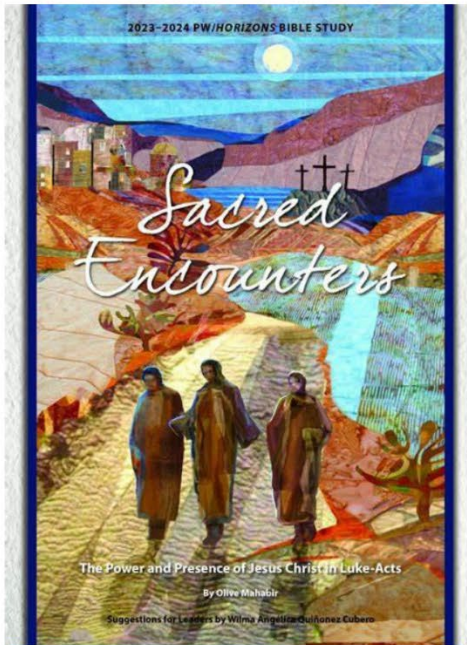
***Thursday Sabbath,
Friday Experiential Keynote,
Saturday Workshops and Keynote
Come for one day or all!***

Keynotes by the Rev. Michelle Thomas-Bush



Michelle Thomas-Bush is the Associate Pastor of Youth and their Families at Myers Park Presbyterian Church. Michelle is also a Certified Enneagram Coach, coaching teams and individuals. She is creator of Big Ideas in Youth Ministry. Michelle and her husband Dave have two college students, Violet and Camden. Michelle served her first call at Fort King in Ocala and then served at Riverside in Jacksonville. Michelle, her husband Dave and their children Camden and Violet all have wonderful and abundant memories of Camp Montgomery.

Questions? Email office@montgomerycenter.org or call 352-473-4516



PW Horizons 2023-2024 Bible Study
*Sacred Encounters: The Power and
 Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts*
 By Olive Mahabir

Presbyterian Women of Central Florida Presbytery

Annual Bible Study Event

Saturday, August 12, 2023

First Presbyterian Church of Vero Beach
 520 Royal Palm Blvd ~ Vero Beach, FL

Facilitated by the
Reverend Christina Greenawalt

Saturday, August 12, 2023

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Light Breakfast

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Introduction and Business Meeting

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Bible Study Presentation

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Deeper Reflection

Cost is \$20.00 (covers light breakfast and lunch)

Register by Wednesday, July 26, 2023

Registration cost after July 26th is \$25.00

For more information contact Julie Hill at julie2025pw@gmail.com

Registration Form ~ PW Bible Study Event ~ August 12, 2023

Name	Phone Number
Address	
Email Address	
Home Church	
Dietary Restrictions	
Name Tag	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. I would like a nametag.	
<input type="checkbox"/> No. I will be using my own home church nametag that I will bring with me and wear.	

Make checks out to: *Presbyterian Women of Central Florida Presbytery*

Send this form and the check for \$20.00 to: *Julie Hill, 3972 Scotland Street, Cocoa, FL 32927*

Registration Deadline is July 26th * The Registration Cost after July 26 is \$25.00*

