

**MINUTES**

**FROM**  
**THE**

**STATED MEETING**  
**OF**

**PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY**

**Thursday**  
**July 19, 2022**

**Via ZOOM**

## **CALL TO ORDER**

**The Special Called Meeting of Peace River Presbytery was held on Tuesday, July 19, 2022, Via Zoom.**

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by Moderator, RE Linda Getzen, at 2:00 p.m.

### **QUORUM:**

The Stated Clerk, Rev. Dr. Randy Moody, declared a quorum present.

### **WELCOME:**

A welcome was given by Moderator Linda Getzen.

### **DOCKET:**

It was moved by the Stated Clerk and seconded that the Docket of the Special Called Presbytery Meeting, Tuesday, July 19, 2022, be approved. MOTION CARRIED, and the meeting came to order at 2:05 p.m.

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**Ruling Elder Commissioners**  
Attendance – July 19, 2022, Stated Meeting

<u>Church</u>	#		<u>Present</u>		<u>Church</u>	#		<u>Present</u>
<b>Arcadia</b>	2	1.	Mitzie McGavic		<b>Naples continued</b>			
First		2.	-----		Moorings	3	45.	Kris Doyle
							46.	-----
<b>Bonita Springs</b>							47.	-----
First	4	3.	Ron Maki		Vanderbilt	3	48.	Greg Borden
		4.	-----				49.	Molly Godley
		5.	-----				50.	-----
		6.	-----		<b>North Port</b>			
<b>Bradenton</b>					St. Paul's	2	51.	<b>None</b>
Braden River	2	7.	John Wilson				52.	<b>None</b>
		8.	-----		<b>Palmetto</b>			
First, Bradenton	2	9.	Dwayne Smith		Palmetto	2	53.	<b>None</b>
		10.	-----				54.	<b>None</b>
Kirkwood	2	11.	Roger Schultz		<b>Port Charlotte</b>			
		12.	Valerie Lipsomb		First	2	55.	Elaine Woods
Palma Sola	2	13.	<b>None</b>				56.	-----
		14.	<b>None</b>		Wintergarden	2	57.	<b>None</b>
Westminster	2	15.	<b>None</b>				58.	<b>None</b>
		16.	<b>None</b>		<b>Punta Gorda</b>			
Oak Pointe Church	2	17.	Martha Chaney		Burnt Store	2	59.	Katherine Darrell
		18.	Frank Turner				60.	Carol Ott
<b>Cape Coral</b>					<b>Sarasota</b>			
Faith	4	19.	Al Gross		Bee Ridge	2	61.	Dawnmarie Daniels-Carsky
		20.	Tracy Lima				62.	-----
		21.	John Langston					
		22.	Chuck McClinton		Church of the Palms	4	63.	<b>None</b>
<b>Englewood</b>							64.	<b>None</b>
Community	2	23.	Bill Kraft				65.	<b>None</b>
		24.	-----				66.	<b>None</b>
<b>Fort Myers</b>					First	3	67.	Bob Kirkpatrick
Buckingham	2	25.	Vicki McWhorter				68.	Kay Steinman
		26.	Kathie Saum				69.	-----
Covenant	2	27.	-----		Northminster	2	70.	Sally Stiles
		28.	Deborah Maurer				71.	-----
Cypress Lake	2	29.	<b>None</b>		Pine Shores	2	72.	<b>None</b>
		30.	<b>None</b>				73.	<b>None</b>
Estero Community	2	31.	Tami Stahler		PC of the Covenant	2	74.	-----
Former Hope United		32.	-----				75.	Judith Bremer
Holy Trinity	2	33.	Betty Robertson		Siesta Key Chapel	2	76.	Pat Chandler-Smith
		34.	-----				77.	Roger Sandt
<b>Ft. Myers Beach</b>								
Chapel by the Sea	2	35.	<b>None</b>		<b>Lakewood Ranch</b>			
		36.	<b>None</b>		Peace	2	78.	Sally Schoeffel
<b>Lehigh Acres</b>							79.	John Warburton
First	2	37.	Pam Innis		<b>Venice</b>			
		38.	Marsha Shoemaker		Trinity	2	80.	<b>None</b>
<b>Longboat Key</b>							81.	<b>None</b>
Christ Church	2	39.	Noel Ebrahim					
		40.	-----		Venice	3	82.	<b>None</b>
<b>Naples</b>							83.	<b>None</b>
First	3	41.	Carleton Cleveland				84.	<b>None</b>
		42.	Barbara Weiss					
Lely	2	43.	Cherie Millsom					
		44.	-----					

