

Good News from Paige

Dear Friends,

The new Book of Order has arrived. Copies can be ordered from this office for \$8 each. The cover is bright green. It reminds me every time I look at it that there is a lot in this new Book of Order, the Foundations and Form of Government sections, that call on us to be growing in our understanding of what it means to be part of Christ's church.

In the new Form of Government, the standards for the church are there, but the process for meeting standards is up to sessions and presbyteries to develop. The three chapters of the Foundations of Presbyterian Polity contain what is in the first four chapters of the former Book of Order, but are arranged so that the material is easier to teach and as well as to find.

There are new names to learn, and even some of the familiar words are defined in ways that stretch our thinking. For example: "Membership in the Church of Jesus Christ is a joy and a privilege. It is also a commitment to participate in Christ's mission. A faithful member bears witness to God's love and grace and promises to be involved responsibly in the ministry of Christ's Church" (G-1.0304). That is pretty different from thinking about church membership as all those who come to worship for an hour on Sunday morning. Instead of having church officers, the new Form of Government talks about the ordered ministry of the church in this way: "The Church's ordered ministries described in the New Testament and maintained by this church are deacons and presbyters (teaching elders and ruling elders). Ordered ministries

are gifts to the church to order its life so that the ministry of the whole people of God may flourish" (G-2.0102).

Teaching elders, also known as Ministers of Word and Sacrament, are called to teach and preach the faith, and to equip the saints for the work of ministry. Ruling elders are so named not because they "lord it over" the congregation (Matt. 20:25), but because they are chosen by the congregation to discern and measure its fidelity to the Word of God, and to strengthen and nurture its faith and life. Sessions and presbyteries are called "councils" not "governing bodies." This is not a new name, but the ancient biblical name of those chosen to lead the church in wise discernment of the call of the Spirit to the church in every age. Councils gather for worship and fellowship as well as for governance, so the name was changed to emphasize the broad function of their life and purpose.

I hope I have piqued your interest in peeking at the new Book of Order. Our Stated Clerk, Frank Allen, has sent to the sessions some specific suggestions for policies and processes that will be needed. He and I are teaching a class on the new Form of Government at Church Officer and Leader Education events this fall and winter, and we both are available to answer your questions about the "new" in the new Book of Order. I hope you will be glad for a less wordy Form of Government once you are familiar with it. I am daily grateful for your leadership in Christ's church.

Blessings,
Paige

Leadership Academy is Coming!

Central Florida Presbytery's Leadership Development Committee is working on Leadership Academy: Called to Discipleship. It will be a monthly series of classes offered to ruling elders, deacons, Christian educators, and others who would like deeper learning experiences to equip their ministries.

The Academy, modeled on the successful Hispanic Institute for Lay Leadership, will begin on January 14, 2012, and will meet on the second Saturday of each month. The plan is to have one "live" class, connected to several "satellite" classes in real time through a video feed.

Look for more information on the presbytery website soon!



For Professional and Volunteer Church Educators, Sunday School Teachers,
Christian Education Committee Chairs & Members, Preschool Directors & Teachers and Pastors,
and Professionals & Volunteers involved with
Children & Family Ministry, Youth Ministry, & Older Adult Ministry.

Saturday, August 20th
8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church, DeLand

COST: \$15 REGISTER BY AUGUST 12TH!

Registration Packet on-line at http://cfpresbytery.org/leadership_development.html

First Presbyterian of Mount Dora Shines in Their Community

Mount Dora is known for its historic and picturesque downtown, where visitors stroll among a variety of quaint shops, take in the lakeside views, and find good things to eat. First Presbyterian Church of Mount Dora is located right next to where the sidewalks are jammed on the weekends (and some weekdays!). While they have always been active in the community, they have let their light shine in two noteworthy ways recently.

Inspired Special Events, a community-wide effort of the church, announced a \$10,000 donation of proceeds to Lake Cares Food Pantry from the professional musical production, *The Rock & The Rabbi*, which performed three sold out shows this past April at the Mount Dora Community Building. In addition, it donated \$1,000 to the city of Mount Dora toward future improvements to

that building.

