Suncoast Florida Presbytery
71st Stated Meeting

Held at
El Shaddai of Grace

Tuesday, February 10, 2026
10:00 am

Draft 1

Report of the STATED CLERK
SUNCOAST FLORIDA PRESBYTERY (SFP)
El Shaddai of Grace
Tuesday, February 10, 2026, 10:00am

I. Business Referred to the Stated Clerk: None

II. Recommendations:

1. Adopt the proposed **Docket**
2. Approve **Minutes** from the Stated Meeting on September 9, 2025 [CCN]
3. Approve **Minutes** from the Called Meeting on November 4, 2025 [GPC]
4. Approve **Minutes** from the Called Meeting on December 12, 2025 [CLC]
5. Receive **Minutes** from the Commission to Install TE Ben Sulser as Assistant Pastor at Grace.
6. Communications/Announcements
    i. Requests for Excused Absence:
        1. TE: Trent Casto
        2. Churches:
    ii. Please sign-in as a TE, RE, or visitor; mark "C" for voting commissioner (BCO 13-1) and "X" if just attending; and update contact info.
    iii. Other:
        1. Statistical reports are due in the Stated Clerk's office by February 27, 2026.
        2. Upcoming meetings: May 12 (Providence); September 8 (Covenant Life)

Respectfully Submitted,

TE David Stewart
Stated Clerk

71st Stated Meeting of the
SUNCOAST FLORIDA PRESBYTERY (SFP)
El Shaddai of Grace
Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 10:00 AM

DOCKET

I. **Welcome** - 10:00 am
II. **Worship and Communion** - 10:00-11:00 am
III. **Call to Order** – 11:00 am
IV. **Quorum**
V. **Introduction of Visitors**
VI. **The Stated Clerk's Report**
    a. Adopt the Docket
    b. Approve Minutes from the Stated Meeting on September 9, 2025 [CCN]
    c. Approve Minutes from the Called Meeting on November 4, 2025 [GPC]
    d. Approve Minutes from the Called Meeting on December 12, 2025 [CLC]
    e. Receive the Minutes of the Commission to Install Rev. Ben Sulser as Assistant Pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church.
    f. Excused Absences: TE Trent Casto
    g. Communications/Announcements:
VII. **Administrative Committee Report**
    a. Dr. Peter Lillback, Westminster Seminary
    b. Rev. Doug Warren, Standing Stone Ministry
    c. Treasurer's Report
    d. Judicial Commission Report
        1. Receive Minutes from May 9, 2025, September 9, 2025, October 1, 2025, October 6, 2025, October 23, 2025, and January 27, 2026
        2. Motion to dismiss the Commission with thanks.
    e. Report from the Commission for Faith/GraceLife Sarasota.
    f. Vote on **2025/2026 BCO Amendments from 52nd General Assembly**
    g. Motion to approve the Overture received from TE Steve Jeantet
    h. Nominations for **GA Permanent Committees and Agencies**
        1. **TE Trent Casto, Covenant Seminary**
        2. **TE Steve Jeantet, Administrative Committee**
    i. Nominations for **GA Committee of Commissioners**
        1. TE – Administration, Discipleship Ministries, Covenant Theological Seminary, Interchurch Relations, MNA, PCA Foundation
        2. RE – Covenant College, Geneva Benefits, MTW, Ridgehaven, RUF
        3. Overtures: TE James Baird (recommendation), RE
VIII. **Season of Prayer (15 minutes)**

IX. **Lunch**
X. **Candidates and Credentials Committee Report**
XI. **RUF Committee Report**
XII. **Shepherding Committee Report**
XIII. **Outreach Committee Report**
XIV. **Review of Session Records Committee Report**
XV. **Adjourn with prayer.**

SUNCOAST FLORIDA PRESBYTERY
Minutes of the 70th Stated Meeting
September 9, 2025, 10:00am
Covenant Church of Naples

I. The gathering of the 70th Stated Presbytery began with a worship service at 10:00 am. TE Greg Blosser preached a sermon from Exodus 5 & 6. The brothers celebrated the grace of God in Holy Communion as the elders from Covenant Naples served the Lord's Supper.

II. RE Bruce Stanley (Moderator) called the **MEETING TO ORDER** at 11:27 a.m. and opened with prayer.

A. The Stated Clerk declared that a quorum was present. (BCO 13-4)

	TEACHING ELDER		CHURCH, MINISTRY, or STATUS	May 13	July 24	Sept 9
1	Wayne	Alder	*Chaplain*	E	E	E
2,	Kenneth	Aldrich	Covenant Life – Sarasota, FL	E	E	P
3	John	Anderson	Bay – Bonita Springs, FL	P	E	P
4	Todd	Augustine	Out of Bounds	A	E	P
5	James	Baird	Covenant – Naples, FL	P	P	P
6	Chuck	Betters	Covenant – Naples FL	P	E	P
7	Greg	Blosser	Covenant – Naples, FL	P	E	P
8	Ryan	Broadhurst	Westminster – Fort Myers, FL	E	P	P
9	Bill	Broderick	Out of Bounds	P	E	A
10	Trent	Casto	Covenant – Naples, FL	P	E	P
11	Dann	Cecil	North Ft. Myers – N. Ft. Myers, FL	P	P	P
12	Anthony	Chin	Westminster – Ft. Myers, FL	E	E	P
13	Mike	Cosner	Oak River – Bonita Springs, FL	P	P	P
14	Daryl	Davis	*Honorably Retired*	E	E	E
15	Aaron	Dean	Covenant – Naples, FL	P	E	P
16	Robert	Dillard	Covenant Life – Sarasota, FL	E	P	P
17	Dwight	Dolby	Auburn Road – Venice, FL	P	P	P
18	Sainvil	Dorsainvil	El Shaddai – Naples, FL	A	E	P
20	John	Grady	*Honorably Retired*	E	E	E
21	Ted	Hamm	Without Call	E	E	E
22	Geoffrey	Henderson	Harbor – Bradenton, FL	P	E	E
23	Steven	Jeantet	New Creation – Sarasota, FL	P	P	P
24	Gage	Jordan	Westminster – Ft. Myers, FL	E	P	P
25	Scott	Kerens	Marco – Marco Island, FL	P	E	P
26	Brent	Lauder	Providence – Cape Coral, FL	E	E	P
27	Keith	Ledford	Faith – Sarasota, FL	P	P	P
28	Bill	Martin	Cornerstone – Bradenton, FL	E	E	E

29	Scott	Mawhinney	Out of Bounds		E	E	E
30	Gary	Ogrosky	Without Call		E	E	P
31	Robert	Petterson	Out of Bounds		A	E	E
32	Greg	Poland	Bay – Bonita Springs, FL		E	P	E
33	Steven	Schoof	Marco - Marco Island, FL		E	E	P
34	Thomas	Sidebotham	*Honorably Retired*		E	E	E
35	Vaughan	Stanley	*Honorably Retired*		E	E	E
36	David	Stewart	Grace - Lake Suzy, FL		P	P	P
37	Peter	Stonecipher	Providence – Cape Coral		P	P	P
38	Lucas	Tanner	RUF @ FGCU		P	E	P
39	Yaroslav	Viazovski	Out of Bounds		E	E	E
40	Mike	Vieira	Covenant Life – Sarasota		P	E	P
41	Chris	Voorhees	Covenant – Naples, FL		P	E	P
42	Mitch	Wellborn	Without Call		A	E	A
43	Taylor	White	Cornerstone – Bradenton, FL		P	P	P
44	Brent	Whitefield	Covenant – Naples, FL		P	E	E
45	Patrick	Womack	Bay – Bonita Springs, FL		P	P	P
46	Philip	Woods	Cornerstone - Bradenton, FL		P	P	E
47	Paul	Wrigley	*Honorably Retired*		E	E	E
48	Aleksey	Zhuravlev	Covenant of Grace – North Port, FL		P	E	E
					24	**13**	**29**

	CHURCHES	2/11	5/13	7/24
1	**Auburn Road** – Venice	P-1	E	E
2	**Bay** - Bonita Springs	P-1	E	Ken Herbold (C)
3	**Cornerstone** - Bradenton	P-1	E	David Holmes (C)
4	**Covenant** – Naples	P-1	P-1	Akwete Adjei (C), Jamin Eastman (C), Craig Gorendyk (C), Ken Leahy (C), Skip Schoenhals
5	**Covenant Life** – Sarasota	P-3	P-3	Greg Clement (C), Chuck Janson, Brent Phillips (C), Stu Turnbull (C)
6	**Covenant of Grace** – NP	P-1	P-1	Aleksey Fomichenko (C)
7	**El Shaddai** – Naples	A	E	Luckner Antoine (C), Manuel Louisy (C)
8	**Faith** – Sarasota	P-1	E	Randy Coryell (C), Jeff Lawson (C)
9	**Grace** - Lake Suzy	P-3	P-3	Andy Mitchell (C)
10	**Harbor Community** – Bradenton	A	E	A
11	**Marco** - Marco Island	A	A	E
12	**North Ft. Myers** - North Ft. Myers	P-1	P-1	Ron Lotterman (C)
13	**Oak River** - Bonita Springs	A	E	Phil Guida (C)
14	**Providence** – Cape Coral	P-3	P-2	Frank Chihowski (C), Ron Henzel (C), Mike Levenhagen
15	**Westminster** - Ft. Myers	P-4	P-1	Jim Lee (C), Bruce Stanley (C)
16	**Word of Life** - North Port	P-1	E	Ron Breen (C)
		21	**12**	**25**

B. Visitors were introduced: Mr. Jean Beaudilai, Mr. Ben Broderson, Mr. Caleb Burnison (RTS – Orlando), Mr. John Chung (Covenant Seminary), Rev. Joe Davis, Mr. Elisha Fowler (Candidate under care), Mr. Daniel Lacaci, Mr. Nick McCarty, Mr. Diego Monge, Mr. Michael Moore, Mr. Travis Stewart (Covenant Seminary).

C. **MSC** to grant the privilege of the floor to visiting pastors and elders.

III. STATED CLERK'S REPORT

A. TE David Stewart opened in prayer.

B. **MSC to APPROVE THE DOCKET. (Appendix #1)**

C. **MSC to APPROVE THE MINUTES** of the 69th Stated meeting held on May 13, 2025, at Grace PCA.

D. **MSC to APPROVE THE MINUTES** of the Called meeting held on July 24, 2025, via Zoom.

E. Received the **MINUTES of the Candidates and Credentials Committee acting as a Commission** on July 21, 2025. **(Appendix #2)**

F. Received the **MINUTES of the Commission to Install** TE Tony Chin as Associate Pastor at Westminster Presbyterian Church. **(Appendix #2) MSC** to dismiss the Commission with thanks. **(Appendix #3)**

G. **MSC** to give **EXCUSED ABSENCES** to TEs Geoff Henderson, Bill Martin, Scott Mawhinney, Bob Petterson, Greg Poland, Brent Whitefield, Phil Woods, Aleksey Zhuravlev and the Session of Auburn Road.

H. **MSC** to approve the following locations for **2026**:

1. Feb. 10 – Bay

2. May 12 – Providence

3.Sept. 8 – Covenant Life

I. Communications were shared from Third Mill and the AC of the General Assembly.

J. TE Stewart closed the report in prayer.

IV. REPORT of the COMMISSION to Advise and Facilitate the merger of Faith Sarasota and Grace Life Sarasota.

A. TE Steve Jeantet (chairman) opened the report with prayer and introduced Rev. Joe Davis, pastor of Grace Life Sarasota.

B. TE Jeantet closed with prayer

V. SEASON OF PRAYER

A. The Presbytery spent time in prayer with one another. TE Casto recessed us with prayer.

VI. ORDER OF THE DAY: LUNCH

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT partial report

A. The Moderator called the Presbytery back to order and TE Patrick Womack opened the afternoon session and the report with prayer at 1:05 p.m.

B. Mr. John Chung, Covenant Seminary came and shared about the seminary.

C. Mr. Caleb Burnison, Reformed Theological Seminary – Orlando came and shared about the seminary.

D. TE Steve Jeantet gave the **Financial Report** and presented the **2026 Budget** in the absence of the Treasurer. **(Appendix #4)**

E. **MSC** to approve the **2026 Budget** as presented.

F. **MSC** to approve the following **Responses** to the **Report of the Review of Presbytery Records.**

2025-01: Feb 13, 2024 (*BCO* 13-10) — No record of transfer or dismissal of members upon dissolving a church.

Response: The Presbytery notes the irregularity of this action and will endeavor to be more careful in the future. A note has been added to the Feb. 13, 2024, reference stating: "There were no members of this mission work."

2025-02: May 14, 2024 (*BCO* 34-10) — No record of 2/3 vote to divest without censure.

Response: The Presbytery regrets the oversight of this action. A note was added to the May 14, 2024, reference stating: "The vote was unanimous."

G. **MSC** to elect TE Trent Casto as **Moderator** for 2026.

H. **MSC** to elect the following nominations for the Class of 2028 **(Appendix #5).**

1. **Administrative Committee:** TE Mike Cosner and RE Jim Lee.
2. **Candidates and Credentials Committee:** TE Brent Lauder, TE Trent Casto, RE Ron Lotterman, and RE Tom Lynch.
3. **Outreach Committee:** TE Geoff Henderson and RE Bob Rhodes
4. **RUF Committee:** TE Bill Broderick and RE Phil Guida.
5. **Review of Session Records:** TE Dwight Dolby
6. **Shepherding Committee:** TE Dwight Dolby and RE Skip Schoenhals.

I. **MSC** to elect TE Chris Vorhees for the Shepherding Committee Class of 2028 to replace TE Arnold Brevick, who was called to glory**.**

VIII. CANDIDATES AND CREDENTIALS REPORT

A. TE Peter Stonecipher opened with prayer.

B. TE Stonecipher noted the recent change of status for TE Tony Chin, who was called out of Honorable Retirement to serve Westminster Presbyterian Church as Associate Pastor.

C. TE Stonecipher introduced Mr. Elisha Fowler to be examined to come under care of the Presbytery.

1. **MSC** to approve the examination on experiential religion and on his motives for seeking the ministry. Mr. Fowler has been a member of Faith Church Sarasota for more than 6 months. The Committee found the testimonials satisfactory. The application was submitted more than 30 days prior to the meeting.
2. The **Moderator** propounded the questions from ***BCO* 18-3** which were answered in the affirmative.

3. TE Keith Ledford gave a brief charge to the candidate and concluded with prayer.

D. TE Stonecipher closed with prayer.

IX. REPORT of the JUDICIAL COMMISSION established at the Stated Meeting of May 13, 2025.

A. TE Mike Cosner (Chairman) opened with prayer.

B. TE Cosner gave an update on the progress of the judicial issue.

C. TE Cosner closed with prayer.

X. RUF REPORT

A. RE Ken Herbold opened the report with prayer.

B. Campus minister Lucas Tanner came and shared about the work of RUF at FGCU. TE Tanner introduced Mr. Diego who shared his story with the Presbytery. **(Appendix #6).**

C. RE Herold closed the report with prayer.

XI. SHEPHERDING COMMITTEE.

A. TE Dwight Dolby (interim chairman) opened the report with prayer.

B. TE Dolby gave an update on Word of Life Church in North Port, FL after the passing of TE Arnold Brevick. TE Dolby prayed for RE Breen.

C. Reports were received from TE Gary Ogrosky (without call), Slava Viazovski (laboring out of bounds), TE Robert Petterson (laboring out of bounds), and Mrs. Deb Raduns (Presbytery Women's Ministry Coordinator). **(Appendix #7)**

D. TE Dolby closed the report with prayer.

XII. OUTREACH REPORT

A. TE Gage Jordan opened the report with prayer in the absence of the chairman.

B. TE Jordan gave updates on several works being supported by the Outreach Committee.

C. **MSC** to approve the temporary Session for Anchor Presbyterian Church, a Mission Church, consisting of TE Greg Blosser (moderator), TE Aaron Dean, RE Mark Barineau, RE Jamin Eastman, RE Brian Hill and RE Skip Schoenhals.

D. TE Steve Jeantet shared about New Creation Mission Church.

E. RE Rhodes closed the report with prayer.

XIII. REVIEW OF PRESBYTERY RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT

A. The committee did not meet. Minutes from **July 2023-June 2024** were received from **Marco,** minutes from **2024** were received from **Cornerstone**, and minutes from **July 2024-June 2025** were received from **Grace**. The **2024** minutes of **Auburn Road, Bay,** and **Covenant Church of Naples** should be submitted for review by **December 30, 2025.** The **July 2024-June 2025** minutes of **Faith, Marco, N. Fort Myers, Oak River, Westminster,** and **Word of Life** should be submitted for review by **December 30, 2025.**

There being no further business, it was **MSC** to adjourn the Presbytery meeting with prayer by TE Stewart at 2:33 p.m.

TE David Stewart
Stated Clerk

70th Stated Meeting of the
SUNCOAST FLORIDA PRESBYTERY (SFP)
Covenant Church Naples
Tuesday, September 9, 2025, at 10:00 AM

DOCKET

I. **Welcome** - 10:00 am
II. **Worship and Communion** - 10:00-11:00 am
III. **Call to Order** – 11:00 am
IV. **Quorum**
V. **Introduction of Visitors**
VI. **The Stated Clerk's Report**
   a. Adopt the Docket
   b. Approve Minutes from the Stated Meeting on May 13, 2025 [GPC]
   c. Approve Minutes from the Called Meeting on July 24, 2025 [ZOOM]
   d. Receive Minutes from Candidates and Credentials Committee acting as a Commission on July 21, 2025.
   e. Receive the Minutes of the Commission to Install Rev. Tony Chin as Associate Pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church.
   f. Presbytery locations for 2026
   g. Excused Absences: Bill Martin, Brent Whitefield
   h. Communications/Announcements:
VII. **Report from Commission for Faith and Grace Life Sarasota**
VIII. **Administrative Committee Report**
   a. Mr. John Chung, Covenant Seminary
   b. Mr. Caleb Burnison, RTS Orlando
   c. Treasurer's Report
   d. 2026 Budget
   e. Nomination of **Moderator** for 2026.
   f. Nominations for vacancies on Presbytery Permanent Committees and class of 2028.
IX. **Season of Prayer (15 minutes)**
X. **Lunch**
XI. **Candidates and Credentials Committee Report**
XII. **Reports from Judicial Commission.**
XIII. **RUF Committee Report**
XIV. **Shepherding Committee Report**
XV. **Outreach Committee Report**
XVI. **Review of Session Records Committee Report**
XVII. **Adjourn with prayer.**

MINUTES of the CANDIDATES & CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE
Acting as a Commission (Standing Rules 7.7.2.3)
Via Google Meet
Tuesday, July 21, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

I. The meeting was opened with prayer by TE Peter Stonecipher at 1:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

II. Approval of TE Tony Chin's call to Westminster PCA

A. TE Chin stated no changes to his stated differences.
B. **MSP** to approve TE Tony Chin's call as Associate Pastor at Westminster Presbyterian Church. **APPENDIX #1**
G. **MSP** to establish a commission of TE Ryan Broadhurst (convener), TE Gage Jordan, RE Mo McClaran and RE Randy Thomas.

III. **MSP** to adjourn the meeting. RE Ron Henzel closed in prayer at 1:45 p.m.

IV. Committee Members Present

Church	**Member**
Covenant Naples	TE James Baird
North Ft. Myers	RE Ron Lotterman
Providence	TE Peter Stonecipher
Providence	RE Ron Henzel
Westminster	TE Ryan Broadhurst

Respectfully submitted,
TE Peter Stonecipher

Call Letter to Tony Chin

The **Westminster Presbyterian Church**, being on sufficient grounds well-satisfied of the ministerial qualifications of you, **Reverend Tony Chin**, and having good hopes from our knowledge of your labors that your ministrations in the Gospel will be profitable to our spiritual interests, do earnestly call you to undertake the office of Associate Pastor of our congregation, promising you, in the discharge of your duty, all proper support, encouragement, and obedience in the Lord.

