

Report of the RUF COMMITTEE
SUNCOAST FLORIDA PRESBYTERY (SFP)
Westminster Presbyterian Church
Tuesday, February 11, 2020 – 10:00am

Resignation of Committee Member: The committee accepted the resignation of Chick Shue from the chairmanship of the committee and from the committee. Chick wishes to focus on some ministry to his family members for the time being. We thank Chick enormously for his faithful and excellent leadership of the Presbytery RUF Committee from its inception to this point.

Election of officers: In light of Chick's resignation, the committee elected vice-chairman, Mark Wardell to the office of chairman; and Ken Herbold to the office of vice-chairman.

FGCU Ministry Report by Campus Minister, Rev. Lucas Tanner:

- There were 55 students regularly involved in the fall semester of 2019 – roughly 50% of whom were new
- There were less freshmen incoming in the fall than usual because the university reduced the time available for recruiting at orientations to one-third of that available in years past.
- Various post-large group events, such as ultimate frisbee and a scavenger hunt, promoted good connection of the students early in the semester.
- Mission Barbecue catered a big RUF event on the library lawn which promoted good visibility on campus and a great turn-out of over 100 students.
- Preaching at large group during the fall semester was on the “I Am” passages in the gospel of John. Pastor Byron West of Westminster Presbyterian Church was invited to preach at one large group meeting.
- There were also four small groups meeting on the campus over the Fall; three led by students and one led by Pastor Lucas.
- This semester, the number of students involved in RUF has increased to over 60 students.
- Pastor Lucas is preaching on the topic of “EMOTIONS” as he has observed that many students are struggling with how to process their emotions in a biblical way. The students have responded to this by giving very positive feedback.
- Pastor Matt Lovell of Oak River Presbyterian Church has been invited to preach this semester.
- One of Pastor Lucas' goals at RUF is to have more of his students regularly attending local churches.
- Three small groups are meeting on campus; a men's group and a woman's group, both led by students and both studying the Sermon on the Mount. A co-ed group led by Pastor Tanner is studying the Westminster Shorter Catechism.
- After Spring break, there will be two additional small groups; one for students preparing for graduation to study “church and vocation, the other for rising leadership
- Pastor Lucas has constructed a leadership team of 6 students captains who oversee the following ministry teams:
 - Welcome
 - Prayer

- Promotion
- Events
- Music
- Care
- The Welcome, Prayer and Music leaders have embraced their roles very well and are even doing great things not asked of them; the other three leaders are needing more of Pastor Lucas' time to motivate them to their ministry functions.

Finances:

See Addendum A. The budget for 2020 is \$162,826.95. If the Presbytery, all churches and individuals meet their pledges, the budget is met.

Prayer Requests and Praises:

Prayer Requests:

- For two students who went through personal crises last semester to continue to heal.
- For some of the team leaders to show more initiative.
- **Goal 1.** To encourage more students to regularly attend local churches.
- **Goal 2.** That more students in the ministry would connect with other RUF students and form authentic relationships.
- **Goal 3.** That more students will share their faith with other students.
- **Goal 4.** To get one or two excellent interns for 2021.
- For Pastor Lucas' health. He had some concerns last semester that seem to have calmed down with an adjustment of the dosage of a medication.
- For Pastor Lucas' daughter, Sadie, who needs a surgical procedure.

Praises:

- **Praise 1.** That both students who went through personal crises last semester are healing.
- **Praise 2.** That a catholic girl invited by her boyfriend to attend RUF has accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior and overcome her fear of attending RUF.
- **Praise 3.** For a strong music team led by a minority student doing a music major and who is also leading the woman's small group bible study. She has a very good voice and plays guitar. In addition, she has recruited other students from the university music department to play saxophone and bass guitar. There is also a keyboard player and a percussionist.
- **Praise 4.** That one of the students took it upon himself to translate the Westminster Shorter Catechism into the Romanian language.

Committee Members Present

Westminster – RE Mark Wardell (Chairman); Bay – RE Ken Herbold (Vice-Chairman); Faith – TE Keith Ledford; Auburn Road – TE Jeff Krause; Westminster – Charles Dumas; RUF – TE Lucas Tanner