**Elder Commissioners: 39**

MINISTERS

Attendance

July 19, 2022, Special Called Presbytery Meeting

The following members of presbytery were **PRESENT**:

Devon Andrews	Edward Dunn	Chuck Moffett	Tim Stewart
Jim Berger	Silvana Ferreira	Randy Moody	Bill Teng
Jaco Besto	Craig Goodrich	Lyn Olson	Lou Thompson
Ed Brandt	Laurie Haas	Lynne Peter	Margaret Towner
Rex Childs	Russ Hickman	Tom Purchase	Chuck Wiggins
Bill Clough	Nancy Kahaian	Brad Rogers	Kathi Wiggins
Clint Cottrell	Winston Lawson	Melana Scruggs	Carolyn Wilson
Terri Jo Crego	Sung Lee	Bill Sitterley	
Pablo Diaz	Rob Marrow	Ruth Smalt	
Courtney Ducharme	Ron Miller	RC Smith	

Ministers Present: 37

The following members of presbytery were **EXCUSED** for all or part of the meeting:

Eddie Bellis	Elizabeth Deibert	Melanie Kim Hamill	Kevin Morris
Hmingi Browne	Richard Deibert	Bruce Hedgepeth	Doug Pratt
Will Browne	Jeff DeYoe	Jim Kirk	Chris Romig
Floyd Churn	Kelly Fitzgerald	Doug Learned	Holly Wildhack

Ministers Excused: 16

Other Attendance

July 19, 2022, Special Called Presbytery Meeting

Voting Committee and/or Team Members

1. Linda Getzen	3. Beverly Grady
2. Carson Brown	

Voting Steering Committee Members: 3

Visitor's – nonvoting capacity

1. Lauren Davis, Candidate
2. Luceal Curry, Burnt Store PC, Punta Gorda
3. Sandy Soper, First PC, Sarasota
4. Francis Smith, ??
5. Alesia Sharpe, PRP Staff

Ministers Present: 37    Commissioners Present: 39    Other Voting Members Present: 3    Total Voting Present: 79

Visitors Present: 5    Total Non-Voting: 5

TOTAL PRESENT: 84

- Number of Churches with NO Elder representation: 11
- Number of Churches with NO representation: 5
- Number of Churches with partial Elder representation: 18
- Number of Churches with NO Clergy representation: 13

PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY  
SPECIAL CALLED ZOOM MEETING

DOCKET

Tuesday, July 19, 2022

- 1:30 p.m. Zoom is opened for Pre-Registered Folks
- 2:00 p.m. Call to Order and Opening Prayer ..... Moderator, Linda Getzen
- Stated Clerk Report ..... Randy Moody
- Human Resource Team Report ..... ~~Elizabeth Deibert~~  
Laurie Haas
- Committee on Ministry ..... Beverly Grady
- 3:05 p.m.** Adjournment with Prayer

**Stated Clerk's Report**

Special Called Meeting, Tuesday, July 19, 2022, Via Zoom

**APPROVED**

1. Declaration of Quorum
2. Approval of our Docket for today's meeting
3. Members of Presbytery who have asked to be EXCUSED for ALL or PART of this Meeting.

Name	Presbyterian Church	All or Part of this Meeting
Rev. Dr. Doug Learned	Validated Ministry	All
Rev. Dr. Bruce Hedgepeth	Validated Ministry	All
Rev. Dr. Jim Kirk	Validated Ministry	All
Rev. Melanie Kim Hamill	Member-at-Large	All
Rev. Dr. Doug Pratt	First PC, Bonita Springs	All
Hmingi Browne	Church of the Palms	All
Will Browne	First PC, Arcadia	All
Kelly Fitzgerald	Member-at-Large	All
Kevin Morris	Estero Community Church	All
Jeff DeYoe	HR	All
Floyd Churn	HR	All
Eddie Bellis	Cypress Lake PC	All
Chris Romig	Venice PC, Venice	All
Holly Wildhack	Validated Ministry	All
Elizabeth Deibert	Peace PC	All
Richard Deibert	Validated Ministry	All

4. **Authorize** the Stated Clerk and the Moderator of the Presbytery to review and approve the Minutes from this meeting.

**APPROVED**

**Human Resources Team Report**

The Moderator recognized Rev. Laurie Haas to give the report.

Peace River Presbytery Human Resources Team, Nominated the list of members to serve on Presbytery Committees/Teams/Boards:

- 1. Rev. Dr. Bill Teng, Interim Pastor, Covenant PC, Fort Myers, for the Committee on Ministry, Class of 2024. **APPROVED**
- 2. Ruling Elder, Martha Chaney, Oak Pointe Church, Bradenton, as a member-at-large on the Steering Committee, Class of 2024. **APPROVED**

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	
65	0	<u>Unanimous Vote</u>

There were no nominations made from the floor.