Due to his unique circumstances, **Rev. Chin** plans to serve on a part-time voluntary basis without salary. The church will reimburse him for ministry-related expenses up to **$1,200** annually during the time of his being and continuing as Associate Pastor of this church.

I, having moderated the Congregational meeting which extended a call as Associate Pastor of Shepherding to Tony Chin, do certify that the call has been made in all respects according to the rules laid down in the Book of Church Order, and that the persons who signed the call do so by vote of the Congregation.

In testimony whereof we have respectively subscribed our names this 22nd day of June, A.D. 2025.

_____

Reverend Ryan Broadhurst, Moderator /s/

_____

Jim Lee, Clerk *pro tem* /s/

APPENDIX 3

Report of the COMMISSION TO INSTALL

Rev. Tony Chin as Associate Pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church
SUNCOAST FLORIDA PRESBYTERY (SFP)

Report of the Commission to install Rev. Tony Chin as Associate Pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church.

The Commission met on Sunday, August 17, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 9065 Ligon Court, Ft. Myers, Florida, 33908. A quorum was present.

Commission members present were: TE Ryan Broadhurst, TE Gage Jordan, RE Mo McClaran, RE Bruce Stanley, and RE Randy Thomas.

The Commission meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by TE Broadhurst. TE Broadhurst was elected chairman and TE Gage Jordan was elected Secretary of the Commission. The order of Worship was reviewed and approved by the Commission. The minutes were read and approved. The Commission recessed with prayer by RE Stanley for the installation service.

The Chairman presided in the sanctuary service, which was opened with singing, prayer and Scripture reading. The sermon was preached by TE Gage Jordan on the text 1 Peter 5:1-4 – "God Gave Us Elders."

The Chairman stated briefly the previous proceedings of the Presbytery, and pointed out the nature and importance of the installation ordinance. The Chairman propounded the constitutional questions to the Minister (BCO 21.9) and these were answered in the affirmative. The Chairman then propounded the constitutional questions to the Congregation (BCO 21.10), and these were answered in the affirmative by the Session.

RE McClaran led in prayer as Rev. Tony Chin was installed as Associate Pastor of the congregation. He then rose and the Members of the Commission gave him the right hand of fellowship. The Chairman then declared that Rev. Tony Chin had been regularly elected and installed as Associate Pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church.

A charge to the Pastor was delivered by TE Broadhurst. A charge to the congregation was delivered by the TE Broadhurst. Following prayer and singing, Rev. Tony Chin pronounced the benediction. The minutes having been approved, the Benediction closed this portion of the Commission's business.

Signed /s/
TE Gage P. Jordan, Secretary

SUNCOAST FLORIDA PRESBYTERY
INCOME AND DISBURSEMENTS
2025 YTD Actual vs. Budget and 2026 Budget Proposal

	Jan 1 - Aug 31 2025	2025 ANNUAL BUDGET	Over (Under) Budget	2026 ANNUAL BUDGET	Comments
Income:					
Membership contributions (details attached)	30,659	53,000	(22,341)	53,000	
Disbursements:					
Administrative:					
Clerk's honorarium	4,125	5,500	(1,375)	5,500	
Representatives to Overtures at GA	1,750	1,750	-	2,000	
Directors and officer's Insurance	-	500	(500)	500	
Donation - General Assembly	-	500	(500)	500	
Other office and administration expense	-	500	(500)	500	
Emergency Fund	-	2,000	(2,000)	1,000	For emergency assistance of churches or pastors per S.R.; Proposing to decrease $1k based on trend from previous years
Total Administration Disbursements	**5,875**	**10,750**	**(4,875)**	**10,000**	
Outreach:					
Church Support	42,000	69,000	(27,000)	42,000	Committee is saving $27k from 2025 budget and would like to use it in 2026.
Other Outreach Expense	-	-	-	-	
Total Outreach Disbursements	**42,000**	**69,000**	**(27,000)**	**42,000**	
RUF:					
Donation - RUF	11,000	22,000	(11,000)	22,000	
Donation - RUF Interns from our presbytery	1,000	2,000	(1,000)	2,000	For RUF interns being sent by our presbytery
Donation - RUF FGCU Interns	1,000	2,000	(1,000)	2,000	For RUF interns serving at FGCU within our bounds
Total RUF Disbursements	**13,000**	**26,000**	**(13,000)**	**26,000**	50% of budgeted amount sent in March; the remaining to be sent this fall
Shepherding:					
Continuing Education - RE's and TE's	3,000	3,000	-	3,000	Jonny Gibson and Stafford Carson for Continuing Pastoral Education
Other Shepherding expense	-	1,000	(1,000)	1,000	
Total Shepherding Disbursements	**3,000**	**4,000**	**(1,000)**	**4,000**	
Total Disbursements	**63,875**	**109,750**	**(45,875)**	**82,000**	
Net increase (decrease) in cash	**(33,216)**	**(56,750)**	**23,534**	**(29,000)**	
Cash Balance, Beginning of Year	**70,168**	**70,168**	**-**	**40,418**	Ending Budgeted Cash plus $27k carry over from Outreach Committee
Cash Balance, End of Period	**$ 36,951**	**$ 13,418**	**$ 23,534**	**$ 11,418**	

SUNCOAST FLORIDA PRESBYTERY
SCHEDULE OF SUPPORT - TRAILING 12 MONTHS

	Sept 24	Oct 24	Nov 24	Dec 24	Jan 25	Feb 25	Mar 25	Apr 25	May 25	Jun 25	Jul 25	Aug 25	2025 TOTAL	12 MONTH TOTAL
Auburn Road Presbyterian Church	$ 200	$ 400	$ 200	$ 200	$ 200	$ 200	$ 200	$ 200	$ 200	$ 200	$ 200	$ 200	$ 1,600	$ 2,600
Bay Presbyterian Church	$ 500	$ 500	$ 500	$ 500	$ 500	$ 500	$ 500	$ 500	$ 500	$ 500	$ 500	$ 500	$ 4,000	$ 6,000
Cornerstone Church of Lakewood Ranch	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 750	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 750	$ 750
Covenant of Grace Presbyterian Church	$ 80	$ 80	$ 80	$ 80	$ 80	$ 80	$ 80	$ 80	$ 80	$ 80	$ 80	$ 80	$ 640	$ 960
Covenant Life Presbyterian Church, Sarasota	$ 575	$ 575	$ 575	$ 575	$ 575	$ 575	$ 575	$ 575	$ 575	$ 575	$ 575	$ -	$ 4,025	$ 6,325
Covenant Presbyterian Church of Naples	$ 1,250	$ 1,250	$ 1,250	$ 1,250	$ 1,250	$ 1,250	$ 1,250	$ 1,250	$ 1,250	$ 1,250	$ 1,250	$ 1,250	$ 10,000	$ 15,000
El Shaddai of Grace Church	$ 50	$ 50	$ 50	$ 50	$ 50	$ 50	$ 50	$ 50	$ 50	$ 50	$ 50	$ -	$ 350	$ 550
Grace Presbyterian Church	$ 800	$ -	$ -	$ 800	$ -	$ -	$ 800	$ 100	$ -	$ 900	$ -	$ -	$ 1,800	$ 3,400
Harbor Community Church	$ 250	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 250	$ -	$ -	$ 250	$ -	$ 250	$ -	$ -	$ 750	$ 1,000
Marco Presbyterian Church	$ 605	$ -	$ -	$ 605	$ -	$ -	$ 605	$ -	$ -	$ 605	$ -	$ -	$ 1,211	$ 2,421
North Fort Myers Presbyterian Church	$ 1,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000
Oak River Church	$ 25	$ 25	$ 25	$ 25	$ 25	$ 25	$ 25	$ 25	$ 25	$ 25	$ 25	$ 25	$ 200	$ 300
Providence Christian Church		$ 810	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 810
Westminster Presbyterian Church	$ 667	$ 667	$ 667	$ 667	$ 667	$ 667	$ 667	$ 667	$ 667	$ 667	$ 667	$ 667	$ 5,333	$ 8,000
Word of Life Church of North Port	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 500	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 500
Total Deposit	**$ 6,002**	**$ 4,357**	**$ 3,347**	**$ 5,252**	**$ 3,597**	**$ 3,347**	**$ 4,752**	**$ 3,697**	**$ 4,097**	**$ 5,102**	**$ 3,347**	**$ 2,722**	**$ 30,659**	**$ 49,617**

APPENDIX #5

Presbytery Committee Rosters

(List Revised 05/13/25)

(C) = Chairman	Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Administrative Committee (6) Ex-officio members: • **Stated Clerk** • **Treasurer** • **Moderator**	TE Mike Cosner RE Jim Lee	TE Patrick Womack (C) RE Mike Levenhagen	TE Steve Jeantet RE Bruce Stanley	TE Mike Cosner RE Jim Lee
Candidate and Credentials (12)	TE Brent Lauder TE Trent Casto RE Ron Lotterman RE Tom Lynch	TE James Baird TE Scott Kerens TE Ryan Broadhurst RE Dennis Royall	TE Dann Cecil TE Peter Stonecipher RE Ron Henzel RE Jim Robinson	TE Brent Lauder TE Trent Casto RE Ron Lotterman RE Tom Lynch
Outreach Committee (6)	TE Geoff Henderson RE Bob Rhodes	TE Mike Vieira RE Brent Phillips	TE Gage Jordan RE Aleksey Fomichenko	TE Geoff Henderson RE Bob Rhodes
RUF Committee (6)	TE Bill Broderick RE	TE Keith Ledford RE Ron Breen	TE John Anderson RE Ken Herbold	TE Bill Broderick RE Phil Guida
Review of Session Records Committee (3) Ex-officio members: • **Stated Clerk**	TE Dwight Dolby	RE Gordon Graham	TE Bob Dillard	TE Dwight Dolby
Shepherding Committee (6)	TE Dwight Dolby RE Skip Schoenhals	TE Chris Vorhees RE Jim Robinson	TE Steve Schoof RE Brent Phillips	TE Dwight Dolby RE Skip Schoenhals

APPENDIX #6

TE Lucas Tanner gave a report to the committee

- Lucas reported that 111 students attended RUF's Summer Conference in Panama City Beach. This was the largest group from any campus in the country this year, and possibly the largest in Summer Conference history since the 1980s.
- Shortly after the conference, Christina and Travon were married. Lucas assisted their North Carolina pastor with the ceremony. Later in the summer, the ministry hosted a packing party for them before their move to Washington, D.C.
- A weekly Bible study was held over the summer with about 50 students attending. The group went through Tim Keller's Gospel in Life.
- Lucas continued meeting one-on-one with students, though less frequently than during the school year, and also preached in supporting churches and did fundraising.
- At university freshman orientations, the ministry collected contact information from 200+ incoming freshmen, a significant increase from last year. In addition, an ultimate frisbee game hosted near the freshman dorms provided another couple dozen contacts and helped build relationships.
- Noah led the summer Bible study and freshman outreach, giving Lucas time to focus on other tasks.
- Lucas and Noah attended RUF staff training in Denver. Lucas was invited to teach a seminar on student leadership teams for third-year ministers and staff.
- A new intern, Mikaela Sesler (UCLA), successfully completed her fundraising and arrived in Fort Myers on August 13. Other interns—Caedmon, Sean, Josh, and Sara—all reached their fundraising goals and began work on their respective campuses.
- Classes began on August 18. Two days prior, RUF hosted a welcome-back dinner and pool party with about 60 students attending. This event also introduced changes to the leadership structure.
- The new layered leadership structure divides responsibility among 10 ministry teams: Music, Large Group, Events, Recreation, Connections, Small Groups, Prayer, Media, First-Year Fellowship, and Care. Each team has 1–2 student captains and a staff coach. Captains also serve on the Care Team for coordination and oversight.
- The first two large group meetings drew 240 and 250 students, the largest gatherings in RUF's history at FGCU. Lucas began a teaching series on the "I AM" statements of Jesus.
- Lucas started offering weekly office hours on Wednesday mornings in the student union to give students the chance to discuss the previous night's sermon or ask him questions about Christianity.
- Welcome Week featured 4–5 events per week, including: casual dinners in dining halls, a campus-wide game of manhunt, and the first Trivia Night, which drew nearly 100 students and promoted community-building.
- The annual BBQ on the lawn was scheduled for tonight with preparations to feed 300 students. Additional Labor Day events are planned, including glow-in-the-dark ultimate frisbee and a pool party at the freshman dorms.

- Small groups will launch after Labor Day with eight studies offered (Micah, Romans 1–8, Attributes of God, 1 Peter, Jonah, James, 1 & 2 Timothy, Proverbs 1–9). Five of these leaders are leading for the first time.
- A new freshman ministry, First-Year Fellowship, will meet weekly with food, games, worship, and small-group discussion. The goal is to engage 50 freshmen consistently.
- Lucas reported that the Florida Fall Conference will be held September 12–14. Attendance is expected to exceed 400 students from seven campuses across the state. The goal for FGCU is to bring 30 or more freshmen.

- Both interns are contributing significantly. Mika has already proven herself as a reliable and hardworking addition to the team.
- Lucas shared a brief family update, reporting that his family is doing well.
- Lucas gave a financial update, noting that the RUF account is healthy.
- Lucas informed the committee of RUF's sabbatical policy, noting that ministry staff are eligible for a sabbatical every seventh year of employment. He requested approval to take a sabbatical in the summer of 2026.
- Lucas also requested that funds be transferred to intern Noah Brown's account to be used for financial coaching.

RUF GIVING - As of July 31, 2025

Founding Church Partners - Presbytery

Church	Monthly	YTD	Remaining	Total
Church 1	$1,600	$11,200	$8,000	$19,200
Church 2	$792	$5,542	$3,958	$9,500
Church 3	$0	$1,500	$1,500	$3,000
Church 4	$390	$2,730	$1,950	$4,680
Church 5	$1,250	$8,750	$6,250	$15,000

New Churches Partners - Presbytery

Church	Monthly	YTD	Remaining	Total
Church 6	$168	$1,166	$840	$2,006
Church 7	$400	$2,900	$1,900	$4,800
Church 8	$0	$82,930	$0	$82,930
Church 9	$115	$805	$575	$1,380
Church 10	$200	$1,400	$1,000	$2,400
Church 11	$345	$2,415	$1,725	$4,140
Church 12	$25	$175	$125	$300
Church 13	$100	$700	$500	$1,200
Church 14	$0	$0	$3,000	$3,000
Church 15	$30	$210	$150	$360

New Church Partners - Outside Presbytery

Church	Monthly	YTD	Remaining	Total
Church 16	$250	$1,750	$1,250	$3,000
Church 17	$0	$12,000	$0	$12,000
Church 18	$500	$7,500	$2,500	$10,000

Presbytery Giving

Presbytery	Monthly	YTD	Remaining	Total
Presbytery	$0	$13,000	$13,000	$26,000

Individual Partners

Individual	Monthly	YTD	Remaining	Total
29 Individuals	$4,600	$53,945	$23,000	$76,945

Totals

Source	Monthly	YTD	Remaining	Total
All Partners	$10,765	$210,618	$71,223	$281,841

2025 Budget
$237,068

Difference
$44,773

SUN

APPENDIX #7

1. Gary Ogrosky (without call). Since my last report to you in May, I helped David Stewart our Stated Clerk, by filling his pulpit at Grace Lake Suzy Presbyterian Church on August 17th. Then the following week, on August 24th, I filled the pulpit at Word of Life Church in North Port. At Covenant Church Naples, I continue to serve with our hospital visitation, I am continuing each month to serve Communion to our homebound members, and I serve as a Team Leader in Covenant's Shepherding Ministry… ~ Gary

2. Yaroslav (Slava) Viazovski, (Laboring out of bounds in Minsk, Belarus.) Dear friends, A very short update. It's written by Ben who has been serving in Belarus as a missionary (sent by his church in Kentucky) for over a decade. He is also a Minsk Reformed Seminary board member. Below he speaks about our latest student retreat which he organized in August. Enjoy the picture! Personally, I always love to see our students together, and now with their wives. Seeing these young men and women committed to serve Christ and His church in Belarus gives me peace and confidence during the difficult times in our country. ~ Slava

"Hello everybody! Recently we had the pleasure of hosting our first ever church planting retreat for our students. Two pastors from Great Britain - Pete Woodcock and Andy Bruins came to Minsk to share their experiences of church planting. We hired nannies for the 14(!) kids, and for 2 days our students and their wives were able to listen to and study the Word of God in lectures and workshops outside the city. Pete and Andy shared the three most common areas of failure for church planters - they are not truly converted, they do not listen to the Word themselves, or they do not serve but rather want to be served. They gave practical tips for preaching as well as leadership. They also shared about the importance of unity with other churches. They talked about 'hills to die on', causes for separation with cooperation, and which are matters of personal preference. They also shared about healthy home life for a minister. The weekend was relaxing, practical and insightful. We will follow up the weekend with a few Saturdays of workshops to get further into the practical aspect of planting churches. In Christ, Ben Hornback"

3. Deb Raduns. (Serving as our Presbytery Women's Ministry Coordinator.) Presbytery Women's Ministry has been quiet this summer. I've reached out to the ladies either by phone or email introducing myself and asking for contact updates and prayer requests. I've also passed along info regarding a Women's Ministry Training up in Yulee this coming October and monthly Zoom prayer meetings led by CDM WM ladies starting today, Sept 2…His, ~ Deb Raduns
deb@covenantlifepc.com

4. Robert Petterson. (Laboring out-of-bounds with The Legacy Imperative) As I write this, I am leading a tour group to Scotland. It is entitled, "How the Scots Invented America." Yesterday, we visited the Kirkyard at Greyfriars in Edinburgh. It was moving to stand were 1200 of our Covenanter fathers were imprisoned out in the open air cold for almost a year, subsisting on about four ounces of bread a day. All but about 30 of them were hanged, died of exposure or at sea when their prison ship went down. We stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us. May we pass on a legacy of faith to our Next Generation loved ones. To not do so would be a betrayal of those who came before us and a gross abuse to those who come behind. I regret my inability to attend the Fall Presbytery meeting. As you may know, my wife and I have moved to our new home at the Quarryville Presbyterian Retirement Community. We are attending Faith Presbyterian Church in Quarryville under the pastorate of Michael Brown. He feeds our souls richly as both a Bible expositor and a pastor. I continue to lead the Legacy Imperative ministry which is growing exponentially. I don't intend to hand up my spurs anytime soon. Though I am now 78-yrs. young, I still have miles to go. I am committed to re-fire, not retire. As long as I have a breath, health, and the filling of the Holy Spirit, my calling to equip grandparents to pass on a legacy of faith to the Next Generation remains as intense as ever. So, desire to remain an active minister laboring out of bounds in my beloved PCA remains as strong as ever. I am, however, exploring the possibility of transferring my credentials to the Susquahana Presbytery so that I can have a more active and practical involvement in the fellowship and oversight of a Presbytery. I will most likely make that change in November, God willing and with

both Presbytery's approval. Regarding needs, would you be so kind as to pray for my dear wife, Joyce. She has suffered a stroke this past year, and has been in the hospital for two extended stays. She is doing much better, but is plagued with a bad heart. We made the right decision to move here, as I am often on the road in our ministry. By living in the high-rise she is in a place where she is surrounded by friends and nearby to help should there be a problem. As for us, we are enjoying the Quarryville Presbyterian community and the sweetest time of our 57 years of marriage. God is good, and we are blessed to be near our grandchildren. It is good to be somewhere where I can practice what I preach regarding our investing in the lives of those Next Generation loved ones God has put in our care. I can't imaging any sorrow worse than knowing they are not prepared to stand strong in days ahead or to be separated from them in eternity. Blessings to all of you as you labor in the calling God has called you to fulfill. May he fill you with his Spirit and empower you to know Christ in the most intimate of ways as you labor for him. In Christ Alone. ~ Bob

SUNCOAST FLORIDA PRESBYTERY
Called Meeting
November 4, 2025, 10:00am
Grace Presbyterian Church

XIV. TE David Stewart (Stated Clerk) called the **MEETING TO ORDER** and opened with prayer at 10:07 am in the absence of the moderator. TE Dann Cecil was elected moderator pro tempore by acclamation. The purpose of the meeting is to examine Rev. Benjamin Sulser to become an assistant pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church. The call was requested by TEs Ryan Broadhurst (Westminster), David Stewart (Grace), and Peter Stonecipher (Providence), and REs Ron Lotterman (N. Ft. Myers), Andy Mitchell (Grace), and Bob Rhodes (Grace) in accordance with BCO 13-12. The call was issued on October 21, 2025, meeting the 10-day requirement for notification of the called meeting.

