

Peace River Presbytery Administrative Manual

PREFACE

The mission/vision statement of Peace River Presbytery is:

We believe Peace River Presbytery is called
to affirm congregations,
to connect disciples in mission,
and to be the body of Christ together.

The guiding values of Peace River Presbytery are:

Affirming Congregations - Working as healthy, spirit-filled leaders, we are committed to the continued spiritual formation of all who serve together.

Body of Christ - As vital congregations and ministries rooted in a reformed understanding of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we will strive as a presbytery to support and celebrate congregations and ministries of all shapes and sizes.

Connecting - Commissioned as "one people", we join together as pastors with other pastors, congregations with other congregations, and ministries with other ministries to further the Kingdom of God by what we can do together in mission (missio Dei).

Disciples - We are inviting, calling, celebrating and sending disciples into the world, within the bounds of southwest Florida and to the ends of the earth.

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In accordance with Constitution of Presbyterian Church (USA), Part II, this manual has been prepared to provide guidance in the administration of the ministries of Peace River Presbytery (PRP). In the event that there is a conflict between any of the following and this manual, the following shall prevail in descending order:

1. The Holy Bible
2. The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church USA – Book 1, The Confessions
3. The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA) – Book 2, the Book of Order
4. The By-Laws of PRP
5. The Administrative Manual (this text)

BACKGROUND

This document follows a classification system that is consistent within many churches. Hence, the numbering of the chapters is intended to correspond with numbering in filing systems and budgetary line items.

As changes are made to the manual old pages will be removed and new pages inserted with the header indicating the date of the change and “Chg 1” or “Chg 2” etc. This will help ensure that everyone who has a manual will know that they are operating from the same page...literally!

All items in this manual (except as noted in the definition for “guidelines” that follow) are the policy of Peace River Presbytery and are binding on teaching elder members, teaching elders serving or working inside the bounds of Peace River Presbytery and the churches that comprise Peace River Presbytery.

There are guidelines that are identified as such within this manual. Guidelines are a “way of doing business” and are normally adhered to. However, they are just that, “guidelines” and may be deviated from when the needs of the ministry dictate so. Normally, variations from guidelines need to be approved by the committee or team that has oversight of that particular item.