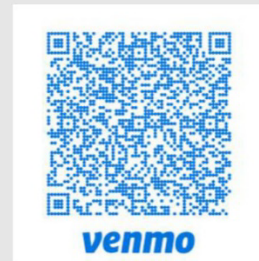
~ Or ~

Register Online at <https://tinyurl.com/vc7yht6v>

Pay Online at https://account.venmo.com/u/CFL_PresbyterianWomen



QR Code for Online Registration



QR Code for Online Payment

Cost is \$20.00 ~ Deadline is Wednesday, July 26th

****Registration Cost after July 26th is \$25.00****

Mission Development Committee

Olga L Malavé, Chair

May 23, 2023

- Olga reported that she has been spending a lot of time with Presbyterian Women at Presbytery and Synod level, and as an active Elder in her church.
- Ken Lasseter reported that the situation in Cuba is bad. Over the counter medicines are in short supply, some people have had to postpone surgeries due to a lack of supplies, food is in short supply, cooking gas and electricity are also in short supply. Despite this, the people there are happy, cheerful and welcoming. They have asked us if we could send a shipping container of food. We are networking with 3 other Presbyteries to research the possibilities.
- Barbara Sayles reported for PATH. She said that the 4 partners are working on their goals and have gotten their quarterly reports in as scheduled.
 - Both SOSA and Second Harvest report that the need for food is still up.
 - SOSA has added a new coordinator for the state and has also signed up more farms.
 - The Culinary School at Second Harvest is doing well and still finds jobs for all of their graduates.
 - Barbara also reported that AIR has filled all the positions for their mission trips for this year.
- Mary Hoffman reported that she recently had met with Ann Hallum of AIR. They are currently serving 60 communities and schools and have hired 2 more technicians which will enable them to serve 15 more communities. A technician usually works with a community for 5 years. They have become concerned with people recruiting others to go to the United States by telling them things that are not true. They have started a program to combat this by teaching truths about immigration.
- The MDC is planned to have 12 members, but has only 9 at this time. They are: class of 2023, Ken Lasseter, Carol Carbrey, Mary Hoffman. Class of 2024 Ralphetta McClary, Elizabeth Johnson, Randy Simpson. Class of 2025: Larry Cuthill, Olga Malavé-Mercado, Fred Foy Strang.
- The committee received a request for a grant from First Presbyterian of Deland. The committee decided that since we had already made one mission grant to a group

from that church and that the Genevieve Lang Fund had already agreed to grant 1/3 of their expenses, we would pass on this application.

- Other things discuss as Old and New Business; Barbara Sayles noted that all mission grant applications, other than Genevieve Lang should go to Barbara Sayles. Barbara also reported that 12 were booked for the Peru mission trip.

A Peace Maker, Amira Barhan, from Palestine, will be in Central Florida Oct. 5 through 9.

The meetings for the rest of 2023 were discussed and it was decided that the Nov. 28 meeting would be a hybrid and meet at the Presbytery Office. The meeting was closed with prayer by Olga.

Attending: Olga Malavé-Mercado, chair, Dan Williams, Presbytery Exec., Mary Hoffman, Ferdi Brits, Ken Lasseter, Barbara Sayles. Excused: Larry Cuthill, Ralphetta Aker McClary, Elizabeth Johnson, Randy Simpson

(Subm. by Ken Lasseter)

SAVE THE DATE!.

OCTOBER 5-9

Central Florida Presbytery is once again hosting a Peacemaker, this time from Palestine. We are very excited about this unique opportunity to host Amira Barham and hear all about her work in Palestine. Please pass this information on to your congregation, mission committees and pastors. If your church would like to host a gathering, dinner, luncheon, etc for a presentation by Amira, please contact Barbara Sayles at the Presbytery office- bsayles@cfpresbytery.org; 407-422-7125.

The available dates for hosting are: Friday, October 6 (any time); Saturday October 7 (any time); Sunday morning Worship (first come); Sunday evening. We will also need some host homes in the Orlando area as well as the East Central area.

Bio for: Amira Barham (PALESTINE)



Amira Barham, a Palestinian Christian, was born and raised in the town of Beit Jala, near Bethlehem. With a passion for social justice, equality, and helping people, Amira obtained a Master's Degree in Social Work (MSW) from California State University Long Beach in 1999 as a Fulbright Scholarship recipient. She has worked as a social worker with many diverse and vulnerable populations in Palestine, the United Kingdom and the United States. She's worked with young unaccompanied asylum seekers fleeing war-torn and dangerous countries, young people and adults struggling with substance misuse and criminal behavior, and vulnerable young people and women suffering gender-based violence.

Most recently, Amira's work has been focused on supporting marginalized children in Palestine, mainly from refugee camps, with Sounds of Palestine. Sounds of Palestine is an organization that uses music and orchestra lessons to enhance children's self-esteem and impact positive social change and community involvement. Additionally, she is connected to Al Harah Theater, as the developer of policies for safeguarding children.

Amira recently completed a postgraduate diploma in Health Action Training, which offers training on utilizing drama practice and drama techniques to enhance person-centered care and resilience, specifically in the aftermath of the pandemic to help healthcare professionals.