A. The Stated Clerk declared that a quorum was present. (BCO 13-4)

	TEACHING ELDER		**CHURCH, MINISTRY, or STATUS**	**July 24**	**Sept 9**	**Nov 4**
1	Wayne	Alder	*Chaplain*	E	E	E
2,	Kenneth	Aldrich	Covenant Life – Sarasota, FL	E	P	E
3	John	Anderson	Bay – Bonita Springs, FL	E	P	E
4	Todd	Augustine	Out of Bounds	E	P	E
5	James	Baird	Covenant – Naples, FL	P	P	E
6	Chuck	Betters	Covenant – Naples FL	E	P	E
7	Greg	Blosser	Covenant – Naples, FL	E	P	E
8	Ryan	Broadhurst	Westminster – Fort Myers, FL	P	P	E
9	Bill	Broderick	Out of Bounds	E	A	E
10	Trent	Casto	Covenant – Naples, FL	E	P	E
11	Dann	Cecil	North Ft. Myers – N. Ft. Myers, FL	P	P	P
12	Anthony	Chin	Westminster – Ft. Myers, FL	E	P	E
13	Mike	Cosner	Oak River – Bonita Springs, FL	P	P	P
14	Daryl	Davis	*Honorably Retired*	E	E	E
15	Aaron	Dean	Covenant – Naples, FL	E	P	E
16	Robert	Dillard	Covenant Life – Sarasota, FL	P	P	E
17	Dwight	Dolby	Auburn Road – Venice, FL	P	P	P
18	Sainvil	Dorsainvil	El Shaddai – Naples, FL	E	P	E
20	John	Grady	*Honorably Retired*	E	E	E
21	Ted	Hamm	Without Call	E	E	E
22	Geoffrey	Henderson	Harbor – Bradenton, FL	E	E	E

23	Steven	Jeantet	New Creation – Sarasota, FL	P	P	E
24	Gage	Jordan	Westminster – Ft. Myers, FL	P	P	E
25	Scott	Kerens	Marco – Marco Island, FL	E	P	E
26	Brent	Lauder	Providence – Cape Coral, FL	E	P	E
27	Keith	Ledford	Faith – Sarasota, FL	P	P	E
28	Bill	Martin	Cornerstone – Bradenton, FL	E	E	E
29	Scott	Mawhinney	Out of Bounds	E	E	E
30	Gary	Ogrosky	Without Call	E	P	E
31	Robert	Petterson	Out of Bounds	E	E	E
32	Greg	Poland	Bay – Bonita Springs, FL	P	E	E
33	Steven	Schoof	Marco - Marco Island, FL	E	P	E
34	Thomas	Sidebotham	*Honorably Retired*	E	E	E
35	Vaughan	Stanley	*Honorably Retired*	E	E	E
36	David	Stewart	Grace - Lake Suzy, FL	P	P	P
37	Peter	Stonecipher	Providence – Cape Coral	P	P	P
38	Lucas	Tanner	RUF @ FGCU	E	P	E
39	Yaroslav	Viazovski	Out of Bounds	E	E	E
40	Mike	Vieira	Covenant Life – Sarasota	E	P	E
41	Chris	Voorhees	Covenant – Naples, FL	E	P	E
42	Mitch	Wellborn	Without Call	E	A	E
43	Taylor	White	Cornerstone – Bradenton, FL	P	P	E
44	Brent	Whitefield	Covenant – Naples, FL	E	E	E
45	Patrick	Womack	Bay – Bonita Springs, FL	P	P	E
46	Philip	Woods	Cornerstone - Bradenton, FL	P	E	E
47	Paul	Wrigley	*Honorably Retired*	E	E	E
48	Aleksey	Zhuravlev	Covenant of Grace – North Port, FL	E	E	**E**
				13	**29**	**5**

	CHURCHES	7/24	9/9	11/4
1	**Auburn Road** – Venice	E	E	Jim Robinson (C)
2	**Bay** - Bonita Springs	E	P-1	E
3	**Cornerstone** - Bradenton	E	P-1	E
4	**Covenant** – Naples	P-1	P-5	E
5	**Covenant Life** – Sarasota	P-3	P-4	Brent Phillips (C)
6	**Covenant of Grace** – NP	P-1	P-1	E
7	**El Shaddai** – Naples	E	P-2	E
8	**Faith** – Sarasota	E	P-2	E
9	**Grace** - Lake Suzy	P-3	P-1	Andy Mitchell (C); Robert Rhodes (C)
10	**Harbor Community** – Bradenton	E	A	E
11	**Marco** - Marco Island	A	E	E
12	**North Ft. Myers** - North Ft. Myers	P-1	P-1	Ron Lotterman (C)
13	**Oak River** - Bonita Springs	E	P-1	E

14	**Providence** – Cape Coral	P-2	P-3	Frank Chikowski (C); Mike Levenhagen (C)
15	**Westminster** - Ft. Myers	P-1	P-2	E
16	**Word of Life** - North Port	E	P-1	E
		12	**25**	**7**

P = Present; E = Excused; A = Absent Without Excuse; * = Non-Particularized; (C) = Commissioner

B. Visitors present: Dennis Booth, Natalie Booth, Dave Harris, Pam Harris, Doug Hines, Debbie Hines, John Kennedy, Doris Kennedy, Jack Slagter, Beth Slagter, Rev. Ben Sulser.

XV. REPORT OF THE CANDIDATES AND CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

A. TE Peter Stonecipher opened the report with prayer and introduced Rev. Ben Sulser. Rev. Sulser was invited to preach from Hebrews 11:4-11. The Presbytery gave feedback regarding the sermon. Rev. Sulser is coming from Evangel Presbytery and is being examined per *BCO* 13-6 and 21-4.

B. Examination

1. **MSC** to approve the sermon preached before the Presbytery.
2. **MSC** to approve the call from Grace Presbyterian Church to Rev. Ben Sulser (**APPENDIX #1)**
3. **MSC** to approve Rev. Sulser's previous pastoral experience in lieu of an internship (*BCO* 19-16). The vote was unanimously approved.
4. **MSC** to approve Rev. Sulser's acquaintance with experiential religion, (including practical struggles against sinful actions and desires, personal character, and family management).
5. **MSC** to approve Rev. Sulser's seminary transcript in lieu of an examination in Greek and Hebrew. (21-4a.) The vote was unanimous, meeting the requirement of *BCO* 21-4a.
6. **MSC** to approve Rev. Sulser's exam in Bible content.
7. **MSC** to approve Rev. Sulser's exam in Theology.
8. **MSC** to approve Rev. Sulser's exam in the Sacraments.
9. **MSC** to approve Rev. Sulser's exam in Church history.
10. **MSC** to approve Rev. Sulser's exam of the history of Presbyterianism and the Presbyterian Church in America.

11 **MSC** to approve Rev. Sulser's seminary transcript in lieu of an examination in Greek and Hebrew. (21-4a.) The vote was unanimous, meeting the requirement of *BCO* 21-4a..

12. **MSC** to approve Rev. Sulser's exam on the principles and rules of the government and discipline of the church.
12. **MSC** to approve Rev. Sulser's exegetical paper "2nd Peter 2:20" and theological paper "The Word of God in the Theology of John Frame."

13. **MSC** to approve Rev. Sulser's stated difference to the Westminster Standards as more than semantic, but not striking at the vitals of the system of doctrine set forth in the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms.

    I take exception to WCF 21.8 (cf. WLC 117, 119) where it says Christians must take a total or absolute rest from our "own works, words, and thoughts about [our] worldly employments and recreations" on the Sabbath day, insofar as I believe that some recreation, so long as it does not interfere with gathering for worship with the saints, and conduces to the private worship of God, is lawful on the Sabbath, since it accords with physical rest and refreshment, and is a way of enjoying the Lord through His gifts. Exodus 31:17, for example, says that God set the example of Sabbath-keeping for us when "He ceased from labor, and was refreshed."

14. **MSC** to approve the **Examination** as a whole.
15. Rev. Sulser signed the **Ministerial Obligation** form (*BCO* 13-7).
16. A copy of the completed **FDLE Background Check** was received by the Stated Clerk.
17. **MSC** to appoint a **COMMISSION to Install Rev. Ben Sulser** consisting of TE David Stewart (convener), TE Mike Cosner, TE Steve Jeantet, RE Andy Mitchell, RE Brent Phillips and RE Robert Rhodes to be held on Sunday, December 14, 2025, at Grace Presbyterian Church.

C. TE Stonecipher closed the report in prayer.

There being no further business, it was **MSC** to adjourn the Presbytery meeting with prayer by TE Cecil at 11:50 a.m. and extend the right hand of fellowship to Rev. Sulser.

David L Stewart

TE David Stewart
Stated Clerk

APPENDIX #1

grace presbyterian church

Learning & Living God's Word

Call to TE Benjamin Sulser as Assistant Pastor
September 21, 2025

Grace Presbyterian Church being on sufficient grounds well satisfied of the ministerial qualifications of you, TE Benjamin Sulser, and having good hopes from our knowledge of your labors that your ministrations in the Gospel will be profitable to our spiritual interests, do earnestly call you to undertake the office of Assistant Pastor in said congregation, promising you, in the discharge of your duty, all proper support, encouragement and obedience in the Lord.

That you may be free from worldly care and advocations, with a start date of employment to be determined. We hereby promise and oblige ourselves to pay you the sum of $75,000.00 a year (including housing allowance) in regular twice monthly payments.

Salary		$38,100.00
Housing Allowance		$33,000.00
Retirement		$2,400
Continuing Education Fund		$1,500
Temporary Benefit	moving reimbursement maximum	$5,000.00
Vacation		4 weeks
Study Leave		2 weeks

TE David Stewart,
Moderator

TE Benjamin Sulser

10548 SW County Road 769 • Lake Suzy, FL 34269 • 941-743-7971
www.gracelakesuzy.org
Presbyterian Church in America

SUNCOAST FLORIDA PRESBYTERY
Called Meeting
December 12, 2025, 10:00am
Covenant Life Church

XVI. RE Bruce Stanley (Moderator) called the **MEETING TO ORDER** and opened with prayer at 10:00 am. The purpose of the meeting is to examine Rev. Joe Davis for **LICENSURE**. The call was requested by TEs Ken Aldrich (Covenant Life Church), Keith Ledford (Faith Sarasota), Steven Jeantet (New Creation Church), and REs Brent Philips (Covenant Life Church), Jeff Lawson (Faith Sarasota), Mike Hamel (Faith Sarasota) in accordance with BCO 13-12. The call was issued on December 12, 2025, meeting the 10-day requirement for notification of the called meeting.

A. The Stated Clerk declared that a quorum was present. (BCO 13-4)

	TEACHING ELDER		**CHURCH, MINISTRY, or STATUS**	**Sept 9**	**Nov 4**	**Dec 12**
1	Wayne	Alder	*Chaplain*	E	E	E
2,	Kenneth	Aldrich	Covenant Life – Sarasota, FL	E	E	P
3	John	Anderson	Bay – Bonita Springs, FL	P	E	E
4	Todd	Augustine	Out of Bounds	P	E	E
5	James	Baird	Covenant – Naples, FL	P	E	P
6	Chuck	Betters	Covenant – Naples FL	P	E	E
7	Greg	Blosser	Covenant – Naples, FL	P	E	E
8	Ryan	Broadhurst	Westminster – Fort Myers, FL	P	E	P
9	Bill	Broderick	Out of Bounds	A	E	E
10	Trent	Casto	Covenant – Naples, FL	P	E	E
11	Dann	Cecil	North Ft. Myers – N. Ft. Myers, FL	P	P	E
12	Anthony	Chin	Westminster – Ft. Myers, FL	P	E	P
13	Mike	Cosner	Oak River – Bonita Springs, FL	P	P	E
14	Daryl	Davis	*Honorably Retired*	E	E	E
15	Aaron	Dean	Covenant – Naples, FL	P	E	E
16	Robert	Dillard	Covenant Life – Sarasota, FL	P	E	P
17	Dwight	Dolby	Auburn Road – Venice, FL	P	P	P
18	Sainvil	Dorsainvil	El Shaddai – Naples, FL	P	E	E
20	John	Grady	*Honorably Retired*	E	E	E
21	Ted	Hamm	Without Call	E	E	E
22	Geoffrey	Henderson	Harbor – Bradenton, FL	E	E	E
23	Steven	Jeantet	New Creation – Sarasota, FL	P	E	P
24	Gage	Jordan	Westminster – Ft. Myers, FL	P	E	P

25	Scott	Kerens	Marco – Marco Island, FL	P	E	E
26	Brent	Lauder	Providence – Cape Coral, FL	P	E	E
27	Keith	Ledford	Faith – Sarasota, FL	P	E	P
28	Bill	Martin	Cornerstone – Bradenton, FL	E	E	E
29	Scott	Mawhinney	Out of Bounds	E	E	E
30	Gary	Ogrosky	Without Call	P	E	E
31	Robert	Petterson	Out of Bounds	E	E	E
32	Greg	Poland	Bay – Bonita Springs, FL	E	E	E
33	Steven	Schoof	Marco - Marco Island, FL	P	E	E
34	Thomas	Sidebotham	*Honorably Retired*	E	E	E
35	Vaughan	Stanley	*Honorably Retired*	E	E	E
36	David	Stewart	Grace - Lake Suzy, FL	P	P	P
37	Peter	Stonecipher	Providence – Cape Coral, FL	P	P	P
38	Ben	Sulser	Grace – Lake Suzy, FL	-	-	P
39	Lucas	Tanner	RUF @ FGCU	P	E	E
40	Yaroslav	Viazovski	Out of Bounds	E	E	E
41	Mike	Vieira	Covenant Life – Sarasota	P	E	P
42	Chris	Voorhees	Covenant – Naples, FL	P	E	E
43	Mitch	Wellborn	Without Call	A	E	E
44	Taylor	White	Cornerstone – Bradenton, FL	P	E	P
45	Brent	Whitefield	Covenant – Naples, FL	E	E	E
46	Patrick	Womack	Bay – Bonita Springs, FL	P	E	E
47	Philip	Woods	Cornerstone - Bradenton, FL	E	E	E
48	Paul	Wrigley	*Honorably Retired*	E	E	E
49	Aleksey	Zhuravlev	Covenant of Grace – North Port, FL	E	E	**E**
				29	**5**	**14**

	CHURCHES	9/9	11/4	12/12
1	**Auburn Road** – Venice	E	P-1	E
2	**Bay** - Bonita Springs	P-1	E	E
3	**Cornerstone** - Bradenton	P-1	E	E
4	**Covenant** – Naples	P-5	E	E
5	**Covenant Life** – Sarasota	P-4	P-1	Greg Clement (C); Chuck Janson (C), Brent Philips (C); Gordon Shaw (C); Stuart Turnbull (C)
6	**Covenant of Grace** – NP	P-1	P-E	E
7	**El Shaddai** – Naples	P-2	E	E
8	**Faith** – Sarasota	P-2	E	Randy Coryell (C); Jeff Lawson (C)
9	**Grace** - Lake Suzy	P-1	P-2	Andy Mitchell (C); Bob Rhodes (C)
10	**Harbor Community** – Bradenton	A	E	E
11	**Marco** - Marco Island	E	E	E
12	**North Ft. Myers** - North Ft. Myers	P-1	P-1	Ron Lotterman (C)

13	**Oak River** - Bonita Springs	P-q	E	E
14	**Providence** – Cape Coral	P-3	P-2	Frank Chihowski (C); Ron Henzel (C)
15	**Westminster** - Ft. Myers	P-2	E	Bruce Stanley (C)
16	**Word of Life** - North Port	P-1	E	E
		25	**7**	**13**

P = Present; E = Excused; A = Absent Without Excuse; * = Non-Particularized; (C) = Commissioner

B. Visitors present: William Bryant, Rev. Joe Davis, Dreama Fumia,

XVII. REPORT OF THE CANDIDATES AND CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

A. TE Peter Stonecipher opened the report with prayer and introduced Rev. Joe Davis, who is coming for **LICENSURE (BCO 19-1 and 19-2)**.. Rev. Davis holds his ordination in another denomination. Rev. Davis was invited to preach from Romans 11:25-36 – "What Theology Feels Like". The Presbytery gave feedback regarding the sermon.

B. **MSC** to approve the **SERMON**.

C. Examination

1. Rev. Davis offered his testimony of **CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE AND CALL TO MINISTRY**. **MSC** to approve Rev. Davis's testimony of **CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE AND CALL TO MINISTRY.**
2. Rev. Davis was examined on practical knowledge of the **ENGLISH BIBLE**. **MSC** to approve Rev. Davis's examination in **ENGLISH BIBLE.**
3. Rev. Davis was examined on basic knowledge of **BIBLICAL DOCTRINE**. **MSC** to approve Rev. Davis's examination on **BIBLICAL DOCTRINE.**
4. Rev. Davis was examined on basic knowledge of the **GOVERNMENT OF THE PCA AS OUTLINED IN THE BCO**. **MSC** to approve Rev. Davis's examination in **GOVERNMENT OF THE PCA AS OUTLINED IN THE BCO.**
5. **MSC** to approve Rev. Davis's stated differences to the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms "to be more than semantic, but 'not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine.'" **(*BCO* 19-2.f).**

1. Sabbath / Lord's Day (WCF 21.8)
I affirm the Lord's Day as a day set apart for worship and rest in Christ. My stated difference is with the language that forbids all "recreations." I believe the intent of the Sabbath command is to free us from worldly work and distractions, but not necessarily from refreshment in simple, God-honoring recreations such as enjoying time with family or a walk in creation.

2. Images of Christ (WCF 21.1; LC Q.109)
I affirm the second commandment and reject any use of images for worship. My stated difference is with the strict prohibition of *any* artistic depiction of Christ. I believe the spirit of the command is to guard against idolatry, not to forbid every instance of a children's Bible illustration or a piece of historic Christian art.

6. The **BCO 19-3 LICENSURE QUESTIONS** were asked by the Moderator.
7. Rev. Davis answered in affirmative the questions for Licensure and TE Stonecipher offered a prayer.
8. The Moderator addressed the Rev. Davis as follows:

   In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and by that authority which He has given to the Church for its edification, we do license you to preach the Gospel in this Presbytery wherever God in His providence may call you; and for this purpose, may the blessing of God rest upon you, and the Spirit of Christ fill your heart. Amen.

   At Covenant Life Church, the 12th day of December 2025, the Suncoast Florida Presbytery, having received testimonials commending Rev. Joe Davis, proceeded to submit him to the prescribed examination for licensure, which was met to the approval of the Presbytery. Having satisfactorily answered the questions for licensure, Rev. Joe Davis was licensed by the Presbytery to preach the Gospel within the bounds of this Presbytery.

D. TE Stonecipher closed the report in prayer.

There being no further business, it was **MSC** to adjourn the Presbytery meeting with prayer by RE Ryan Broadhurst at 11:24 a.m.