Also, about a dozen members of First Mount Dora assisted in deep-cleaning a wall of a downtown synagogue that had been defaced with hateful graffiti. "It's a conservative synagogue, and the rabbi wanted the hate speech removed, not just painted over," according to Rev. Dr. Tom Biery, pastor of First. "We had to use quite a bit of elbow grease and steel wool. Some folks even went to get pressure washers." Several TV news outlets and *The Orlando Sentinel* covered the story, and many of them interviewed him.

The Mount Dora Chamber of Commerce features a lighthouse in much of its literature. Our friends at First, Mount Dora deserve praise for shining their own lights in their community.

"Putting Out the Fires" Workshop Update

When we think of burnout in the context of the church, we usually define it as a psychological problem experienced by pastors. The truth is, the problem is a *spiritual one* shared by both the clergy and the congregation.

According to The Pew Research Center, nearly 60% of those who changed denominations within Protestantism say their spiritual needs were not being met, and 71% of Catholics who became Protestants gave the same answer.

The Spiritual Health Center, under the leadership of Dr. Bobbie McKay, has studied this phenomenon of church burnout as part of an ongoing study of spiritual life in interfaith congregations. The center has now looked at the spiritual lives of over 4000 people. Dr. McKay is both a licensed psychologist and an ordained minister with over 40 years of experience. She states, "burnout in the church can be both healed and prevented." Her upcoming workshop, **Putting Out the Fires**, addresses this problem in a unique and powerful way. Pastors and up to two members of a congregation are invited to the workshop to find spiritual solutions to the problem of collective burnout, and to reawaken spiritual

life in their church. This approach is entirely different from others in that it addresses the whole church as participants in the problem *and* the solution.

Putting out the Fires will be held on Friday evening and Saturday, October 14th & 15th, 2011 at the Cocoa Beach Community Church, 126 S. Atlantic Ave., Cocoa Beach, Florida. Meeting times will be 7:30—9:00 pm on Friday and 9:30am—3:30pm on Saturday. Lunch and all materials will be provided. The cost will be \$200.00 for a clergy member and one congregational member. A second congregational member can be included for only \$50.00 more, payable in advance. To register, mail your check and the information below to:

**Spiritual Health Center
P.O. Box 320009
Cocoa Beach, FL 32932**

Space is limited. Reservations will be taken on a first come, first served basis. For more information email spirit1@mc.net or call Lew Musil at (847) 728-0765.

Special arrangements have been made with the La Quinta Inn in walking distance of the church for an overnight stay at a very reasonable rate. Call (321) 783-2252 and mention the October 14th meeting at CBCC.

RSVP for Putting Out the Fires Workshop October 14-15, 2011

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Name		Church	
Address		Phone	
City, State, ZIP		Email	

PYC Tubing Weekend at Ichetucknee

Many thanks to the Presbytery Youth Council for leading a wonderful weekend of tubing on the "Iche," fellowship and inspiring worship for 175 youth from our churches at Ichetucknee Family Campground. The picture shows Nancy Graham Ogne leading Pentecost worship.

The PYC is accepting new members!



We are looking for two high school youth grades 10-12 from any of our churches to bring creative energy and leadership to the team as they plan for gleaning, spiritual retreat and another great weekend on the Ichetucknee next year. Applications are on the youth ministries page on the presbytery website:

http://cfpresbytery.org/youth_ministries.html

Give Thanks and Pray for Our New Church Developments!

Did you know our presbytery has three new churches in development and five fellowship groups? Pictured at right are Jack Murdock, who chairs the NCD Committee, Nancy Graham Ogne of our Lake Nona NCD Mission, and Helio Pacheco with wife Selma and daughter Daniela from Philadelphia Brazilian Church, the fellowship group that worships at First, Kissimmee.



Our fellowship groups offer worship in the native languages of first generation immigrants from Korea, Brazil, and Hungary as well as residents of Puerto Rico. Our presbytery is blessed with churches that provide a home for fellowships and with leaders with the vision to reach out to newcomers from many places. Remember to pray for our new churches and our faithful fellowships.

Administrative Personnel Association National Conference

The National Conference of the Administrative Personnel Association will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada from November 3—5, 2011. Classes offered at the conference include: GA Entities, Legal Matters, Personnel Issues, Stewardship Programs and Capital Fund Campaigns, Policy I, Safety in the Workplace, Office Administration II, Risk Management, and Theology. Other classes applicable to any person working in a church office, governing body or institution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) will be offered.