**Committee on Ministry Report**

The Moderator recognized Ruling Elder Beverly Grady, Chair of the Committee on Ministry.

For Presbytery’s Approval

The Committee on Ministry:

- 1. moved that Peace River Presbytery enroll Rev. Jaco Bester, a minister of the Word and Sacrament in good standing in the Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa, as a Member of Peace River Presbytery under provisions of G-2.0505 in the Book of Order.

**APPROVED**

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
68	1

- 2. a. moved that the Presbytery approve Rev. Lynne Peter as full-time Installed Pastor at Oak Pointe Church, Bradenton.
- b. moved that the Presbytery approve the terms of call for Rev. Lynne Peter as follows:

Salary	\$43,463.00		
Housing	\$15,971.00	Effective Salary	<u>\$59,434.00</u>
Board of Pensions	\$21,990.40		
Auto Expense*	\$1,000.00		
Continuing Education*	\$1,500.00	Total Package	<u>\$83,924.40</u>

\*Reimbursed under Accountable Plan

**APPROVED**

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
70	1

3. a. moved that the Presbytery proceed to an examination for ordination of Lauren Davis to be conducted by the Presbytery. (See Bio and Statement of Faith in Appendix A)

**APPROVED**

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	
69	0	<u>Unanimous Vote</u>

Rev. Devon Andrews made a **motion** to arrest the examination of Lauren Davis.

Seconded

Received by consensus.

Rev. Melana Scruggs made a **motion** to sustain the examination

Seconded

Received by consensus.

**(b,c,d, were combined as one motion)**

- b. moved that the Presbytery, pending satisfactory completion of the examination for ordination, approve the call/contract to Lauren Davis as full-time Interim Associate Pastor at Faith Presbyterian Church, Cape Coral, effective August 21, 2022.
- c. that the Presbytery approve the Contract/Terms between Faith Presbyterian Church, Cape Coral and Lauren Davis.

Annual Salary/Housing      \$60,000.00

Full BOP Benefits in Pastor Participation (Medical/Pension/Death and Disability)

Continuing Education      \$ 1,200.00

Professional Expenses      \$ 2,000.00 (Reimbursed under Accountable Plan)

Moving Expenses (Reimbursed- taxable) up to \$2,500

One Month Vacation (inclusive of four Sundays)

Two Weeks of Continuing Education (14 days inclusive of two Sundays)

- d. that the Presbytery approve, if the way be clear, Lauren’s Ordination Service planned with the Committee on Ministry.

**APPROVED**

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	
68	0	<u>Unanimous Vote</u>

4. moved that Presbytery approve the lease agreement between First Presbyterian Church, Lehigh Acres and Disciples of Christ Christian Church, for use of the Sanctuary and fellowship space for one year beginning July 1, 2022.

**APPROVED**

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	
70	0	<u>Unanimous Vote</u>

Respectfully,

*Alesia R. Sharpe*

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Alesia R. Sharpe, Recording Clerk

**MINUTES REVIEWED AND APPROVED:**

*Randy Moody*

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Rev. Dr. Randy Moody, Stated Clerk

*Linda Getzen*

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Ruling Elder, Linda Getzen

SYNOD REPRESENTATIVE:

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## APPENDIX (A)

### Biographical Lauren Davis

Hello Peace River Presbytery!

My name is Lauren Davis, I am a West Virginia native and graduate of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. I grew up in a small town north of Charleston, W.V., where I developed a deep appreciation for my Appalachian culture, customs, and family history. I came to appreciate how my familial history is linked to the history of my state and binds me to a greater story. That story was expanded when I entered my first year of undergraduate education at Bethany College. It was at Bethany that I was introduced to the Gospels and felt God's pull in my life to become part of the life of the church. It was in college I saw myself as part of God's story of creation, redemption, and salvation. I am eager to follow God's call upon my life, to learn from the new places and people I meet and get to know you all within the Peace River Presbytery!

God Bless,

Lauren Davis, M.Div.

### Statement of Faith Lauren Davis

I believe in the one God who created the universe and all that is in it. That the Divine Word became flesh in the body of Jesus Christ, who was begotten not made.

I believe Christ was crucified on the Cross, resurrected, and ascended into heaven.

I believe Christ now sits at the right hand of God, as ruler of the Kingdom of God, and is actively reconciling God's creation by working among us through the Holy Spirit which proceeds from him and the Father.

I understand humanity as living in the presence of God who is three in one, who came into the world to save the world and knit us together as a community bound by grace.