TE David Stewart
Stated Clerk

Report of the COMMISSION TO INSTALL
Rev. Benjamin Sulser as Assistant Pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church
SUNCOAST FLORIDA PRESBYTERY (SFP)

1. The Commission to install Rev. Benjamin Sulser met on December 14, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. at Grace Presbyterian Church. A quorum was present.
2. Commission members present were:
   TE David Stewart TE Mike Cosner TE Steve Jeantet
   RE Brent Phillips , RE Robert Rhodes RE Andy Mitchell. Also present was Rev. Ben Sulser
3. The Commission meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by TE David Stewart.
4. TE David Stewart was elected chairman and RE Andy Mitchell was elected secretary of the Commission.
5. The order of worship was reviewed and approved by the Commission.
6. The minutes of the Commission meeting were read and approved.
7. The Commission approved a motion to adjourn upon the giving of the Benediction.
8. The Commission recessed with prayer by TE Mike Cosner for the installation service.
9. The Chairman presided in the sanctuary service, which was opened with singing, prayer and Scripture reading. The sermon was preached by TE David Stewart on the text of 1 Timothy 4:6-10, "My Brother's Keeper."
10. The Chairman stated briefly the previous proceedings of the Presbytery and pointed out the nature and importance of the installation service.
11. The Chairman propounded the constitutional questions to the Minister (BCO 21.9) and these were answered in the affirmative.
12. The Chairman then propounded the constitutional questions to the Session (BCO 21.10), and these were answered in the affirmative by the Members holding up their right hands.
13. RE Brent Phillips led in prayer as Rev. Benjamin Sulser was installed as Assistant Pastor of the congregation. He then rose and the Members of the Commission gave him the right hand of fellowship. The Chairman then declared that Rev. Benjamin Sulser had been regularly installed as Assistant Pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church.
14. A charge to the Pastor was delivered by Rev. Mike Cosner.
15. A charge to the Session was delivered by Rev. Steve Jeantet.
16. Following prayer and singing, the new Assistant Pastor pronounced the benediction. The minutes having been approved; the benediction adjourned the Commission meeting.

Andy Mitchell

RE Andy Mitchell,
Secretary

Report of the ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
SUNCOAST FLORIDA PRESBYTERY (SFP)
El Shaddai of Grace
Tuesday, February 10, 2026 – 10:00am

I. Business Referred to the Administrative Committee:

1. **None**

II. Statement of Major Issues Addressed

1. Approved minutes from the last Stated AC meeting
2. Reviewed minutes from the last Stated Presbytery meeting.
3. Reviewed minutes from the Called Presbytery meetings.
4. Reviewed minutes from Commission to Install TE Ben Sulser.
5. Reviewed financial reports.
6. Discussed committee report.
7. Reviewed minutes from Judicial Commission.
8. Report from Commission for Faith/GraceLife Sarasota
9. Reviewed Nominations for Permanent Committees and Agencies of the General Assembly.
10. Reviewed Nominations for Committee of Commissioners and Overtures Committee.
11. Reviewed Presbytery Permanent Committees.
12. Reviewed Docket for this Presbytery meeting.

III. Recommendations:

A. Report from Dr. Peter Lillback, Westminster Seminary.
B. Report from TE Doug Warren, Standing Stone Ministries
C. Receive the **Treasurer's Report.**
D. Report from the **Judicial Commission**
    a. Receive Minutes from May 9, 2025, September 9, 2025, October 1, 2025, October 6, 2025, October 23, 2025, and January 27, 2026.
E. Report from the Commission for Faith/GraceLife Sarasota.
F. **MSC** to recommend nominations to Permanent Committees and Agencies of **TE Trent Casto, Covenant Seminary; TE Steve Jeantet, Administrative Committee**
G. Nominations for **GA Permanent Committees and Agencies**
    a. TE: Administrative, Discipleship Ministries, Covenant Theological Seminary, Interchurch Relations, MNA, PCA Foundation
    b. RE: Covenant College, Geneva Benefits (RE Mike Levenhagen), MTW, Ridgehaven, RUF
    c. Overtures: TE James Baird; RE
H. **MSC** to elect TE Ben Sulser as **Recording Clerk** for 2026.

IV. February 4, 2026 @ Miller's Ale House, Gulf Coast Town Center

Committee Members Present: TE Patrick Womack (Chairman); TE Trent Casto (Moderator), TE Mike Cosner; TE Steve Jeantet; RE Jim Lee; RE Mike Levenhagen; RE Bruce Stanley; TE David Stewart (Secretary/Stated Clerk); Mrs. Amber Vieira (Treasurer)
Respectfully Submitted,

TE David Stewart
Stated Clerk

SUNCOAST FLORIDA PRESBYTERY
INCOME AND DISBURSEMENTS
2025 YTD Actual vs. Budget and 2026 Budget

	2025	2025 ANNUAL BUDGET	Over (Under) Budget	2026 ANNUAL BUDGET	Comments
Income:					
Membership contributions (details attached)	$ 52,812	$ 53,000	$ (188)	$ 53,000	
Disbursements:					
Administrative:					
Clerk's honorarium	5,500	5,500	-	5,500	
Representatives to Overtures at GA	1,750	1,750	-	2,000	
Directors and officer's Insurance	455	500	(46)	500	
Donation - General Assembly	-	500	(500)	500	
Other office and administration expense	-	500	(500)	500	
Emergency Fund	-	2,000	(2,000)	1,000	For emergency assistance of churches or pastors per S.R.
Total Administration Disbursements	**$ 7,705**	**$ 10,750**	**$ (3,046)**	**$ 10,000**	
Outreach:					
Church Support	42,000	69,000	(27,000)	42,000	New Creation Church, El Shadai, Covenant of Grace, Anchor, Howard University and MNA
Other Outreach Expense	-	-	-	-	
Total Outreach Disbursements	**$ 42,000**	**$ 69,000**	**$ (27,000)**	**$ 42,000**	
RUF:					
Donation - RUF	22,000	22,000	-	22,000	
Donation - RUF Interns from our presbytery	2,000	2,000	-	2,000	For RUF interns being sent by our presbytery
Donation - RUF FGCU Interns	2,000	2,000	-	2,000	For RUF interns serving at FGCU within our bounds
Total RUF Disbursements	**$ 26,000**	**$ 26,000**	**$ -**	**$ 26,000**	
Shepherding:					
Continuing Education - RE's and TE's	3,000	3,000	-	3,000	Jonny Gibson and Stafford Carson for Continuing Pastoral Education
Other Shepherding expense	-	1,000	(1,000)	1,000	
Total Shepherding Disbursements	**$ 3,000**	**$ 4,000**	**$ (1,000)**	**$ 4,000**	
Total Disbursements	**$ 78,705**	**$ 109,750**	**$ (31,046)**	**$ 82,000**	
Net Increase (decrease) in cash	**$ (25,893)**	**$ (56,750)**	**$ 30,857**	**$ (29,000)**	
Cash Balance, Beginning of Year	**$ 70,168**	**$ 70,168**	**$ -**	**$ 44,275**	Updated Beginning of Year Cash Balance on 2026 Budget to Actual
Cash Balance, End of Period	**$ 44,275**	**$ 13,418**	**$ 30,857**	**$ 15,275**	

SUNCOAST FLORIDA PRESBYTERY
INCOME AND DISBURSEMENTS
2025 YTD Actual vs. Budget and 2026 Budget Proposal

	2025			2026	
	Jan 1 - Aug 31 2025	ANNUAL BUDGET	Over (Under) Budget	ANNUAL BUDGET	Comments
Income:					
Membership contributions (details attached)	30,659	53,000	(22,341)	53,000	
Disbursements:					
Administrative:					
Clerk's honorarium	4,125	5,500	(1,375)	5,500	
Representatives to Overtures at GA	1,750	1,750	-	2,000	
Directors and officer's Insurance	-	500	(500)	500	
Donation - General Assembly	-	500	(500)	500	
Other office and administration expense	-	500	(500)	500	
Emergency Fund	-	2,000	(2,000)	1,000	For emergency assistance of churches or pastors per S.R.; Proposing to decrease to $1000 based on trend from previous years
Total Administration Disbursements	**5,875**	**10,750**	**(4,875)**	**10,000**	
Outreach:					
Church Support	42,000	69,000	(27,000)	42,000	Committee is saving $27k from 2025 and would like to use it in 2026.
Other Outreach Expense	-	-	-	-	
Total Outreach Disbursements	**42,000**	**69,000**	**(27,000)**	**42,000**	
RUF:					
Donation - RUF	11,000	22,000	(11,000)	22,000	
Donation - RUF Interns from our presbytery	1,000	2,000	(1,000)	2,000	For RUF interns being sent by our presbytery
Donation - RUF FGCU Interns	1,000	2,000	(1,000)	2,000	For RUF interns serving at FGCU within our bounds
Total RUF Disbursements	**13,000**	**26,000**	**(13,000)**	**26,000**	50% of budgeted amount sent in March; the remaining to be sent in fall
Shepherding:					
Continuing Education - RE's and TE's	3,000	3,000	-	3,000	Jonny Gibson and Stafford Carson for Continuing Pastoral Education
Other Shepherding expense	-	1,000	(1,000)	1,000	
Total Shepherding Disbursements	**3,000**	**4,000**	**(1,000)**	**4,000**	
Total Disbursements	**63,875**	**109,750**	**(45,875)**	**82,000**	
Net increase (decrease) in cash	**(33,216)**	**(56,750)**	**23,534**	**(29,000)**	
Cash Balance, Beginning of Year	**70,168**	**70,168**	**-**	**40,418**	Ending Cash Balance plus $27k carry over from Outreach Committee
Cash Balance, End of Period	**$ 36,951**	**$ 13,418**	**$ 23,534**	**$ 11,418**	

SUNCOAST FLORIDA PRESBYTERY
SCHEDULE OF SUPPORT - TRAILING 12 MONTHS

	Jan 25	Feb 25	Mar 25	Apr 25	May 25	Jun 25	Jul 25	Aug 25	Sept 25	Oct 25	Nov 25	Dec 25	2025 TOTAL
Auburn Road Presbyterian Church	$ 200	$ 200	$ 200	$ 200	$ 200	$ 200	$ 200	$ 200	$ 200	$ 200	$ 200	$ 200	$ 2,400
Bay Presbyterian Church	$ 500	$ 500	$ 500	$ 500	$ 500	$ 500	$ 500	$ 500	$ 500	$ 500	$ 500	$ 500	$ 6,000
Cornerstone Church of Lakewood Ranch	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 750	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 750	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,500
Covenant of Grace Presbyterian Church	$ 80	$ 80	$ 80	$ 80	$ 80	$ 80	$ 80	$ 80	$ 80	$ 80	$ 80	$ 80	$ 960
Covenant Life Presbyterian Church, Sarasota	$ 575	$ 575	$ 575	$ 575	$ 575	$ 575	$ 575	$ 575	$ 575	$ 575	$ 575	$ 575	$ 6,900
Covenant Presbyterian Church of Naples	$ 1,250	$ 1,250	$ 1,250	$ 1,250	$ 1,250	$ 1,250	$ 1,250	$ 1,250	$ 1,250	$ 1,250	$ 1,250	$ 1,250	$ 15,000
El Shaddai of Grace Church	$ 50	$ 50	$ 50	$ 50	$ 50	$ 50	$ 50	$ 50	$ 50	$ 50	$ -	$ 50	$ 550
Grace Presbyterian Church	$ -	$ -	$ 800	$ 100	$ -	$ 900	$ -	$ -	$ 900	$ -	$ -	$ 900	$ 3,600
Harbor Community Church	$ 250	$ -	$ -	$ 250	$ -	$ 250	$ -	$ -	$ 250	$ -	$ -	$ 250	$ 1,250
Marco Presbyterian Church	$ -	$ -	$ 605	$ -	$ -	$ 605	$ -	$ -	$ 605	$ -	$ -	$ 605	$ 2,421
North Fort Myers Presbyterian Church	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000
Oak River Church	$ 25	$ 25	$ 25	$ 25	$ 25	$ 25	$ 25	$ 25	$ 25	$ 25	$ 25	$ 25	$ 300
Providence Christian Church	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,430	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,430
Westminster Presbyterian Church	$ 667	$ 667	$ 667	$ 667	$ 667	$ 667	$ 667	$ 667	$ 667	$ 667	$ 667	$ 667	$ 8,000
Word of Life Church of North Port	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 500	$ 500
Total Deposit	**$ 3,597**	**$ 3,347**	**$ 4,752**	**$ 3,697**	**$ 4,097**	**$ 5,102**	**$ 3,347**	**$ 3,347**	**$ 9,282**	**$ 3,347**	**$ 3,297**	**$ 5,602**	**$ 52,812**

Presbytery Committee Rosters

(List Revised 05/13/25)

(C) = Chairman	Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Administrative Committee (6) Ex-officio members: • **Stated Clerk** • **Treasurer** • **Moderator**	TE Mike Cosner RE Jim Lee	TE Patrick Womack (C) RE Mike Levenhagen	TE Steve Jeantet RE Bruce Stanley	TE Mike Cosner RE Jim Lee
Candidate and Credentials (12)	TE Brent Lauder TE Trent Casto RE Ron Lotterman RE Tom Lynch	TE James Baird TE Scott Kerens TE Ryan Broadhurst RE Dennis Royall	TE Dann Cecil TE Peter Stonecipher RE Ron Henzel RE Jim Robinson	TE Brent Lauder TE Trent Casto RE Ron Lotterman RE Tom Lynch
Outreach Committee (6)	TE Geoff Henderson RE Bob Rhodes	TE Mike Vieira RE Brent Phillips	TE Gage Jordan RE Aleksey Fomichenko	TE Geoff Henderson RE Bob Rhodes
RUF Committee (6)	TE Bill Broderick RE	TE Keith Ledford RE Ron Breen	TE John Anderson RE Ken Herbold	TE Bill Broderick RE Phil Guida
Review of Session Records Committee (3) Ex-officio members: • **Stated Clerk**	TE Dwight Dolby	RE Gordon Graham	TE Bob Dillard	TE Dwight Dolby
Shepherding Committee (6)	TE Dwight Dolby RE Skip Schoenhals	TE Chris Vorhees RE Jim Robinson	TE Steve Schoof RE Brent Phillips	TE Dwight Dolby RE Skip Schoenhals

Report of the Judicial Commission
SUNCOAST FLORIDA PRESBYTERY (SFP)

At the May 13, 2025 stated meeting of the Suncoast Florida Presbytery a judicial commission was established to "handle the charges brought by Auburn Road PCA concerning a church in the Presbytery."

This commission consisted of TE Mike Cosner, TE Ryan Broadhurst, TE Chris Vorhees, RE Andy Mitchell, and RE Skip Schoenhals.

The commission received the charges from Auburn Road, appointed TE Dwight Dolby as prosecutor and delivered the charges to Covenant Life Church according to BCO 32-3.

On September 9, 2025, the court met with the Covenant Life Church where the charges were read and a plea of Not Guilty was entered. The trial was set for October 6, 2025 at 6PM at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Ft. Myers, FL.

The trial was conducted on October 6 according to Trial Procedures (See attached)

The court found the session of Covenant Life Church not guilty of the charges set before them.

The court set forward a thorough rationale for its decision and delivered the rational to both parties as well as the Stated Clerk. (See Attached)

The court believes that the matter is settled and wishes to be excused.

Rationale for verdict in trial CLC v Auburn Rd

Indictment

In the name of the Presbyterian Church in America, the Suncoast Florida Presbytery charges the Session of Covenant Life Church of Sarasota, Florida, with a violation of the Ninth (9th) Commandment (Exodus 20:16; Deuteronomy 5:20; WCF Larger Catechism Questions: 143, 144, 145); namely, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor," against the peace, unity, and purity of the Church, and the honor and majesty of the Lord Jesus Christ, as the King and Head thereof.

Verdict

The court answered the indictment as not guilty by a unanimous vote.

Rationale

As stated in the indictment, the sole purpose of the court was to determine whether the session of Covenant Life Church of Sarasota (CLC) bore false witness against a member in good standing of another PCA church. The primary evidence related to the indictment was a shepherding announcement made by a ruling elder, representing the session of CLC on June 2nd, 2024, during a worship service.

In coming to a decision, the court went through the pertinent lines in question within CLC's shepherding announcement and assessed them against aspects of the Westminster Larger Catechism (Q 145). For each line the court considered the question, "Does this statement bear false witness against Shane Hull?" Or more specifically, was the session of CLC prejudicing the truth, and the good name of Mr. Hull (WLC 145)? Did they make statements that were not based on fact? Additionally, an important test in the deliberations was whether CLC misconstrued the intentions, words, and actions of Mr. Hull (Q 145).

1st Statement/Rationale

- "Shane Hull, who for many years served as our Modern Service Coordinator and, at our recommendation, was under the care of our presbytery"

  Through Shane's own testimony he was on staff at CLC in various roles including time as the Modern Service Coordinator. This was described as leading the modern worship service. Additionally, based on Shane's testimony, he was under the care of the Presbytery until late February or early March of 2024. While not ordained, these two roles, in addition to him teaching Sunday School, established Shane as a public teaching figure endorsed by CLC. Though this sentence of the announcement was never in question regarding the charge of bearing false witness, it remained relevant to the shepherding considerations of the session at CLC.

2nd Statement/Rationale

- "…announced intent to start a church outside of the PCA affiliated with another denomination known as CREC."

  In an email to CLC's session dated February 5th, 2024, Shane expressed interest in aligning himself with a "more like-minded denomination." Shane testified to the court that during that same month, he was drawn to the Communion of Reformed Evangelical Churches (CREC) because of a friendship with a CREC pastor as well as their theological convictions around eschatology. Additionally, evidence was presented from Mr. Hull's Facebook biography that included in the description "CREC Church Planter." This was confirmed by the minutes from April 16th, 2024 of the 30th Meeting of the Athanasius Presbytery, a CREC

presbytery, that listed Mr. Hull as "interested in planting a Church in Sarasota, FL." The "interest" later turned into a reality through initial gatherings he held at his house with worship times and then teachings from multiple CREC pastors.

3rd Statement/Rationale

- "He has in recent months articulated the influence of a couple of their leading voices of the CREC and their dominant theological position known as Federal Vision has had on him."

Based on Mr. Hull's testimony, he lacked a clear understanding of the term Federal Vision at the time of the shepherding announcement. However, unfamiliarity with a theological label does not excuse teaching the substance of that theology.

Concern regarding Mr. Hull's teaching was raised by CLC through written appeals as well as informal conversations. Knowledge of these issues was recognized by Shane in an email sent to the elders of CLC in which he initially declined an invitation to address said concerns of the session. Mr. Hull cited CLC's concerns of an unclear illustration about transubstantiation, his gospel application, and his pastoral heart. This initial concern of CLC was further validated when Mr. Hull invited PCA members to worship nights at his home in May of 2024 featuring teachings on paedo-communion from CREC pastors, an issue closely tied to Federal Vision theology. Furthermore, just 3 weeks after the shepherding announcement, Mr. Hull publicly posted a quote prominently featuring the term Federal Vision on Facebook which included a defense of the objectivity of the covenant. It is the judgment of the court, that if he felt his good name was maligned by being associated with "Federal Vision", this post wherein he willingly chose to associate with the aforementioned doctrine would not have been issued a mere 3 weeks after CLC's public announcement. Additionally, the bottom of this Facebook post included the branding for the church Mr. Hull planned on planting, "Ashdown Church." In the court's view, CLC's concerns were substantiated by these actions.

4th Statement/Rationale

- "So we come to you today to express our concern and desire to guard each of you from what we believe is unhealthy and unbiblical teaching with which Shane is willfully aligning."

This statement is of the same content and rationale as the above statement.

5th Statement/ Rationale

- "We love Shane and his family and therefore have expressed to him our desire that he would recognize the dangers."

This admission of love was further questioned by a letter from Auburn Road's session, dated August 28th, 2024, which called into question the intent behind CLC's announcement. "We remain concerned that your session would choose to take such an action regarding your Christian brother, one you claim to love."

However, the court saw many shepherding attempts made by CLC to guide Mr. Hull's vocational and theological direction. Just as Priscilla and Aquila guided Apollos, "an eloquent man, competent in the Scriptures" (Acts 18:24) toward a deeper and more accurate understanding of theological truth, so CLC sought to guide Mr. Hull, himself eloquent and knowledgeable in Scripture, toward greater theological clarity for the sake of the church. This love was demonstrated as well in their letter to Shane on February

15th, 2024, in which they acknowledged Shane's good work in the church. "You have served faithfully for several years. Our congregation has been blessed by you…" Additionally, the shepherding call to Mr. Hull the night before the announcement by a RE at CLC spoke to the sensitivity in which the session was attempting to deal with Mr. Hull.