CFP Nominating Committee Report
June 2023
Rev. Jody Mask, Chair

The NomCom recommends the following individuals be received into service as noted:

Church Development Committee

- Michael Bodger, TE, Class of 2025

Committee on Ministry

- Allen Murin, RE, Class of 2025

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

- Fred Blackmon, RE, Class of 2024
- Leslie Rodriguez, RE, Class of 2025

Committee on Representation

- Juan Carlos Montalvo, RE, Class of 2023

Finance Committee

- Kathaleen Mills, RE, Class of 2024
- Randy Simpson, RE, Class of 2025

Office and Personnel Committee

- Daisy Knowles, RE, Class of 2023

**COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY REPORT
TO CENTRAL FLORIDA PRESBYTERY
June 2023**

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry of the Central Florida Presbytery meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month. The committee submits this report:

RECOMMENDATION



1. **Janira Colon.** The Committee on Preparation for Ministry recommends that Janira Colon be enrolled as a candidate under care of Central Florida Presbytery, effective June 1, 2023, as she continues in preparation for the ordered ministry of Minister of the Word and Sacrament (Teaching Elder). Janira's Faith Journey is attached to this report.

The Presbytery may ask questions of the person wishing to be received as a candidate as to her Christian faith, forms of Christian service undertaken, and her sense of call to ordered ministry.

INFORMATION

1, Annual Consultations

No Annual Consultations were held since the March Presbytery meeting.

2. New Inquirer

The committee met with Terri Lee Bassett, Glenwood Presbyterian, and received her as an Inquirer. Terri is completing her seminary degree at Asbury Theological Seminary and will begin work on her Presbyterian-specific courses soon. She has completed her CPE requirement through AdventHealth and has been accepted for a year-long Chaplain Residency through AdventHealth.



3. Pre-Inquirer

On behalf of the Committee, Cheryl Carson and Laurie Farquharson met with Kenne Sparks and the Session of Maitland Presbyterian at their request in April to inform them about their roles in the Inquiry process. The Session has endorsed Kenne to be enrolled as in Inquirer and the Committee looks forward to meeting with Kenne to formally received him under care.

4. Additional Inquirer/Candidate Updates



Sharon Tatum has graduated from Dubuque Theological Seminary. She continues as a Candidate

5. Approval for Compensation for Guided Studies

The Committee approved the payment of \$1000 per guided study to those who prepare and teach/lead guided studies to/with our inquirers/candidates who need studies not available in PCUSA seminaries. The Committee agreed to pay half of the total and the student will pay the remainder. This issue arose because one of our Inquirers needs to take the Presbyterian-specific courses we require (Polity, Reformed Theology, Worship & Sacraments) in Spanish and none of our seminaries offer those courses in Spanish.

5. CPM Handbook: The recently revised and approved CPM Handbook can be found on the Presbytery website at: <http://www.cfpresbytery.org/teaching-elder-ministry-process.html>

6. Clinical Pastoral Education

What is Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)? CPE is a combination of professional education and hands on experience providing spiritual care to people in various contexts. Through supervised encounters, students participate in an educational setting designed for professional chaplains and clergy. CPE can take place in various settings including hospitals, clinics, hospices, or rehabilitation settings. CPE develops a number of important pastoral competencies including listening, empathy, reflection, analysis, diagnosis, and critical theological reflection. CPE is just one required element in our preparation process that our Presbytery utilizes to ensure effective pastoral skills for our candidates. All CPE programs must be certified through the Association of Clinical Pastoral Education. Find out more about ACPE at <https://acpe.edu>

7. Person's Seeking a Call:

The Committee reminds pastors and elders that the Committee on Preparation for Ministry should be contacted when a church member begins to consider exploring a call to ministry and making plans to attend seminary. The Committee wants to consult with the potential inquirer before they making a decision about which seminary to attend. Church Sessions. A member of the CPM would be pleased to meet with the session before it interviews the person and considers an endorsement. It is hoped that people considering the Ministry of Word and Sacrament as a Teaching Elder will have given significant service to their church and demonstrated leadership in their churches before they consider becoming inquirers and asking for session endorsement. It is advisable to complete the required Career Counseling Program and become an Inquirer before beginning seminary. In addition, several PC(USA) seminaries have significant scholarships for outstanding students identified by their church and the Presbytery before they begin seminary. For information on the process, please contact Cheryl Carson, CFP Staff Support to CPM at: ccarson@cfpresbytery.org or visit the web site at: [http:// www.cfpresbytery.org/teaching-elder-ministry-process.html](http://www.cfpresbytery.org/teaching-elder-ministry-process.html).