I believe in the sacredness of living together as the body of Christ, listening to the movement of the Holy Spirit, and responding to the Missio Dei.

I believe the ways in which we are a faithful community involve responding to the movement of the Spirit and engaging in the Holy Word of Scripture. Within Scripture, the church can see itself as a part of the story of salvation history. A community who are recipients of the covenantal promises of God, a story in which God's desire is to bring the Kingdom of Heaven here on earth.

I believe we are living in the 'already but not yet,' that God has initiated the beginning of the eschaton by Christ's resurrection and ascension, and the purpose of the church is to discern what Christ is already doing in our midst and respond. I affirm that response is found within our reformed tradition, which upholds a democratic church governance, and the authority of Scripture as well as the Book of Confessions.

I believe that the Sacraments (Baptism and Holy Communion) are ways we respond to God's grace freely given to us and are joined together as the body of Christ. In baptism, we are immersed into the waters that bind us together as the church and affirm a love that acts as a seal upon our hearts. In taking the Holy Supper, we are sustained in our faith and hope in God as a people living in the realities of sin and brokenness.

I believe that God's love is eternal, and that there is "nothing in all of creation that can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom.8:39).

## APPENDIX (B)

### PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERY ZOOM Meeting SIMPLIFIED SPECIAL RULES OF ORDER

The Following Special and Standing Rules are applicable to meetings of Peace River Presbytery when holding meetings utilizing “Zoom” electronic meeting technology:

1. Participants are required to join the meeting on individual devices (one person, one device). Voting members shall use a computer, a tablet, or a smart phone via the “Zoom” app.
2. Participants are encouraged to join the meeting on a desktop or laptop computer. The following are requirements for such computers:
  - a. High speed internet access.
  - b. Sound output device. While speakers are allowed, this will preferably be a headset, earbuds, or Bluetooth device that delivers the sound directly to the participant’s ear rather than into an open room.
  - c. A microphone device.
  - d. A webcam (optional).
3. If joining by computer is not possible, a tablet or smart phone may be used, using the free “Zoom” app, available from the device’s app store. Regarding audio/visual devices, the same requirements and preferences exist as for computers.
4. Upon entering the meeting, click on the word “participants” at the bottom of the screen to see a list of participants and have access to the “raise hand” icon (at the bottom of the participant list) plus the “yes” and “no” icons, and then click on the word “chat” to see a participant chat. Next, click on the word “mute” on the main screen.
  - a. Ruling Elders elected as a Commissioner by his/her session to represent its congregation shall rename themselves in Zoom in this manner: REC First Name Last Name (e.g., REC Wayne Largent); Ruling Elders who are entitled to vote because of a presbytery role shall rename themselves in the same manner as Ruling Elder Commissioners.
  - b. Ministers of Word and Sacrament (Teaching Elders) who are members of Peace River Presbytery shall rename themselves in Zoom in this manner: TEC First Name Last Name (e.g., TEC Melana Scruggs).
  - c. Visitors seated as Corresponding Members with voice shall rename themselves in Zoom in this manner: ZCM First Name Last Name (e.g., ZCM Joyce Lieberman).
  - d. Visitors without voice or vote shall rename themselves in Zoom in this manner:  
ZZZ First Name Last Name (e.g., ZZZAlesia Sharpe).
5. To seek recognition by the Moderator, the raise hand feature at the bottom of the participant list shall be used. Please only raise your hand for this purpose.
  - a. When called upon by the Moderator, unmute the microphone and click on the camera icon to turn on the webcam, if using.
  - b. After speaking, mute the microphone.
  - c. The hosts are responsible for lowering hands. Please do not lower your own hand. When multiple participants are seeking recognition, once the Moderator has called on someone, all other hands raised will be lowered. If you have an “interrupting motion” (a point of order, a request for preference in recognition, etc.), raise your hand again after it has been lowered by a host. If you are not immediately recognized, you may unmute your microphone and say “Mr./Madam Moderator!”
6. If an eligible participant has a motion to make other than a procedural motion, it should be entered in writing into the participant “chat,” after which the person seeks recognition. When called upon, the member notes that the motion is in the chat, and then moves it.
7. All votes shall be a “counted vote” using the “yes” and “no” icons at the bottom of the participant list or a poll launched by the host at the Moderator’s discretion. When the Moderator calls for the vote, voting members shall promptly cast their vote; when the Moderator deems there has been ample time for each commissioner to vote, he/she will ask the Stated Clerk to announce the results of each vote at which time the results will be final.

Acknowledgement:  
These Special Rules are largely based upon and adapted  
from the work of Greg Goodwiller, PRP.