Finally, the court saw CLC's follow up statement to Auburn Road's requests as demonstrating a posture of brotherly love not only to Shane but also to Auburn Road. The court believed that the most questionable phrase in the statement (3rd Statement/Rationale above) was acknowledged by CLC with an offer to clarify it. This led the court to believe it was a misunderstanding and not malicious intent. This also showed the court that Covenant Life was listening to the offense expressed and seeking to resolve it.

Conclusion

The session of Covenant Life Church of Sarasota did not break the 9th commandment in their shepherding announcement. Through the facts of the case, they demonstrated that they did not misconstrue the intentions, words, or actions of Mr. Hull. Mr. Hull intended to start a church. Mr. Hull intended to teach and believe in paedo-communion. Mr. Hull, while he may not have identified his teachings as Federal Vision, was influenced by and taught elements of teachings outside of acceptable exceptions within the PCA standards. As shepherds of the flock at CLC and in line with BCO 8-3, their session not only attempted to resolve these conflicts in love but then proceeded to love their congregation by warning them about false teachings from a man who they once publicly endorsed as a teacher and leader.

Trial Procedures- Monday October 6, 2025 @ 6PM

1. Open in Prayer
2. Confirmation that citations were duly served
3. Members of Court Confirmed/Challenged
4. Moderator charges court
    a. When the trial is about to begin, it shall be the duty of the moderator solemnly to announce from the chair that ***the court is about to pass to the consideration of the case, and to enjoin on the members to recollect and regard their high character as judges of a court of Jesus Christ, and the solemn duty in which they are about to engage.*** (BCO 32-12)
    b. Galatians 6:1 Read- ***"Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted."***
5. Indictment Read
    a. "In the name of the Presbyterian Church in America, the Suncoast Presbytery charges the Session of Covenant Life Church of Sarasota, Florida, with violation of the Ninth (9th) Commandment (Exodus 20:16; Deuteronomy 5:20; WCF Larger Catechism Questions:143, 144, 145); namely, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor," against the peace, unity, and purity of the Church, and the honor and majesty of the Lord Jesus Christ, as the King and Head thereof."
6. Answer of Accused is heard
7. Opening Statements
    a. Prosecutor (10 minutes)
    b. Accused (10 minutes)
8. Prosecution Witnesses & Evidence
    a. Oath administered by moderator
        i. ***"State your name for the record"***
        ii. ***"Do you solemnly promise, in the presence of God, that you will declare the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, according to the best of your knowledge in the matter in which you are called to witness, as you shall answer it to the great Judge of the living and the dead?"*** "I do"
    b. Prosecutor examines witness
    c. Accused cross examines witness
    d. Additional Questions by court or either party
    e. Next witnessAccused Witnesses & Evidence
    a. Oath administered- ***see above***
    b. Accused examines witness
    c. Prosecutor cross examines witness
    d. Additional questions by court or either party
    e. Next witness
9. Closing Statements
    a. Prosecutor (20 minutes)
    b. Accused (20 minutes)
    c. Prosecutor (10 minutes)
10. Court Deliberates in Closed Session
11. Verdict is read
12. Censure applied if necessary
13. Close in Prayer

Judicial Commission of Suncoast Florida Presbytery re the SFP vs CLPC
Minutes of June 9, 2025, meeting

The Judicial Commission of Suncoast Florida Presbytery (in the matter of ARPC vs CLPC) met electronically on June 9, 2025, at 10:00 am. The meeting was convened by TE Mike Cosner and opened with prayer.

In attendance were TE Mike Cosner, TE Chris Voorhees, TE Ryan Broadhurst, RE Skip Schoenhals and RE Andy Mitchell.

A motion was **MSP** to elect TE Mike Cosner Moderator.

A motion was **MSP** to elect RE Andy Mitchell clerk.

A motion was **MSP** to elect TE Chris Voorhees vice-moderator.

A motion was **MSP** to appoint RE Dmitriy Polischuk to the commission. He is to be notified of his appointment by the moderator.

A motion was **MSP** to move forward with the proceedings by treating the session of Covenant Life Presbyterian Church (CLPC) as an individual per paragraph 40-6 of the BCO.

A motion was **MSP** to deem the charges constitutional under Paragraph 32-2 of the BCO.

A motion was **MSP** to proceed under paragraph 32-3 of the BCO with the appointment of a prosecutor.

The commission received an offer from TE Dwight Dolby, dated May 16, 2025, volunteering to serve as prosecutor pending his session's approval.

A motion was **MSP** to accept TE Dolby voluntary offer to serve as prosecutor pending the approval of the session of Auburn Road Presbyterian Church (ARPC).

A motion was **MSP** that the Moderator should notify TE Dolby, in writing of the commission's acceptance of his voluntary offer, with the inclusion of the stipulated paragraph 31-9 of the BCO warning to volunteer prosecutors.

A motion was **MSP** to adjourn, and the meeting was closed with prayer by TE Chris Voorhees at 11:30 am.

Submitted by RE Andy Mitchell, clerk

Judicial Commission of Suncoast Florida Presbytery re the SFP vs CLPC
Meeting of September 9, 2025
at Covenant Presbyterian Church, Naples, Florida

The meeting was opened with prayer at 9:15 am by the Moderator, TE Mike Cosner.
Present were:
Commissioners present: TE Mike Cosner, Moderator, TE Ryan Broadhurst, TE Chris Voorhees, RE Skip Schoenhals, RE Andy Mitchell, Clerk.
Also present were: TE Dwight Dolby, Prosecutor, TE Mike Vieira, RE Rich Genders, RE Stuart Turnbull, RE Chuck Jansen, RE Gregory Clement, RE Brent Phillips.

The Moderator, TE Cosner, stated that the docket consists of confirmation that the indictment has been read by the accused, to receive their plea and respond to it. Have you read the indictment (Attachment 1)?

A representative from Covenant Life Presbyterian Church affirmed that the indictment had been read.

The moderator then asked the representatives to state their plea. To which they responded not guilty.

The Moderator ordered that plea to be entered into the record of the commission and then directed the attendees to act as a committee of the whole arrive at a schedule for a trial.

The commission rose from that session and the Moderator announced that the trial will commence at 6:00 pm on October 6, 2025, at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Ft. Myers, Florida. With the docket completed the Moderator declared the meeting adjourned at 9:23 am. It was closed in prayer by TE Voorhees.

Submitted by Andy Mitchell, Clerk

Judicial Commission of Suncoast Florida Presbytery re the SFP vs CLPC
Minutes of October 1, 2025, meeting

The Judicial Commission of Suncoast Florida Presbytery (in the matter of SFP vs CLPC) met electronically on October 1, 2025, at 2:00 pm. The meeting was convened by TE Mike Cosner and opened with prayer.

In attendance were TE Mike Cosner, TE Chris Voorhees, TE Ryan Broadhurst, RE Skip Schoenhals and RE Andy Mitchell.

A motion was **MSP** to hold the trial in executive session allowing all Elders from both churches to be present for the entire proceedings except for Commission deliberations.

A motion was **MSP** to exclude Eric Shane Hull (Shane Hull) from the executive session.

A motion was **MSP** to admit documentary evidence submitted by both parties into evidence.

A motion was **MSP** to allow 10 minutes each for prosecution and defense opening statements with the prosecution speaking first.

A motion was **MSP** to allow electronic testimony from two defense witnesses.

A motion was **MSP** to require the defense to install a replacement for to question TE Steve Jeantet if he provides testimony for the defense.

A motion was **MSP** to limit closing statements for the prosecution and defense to 20 minutes followed by another optional 10 minutes for the prosecution.

A motion was **MSP** to adjourn, and the meeting was closed with prayer by TE Ryan Broadhurst at 2:45 pm.

Submitted by RE Andy Mitchell, clerk

Judicial Commission of Suncoast Florida Presbytery re the SFP vs CLPC
Minutes of October 6, 2025, meeting

The Judicial Commission of Suncoast Florida Presbytery (in the matter of SFP vs CLPC) held a trial on the matter on October 6, 2025, at 6:00 pm at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Ft. Myers, Florida. The meeting was convened by TE Mike Cosner and opened with prayer by TE Chris Voorhees.

In attendance were TE Mike Cosner, TE Chris Voorhees, TE Ryan Broadhurst, RE Skip Schoenhals and RE Andy Mitchell.

With prior approval, the Moderator placed the commission in executive session to conduct the trial.

Also in attendance were: Dwight Dolby, TE ARPC, Prosecutor; Steve Jeantet TE NCPC, Defense; and Charles Jaskulski, RE ARPC; Joseph Gorman, RE ARPC; Jim Robinson, RE ARPC; Rich Genders, RE CLPC; Stuart Turnbull, RE CLPC; Chuck Jansen, RE CLPC; Michael Clark, RE CLPC; Brent Phillips, RE CLPC; Gregory Clement, RE CLPC; Mike Vieira, TE CLPC.

Waiting to be called as witnesses were; Eric Shane Hull (Shane Hull), ARPC; Eric Konczal, CLPC and Deb Raduns, CLPC.

The Moderator gave a charge to the court and read the indictment. He then asked the defense how it pled. TE Steve Jeantet entered a plea of not guilty.

The Prosecutor TE Dwight Dolby then gave an opening statement outlining its case against the defendant.

This was followed by an opening statement from TE Steve Jeantet pointing to items that the defense would refute.

The first witness for the prosecution, Shane Hull, was called to testify and sworn in per BCO 35-8. Under questioning by the Prosecutor, he related his experiences and interactions during his time at Covenant Life and while under the care of Suncoast Florida Presbytery.

Mr. Hull then was questioned by the defense who asked about his theological knowledge of Federal Vision, his activities during the last half of 2024 and the first half of 2025, and his acquaintance with the Communion of Reformed Evangelical Churches (CREC).

The prosecutor called his second witness, RE Jim Robinson, ARPC, who was sworn in. He gave testimony regarding a joint meeting of the two churches' Sessions on June 26, 2024. He also was questioned regarding those meetings by the defense.

The prosecutor called his third witness, RE Charles Jaskulski, ARPC, who was sworn in. He gave testimony to his knowledge of the reaction of the congregation of Covenant Life subsequent to the announcement. After RE Jaskulski was questioned by the defense, the prosecution rested.

The defense then called its first witness, Mr. Eric Konczal who gave video testimony. Mr. Konczal was sworn in. He gave testimony about what had at meetings he attended that had been hosted by Mr. Hull at Mr. Hull's residence. After being questioned by the Prosecutor, he was dismissed.

The defense then called its second witness, Mrs. Deb Raduns who gave video testimony. Mrs. Raduns was sworn in. She testified about her experiences at a May19th 2025 party the Hull residence. After being questioned by the Prosecutor, she was dismissed.

The defense then called its third witness, RE Brent Phillips, CLPC. Mr. Phillips was sworn in. He gave testimony regarding meetings between Mr. Hull and the Session of Covenant Life. After being questioned by the Prosecutor, he was dismissed and the defense rested.

The prosecutor then gave a closing statement. This was followed by a closing statement given by the defense. The prosecutor then concluded with a final statement.

The court then went into a closed session for deliberations. After deliberation, the court reconvened and the Moderator announced the verdict of not guilty. He stated that the verdict was reached by a vote of 5 to 0 and that a rationale for the verdict would be published and given to both parties as soon as possible.

TE Mike Cosner adjourned the court with prayer at 11:52 PM.

Submitted by RE Andy Mitchell, clerk

Judicial Commission of Suncoast Florida Presbytery re the SFP vs CLPC
Minutes of October 23, 2025, meeting

The Judicial Commission of Suncoast Florida Presbytery (in the matter of SFP vs CLPC) met electronically on October 23, 2025, at 2:15 pm. The meeting was convened by TE Mike Cosner and opened with prayer by TE Ryan Broadhurst.

In attendance were TE Mike Cosner, TE Chris Voorhees, TE Ryan Broadhurst, and RE Andy Mitchell.

Absent was RE Skip Schoenhals.

The Commission reviewed and edited a draft rationale submitted by TE Chris Voorhees.

A motion was **MSP** to approve the rationale in its final form and enter it in the report to Presbytery (Attachment 1).

A motion was **MSP** to adjourn, and the meeting was closed with prayer by TE Mike Cosner at 3:14 pm.

Submitted by RE Andy Mitchell, clerk

Judicial Commission of Suncoast Florida Presbytery re the SFP vs CLPC
Minutes of January 27, 2026, meeting

The Judicial Commission of Suncoast Florida Presbytery (in the matter of SFP vs CLPC) met virtually on January 27, 2026, at 2:05 pm. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Moderator, TE Mike Cosner.

In attendance were TE Mike Cosner, TE Chris Voorhees, RE Skip Schoenhals, and RE Andy Mitchell.

Absent was TE Ryan Broadhurst.

The Commission reviewed the minutes of meetings submitted by the clerk and a draft of the report to Presbytery submitted by the Moderator.

A motion was **MSP** to approve the of the minutes of the May 9, 2025, September 9, 2025, October 1, 2025, October 06, 2025, October 23, 2025 and January 27, 2026, meeting of the Commission.

A motion was **MSP** to approve the report to the Presbytery as submitted by the Moderator.

A motion was **MSP** to adjourn, and the meeting was closed with prayer by TE Mike Cosner at 2:25 pm.

Submitted by RE Andy Mitchell, clerk

2025-2026
BCO AMENDMENTS SENT DOWN TO PRESBYTERIES by the 52nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY for ADVICE AND CONSENT

NOTE:The Stated Clerk's Office sends the proposed amendments only in their final form as approved by the General Assembly. Each Item must be voted upon as a whole and may not be divided, even when multiple sections of the *BCO* are being amended.

ITEM 1: Amend *BCO* 8-4, 20-1, 21-1, 21-12, and 23-1 for the calling and dissolution of TE relationships for Needful Works (~~strikethrough~~ for deletions, underlining for additions)

[Overture 30 was answered in the affirmative as amended by the Overtures Committee.]

8-4. As the Lord has given different gifts to men and has committed to some special gifts and callings, the Church is authorized to call and appoint some to labor as teaching elders in such works as may be needful to the Church (*cf. BCO* 21-12). When a teaching elder is called to such needful work, it shall be incumbent upon him to make full proof of his ministry by disseminating the Gospel for the edification of the Church. He shall make a report to the Presbytery at least once each year.

20-1. Before a candidate, or licentiate, can be ordained to the office of the ministry, he must receive a call to a definite work. Ordinarily the call must come from a church, Presbytery, a permanent Committee or Agency (see *BCO* 14-1.12), or the General Assembly of this denomination. If the call comes from another source, the Presbytery shall always make a record of the reasons why it considers the work to be a valid Christian ministry. (See also *BCO* 8-7 and 21-1).

21-1. No minister, licentiate or candidate shall receive a call from a church or a call to a needful work (*BCO* 21-12) but by the permission of his Presbytery. When a call has been presented to the Presbytery, if found in order and the Presbytery deems it for the good of the Church, they shall place it in the hands of the person to whom it is addressed.

21-12. Needful Works

a. A minister, licentiate, or candidate that receives a call from a body other than a PCA church shall be considered to have a call to a Needful Work (*cf. BCO* 8-4 if the call is approved by Presbytery). Such calls shall include (without limitation): (i) calls from the General Assembly or a permanent Committee or Agency, (ii) chaplaincy calls from a Presbytery, MNA, other permanent Committee or Agency, or other body, (iii) missionary calls from MTW or other missionary society, (iv) campus minister calls from RUF, (v) calls from outside the PCA, and (vi) calls to be a teacher in a school of divinity or to give instruction in the doctrines and duties of religion in a school, college, or university.

b. **Ordination to a Needful Work**. The day appointed for the ordination having come, and the Presbytery being convened, a sermon suitable for the occasion shall be preached by a person appointed or invited by the Presbytery. The Presbytery member appointed to preside

shall afterwards briefly recite from the pulpit the proceedings of the Presbytery preparatory to the ordination; he shall point out the nature and importance of the ordinance, and endeavor to impress the audience with a proper sense of the solemnity of the transaction.

Questions for Ordination

Then, addressing himself to the candidate, he shall propose to him the following questions:

1. Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, as originally given, to be the inerrant Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice?

2. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the *Confession of Faith* and the *Catechisms* of this Church, as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures; and do you further promise that if at any time you find yourself out of accord with any of the fundamentals of this system of doctrine, you will on your own initiative, make known to your Presbytery the change which has taken place in your views since the assumption of this ordination vow?

3. Do you approve of the form of government and discipline of the Presbyterian Church in America, in conformity with the general principles of Biblical polity?

4. Do you promise subjection to your brethren in the Lord?

5. Have you been induced, as far as you know your own heart, to seek the office of the holy ministry from love to God and a sincere desire to promote His glory in the Gospel of His Son?

6. Do you promise to be zealous and faithful in maintaining the truths of the Gospel and the purity and peace and unity of the Church, whatever persecution or opposition may arise unto you on that account?

7. Do you engage to be faithful and diligent in the exercise of all your duties as a Christian and a minister of the Gospel, whether personal or relational, private or public; and to endeavor by the grace of God to adorn the profession of the Gospel in your manner of life, and to walk with exemplary piety before the flock of which God shall make you overseer?

8. Do you now undertake this Needful Work, and do you promise, in reliance on God for strength, to be faithful in the discharge of all the duties incumbent on you as a minister of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ?

The candidate having answered these questions in the affirmative, the presiding minister shall propose to representatives from the entity extending the call the following questions:

1. Do you, representatives from the entity extending the call, continue to profess your readiness to receive _____, whom you have called to this Needful Work?

2. Do you promise to receive the word of truth from his mouth with meekness and love?

3. Do you promise to encourage him in his labors, and to assist his endeavors for your instruction and spiritual edification?

4. Do you engage to continue to him while he is in this call that competent worldly maintenance which you have promised, and to furnish him with whatever you may see needful for the honor of religion and for his comfort among you?

The representatives from the entity extending the call having answered these questions in the affirmative, by holding up their right hands, the candidate shall kneel, and the presiding minister shall, with prayer and the laying on of hands of the Presbytery, according to the apostolic example, solemnly set him apart to the holy office of the Gospel ministry. Prayer being ended, he shall rise from his knees; and the minister who presides shall first, followed by all members of the Presbytery, take him by the right hand, saying, in words to this effect:

We give you the right hand of fellowship, to take part in this ministry with us.

The presiding minister shall then say:

I now pronounce and declare that _____ has been regularly elected, and ordained, agreeable to the Word of God, and according to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in America; and that as such he is entitled to all support, encouragement, honor, and obedience in the Lord: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

After which the minister presiding, or some other teaching or ruling elder appointed for the purpose, shall give a solemn charge to the minister to persevere in the discharge of his duties, and then after prayer and the singing of a psalm, or hymn, the congregation shall be dismissed with the benediction. The Presbytery shall duly record its proceedings.

Installation to a Needful Work. In the installation of an ordained minister to a Needful Work, the following questions are to be substituted for those addressed to a candidate for ordination, namely:

Questions for Installation

1. Are you now willing to take charge of this Needful Work, agreeable to your declaration in accepting the call?

2. Do you conscientiously believe and declare, as far as you know your own heart, that, in taking upon you this charge, you are influenced by a sincere desire to promote the glory of God and the good of the Church?

3. Do you solemnly promise that, by the assistance of the grace of God, you will endeavor faithfully to discharge all the duties of this Needful Work, and will be careful to maintain a deportment in all respects becoming a minister of the Gospel of Christ, agreeable to your ordination engagements?