Candidates		
Name [Candidacy date] (CPM Liaison)	Church	Seminary (graduation)
Jean Homrighausen+*# (Laura Walters Baskett)	Maitland	Columbia Theological Seminary (December 2021)
Josue Raymond + # [10/19/2017] (Craig Sumey)	First, Lake Mary	Asbury Theological Seminary (May 11, 2019)
Katie Rives +! (Chris Carson)	GraceWay, Leesburg	Dubuque Theological Seminary (December 2022)
Sharon Tatum *+ (Laura Walters Baskett)	Church of the Lakes, Orlando	Dubuque Theological Seminary (May 2023)
Carmen Torman+ (Jim Pate)	Church of the Lakes, Orlando	Dubuque Theological Seminary

Inquirers		
Name (CPM Liaison)	Church	Seminary
Terri Bassett (Nancy Gard)	Glenwood	Asbury Theological Seminary (May 2023)
Janira Colon+ (Laurie Farquharson)	El Redentor, Oviedo	Wesleyan Seminary (accredited Spanish language M.Div. program) (December 2021)
Marcie Samuelson (Nancy Gard)	First, Leesburg	Dubuque Theological Seminary

* Candidates on pulpit supply list.

! Candidates who are Certified Ready to Be Examined for a Call

Ruling Elders with authorization by CPM to Preside over the Lord's Supper when invited by a Session.

+Seminary graduates

Educators in Endorsement/Certification Process		
Name	Church	Process
Ashley Camp	Westminster by the Sea, Daytona Beach Shores	Christian Education Associate

CANDIDACY FAITH JOURNEY NARRATIVE

My name is Carmen Janira Colon, I am originally from Puerto Rico and a resident of Florida for the last 28 years. I was born and raised in a Christian home and grateful to God for the Christian education I received right from my birth by my parents, grandparents and family. I am the youngest of three siblings and the second to receive the call to be a minister of the Word and Sacraments. My mother is still with us, while my father already lives in the heavenly abodes. Being a parent is not easy and as we say, it does not come with an instruction manual. However, my parents listened well to the voice of the Lord by raising us in a home that depended on God in everything and for everything, thus developing the leaders that God created for his glory. It was in our home and at the age of eight that through an elder from the church the Lord told my mother that I had been chosen to carry his word.

From there my life continued and although I understood that the call was there, my circumstances did not allow me to fulfill said call. It was in the year 2008 that the Lord once again called me as an adult and my heart burned to attend and respond to that call. There I began my theological studies, completing my bachelor's degree in theology and then I began my Master's degree in Divinity from which I graduated in the year 2021. During this journey of preparation is when my faith has really been refined like gold and where I have been shown that God's timing is perfect. After my Master's degree where my husband was my greatest support and help, the Lord called him into his presence and just two months after his departure, my eldest daughter was diagnosed with breast cancer. Given where I come from and where I am, I can say that I am at the moment of living under the pure grace and sovereignty of God. These experiences have led me to learn to give thanks to the Lord at all times, in all circumstances, and has been where my faith has really manifested itself in all its splendor.

I live grateful for my life in marriage and for the total healing of my husband. He no longer suffers, there is no disease, he is no longer connected to machines, but he enjoys the total, pure, and perfect protection of Christ and my hope is that we will meet again. He is not with me now, but he is with Jesus in heavenly abodes while Jesus is with me here on earth. I have been able to experience God's healing in different ways. In my husband's life by calling him into his presence

and healing for eternity and in my daughter's life by being free of cancer and being able to resume her life with her family.

These life experiences, together with recognizing that I am not worthy of the call and that only God in his mercy chose me and has prepared me, have made me a witness of God's sovereignty and his unmerited grace. This walk of faith has prepared me for the ministry of God and although it seemed to be on hiatus for many years, God only prepared the way for me to respond with not only academic preparation but with the preparation of living testimony. Let us remember that for God one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years are like one day. The call has not expired, the call has been transformed and now I can answer without a single doubt: "here I am, Lord, send me." It cannot be otherwise than the way God already planned and predestined it. Today I respond with affirmation, jubilation, and joy.