Held in Las Vegas, the city that never sleeps, you can be assured that the attendees will be wide awake learning from clergy, certified Christian Educators and other professionals, who will teach them skills needed to be more effective in their job. The knowledge gained from those attending the conference will benefit the staff and

members of their respective organization as they will return with new and upgraded skills and higher productivity.

Have you considered budgeting continuing education funds for your valuable staff? For a minimum investment (\$75 for the membership fees and approximately \$500 for conference attendance), you will gain a more enthusiastic, spiritually-nurtured staff member who will share their knowledge with those around them.

For more information about the upcoming conference, go to <http://pcusa-apa.org/national.htm>. Remember that the deadline for registering is September 30. Contact Barbara Prieto, President of the Florida Region of the Administrative Personnel Association, 305-666-8586 or rivierachurch@bellsouth.net to find out how your staff can benefit from joining the APA.

Older Adult Ministries Certification

If you have an interest in focused ministry for empty-nesters to retirees, you will want to consider attending the Annual Conference of the Presbyterian Older Adult Ministries Network (POAMN), occurring October 11-14 in San Antonio, Texas. POAMN offers a certification in Older Adult Minis-



tries, and one of the four courses required for it, "Reformed Theological Answers to Questions of Middle/Older Adults," will be offered in conjunction with the conference. Click the link for more information: <http://bit.ly/nH3ZOA>

August Celebrations

Date	Ordination/Organization
8/1/1982	Rev. John A. Dalles
8/1/1976	Rev. Dr. John H. Lodge
8/3/1986	Rev. Dr. Michael T. Carey
8/7/1965	Rev. William M. Birdsall
8/11/1996	Rev. Mary Vanderplas
8/12/1973	Rev. Dr. Robert Anderson
8/13/1961	Rev. William Warlick
8/13/1995	Rev. Jeffrey W. Beebe
8/15/1982	Rev. Matthew J. Blanzly
8/20/1989	Rev. Dr. Walk C Jones
8/21/1988	Rev. Dr. Helen DeBevoise
8/21/1988	Rev. Dr. Daniel DeBevoise
1969	Casselberry, Westminster



Clark Simmons of the Board of Pensions answers a question from Candidate Laura Viau while one of the presbytery's "Robert W" candidates, Robert Wolf, listens.

Quick News & Notes

- ◆ **The 13th Annual Healthy Congregations National Gathering** will be October 10-12 at the Savior Pastoral Center in Kansas City, Kansas. Each year, Healthy Congregations gathers around themes of interest to the development of emotional process and systems thinking as it applies to congregational and community life. Here is a link to the brochure: <http://bit.ly/rpVTg8>
- ◆ **Rev. Tom Jackson**, an honorably retired minister member of West Virginia Presbytery, recently joined the Church Triumphant. Tom was known for his work with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. He was an invaluable resource in the aftermath of the 2004 hurricane season in this presbytery. We give thanks to God for Tom's work and witness here and around the country.
- ◆ **Church Photo Reminder!** We are looking to update our church photo map display in the hallway of the presbytery office. To that end, we are looking for current photos of member churches. Please have someone in your church take a photo, save it as a .jpg (preferably cropped to 4" x 6" and 300 dpi). Email the photo file to Cheryl Carson, Resource Coordinator, at ccarson@cfpresbytery.org. Thanks!
- ◆ First Presbyterian Church in Daytona Beach has over 125 red hymnals free for the taking! Email Nancy Gard gardrosey@aol.com to arrange pickup.
- ⇨ **Correction:** Last month's E-News included the photo at left, taken during the Committee on Preparation for Ministry's Annual Consultation in May. It incorrectly identified Robert Wolf, who is seated in the center, as Rob White. Robert, Rob, and another "Robert W." not pictured—Robert Ward—are among 21 inquirers and candidates under care of this presbytery seeking ordination as Teaching Elder.
- ⇨ **Laura Viau** (seated on the right in the photo) is another candidate in the presbytery. She was featured in an article in the latest *Presbyterians Today* magazine on "long-distance" learning in seminary education. Laura shares her experience as part of the inaugural class of Dubuque Theological Seminary's Distance Learning M. Div. program. Check out the story in the magazine or just click here: <http://bit.ly/qR5hgk>

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