The candidate having answered these questions in the affirmative, the presiding minister shall propose to the calling entity the following questions:

1. Do you, representatives from the entity extending the call, continue to profess your readiness to receive , whom you have called to this Needful Work?
2. Do you promise to encourage him in his labors, and to assist his endeavors in instruction and spiritual edification for those to whom he is called to minister?
3. Do you engage to continue to him while he is in this call that competent worldly maintenance which you have promised, and to furnish him with whatever you may see needful for the honor of religion and for his comfort among you?

c. **Transfer of man in a Needful Work.** When a man who has a call to a Needful Work desires to move from one field of labor to another, if the field of labor is in another Presbytery, the minister may be examined and approved by that Presbytery to labor in the field to which he is being transferred, and may be released for transfer by his present Presbytery (see *BCO* 13-6), or the procedures set forth in *BCO* 13-2 (sentence two) and *BCO* 19-1 shall be followed.

23-1. [added to the current 23-1 as a new, final paragraph]
In the case of a Needful Work (*BCO* 21-12), when any minister shall tender the resignation of his call to his Presbytery, the Presbytery shall cite such an entity to appear to show cause why the Presbytery should or should not accept the resignation. If such an entity fails to appear, or if its reasons for retaining the minister be deemed insufficient, his resignation shall be accepted and the relation dissolved. If any calling entity desires to be relieved of the minister called to the particular needful work, a similar procedure shall be observed. In any case, the minister must not physically leave the field until the Presbytery or its commission empowered to handle uncontested requests for dissolution has dissolved the relation.

ITEM 2: Amend *BCO* 12-3 so that a Session may elect one of its members as moderator in judicial cases (~~strikethrough~~ for deletions, underlining for additions)

[Overture 37 was answered in the affirmative as amended by the Overtures Committee.]

12-3. When a church is without a pastor, the moderator of the Session may be either a minister appointed for that purpose by the Presbytery, with consent of the Session, or one invited by the Session to preside on a particular occasion, or one of its own members elected to preside. In judicial cases, whether the church is with or without a pastor, the Session may elect one of its members to preside as moderator ~~shall be a~~ or invite a minister of the Presbytery to which the church belongs to preside as moderator.

ITEM 3: Amend *BCO* 15-5.c to clarify the handling of an SJC minority decision by GA (~~strikethrough~~ for deletions, underlining for additions)

[Overture 29 was answered in the affirmative as amended by the Overtures Committee.]

15-5.

c. (1) If, within twenty-four (24) hours of the time of adjournment of a Standing Judicial Commission meeting at which a final decision was rendered in a case, at least one-third (1/3) of the ~~voting~~ members of the Standing Judicial Commission voting on a particular final decision file written notice of their intention to file a minority decision with the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, and within twenty (20) days from the adjournment do file such a minority decision, such minority decision shall be considered a minority report and shall be referred, with the report of the Standing Judicial Commission, to the General Assembly. In each instance "file" shall be understood as defined by the *Operating Manual for Standing Judicial Commission*.

(2) No such reference* from the Standing Judicial Commission shall be considered by the General Assembly unless the report of the Standing Judicial Commission, ~~and~~ the minority report, the Record of the Case, and all briefs timely filed by the parties have been distributed in electronic form ~~mailed~~ to the clerk of Session of each church and published in the *Commissioner Handbook* at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting of the General Assembly.

(3) The Assembly shall act upon such a reference* from the Standing Judicial Commission, in each case without question, discussion, debate, or amendment, as follows:

(a) The Standing Judicial Commission shall have 30 minutes to present its decision to the Assembly.

(b) The minority shall have 30 minutes to present its decision to the Assembly.

(c) The Standing Judicial Commission shall have 10 minutes to reply to the minority report.

(d) The decision of the minority shall be proposed, and the General Assembly shall, without question, discussion, debate, or amendment, approve or disapprove of the minority report.

(e) If the General Assembly approves the minority report, it shall be the decision of the General Assembly and printed in its minutes. There may be no complaint or appeal from such a final decision of the General Assembly.

(f) If the General Assembly disapproves the minority report, the General Assembly shall take up the decision of the Standing Judicial Commission and without question, discussion, debate, or amendment, approve or disapprove of the decision of the Standing Judicial Commission.

(4) If the General Assembly approves of ~~a proposed~~ the Standing Judicial Commission's decision, it shall be the decision of the General Assembly, and~~-~~ printed in its minutes. There may be no complaint or appeal from such a final decision of the General Assembly. If the General Assembly finally disapproves of both proposed decisions, it must set the case for hearing before the General Assembly or a special commission of six (6) teaching elders and six (6) ruling elders appointed by the Moderator of the General Assembly ~~it~~, and in either instance the case shall be tried on the record as delivered to the Stated Clerk. Any such special commission shall then proceed to consider the case and shall report its decision, in like manner, to the General Assembly for its approval or disapproval. In any event, the full record of the case, including written testimony of witnesses, all documents, exhibits and papers shall be delivered to the Stated Clerk for permanent preservation.

ITEM 4: Amend *BCO* 18-2 to allow flexibility on applications to come under care (~~strikethrough~~ for deletions, underlining for additions)

[Overture 6 was answered in the affirmative as amended by the Overtures Committee.]

18-2. Every applicant for the ministry must put himself under the care of Presbytery, which should ordinarily be the Presbytery that has jurisdiction of the church of which he is a member. The endorsement of his Session must be given to the Presbytery, consisting of testimonials regarding his Christian character and promise of usefulness in the ministry. The endorsement should also describe the activities of ministry the applicant has participated in with brief evaluation.

Every applicant for care shall be a member of the congregation whose session provides an endorsement for at least six months before filing his application, except in those cases deemed extraordinary by the Presbytery.

Every applicant must file his application with the clerk of the Presbytery ~~at least one month before the meeting of the Presbytery.~~ An applicant for care may not be received under care and examined for ordination at the same meeting of the Presbytery, since he must serve a period of at least one year of internship prior to ordination (see *BCO* 19-7 and 21-4). An applicant for internship is obliged to be under care and may be licensed to preach the Gospel;

further, one who is not already under care may be taken under care, be licensed to preach the Gospel, and become an intern at the same meeting of Presbytery.

ITEM 5: Amend *BCO* 24-1 to require ruling elders and deacons to state confessional differences (~~strikethrough~~ for deletions, underlining for additions)

[Overture 8 was answered in the affirmative as amended by the Overtures Committee.]

24-1. Every church shall elect persons to the offices of ruling elder and deacon in the following manner: At such times as determined by the Session, communicant members of the congregation may submit names to the Session, keeping in mind that each prospective officer should be an active male member who meets the qualifications set forth in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1. Nominees for the office of ruling elder and/or deacon shall receive instruction in the qualifications and work of the office.

a. Each nominee shall be examined in:
   1. his Christian experience, especially his personal character and family management (based on the qualifications set out in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9),
   2. his knowledge of Bible content,
   3. his knowledge of the system of doctrine, government, discipline contained in the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in America (*BCO* Preface III, The Constitution Defined),
   4. the duties of the office to which he has been nominated, and
   5. his willingness to give assent to the questions required for ordination. (*BCO* 24-6).

b. In the examination of the nominee's personal character, the Session shall give specific attention to potential notorious concerns. Careful attention must be given to his practical struggle against sinful actions, as well as to persistent sinful desires. The nominee must give clear testimony of reliance upon his union with Christ and the benefits thereof by the Holy Spirit, depending on this work of grace to make progress over sin (Psalm 103:2-5, Romans 8:29) and to bear fruit (Psalm 1:3, Gal. 5:22-23). While imperfection will remain, when confessing sins and sinful temptations publicly, the nominee must exercise great care not to diminish the seriousness of those sins in the eyes of the congregation, as though they were matters of little consequence, but rather should testify to the work of the Holy Spirit in his progress in holiness (1 Cor. 6:9-11).

c. Notwithstanding the above, the Session may render a decision on Christian experience at any point in the process, and based on that decision, may judge him ineligible for that election.

d. While our Constitution does not require the nominee's affirmation of every statement and/or proposition of doctrine in our *Confession of Faith* and *Catechisms*, it is the right and responsibility of the Session to determine if the nominee is out of accord with any of the fundamentals of these doctrinal standards and, as a consequence, may not be able

in good faith sincerely to receive and adopt the *Confession of Faith* and *Catechisms* of this Church as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures (cf. *BCO* 21-5, Q.2; 24-6, Q.2).

e. Therefore, in examining a nominee for ordination, the Session shall inquire not only into the nominee's knowledge and views in the areas specified above but also shall require the nominee to state the specific instances in which he may differ with the *Confession of Faith* and *Catechisms* in any of their statements and/or propositions. The court may grant an exception to any difference of doctrine only if in the court's judgment the nominee's declared difference is not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine because the difference is neither hostile to the system nor strikes at the vitals of religion. The Session shall record in its records (*BCO* 12-7) such declared differences (or that there were no differences) and its assessment of each declared difference in accordance with the categories set forth in *RAO* 16-3.e.7.

f. If there are candidates eligible for the election, the Session shall report to the congregation those eligible, giving at least thirty (30) days prior notice of the time and place of a congregational meeting for elections.

g. If one-fourth (1/4) of the persons entitled to vote shall at any time request the Session to call a congregational meeting for the purpose of electing additional officers, it shall be the duty of the Session to call such a meeting on the above procedure. The number of officers to be elected shall be determined by the congregation after hearing the Session's recommendation.

[**Stated Clerk's Note**: If both items 5 and 6 pass, the language proposed in Item 6 will be inserted into the new *BCO* 24-1.c.]

ITEM 6: Amend *BCO* 24-1 to clarify a Session's role in examining officer nominees (~~strikethrough~~ for deletions, underlining for additions)

[Overture 24 was answered in the affirmative as amended by the Overtures Committee.]

24-1. Every church shall elect persons to the offices of ruling elder and deacon in the following manner: At such times as determined by the Session, communicant members of the congregation may submit names to the Session, keeping in mind that each prospective officer should be an active male member who meets the qualifications set forth in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1. Nominees for the office of ruling elder and/or deacon shall receive instruction in the qualifications and work of the office. Each nominee shall be examined in:

a. his Christian experience, especially his personal character and family management (based on the qualifications set out in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9),
b. his knowledge of Bible content,

c. his knowledge of the system of doctrine, government, discipline contained in the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in America (*BCO* Preface III, The Constitution Defined),
d. the duties of the office to which he has been nominated, and
e. his willingness to give assent to the questions required for ordination. (*BCO* 24-6).

In the examination of the nominee's personal character, the Session shall give specific attention to potential notorious concerns. Careful attention must be given to his practical struggle against sinful actions, as well as to persistent sinful desires. The nominee must give clear testimony of reliance upon his union with Christ and the benefits thereof by the Holy Spirit, depending on this work of grace to make progress over sin (Psalm 103:2-5, Romans 8:29) and to bear fruit (Psalm 1:3, Gal. 5:22-23). While imperfection will remain, when confessing sins and sinful temptations publicly, the nominee must exercise great care not to diminish the seriousness of those sins in the eyes of the congregation, as though they were matters of little consequence, but rather should testify to the work of the Holy in his progress in holiness (1 Cor. 6:9-11).

Notwithstanding the above, the Session may render a decision on Christian experience at any point in the process, and based on that decision, may judge him, whether previously ordained or not, ineligible for that election.

If there are candidates eligible for the election, the Session shall report to the congregation those eligible, giving at least thirty (30) days prior notice of the time and place of a congregational meeting for elections.

If one-fourth (1/4) of the persons entitled to vote shall at any time request the Session to call a congregational meeting for the purpose of electing additional officers, it shall be the duty of the Session to call such a meeting on the above procedure. The number of officers to be elected shall be determined by the congregation after hearing the Session's recommendation.

[**Stated Clerk's Note**: If both items 5 and 6 pass, the language proposed in Item 6 will be inserted into the new *BCO* 24-1.c.]

ITEM 7: Amend *BCO* 31-10 to require vote of the entire court to suspend an officer's official functions during process (~~strikethrough~~ for deletions, underlining for additions)

[Overture 31 was answered in the affirmative as amended by the Overtures Committee.]

31-10. When a member of a church court is under process, all his official functions may be administratively suspended at the court's discretion; but this shall never be done in the way of censure, and this requires a two-thirds (2/3) majority of members present and voting (not counting abstentions) at the meeting of the Session or Presbytery, even if the process is being conducted by a commission.

ITEM 8: Amend *BCO* 35-9 to require recording all parts of a trial (~~strikethrough~~ for deletions, underlining for additions)

[Overture 40 was answered in the affirmative.]

35-9. All ~~testimony~~ parts of a trial other than deliberations shall be recorded (by transcription, audiotape, videotape, or some other electronic means) and witnesses informed of such prior to testifying. Such recording becomes part of the Record of the Case. However, in order to be referenced in written or oral briefs, such recording must be transcribed and the transcription authenticated by the trial court. The court of final appeal may assess the cost of transcription equitably among the parties

ITEM 9: Amend *BCO* 36-4 to add language for the administration of definite suspension from office (~~strikethrough~~ for deletions, underlining for additions)

[Overture 15 was answered in the affirmative as amended by the Overtures Committee.]

36-4. Definite suspension from office should be administered in the presence of the court alone or in open session of the court, as it may deem best, and public announcement thereof shall be at the court's discretion. When the court has resolved to pass this sentence, the moderator shall address the offending brother to the following purpose:

Whereas, you, _____ (here describe the brother as a teaching elder, ruling elder, or deacon) are convicted by sufficient proof (or are guilty by your own confession) of the sin of _____ (here insert the offense), and have satisfied the court as to your repentance by the grace of God; yet for the credit of religion, the honor of Christ, and your own good we the _____ (Presbytery ~~(~~or Church Session) in the name and by the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, do now declare you suspended from the exercise of your office, and all the functions thereof, for (here state the dates on which the suspension begins and ends).

To this shall be added such advice or admonition as may be judged necessary, and the whole shall be concluded with prayer to almighty God that He would follow this act of discipline with His blessing.

ITEM 10: Amend *BCO* 36-5 to conform the language to *BCO* 37-3 regarding suspension from office (~~strikethrough~~ for deletions, underlining for additions)

[Overture 16 was answered in the affirmative as amended by the Overtures Committee.]

Whereas, you, _____ (here describe the person as a teaching elder, ruling elder, deacon, or private member of the church) are

convicted by sufficient proof (or are guilty by your own confession) of the sin of _____ (here insert the offense), we the _____ (Presbytery (or Church Session) in the name and by the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, do now declare you suspended from the Sacraments of the Church (and/or from the exercise of your office), until you give satisfactory evidence of repentance.

ITEM 11: Amend *BCO* 36-8 and 42-2 to provide for elevation of a censure without an entirely new trial (~~strikethrough~~ for deletions, underlining for additions)

[Overture 32 was answered in the affirmative as amended by the Overtures Committee.]

36-8.When members of a court wish to consider the elevation of an indefinite suspension, whether from office or from the Sacraments (*BCO* 36-5) to the censure of deposition or excommunication respectively, it shall not be required to initiate process *de novo* according to *BCO* 31-2 or *BCO* 32-2. The indefinitely suspended person is not in good standing and has already been found impenitent, resulting in indefinite suspension (*BCO* 30-3). However, the indefinitely suspended person has a right to a hearing in the matter. The court supervising the indefinite suspension may consider a motion to find him "incorrigible and contumacious" (*cf*. *BCO* 30-4) and present evidence to that effect. The court shall give at least thirty (30) days' notice of such a motion to the indefinitely suspended person and permit him the privilege of the floor to plead and give evidence of his repentance before the court having jurisdiction (*BCO* 33-1, 34-1) and not any trial commission. The court, upon completing its hearing, shall vote to determine whether or not to elevate the indefinite suspension to deposition or excommunication. A person whose suspension is so elevated has the right of Appeal (*BCO* 42- 2).

42-2. The only parties entitled to an appeal are those who have submitted to a regular trial, those appealing a censure in a *BCO* 38-1 case without process, those appealing the elevation of a censure under *BCO* 36-8, and those appealing a *BCO* 34-10 divestiture without censure.

ITEM 12: Amend *BCO* 41-3 to allow supplemental judges for a Session trial (~~strikethrough~~ for deletions, underlining for additions)

[Overture 23 was answered in the affirmative.]

41-3. In making a reference the lower court may ask for advice only, or for final disposition of the matter referred; and in particular it may refer a judicial case with a request ~~for its trial and decision by the higher court.~~:

a. That the higher court take original jurisdiction of the case, its trial, judgment, and whatever censure it deems warranted; or
b. That the higher court provide additional teaching and/or ruling elders to serve with the lower court in a judicial case, as may seem prudent to the lower court, which additional elders, during their term of service on the case, shall have all

the rights and responsibilities of judges in the lower court, subject to the rights of the parties under *BCO* 32-16.

ITEM 13: Amend *BCO* 57-2 regarding the examination of young persons for admission to the sealing ordinances (~~strikethrough~~ for deletions, underlining for additions)

[Overture 33 was answered in the affirmative.]

57-2. The time when young persons come to understand the Gospel cannot be precisely fixed. This must be left to the prudence of the Session, whose office it is to judge, after careful examination, the qualifications of those who apply for admission to sealing ordinances. The examination shall include an evaluation of the young person's credible profession of faith, the young person's understanding of the meaning of the Lord's Supper, and the young person's understanding of the questions in *BCO* 57-5.

OVERTURE [#]

from Suncoast Florida Presbytery

"Amend RAO 8-4 to Require that Floor Nominations to the Permanent Committees and Agencies Come from Previously Submitted Presbytery Nominees"

Whereas, the Rules of Assembly Operations (RAO) 8-4 currently permits floor nominations for individuals not included in the Nominating Committee's report; and

Whereas, the Nominating Committee receives and evaluates nominations from each presbytery, which commends men for service on the Permanent Committees and Agencies of the PCA; and

Whereas, the current process allows for the possibility of floor nominations for individuals who have not been examined or commended by a presbytery, and whose qualifications have not been reviewed through the ordinary means of connectional government; and

Whereas, the representative nature of Presbyterian polity calls for officers and representatives to be nominated by the courts of the church, not self-nominated or nominated without prior ecclesiastical review; and

Whereas, this overture seeks to preserve the Assembly's ability to elect individuals other than those recommended by the Nominating Committee, while ensuring that all nominations have passed through the same ordinary channel of presbytery oversight and recommendation;

Therefore be it resolved, that RAO 8-4.i be amended by adding the following sentence:

> *Such additional nominations shall only be considered valid if the individual nominated was previously submitted by a presbytery for consideration by the Committee on Nominations but was not included in the Committee's final report.*

Rationale:

1. **Upholds presbyterian process:** Requiring that floor nominations originate from individuals already nominated by their presbyteries ensures that all candidates have first been examined and commended by a local court of the church. This aligns with our connectional polity and the representative nature of church government.
2. **Promotes fairness and transparency:** When floor nominations may be made for individuals who were never vetted through the regular nomination process, it risks undermining both the Committee on Nominations and the presbyteries that participated in good order. This amendment provides a clear and fair standard, reducing confusion or perception of improvised decision-making.

3. **Encourages broader participation without bypassing structure:** This overture does not restrict the number or variety of individuals eligible for nomination. It simply requires that all nominations—whether included in the Committee's final report or not—have come through the presbyteries. Thus, the Assembly retains its right to elect someone other than the committee's recommendation, while ensuring the nomination reflects prior deliberation and accountability.
4. **Brings consistency with other Assembly procedures:** The General Assembly already operates under a pattern in which a committee's recommendation is treated as a majority report, with the possibility of minority reports. Floor nominations, when limited to individuals previously submitted by presbyteries, function analogously to a minority report—providing an alternate recommendation from within the same process rather than introducing an entirely new path.

The Nominating Committee,
Presbyterian Church in America

November 18, 2025

Re: Recommendation of Rev. Trent Casto to serve on the Board of Trustees of Covenant Theological Seminary.

To Whom it may Concern:

It is with genuine advocacy and sincere enthusiasm that I write in support of Rev. Trent Casto's nomination to the Board of Trustees for Covenant Theological Seminary. I have known Trent since he joined the Suncoast Florida Presbytery in 2010 to serve on the pastoral staff of Covenant Church of Naples, and I had the honor of serving on the Presbytery Committee that installed him as Senior Pastor in January 2017. Having also served with him on the Candidates and Credentials Committee, I have seen how deeply Trent loves Jesus and His church. Though I do not know his family well, I know his devotion as a godly husband to Emily and a loving father to Hudson, Anna Kate, and William. Across fifteen years of acquaintance, I can attest to his life and character.