STATED CLERK'S REPORT

Central Florida Presbytery

June 1, 2023

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **New Life Administrative Commission.** That Central Florida Presbytery form an administrative commission to support the session and congregation of New Life Presbyterian Church, Fruitland Park, and that the commission be given full constitutional authority, if needed (make decisions on pastoral leadership (G-3.0109b(5)), assume original jurisdiction (G-3.0303e)).

The responsibilities of the commission shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Acknowledging the difficult journey the congregation has been on since the loss of Pastor Jim Keegan last summer, assist the Session in determining the best option for pastoral leadership moving forward.
2. Analyze the financial standing of the congregation and assess ways to improve the congregation's stewardship and income potential, and assist the session in making any decisions regarding future expenditures in the budget.
3. Assist the session to develop a plan for the revitalization and viability of the congregation.
4. Guide the session in reviewing and evaluating the integrity of New Life's membership within Central Florida Presbytery, and considering ways in which their participation is to be grounded in Presbyterian principles and order, and then increased and made more meaningful.

After assessing these and related options, and after final consultation with the congregation, if the administrative commission and session determines that the congregation should be closed, report that to presbytery and follow the presbytery's guidelines for dissolving a congregation.

The moderator shall appoint the members of this commission when they are available.

2. **Bushnell Administrative Commission.** That Central Florida Presbytery form an administrative commission to support the session and congregation of Bushnell Presbyterian Church, and that the commission be given full constitutional authority, if needed (make decisions on pastoral leadership (G-3.0109b(5)), assume original jurisdiction (G-3.0303e)).

The responsibilities of the commission shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Analyze the current state of the congregation and assess its future viability.
2. If continued ministry is envisioned, assist the session to develop a plan for the revitalization of the congregation.
3. Assist the session in addressing the need for pastoral leadership.

After assessing these and related issues, and after consultation with the members of the congregation, if the administrative commission and session determines that the congregation should be closed, report that to presbytery and follow the presbytery's guidelines for dissolving a congregation.

The moderator shall appoint the members of this commission when they are available.

ITEMS FOR MINUTES

1. **Allegation Received.** Pursuant to D-10.0103, the Stated Clerk reports the receipt of a written statement of an alleged offense against a member of presbytery. As required, without undertaking further inquiry, the statement has been referred to an investigating committee appointed by the Moderator on May 23, 2023. Members of the IC: Melanie Ruta, Stacy Chandler, Mike Woods.

2. **Palmdale AC Final Report.** The Administrative commission that oversaw the dissolution of the Palmdale Presbyterian Church has submitted its final report. The actions of the commission become the actions of the presbytery with the filing of this report, unless the presbytery acts to modify the decisions of the commission in any way.

RECOMMENDATION: that Presbytery refer the responsibility of creating Guidelines and an Application for the newly-created Palmdale Legacy Fund to COM, as that committee is responsible for examining Terms of Call for all installed and temporary relationships to ensure that Board of Pension requirements are met.

COMMENT: This will allow the AC to be dismissed, and as two members of the AC are currently serving on COM and are willing to work on these guidelines, there could be continuity between the AC and COM in completing this task.

With the filing of this final report, the Commission is automatically discharged with thanks for their work over the past 21+ months.

3. **PJC Reserve Roster.** D-5.0206b.: The designated stated clerk shall keep a current roster of those members of the permanent judicial commission whose terms have expired within the past six years. The names shall be arranged alphabetically within classes beginning with the most recent class. Whenever the permanent judicial commission reports its inability to obtain a quorum, the stated clerk shall immediately select, by rotation from that roster, a sufficient number of former members of the permanent judicial commission to constitute a quorum. The stated clerk shall report the roster annually to the council or councils.

Reserve Roster:

Class of 2022: Thomas Biery, Celia Keen, Melanie Ruta.