Under Pastor Robert Petterson's leadership, Trent was soon recognized by the Session and congregation of Covenant Naples as a future senior pastor. His work as assistant and associate pastor from 2010 to 2016 was exemplary—building ministry teams, fostering spiritual growth, developing leaders, and overseeing staff. Although not a member of Covenant Naples, I maintained a close relationship with Pastor Petterson, who often spoke of Trent's competence, humility, perseverance, and winsome spirit that drew others to serve alongside him.

In my own interactions with him as moderator and committee colleague, I have found Trent to be reliable, honest, and a man of deep integrity. He is humble, thoughtful, prayerful, and highly intelligent. He knows and applies the Word of God as a lamp to his feet and a light to his path. He is also a churchman—an all-too-rare trait today—strengthening his faithful service. His work on the Advisory Board of Covenant Theological Seminary, and his aspiration to the Board of Trustees, reveal his love for Christ's church and his commitment to the solid training of future leaders.

As senior pastor of a large congregation of over 1,700 members and visitors, Trent has shown exceptional administrative ability—moderating Session meetings, leading fund-raising campaigns, authoring commentaries, initiating church planting, and developing staff. Yet beyond such accomplishments, he embodies the calling of a true shepherd. Trent preaches and teaches the whole counsel of God with clarity and conviction, and he shepherds the flock as the Apostle Peter exhorts—serving eagerly and nourishing the flock like Ezekiel's good shepherd who searches for the lost and feeds them with good pasture. He fulfills these duties with faithfulness.

In conclusion, I commend Trent to you as one who loves Christ, is deeply committed to gathering and shepherding God's people, and serves the bride of Christ with excellence both locally and globally. As moderator of one of the larger sessions in our denomination, he has demonstrated leadership qualities well suited to serve on the governing body of our seminary.

Yours truly,

M. R. Wardell

Mark R. Wardell, Ph.D.
Elder, Presbyterian Church in America
Faculty, Equipping Leaders International

PRESBYTERY NOMINEE BIOGRAPHICAL FORM

MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE PCA STATED CLERK BY FEBRUARY 23, 2026

Late forms will not be accepted.

INSTRUCTIONS (failure to follow these guidelines will disqualify your nomination):

- Completely fill out all sections
- Sections A and B do not have to be typed, but any printing must be neat. Section C must be typed.
- You are encouraged (but not required) to include a letter of recommendation, **from any Teaching or Ruling Elder in your Presbytery**. The letter must be limited to one page.
- Nominee completes form and returns to PCA Stated Clerk:
  - **Online:** https://forms.gle/w49H5ihAtxomdkZ5A
  - **Email:** hharrison@pcanet.org
  - **Mail:** PCA Stated Clerk, 1700 North Brown Road, Suite 105, Lawrenceville, GA 30043-8143 (If mailing, please allow time for the form to be shipped. Late forms will not be accepted, and the form must be **received** by the deadline.)
- Your presbytery clerk must also send in a separate form confirming your nomination.

****The Nominee is responsible to ensure the form is received by the PCA Stated Clerk by the deadline.****

SECTION A: Nominee Info

Nominee: ■TE ☐RE ☐Deacon Full Name: Trent Casto

"Goes by" name he would prefer to be called: Trent Casto

Committee for which he is nominated: Covenant Theological Seminary

Presbytery: Suncoast Florida **Date approved by Presbytery:** _____

Presbytery Contact: Rev. David Stewart
Stated Clerk or Presbytery Nominations Representative

Nominee's address 7544 Cordoba Circle

City Naples **State** FL **Zip** 34109

Mobile phone 239-595-9469 **Work phone** _____

E-Mail trent.casto@covenantnaples.com

Only information entered on this page will be seen by the Nominating Committee.

SECTION B

Committee/Agency CTS ■TE ☐RE ☐DE **Name** Trent Casto

Presbytery Suncoast Florida **Occupation** Senior Pastor, Covenant Church of Naples

Nominee's Church and City Covenant Church of Naples, Naples, Florida

SECTION C

This section must be typed. Include any information you wish the Nominating Committee to consider, including (but not limited to) past and present service on presbytery and GA committees, education, vocational experience, and other pertinent information. This page is copied and distributed (along with your one-page letter of recommendation **from an elder in your presbytery** if you have provided one) to the Nominating Committee members. No additional material will be provided. **Your entire bio needs to fit in the space below (no attachments).**

Trent earned his BS in Business Administration with a major in Finance from West Virginia University, his MDiv from Covenant Theological Seminary, and his DMin with a concentration in Spiritual Formation from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. He is also a graduate of the Program for Leadership Development at Harvard Business School. Before entering ministry, Trent served as an English teacher and missionary in the Czech Republic at Winfield College. He began his pastoral career as English Minister at Korean Hope Community Church in Maryland Heights, Missouri, followed by a pastoral internship at Park Cities Presbyterian Church in Dallas, Texas. Trent joined Covenant Church of Naples in 2010 as Assistant and later Associate Pastor, where he developed leadership teams, oversaw spiritual formation programs, and managed staff ministries. Since 2017, he has served as Senior Pastor, leading the church through significant growth, including multiple capital campaigns, the acquisition and revitalization of Naples Christian Academy, expanded mercy and missions ministries, and the launch of a daughter church. Trent has authored books including Deuteronomy: Remember, Trust, and Obey (2025), 2 Corinthians: God's Strength in Our Weakness (2023), and The Rhythm of Discipleship (2017), and has contributed chapters and articles to various publications. He has delivered lectures and talks at institutions such as Covenant Theological Seminary, Westminster Theological Seminary, and Covenant College, and regularly leads study tours to locations including Greece, Turkey, Israel, and Europe. In Suncoast Florida Presbytery, Trent has served as Moderator, Chair of the Discipleship Committee, and on the Candidates and Credentials Committee. He is a preaching mentor for the Timothy Foundation Fellows Program, and is a fellow of The Center for Pastor Theologians. At the denominational level, he has served on the nominating committee. He and his wife, Emily, have been married since 2004 and have three children. Trent joined Covenant Seminary's Advisory Board in 2025.

Report of the CANDIDATES AND CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE
SUNCOAST FLORIDA PRESBYTERY (SFP)
Via Google Meet
Tuesday, January 27, 2026

I. Business referred to the Outreach Committee (none)

II. Statement of Major Issues Addressed

A. The meeting was held on January 27, 2026, 10:00 a.m. via Google Meet. TE Stonecipher opened with prayer. Members in attendance were TE Peter Stonecipher (chairman), TE James Baird, RE Ron Henzel, TE Brent Lauder, RE Tom Lynch, RE Ron Lotterman, and RE Jim Robinson. Visitor: Rev. Joe Davis.

B. Rev. Joe Davis was examined on the sacraments portion of his ordination trials. He will be examined regarding PCA history and church history at a later date, most likely our April 28, 2026 Stated Meeting.

C. Presbytery needs to approve the change in call for TE Chuck Betters. The call and package are attached.

III. Recommendations

MSC to approve Rev. Joe Davis' sacraments exam.

The meeting was closed in prayer by RE Henzel at 10:58 a.m.

Covenant Presbyterian Church of Naples
Presbyterian Church in America

Called Congregational Meeting Minutes. December 21, 2025

1. Call to Order
A called congregational meeting of Covenant Presbyterian Church of Naples, PCA, was held on December 21, 2025.
The meeting was called to order by Dr. Trent Casto, Senior Pastor, who served as Moderator, in accordance with the Book of Church Order (BCO 20-2; 20-3) at 12:30pm.

2. Quorum
It was determined that a quorum was present in accordance with the church's bylaws.

3. Appointment of Clerk
The Moderator called for the appointment of a clerk for the meeting.
Associate Pastor Chris Voorhees nominated Craig Groendyk to serve as Clerk.
The nomination was **moved, seconded, and approved.**

4. Opening Prayer
The meeting was opened with prayer by Dr. Trent Casto.

5. Purpose of the Meeting
The Moderator explained the purpose of the meeting and the process for calling an Associate Pastor, noting that the authority to call pastors and associate pastors resides with the congregation (BCO 20-2; 20-3).

6. Call of an Associate Pastor (M/S/A)
The following **motion** was read to the congregation:

> *"The Session of the Covenant Church of Naples moves that the Covenant Church of Naples hereby earnestly call Chuck Betters to the office of Associate Pastor in our congregation, being well satisfied with his ministerial qualifications and having good hopes, based on our knowledge of his labors, that his ministry in the Gospel will be beneficial to our spiritual interests. We promise him all proper spiritual support, encouragement, and obedience in the Lord in the discharge of his duties. We further obligate ourselves, in accordance with BCO 20-6, to an annual salary of $137,000 to be paid monthly plus benefits, during his time as Associate Pastor of our church, so that he may be free from worldly cares and avocations."*

There were no questions.
The vote was conducted by a show of hands.

Vote Results:
In favor: 196
Opposed: 0

The motion passed unanimously, and Chuck Betters was duly called to the office of Associate Pastor (BCO 20-3; 20-6).

7. Introduction
Following the vote, Chuck Betters was introduced to the congregation in his new role.

8. Adjournment
A motion to adjourn was made and approved.
The meeting was closed in prayer by Dr. Trent Casto at 12:55pm

Certification

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Groendyk
Clerk of the Meeting
Date: December 21, 2025

Session Attestation

These minutes were reviewed and approved by the Session of Covenant Presbyterian Church of Naples and are hereby certified as a true and accurate record of the congregational meeting.

Dr. Trent Casto
Moderator

Submitted by:

Ken Leahy
Clerk of Session
Date: 01/19/26

PASTORAL TERMS OF CALL

Subject to the approval of the Suncoast Presbytery, the Session (Session, or Congregation, or Session of behalf of the congregation) of Covenant Church in Naples, FL earnestly calls you, Charles L. Betters to undertake the office of Associate Pastor in our congregation, promising you, in the discharge of your duty, all proper support, encouragement and obedience in the Lord. That you may be free from worldly care and avocations, we hereby promise and oblige ourselves to provide you with the following:

Annual Cash Salary & Housing Allowance paid monthly (semi-monthly, etc):	$ 11,417
The amount/portion dedicated to housing allowance will be determined by the minister and approved by the Session before employment with the Church in a new position and shall be reviewed prior to each fiscal year.	
Primary Benefits	
Social Security/Medicare Allowance: 7.65% of salary + housing	$ 10,481
Medical Insurance &/or Medicare Supplement insurance (specific $ amt)	$ 22,080
Retirement Savings: 10 % of salary + housing	$ 13,720
Long Term Disability Insurance: enough to separate ___% of salary + housing	$ 0
Life Insurance: amount equal to 0.18 % x (salary + housing)	$ 25,020
Equity Allowance if Minister living in manse	$ 0
Other Cell Phone Reimbursement	$ 1,500
Secondary Benefits	
Dental Insurance	$ 2,152
Vision Insurance	$ 0
Long Term Care Insurance	$ 0
Temporary Benefits	
Relocation expenses reimbursed up to the maximum of:	$ 0
Other	$ 0

Miscellaneous Paid Leaves per year. (Any specific church policies are described in a separate document.)

Vacation	28 days	Sick Leave	5 days
Education Leave	0 days	Paternity Leave	10 days
Sabbatical Leave accrual	12 days	Funeral Leave	3 days

Any reimbursement of reasonable and necessary business expenses shall be in accord with a Session-adopted Accountable Reimbursement Plan, with a maximum amount specified in the annual church budget.

I, having moderated the Congregational (Session or Congregational) meeting which extended a call to Charles L. Betters for his ministerial services, do certify the call has been made in all respects according to the rules in the PCA Book of Church Order and the persons who signed the call were authorized to do so by vote of the Session (Session of Congregation).

(Check, if applicable) ____ Authority to approve these Terms was delegated by the Congregation to the Session at the congregational meeting on _____ (date).

Meeting Moderator (sign) _____ Print Name Trent Casto

Position Senior Pastor Phone or e-mail trent.casto@covenantnaples.com

Date of Meeting December 21, 2024 Votes: # Yes = 174 # No = 6

Minister-Elect (sign) _____ Print Name Charles L. Betters

REPORT of the RUF COMMITTEE
SUNCOAST FLORIDA PRESBYTERY (SFP)
El Shaddai of Grace
Tuesday, February 10, 2026

The meeting was held via Zoom on January 30, 2026. Committee members present were: RE Ken Herbold (Chairman); TE John Anderson (Vice-Chairman); RE Ronald Breen; TE Keith Ledford; TE Bill Broderick; TE Lucas Tanner (Campus Minister). The meeting was opened with prayer by RE Ken Herbold at 10:05 a.m. A quorum was declared.

I. Items referred to the RUF Committee: None

II. Statement of Major Items
a. Report from TE Lucas Tanner

III. Recommendations:
a. **None**

TE Lucas Tanner gave a report to the committee

1. Lucas reported that over 400 students attended large group in the fall, peak attendance reached 250, and a typical week was between 180–200 students.
2. He said he preached through the "I AM" statements of Jesus.
3. He shared that small groups included eight student-led Bible studies covering Proverbs, Micah, Jonah, Romans, 1 and 2 Timothy, 1 Peter, James, and the attributes of God.
4. He reported that the ministry launched a brand-new freshman outreach called First-Year Fellowship (FYF), structured like a mini large group (similar to a youth group) with food, games, singing, short Bible teaching, and small group discussion.
5. He said FYF averaged 50–60 students per week, and that he taught through a survey of the Old Testament.
6. He noted that Fall Conference was held in September at Warren Willis Camp near Leesburg, Florida, with 114 FGCU students attending (the largest in the state), and that Wilson Van Hoozer was the speaker.
7. He added that next year the plan is to split Florida's Fall Conference into northern and southern schools, and that FGCU, FAU, and USF will do their own Fall Conference in 2026.
8. Lucas reported that they have held three large groups so far this spring and that he is preaching through Galatians.
9. Lucas reported that the ministry hosted "Seminary on Saturday," featuring Dr. Peter Lillback from Westminster Theological Seminary, who delivered three lectures on the history and theology of the Reformation, followed by a live Q&A, and that it was attended by 25 students and was well received.
10. He said they have seven student-led small groups studying Philippians, Titus, the life of Joseph, the Gospel of John, Hebrews, the Ten Commandments, and Genesis.
11. He shared that FYF started last week and that he is teaching through Romans 1–8.

12. He reported that a couple more students have applied for the RUF internship, including Faith Partington, who has been placed at Western Carolina University and will begin June 1.
13. Lucas reported that both interns, Mika and Noah, had a good fall semester, and he noted that Noah's mother passed away near the end of the semester and asked for prayer as Noah grieves.
14. Lucas shared a brief family update.
15. Lucas gave a financial update, noting that the RUF account is healthy and had a net increase of $33K in 2025.
16. Lucas reminded the committee of his upcoming sabbatical in the summer of 2026.

There was a season of prayer for Lucas, his family, the RUF ministry and staff.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by TE Lucas Tanner at 11:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken Herbold, Chairman

REFORMED UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP
INCOME STATEMENT
0614 - Florida Gulf Coast Univ, Lucas Tanner
FOR PERIOD: 12/01/2025 TO 12/31/2025

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Total	Budget	Variance	YTD Budget
Income																
Individual	3,080	12,925	3,350	5,125	3,025	5,750	2,765	2,925	4,725	3,775	12,475	10,075	69,995	0	69,995	0
Church	10,155	9,040	26,763	27,042	36,769	6,815	27,090	7,290	4,915	6,265	12,346	39,890	214,378	0	214,378	0
Foundation/Trust	3,775	1,775	1,775	2,275	4,775	1,775	1,775	2,375	1,775	1,775	1,775	2,675	28,300	0	28,300	0
Presbytery	0	0	13,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13,000	0	13,000	0
Total Income	17,010	23,740	44,888	34,442	44,569	14,340	31,630	12,590	11,415	11,815	26,596	52,640	325,673	0	325,673	
Expenses																
Personnel																
Salary	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	66,003	66,004	0	5,500
Other Earnings	0	0	0	0	250	0	0	188	0	0	2,000	0	2,438	0	(2,438)	0
Housing	3,133	3,133	3,133	3,133	3,133	3,133	3,133	3,133	3,133	3,133	3,133	3,133	37,600	37,600	(0)	3,133
Disability Insurance	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	1,419	1,371	(48)	114
Health Insurance	1,740	1,740	1,740	1,740	1,740	1,740	1,740	1,740	1,740	1,740	1,740	1,740	20,876	20,876	0	1,740
Life Insurance	127	127	127	127	127	127	127	127	127	127	127	127	1,526	1,526	0	127
HSA	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	6,000	6,000	0	500
Retirement	1,036	1,036	1,036	1,036	1,036	1,036	1,036	1,036	1,036	1,036	1,036	1,036	12,432	12,432	(0)	1,036
Dental Insurance	148	148	148	148	148	148	148	148	148	148	148	148	1,772	1,772	0	148
Vision Insurance	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	436	436	0	36
Workers Comp	19	19	19	19	20	19	19	19	19	19	24	20	237	228	(9)	19
Total Personnel	12,358	12,358	12,358	12,358	12,609	12,358	12,358	12,546	12,358	12,358	14,362	12,358	150,740	148,245	(2,495)	
Campus Meetings & Activities																
Merchandise Sales	0	(1,426)	0	0	0	0	0	0	(370)	0	0	0	(1,796)	0	1,796	0
Honorarium	0	0	0	0	(250)	0	0	(188)	200	0	0	0	(238)	0	238	0
Intern & CS Allowance	0	0	149	303	96	77	82	0	214	75	0	396	1,392	1,500	108	125
Ministry Relations	0	101	152	133	723	318	0	105	188	21	101	380	2,222	3,500	1,278	292
Program-Large Group	0	31	31	137	1,089	1,393	131	46	2,466	314	1,162	1,343	8,142	3,500	(4,642)	292
Program-Small Group	0	235	0	0	50	165	0	0	137	8	64	64	722	1,000	278	83
Program-Social Events	0	40	329	323	40	0	0	77	8,401	11	1,486	1,427	12,135	4,500	(7,635)	375
Program-Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	105	0	0	3,270	0	72	349	3,796	1,000	(2,796)	83
Program-Ministry Team	0	455	382	223	1,245	0	0	0	1,223	0	163	530	4,221	3,000	(1,221)	250
Staff Relations	0	346	336	236	440	882	0	73	506	0	88	275	3,182	2,500	(682)	208
Student Outreach & Mktg	0	0	0	0	0	22	0	96	1,504	72	85	0	1,780	7,000	5,220	583
Misc-Administrative	0	0	75	70	0	0	0	0	46	0	0	0	192	250	58	21
Total Campus Meetings & Activities	0	(218)	1,454	1,425	3,434	2,962	213	209	17,786	502	3,221	4,764	35,751	27,750	(8,001)	

Report of the SHEPHERDING COMMITTEE
SUNCOAST FLORIDA PRESBYTERY (SFP)
El Shaddai of Grace Church – Naples
Tuesday, February 10, 2026

I. Business Referred to the Shepherding Committee: None.

II. Statement of Issues Addressed: Request coming from RE Ron Breen of Word of Life Church. See recommendation (1) below, and item VIII.

III. Committee Meeting Held: None. Matters addressed through email.

IV. Communications: (See Appendix A)

V. Speakers to address Presbytery: RE Ron Breen (if necessary).

VI. TE's Without Call and TE's Laboring Out of Bounds:

A. Ted Hamm, without call since February 2024.
B. Bob Petterson, laboring out of bounds, serving "The Legacy Imperative." (Feb. 2020)
C. William Broderick, Navy Chaplain, laboring out of bounds; serving Safe Harbor Reformed Church in Fort Myers.
D. Yaroslav (Slava) Viazovski, laboring out of bounds in Minsk, Belarus. (Ordained – May of 2019).
E. Todd Augustine - laboring out of bounds; serving with Crossway Books, Oct. 2020.
F. Gary Ogrosky – W/O call since Feb. 2020. [Presbytery approved another year (2025) of licentiate status (BCO 19-6) as he is serving at Covenant Naples in contexts which benefit from ministerial status.]
G. Wayne Alder – laboring out of bounds; serving as US Army Reserves Chaplain.
H. Scott Mawhinney – laboring out of bounds with Perimeter Church in Atlanta with their "Life on Life Missional Discipleship" ministry.