Class of 2020: Jane Callahan, Paige McRight, Mike Woods

Class of 2018: Linda Gibson, Milt Kirby, Carmelo Mercado

INFORMATION

1. **Speaking of GA ...** The Nominating Committee is beginning to secure nominees for CFP's delegation to the 226th General Assembly (June 25-July 4, 2024), for election in September. (These names need to be reported to OGA prior to December 2023.) For 2024, CFP needs to elect:

- Two ruling elder commissioners
- Two Minister of the Word and Sacrament commissioners
- One Young Adult Advisory Commissioner (usually secured by Leadership Development Committee).

2. **Board of Pensions.** The Board of Pensions has begun a season of discernment called [A Season of Rebuilding](#). The outcome of this process is to redesign the Benefits Plan to increase the number of people who can be enrolled in some or all of the benefits offered,

and to reduce the cost of the Plan where possible. A series of Virtual Town Halls is planned for June, July, and August, where members of the Plan and congregations, and others, can make their voices heard as to the priorities the Board should consider in this redesign. Please refer to the Executive Presbyter's article in the June eNews for more information about the Season of Rebuilding and the Virtual Town Halls.

3. **New CLC System.** The Church Leadership Connection is finally rolling out the [newly designed system](#) for seeking a new pastor or call. The new system goes into effect on June 5. The current CLC system will continue to function for three months after the rollout, or until the end of August 2023. If you have a PIF or MIF in the current system, it will continue to work as it always has, giving you time to convert your document to the new forms.

With the new system comes new forms and descriptions. The current Ministry Information Form used by search committees now will be the Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP). The companion form used by call seekers, the Personal Information Form, is now the Personal Discernment Profile (PDP). Much in these new forms is the same as before, but there are some important differences which will become apparent when the forms are accessed.

WHAT TO DO NOW: Log onto the [new CLC system](#) and create a user profile for yourself (call seeker) or search committee. You must register on the system to be able to use it. Then you can complete the new version of the form you need to upload and have it ready to go before the current system turns into a pumpkin on August 31.

Christina Greenawalt and I are attending a webinar about the new call system on May 31, and should be more up to speed on it to answer any questions you may have as we all adjust to this new reality.

4. **Hurricane season.** The 2023 Atlantic hurricane season began today, June 1, and continues through November 30. The FLAPDAN Director, Kathy Broyard, will address presbytery at this meeting. Sessions should make sure their disaster/emergency plans are up to date and take other actions recommended by FLAPDAN.

The names of storms this year are Arlene, Bret, Cindy, Don, Emily, Franklin, Gert, Harold, Idalia, Jose Katia, Lee, Margot, Nigel, Ophelia, Philippe, Rina, Sean, Tammy, Vince, Whitney.

5. **Call to Health.** Lower your 2024 medical deductible by completing the Board of Pensions' Call to Health. Reaching the 1,000-point goal will result in a 0.5% reduction in the initial deductible from 1.5% of effective salary to 1.0%. Earning another 500 points qualifies you for a \$50 gift card, and reaching 2,000 points yields another gift card. If you have an annual check-up with your primary care doctor and complete the annual assessment, you will be at 700 points. The deadline to complete the Call to Health is November 15. See more at the Board's web site, pensions.org.

**Palmdale Presbyterian Church
Administrative Commission – Final Report**

In September of 2021, Central Florida Presbytery voted to create an Administrative Commission to work with Palmdale Presbyterian Church in Melbourne, Florida. This was in response to stated concerns about the future of the church and at the suggestion of a team from the Committee on Ministry, which met with the church's session. Presbytery empowered the commission to have full constitutional authority to act on behalf of Central Florida Presbytery, including to assume original jurisdiction of the congregation and to make decisions concerning the pastoral ministry needs of the congregation.

Palmdale's session and congregation voted prior to the September Presbytery meeting to petition CFP to dissolve the congregation, including holding a final worship service, changing the focus of the Administrative Commission's tasks, but still within the remit of the AC's powers, as it was authorized in the event that dissolution of the congregation was the best option or finding that the congregation had become extinct, that the commission should follow the Presbytery's guidelines, "Dissolutions of a Congregation" and that the AC was to "conclude the affairs of the congregation."

Over the course of many meetings, the commission has worked through a detailed list of tasks to ensure that the desires of the congregation were known and respected, the records of the church were preserved, and the church property and contents were prepared for distribution and sale, respectively. The AC then determined the use of the proceeds of the sale of the property.

Summary of Actions of the Commission:

- The AC spoke with Fred Foy Strang and the session of Palmdale Presbyterian Church at separate meetings. The first task of the commission was to ensure that the members of the congregation were cared for. We have taken steps to identify members attending other local churches and to seek official transfer requests of those members. The church's desires regarding use of any proceeds from the sale of the property were also solicited so that they can be respected. A member of the session was invited to become part of the Commission to be the voice of the congregation in considering its desires, and Pat Blanz volunteered for the position.
- The AC worked with staff at the church to transfer control of the church property to Central Florida Presbytery to ensure continuity in utilities, contracts, and other obligations. Meals-on-Wheels was able to continue to operate from the building. Severance packages were created for staff, including an office worker who remained as part-time staff to help the Presbytery and AC continue to have a physical presence in the building, package files, and transition accounts.
- Christina Greenawalt and the AC worked to obtain the Minute Books and Church Register. Files of the church were reviewed and historical documents inventoried and boxed to be taken to the Historical Society. Office and Financial files that needed to be retained for tax purposes were similarly boxed and will be kept at the Presbytery Offices. Files that were no longer needed were shredded.
- The contents of the buildings were inventoried and the AC made efforts to ensure that items of sentimental and historical value to members of the congregation were able to be taken by them. In particular, names from memorial plaques were able to be requested by family members to remember their loved ones. The AC worked with Presbytery staff to reach out to congregations that had small memberships or were going through renewal programs to give them priority in obtaining items from Palmdale, but also gave opportunity to all churches in the Presbytery to pick up items

from the church. In particular, we were glad to see St. Luke's in Titusville move the organ from the sanctuary to their church.

- The AC worked with Foundry to place the property on the market, reviewed offers and agreed to terms for the sale of the property. The sale was finalized in early May, 2022. There were several provisions that were agreed upon, including continued access to the building for 30 days to facilitate additional items being removed, and a request that should the building be planned for demolition in the future, Central Florida Presbytery be allowed to claim structural items that remained as part of the sale, such as pews and a stained glass window in the sanctuary.
- The AC will discussed recommendations for what to do with the proceeds of the sale of the property, taking into consideration the requests of the members that were conveyed to us and finding ways of honoring the memory and impact of Palmdale Presbyterian Church, so that its memory may continue to minister to other congregations of Central Florida Presbytery. The distribution of funds consists of the following:

Donation	Amount	Rationale
Central Florida Presbytery	\$123,003.70	10% to Presbytery to support its work (undesignated)
Dona Neal	\$1,000.00	Gift to Palmdale secretary (she normally would have received a greater severance than what was given at the time of the church closing)
Presbyterian Church of the Good Shepherd	\$1,000.00	These gifts to churches in Brevard County reflect the connection that Palmdale felt to the other congregations in shared mission work through the BIRP organization and a pastor's connection group in which Palmdale was involved. It was a desire that these gifts be undesignated, to be used by the churches in support of their work and ongoing mission in Brevard County.
FPC Palm Bay	\$1,000.00	
FPC Sebastian	\$1,000.00	
St. Luke's Presbyterian Church	\$1,000.00	
Cocoa Presbyterian Church	\$1,000.00	
Pineda Presbyterian Church	\$1,000.00	
Riverside Presbyterian Church	\$1,000.00	
Rockledge Presbyterian Church	\$1,000.00	
Eastminster Presbyterian Church	\$1,000.00	
Merritt Island Presbyterian Church	\$1,000.00	
Local Habitat for Humanity	\$10,000.00	These gifts were made to local organizations with whom Palmdale had partnered in its mission work. The hope was that the efforts of these organizations, which was appreciated by many in the congregation, would continue to be a blessing to the communities they serve. Habitat and
Meals on Wheels	\$10,000.00	
South Brevard Sharing Center	\$6,000.00	