VII. Recommendations: Two:

(1) That presbytery appoint an "interim session" to serve Word of Life Church in North Port, comprised of TE Aleksey Zhuravlev, TE Dwight Dolby, RE Aleksey Fomichenko, and RE Ron Breen (per BCO 12-1; 16-2; and 15-1).

(2) That presbytery extend the "without call" status to TE Gary Ogrosky for the year of our Lord, 2026.

VIII. Summary of Word of Life Church – North Port: The Covenant of Grace Presbyterian Church is now renting space in the same building as WOLC and their session is desirous of providing assistance to RE Ron Breen in caring for the WOLC flock.

IX. Committee Roster: TE Dwight Dolby (Chair pro tempore), TE Steve Schoof; TE Chris Vorhees; RE Jim Robinson, RE Skip Schoenhals, RE Brent Phillips.

X. Contact: TE Dwight Dolby; dwightdolby@gmail.com

APPENDIX A: Recent updates

1. Gary Ogrosky (without call). Since my last report in September, I was privileged to again fill the pulpit at Grace Lake Suzy Presbyterian Church on November 23, 2025. At Covenant Church Naples, I am continuing each month to take Communion to our homebound members. Also, I continue to serve with our hospital visitation, and as an elder, I am able to serve as a Team Leader in Covenant's Shepherding Ministry. ~ Gary

2. Yaroslav (Slava) Viazovski, (Laboring out of bounds in Minsk, Belarus.) Here is some news about our ministry in Belarus.

1. Church. Seven new adult members joined our congregation in Minsk in 2025. Five of them were recently converted through a student ministry, the other two is a married couple with two children from another church.

2. Seminary. Another fall semester is over and we are preparing for the new spring semester which will begin on Feb 16. The first group of students will hopefully graduate in 2027. It means that we are beginning to look for new young men to be enrolled in September 2027. That date may look far away but in fact it takes that long to gather a group men committed to ministry and to a four year study program.

3. Travel. In Oct 2025 we organized a one day conference in **Moscow**. We wanted to test the waters and see of there will be any interest in a Presbyterian type of teaching and fellowship. We have over 60 people in attendance. This showed us that our Moscow students will have something (or rather someone!) to work with when they will return in 2-3 years from Minsk and will try to plant a church in Moscow.

In Dec 2025 I visited a Baptist church in **Kaliningrad** (Russia). Its pastor is a friend of mine and he asked me to teach his congregation on covenant theology. They are moving away from dispensationalism, so my teaching was welcome. Moreover, they are moving towards Presbyterianism although infant baptism is a real hurdle for them. God willing over the time they will see that the one covenant of grace is a firm foundation for baptizing children.

I also went to **Almaty** (Kazakhstan) in January 2026 for week. Again, I was invited by a close friend who is a pastor of a Reformed Baptist church in Almaty. And although they have no intention at all to become Presbyterians my ministry was very well received.

Just last week (Jan 29) I went to **Bobruysk** (a larger town in Belarus). One of our students is a pastor of a Reformed Baptist congregation there. Again, I was warmly welcomed and will be traveling there more often.

This weekend I am going to **Kobrin** (another town in Belarus). You may remember that in Sep 2024 we ordained our former student Denis Ryzhuk as a pastor of the Kobrin church. This time I have a very specific purpose: to begin discussion with their church council about transitioning to a presbyterian congregation. This will potentially become a second presbyterian church in Belarus. I am not saying it will be quick but at least we will begin the conversation. And then we may begin to think about a national presbytery.

I am able to travel to other churches so often because the session and the three interns in our congregation are willing to fill in for me in my absence. I am grateful to them.
4. Family. All of us are fine. Our only concern is our middle son Artyom who has been in the military since November. He finds it rather difficult to adapt to the army conditions and we count months when he will return home.
5. European and American sanctions against Belarus make support of the seminary and the publishing ministry extremely difficult. We have literally to fight every month to bring funds to Belarus. And every several months the sanctions tighten even more. It's a very serious matter for prayer. We need stable ways of transferring funds.

Brothers, we are sincerely grateful that you remember us and pray for us!
TE Yaroslav Viazovski

3. Todd Augustine. (Laboring out of bounds with Crossway Books) This is the beginning of my seventh year serving out of bounds as *VP of Acquisitions*, primarily in the area of *Pastoral and Ministry Resources* for Crossway Publishers. Since this is my first report, it might be helpful to provide a little background on Crossway for those who may not be familiar with the ministry of Christian publishing. According to our mission statement:

The purpose of Crossway has been, from its founding as a not-for-profit ministry in 1938, to publish gospel-centered, Bible-based content that will honor our Savior and serve his church. We seek to help people understand the massive implications of the gospel and the truth of God's Word, for all of life, for all eternity, and for the glory of God. More specifically, according to our 1979 mission statement:

Crossway is a not-for-profit Christian ministry that exists solely for the purpose of proclaiming the gospel through publishing and other means in order, by God's grace:

- To bring men, women, and children to Christ as their Lord and Savior;
- To help individual Christians and the church grow in knowledge and understanding of the Christian life;
- To bear witness to God's truth, beauty, and holiness, and to the Lordship of Christ in every area of life; and
- To glorify our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in every way.

Moreover, Crossway seeks to publish in accord with its theological convictions which are expressed as follows:

> The theological position of all content published by Crossway and licensed by Crossway shall stand within the historic stream of classic Reformation evangelical orthodoxy as represented by the Creeds, Confessions, and Catechisms affirmed within this historic stream, namely: the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, the Athanasian Creed, the Chalcedonian Definition, the Augsburg Confession, the Belgic Confession, the Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion, the Canons of Dort, the Westminster Confession, the London Baptist Confession, the Heidelberg Confession, the Westminster Larger Catechism, and the Westminster Shorter Catechism.

Keeping this in mind, most of my time and energy goes toward the acquisitions of various projects that seek to strengthen the church and glorify our Savior. If there is more information that would be helpful for this report, please let me know. Respectfully submitted, Todd Augustine

Report of the OUTREACH COMMITTEE
SUNCOAST FLORIDA PRESBYTERY (SFP)
El Shaddai of Grace
Tuesday, February 10, 2026

I. Business referred to the Outreach Committee: None

II. Statement of Major Issues Addressed

Committee members in attendance: RE Robert Rhodes, TE Geoff Henderson, RE Aleksey Fomichenko, TE Mike Vieira, TE Gage Jordan, RE Brent Phillips. The committee was opened in prayer by RE Robert Rhodes at **2:18 PM**. It was **MSC** to approve the minutes from the 8/26/2025 meeting.

TE Greg Blosser gave a report on the development of Anchor Church. Average attendance was 86 in September, declined into the 60s during October and November, rose into the 70s in December, and has been in the 80s in January. New people have been attending, including unchurched individuals. Many of the core, committed members tend to be quiet and reserved, which has made it more difficult to reach out to and engage unchurched friends and neighbors. This is an area of prayer and intentional focus moving forward. Small groups are functioning well, with approximately half of the adult population participating. There is currently no adult Sunday school, due to a lack of space.

The committee discussed the budget allocation received from the Administrative Committee and noted that the numbers do not add up. It was passed by common consent that RE Robert Rhodes would reach out to the chair of the Administrative Committee to resolve the discrepancies in the 2026 budget.

TE Steve Jeantet joined the meeting to give a report on New Creation Church. On October 26, the church moved to morning services and began meeting on Sunday evenings. After starting morning services, attendance increased by approximately 50%. The Lord provided music for every service. The church held its first large outreach event on December 23, with approximately 400 people in attendance, including 237 at the candlelight service. Advertising was done in multiple places, and several new families have begun attending Sunday services.

RE Aleksey gave a quick update on the long-term plans for the Word of Life church in North Port, where a merger of Word of Life with Covenant of Grace is being prayerfully considered. Word of Life has requested that the Presbytery form a temporary Session at the February meeting.

t was **MSC** to elect TE Gage Jordan as the chair of the Outreach committee.

III. Recommendations: None

The next meeting will be held on April 21, 2026 at 2:15 p.m. TE Gage Jordan closed the meeting with prayer at 2:56 p.m.

Robert Rhodes

Report of the REVIEW OF SESSION RECORDS COMMITTEE
SUNCOAST FLORIDA PRESBYTERY (SFP)
El Shaddai of Grace
Tuesday, February 10, 2026

I. Business Referred to the Review of Session Records Committee: None

II. Statement of Major Issues Addressed

The minutes from **July 2024 – June 2025** were reviewed for **Faith, Grace, Westminster,** and **Word of Life.** The minutes from **2025** were received from **Covenant Life** and **Covenant of Grace** but were not reviewed.

The minutes from **July 2024 – June 2025** were not submitted for **El Shaddai, Marco, N. Fort Myers,** and **Oak River** and should be submitted to the Committee by **April 24, 2026.** The **2025** minutes of **Auburn Road, Bay, Cornerstone, Covenant Church of Naples, Covenant of Grace,** and **Providence** should be submitted to the Committee by **April 24, 2025.** The Committee thanks each of these Sessions for their cooperation in the process and rejoices that God is at work in His churches. It is obvious to the Committee that though we often face difficult situations in the life of the Church, the elders of the Church are diligently pursuing the shepherding of God's flock.

NOTE:

- Minutes sent to the committee do not need to be signed, but a signed copy should be available and the minutes submitted noting this with /S/ after the signatory.
- Submission of minutes should include a current copy of the Standing Rules and any other guiding documents.
- Minutes of Congregational Meetings should be attested by the Moderator and Clerk of the meeting. Sessions do not approve these minutes. (*BCO* 25-5).
- If the session establishes a Commission to hear testimonies for membership, those minutes should be included in the record of the Session.

III. Recommendations:

1. The Committee makes the following recommendations concerning the following minutes.

1.1 That the minutes of the **Faith**

a. Be approved without exception: **7/15/24; 8/19/24; 9/16/24; 9/29/24 Congregational; 10/21/24; 12/9/24; 1/13/25; 1/26/25 Congregational; 2/17/25; 3/17/25; 5/5/25; 6/9/25; 6/21/25**

b. Be approved with exceptions of form reported to Session: **11/18/25**

c. Be approved with exceptions of substance: **General**

General (*BCO* 9-4; 12-5.g): No record of deacons meeting separately once per/quarter. No minutes submitted.

General (*BCO* 12-5.f): No record that representatives were appointed for

Presbytery or reports given to Session.

1.2 That the minutes of the **Grace:**

a. Be approved without exception: **6/18/24; 8/20/24; 9/17/24; 9/29/24; 10/6/24; 10/15/24; 11/19/24; 12/8/24 Congregational; 12/17/24; 1/12/25 Congregational; 1/21/25; 2/18/25; 2/19/25; 2/23/25; 2/23/25; 3/18/25; 4/6/25 Congregational; 4/15/25; 5/20/25; 6/15/25; 6/17/25**
b. Be approved with exceptions of form reported to Session: **None**
c. Be approved with exceptions of substance: **None**

1.3 That the minutes of **Westminster:**

a. Be approved without exception: **7/12/24; 7/19/24; 7/21/24; 7/24/24; 8/15/24; 8/28/24; 9/7/24; 9/10/24; 9/12/24; 9/15/24; 9/18/24; 9/18/24 Executive; 9/24/24; 9/30/24; 10/29/24; 11/10/24; 11/10/24; 12/9/24; 12/31/24; 1/8/25; 1/19/25; 1/28/25; 1/30/25; 2/3/25; 2/5/25; 2/6/25; 2/9/25 Congregational; 2/25/25; 4/29/25; 5/7/25; 5/12/25; 5/15/25; 5/18/25; 5/22/25; 5/27/25; 6/10/25; 6/17/25; 6/17/25; 6/18/25; 6/20/25; 6/22/25; 6/23/25; 6/24/25**
b. Be approved with exceptions of form reported to Session: **3/2/25 Exec.; 3/25/25**
c. Be approved with exceptions of substance***:*** **General**

General (*BCO* 9-4; 12-5.b): No record of deacons meeting separately once per/quarter. No minutes submitted.

1.4 That the minutes of **Word of Life:**

a. Be approved without exception: **None**
b. Be approved with exceptions of form reported to Session: **8/26/24; 5/20/25**
c. Be approved with exceptions of substance: **General**

General (*BCO* 12-6): Session did not meet quarterly.

General (*BCO* 12-5.e): No record of celebration of the Lord's Supper.

Committee Members Present: TE David Stewart (*Stated Clerk*); TE Robert Dillard; TE Dwight Dolby; RE Gordon Graham.

Did you know that 80% of surveyed pastors believe that pastoral ministry has negatively affected their families? That's not all! A full 90% feel they are inadequately trained to cope with the demands of ministry and 70% say that they constantly battle depression. And if there is any group battling these challenges more than pastors, it is their wives! Please remember that these are not just statistics. They represent real men and women who love Jesus, who feel called to ministry together, and who want to serve Christ in His Church.

Thank you for the opportunity for us to present our calling with *Standing Stone Ministry*. This labor of love is a desperately needed way to help pastors and their wives.

Standing Stone Ministry (SSM) is an interdenominational Christian ministry founded in 2002 and designed to strengthen and encourage ministry couples. Kristen and I (Doug) are joining their staff team of nearly 300 field shepherds to establish trusted, confidential relationships with pastors and their spouses. We will be coming alongside these ministry leaders to help them experience a full range of Biblical guidance at no cost to them or their churches. Both national surveys and feedback from hundreds of pastors show that an ongoing, trusted relationship with those who understand the challenges of ministry firsthand is their greatest need.

Our calling is driven by these questions: Who is pastoring the pastors? And who is ministering to their wives? By God's grace we are answering that call with *Here we are Lord, send us*! God has blessed us with a combined total of 74 years of ministry. From campus ministry to church planting, from women's ministry to serving as church secretary, from foreign missions to organizing the nursery, from setting the budget to feeding the hungry, from raising pastor's kids to the senior pastorate, there's not a whole lot of ministry that we haven't done.

Enclosed (attached) is a packet of materials to help you get to know more about the challenges pastors and their wives are facing, how SSM is seeking to serve these dear servants of the cross, and how we as field shepherds with SSM are called to do that particularly in the underserved region of Northern New England.

We are asking you to prayerfully consider how God might be calling you to partner with us in serving Christ's Church through this ministry of shepherding shepherds. We need prayer warriors who will commit to regularly praying for us, the pastors, and their wives with whom we labor. We need partners who will pledge and give towards this work so that we can bring this assistance to pastors and their wives at no cost to themselves or their churches. Won't you join with us in serving them to the glory of Christ?

By Christ's Grace,

Doug & Kristen Warren
Field Shepherds, Standing Stone Ministry
(802) 299-1623

Attachments:
- Getting to Know Us
- Prayer Supporters Briefing
- Investing in SSM Shepherd Support

https://standingstoneministry.org/shepherd/warren-doug/

Getting to Know Us

Doug and Kristen Warren met, fell in love, and got married while studying at Reformed Theological Seminary in Orlando. Their romance on campus is the stuff of legends and thirty years later continues to be a great blessing in their lives. They have also had all the humdrum average daily strains that any two sinners saved by grace have in decades of dealing with the same partner.

Kristen grew up in the Kansas City area. She came to Christ in college and joined the staff of Campus Crusade for Christ, serving at the University of Montana for several years before going to seminary. That's where she met Doug who had come to seminary after ministering alongside Josh McDowell. They got married, finished seminary, and returned to campus ministry where Doug led the Houston Metro team starting campus ministries on several of the 34 college campuses in the city.

From there the Warrens went to Portland, Maine to plant a church that would help plant other churches in Northern New England. They recruited and mentored apprentices to plant churches, and coached other pastors and church-planters and campus ministers. This is where they raised four children and saw God work in and through each one of them. In 2013, God called them to plant another church in SW Florida in tandem with starting a new campus ministry at Florida Gulf Coast University. After five years it was clear that God was calling the Warren back to Northern New England and for the past seven years Doug pastored the historic *First Congregational Church Woodstock* here in Vermont.

In all these things, ministry and family life, God has been gracious, blessing us far beyond what we could imagine. He has also pruned and refined us in terribly painful ways through the years. All of this is merely to say we understand what pastors and their wives in Northern New England are going through, and we know that gospel community is their greatest need. That's what we are excited to come alongside them and help to provide.

Doug, Kristen, Donnelly, Faelyn, Lucy, Timo, Karis, Libby, Chip, Colby, and Maddi

https://standingstoneministry.org/shepherd/warren-doug/

Prayer Supporters Briefing

> “Life is war. And … ‘You do not know what prayer is for until you know that life is war.” Prayer is *not* an intercom to ask the butler for another pillow in the den. Prayer is a wartime walkie-talkie to headquarters. ‘We need air cover right now, God, or we’re going to be swept away and overrun by the enemy of unbelief.’” —John Piper

Life is indeed war, just as Dr. Piper says. Furthermore, the battle is raging with particular ferocity over the hearts, lives, and families of pastors in Christ’s Church. But most pastors feel utterly alone. We believe God has called us to minister to these pastors and their families. Perhaps God is calling you to provide the prayer support needed in the battle’s din. We are not just asking you to add us to your prayer list. We are begging you to wear your knees out on behalf of the shepherds pouring their lives out as a drink offering to their Savior and Lord.

“Brothers and sisters, pray for us.” – *1 Thessalonians 5:25*

Just as Paul rejoiced in the Philippians’ partnership in the gospel, we are trusting God to raise up a team of prayer warriors who will partner with us so that as we come alongside pastors and their families, we will not offer them our human aid, but will strengthen them in the Spirit of God.

Doug & Kristen Warren serve Christ and His Church in New England through the ministry of Standing Stone.
You may contact them at (802) 299-1623 or by email:
Doug.Warren@standingstoneministry.org
Kristen.Warren@standingstoneministry.org
https://standingstoneministry.org/shepherd/warren-doug/

Investing Through SSM Shepherds

Donations to a Standing Stone Ministry (SSM) shepherd provide pastors and their families with immediate assistance. Someone praying with and for them, in person. They provide a listening ear, confidential and trustworthy. They provide encouragement, biblical counsel, and sage advice.

Giving to the Kingdom of God is investing in eternity. SSM takes your investment in Kingdom work seriously. All donations are processed according to the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability's exacting standards. Overhead is kept to a minimum and is designed to facilitate excellence. Your donation to a Standing Stone field shepherd provides the encouragement and support most needed by pastors and their families.

Would you prayerfully consider investing in this ministry with the Warrens through a monthly or annual financial gift?

You can invest in this ministry however you prefer to give.

- Electronically, access the secure giving portal through the QR code at the top of this page or through the link https://standingstoneministry.org/shepherd/warren-doug/
- Mail a check made payable to "Standing Stone Ministry" with "Doug & Kristen Warren: Field Shepherds" in the memo line to SSM 2340 South El Camino Real Suite #3 San Clemente, CA 92672-3257

"Beloved, it is a faithful thing you do in all your efforts for these brothers, strangers as they are, who testified to your love before the church. You will do well to send them on their journey in a manner worthy of God. For they have gone out for the sake of the name, accepting nothing from the Gentiles. Therefore we ought to support people like these, that we may be fellow workers for the truth." Third John 1:5-8

Doug & Kristen Warren serve Christ and His Church in New England through the ministry of Standing Stone.
You may contact them at (**802**) **299-1623** or by email:
Doug.Warren@standingstoneministry.org
Kristen.Warren@standingstoneministry.org
https://standingstoneministry.org/shepherd/warren-doug/