Local Salvation Army	\$6,000.00	Meals on Wheels were particularly beloved by the congregation, with many actively participating in the work. Palmdale partnered with Meals on Wheels as a staging location for decades.
Daily Bread	\$6,000.00	
Family Promise of Brevard	\$6,000.00	
Children's Hunger Project	\$6,000.00	
Operation Hope (Felsmere)	\$6,000.00	
Community of Hope (transitional housing for families)	\$6,000.00	
Maasai Special Projects Ministry	\$15,000.00	These mission organizations had been introduced to the congregation by Fred Foy Strang and there was a desire to honor his ministry and efforts at Palmdale with a gift to them.
Antioch Partners (Kenya)	\$15,000.00	
New Hope Mortgage	\$100,000.00	These gifts were to give support to a church and various mission efforts of the Presbytery and PC(USA), in recognition of Palmdale's historical partnership with the connectional work of the denominations that created and supported it.
PATH	\$6,000.00	
Cuba Partnership Team	\$6,000.00	
PDA	\$10,000.00	
FLAPDAN	\$10,000.00	
Anti-Racism Committee	\$6,000.00	
Lifeboat Project	\$6,000.00	
Serene Harbor	\$6,000.00	
ECHO (environmental hunger concerns), Ft. Myers	\$6,000.00	This gift was to support the mission and evangelism work of ECHO, a longtime partner of several churches in the BIRP mission group.

Creation of the Palmdale Legacy Fund, a grant program operated through Central Florida Presbytery	\$500,000.00	See notes below on rationale for the creation of this fund. The purpose will be to create grants to help with BOP benefit plan dues and possibly pay for designated/part time positions to give a solid chance to revitalize a church
To be added to the St. Mark's Legacy Fund	\$348,000.00	See notes below on rationale, but the AC felt that the proposed guidelines for the St. Mark's Legacy Fund matched our hopes for a grant program the AC was considering.

Rationale for Palmdale Legacy Fund: In the final years of Palmdale's history, the church struggled with stability in being able to employ a pastor to serve the congregation once they could no longer afford a full-time, installed pastor. The temporary contracted positions limited the options of who they could attract, and the longevity of those positions. A donation made to the church specifically to cover Board of Pension dues allowed Palmdale to hire Rev. Fred Foy Strang for two years, whose tenure at the church was deeply appreciated as being an opportunity to have stability, as well as accessing someone with revitalization skills and experience that gave the church a fighting chance to survive. The AC considered the value of the impact this gift had on the church and thought that the creation of a fund that helped churches who are struggling with similar issues would be a good way to honor the legacy of Palmdale Presbyterian Church, in the hopes that through helping with stability and revitalization efforts, another church would not have to close.

Rationale for Support of the St. Mark's Legacy Fund: Palmdale had a long history of ministry withing Brevard County, and in reminiscing over the church's past while going through it's historical documents revealed that the rebuilding after the hurricanes 2004 was significant to the church. The damage to the church took and years of recovery had a lasting impact on the viability of the church. It was hoped that a portion of the proceeds of the sale would be used to help other churches experiencing unexpected property damage problems that threatened the life of those churches to be supported through grants or 0% interest loans. As the AC heard of the work of the work being done with the St. Mark's Legacy Fund, we saw an overlap of interest. Rather than create a similar program and duplicating guideline or application processes, we felt it would be better to request that this portion of the proceeds of the sale of Palmdale's property be added to the St. Mark's Legacy Fund.

Final Recommendation

The Administrative Commission recommends that Council refer the responsibility of creating Guidelines and an Application for the newly-created Palmdale Legacy Fund to COM, as that committee is responsible for examining Terms of Call for all installed and temporary relationships to ensure that Board of Pension requirements are met. This will allow the AC to be dismissed, and as two members of the AC are currently serving on COM and are willing to work on these guidelines, there could be continuity between the AC and COM in completing this task.

The Commission would like to thank the staff of the Presbytery for their efforts in supporting our work with their time, presence, expertise, and contacts as we navigated both polity and legalities in dissolving the church and selling the property. We particularly thank Pat Blanz, who gave of her time

and knowledge, sharing her love of Palmdale Presbyterian Church as a member and Stated Clerk through a painful process to help us honor the legacy of this wonderful congregation. We also thank the individual members of the commission for their time and efforts in preserving the history and preparing the property, continually seeking ways in which Palmdale can continue to add to its legacy of service, connection, and faithful witness to Jesus Christ beyond the closing of its doors.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Debra Cox, AC Secretary