

**Candidates Committee Report
Presbytery of Southwest FL
May 13, 2014**

I. Recommendations to the Presbytery

- 1) The CFM Committee recommends the Presbytery to remove Ricky Roldan from the roles as a Candidate per Ricky's request.**
- 2) The CFM Committee recommends the Presbytery to approve Stan McMahan's Internship.**
- 3) The CFM Committee recommends the Presbytery to approve Matt Abel's Internship**
- 4) The CFM Committee recommends the Presbytery to approve Christopher Cleveland's Internship**
- 5) The CFM Committee recommends the Presbytery to approve Jeremy Kemp's Internship**

II. Quarterly Intern Reports

Abel, Matt: see recommendation to approve his internship

Anderson, Chuck: although he has completed many of his requirements for the internship, Christ Community Church in Lakeland is prolonging his internship in order to work through Chuck's sense of call.

Ardon, Willy: Continues his internship. No update

Bennet, Rick: Continues his internship. No update

Cleveland, Christopher: See recommendation to approve his internship

Glandon, Heath: Heath progresses in his internship. He hopes to complete his LAMP studies by the end of the year.

Kemp, Jeremy: See recommendation to approve his internship

Krause, Jeff: continues at Auburn Road in his internship. He is near completion and needs to complete his paperwork and meet with the committee.

McMahan, Stan: See recommendation to approve his internship

III. Annual Candidate Reports

Candidate's Name: Anthony Elswick

Date: 4/8/2014

Phone: 863-265-0242

E-mail: aelswick1@hotmail.com

Mentor's Name (if applicable):

- 1) How is your relationship with Jesus Christ? My relationship with Christ is going well. I am having regular quiet times and extended prayer times.
- 2) If married, how would your wife report on your marriage? My wife would say that the marriage is going well. We are getting to spend a lot of time together as we are support raising full time which has been nice.
- 3) If single, how is your personal life going?
- 4) How are you doing financially? Financially, things are going smoothly at present.
- 5) How is your relationship with your session? Great. The session is really supportive of what we are doing and very encouraging to us. We try to give regular updates and I attend session meetings when I am in town.
- 6) How are your grades if in seminary, and how do you see seminary helping to prepare you for ministry? My grades are B's. It is going slower than I would have preferred but I plan to finish my seminary work from the field. I think it will help in my future ministry by giving me credibility and the knowledge necessary to train pastors.
- 7) What areas of ministry are you currently engaged in? I am a support raising missionary and working to help revamp my church's missions committee.
- 8) Which areas do you feel you need development in? Personal organization. It is easy for tasks to get away from me.
- 9) What progress have you made in discerning your call to ministry and your fitness for ministry? I discerned a call to be a full time missionary and have gone through all the evaluations with MTW.

10)How can we be praying for you as a Committee and Presbytery? Please pray that we would raise our support quickly and that our kids (and us) would adjust well to life in Nicaragua.

For Interns:

- 1) Are you making progress on your internship responsibilities? Are you keeping record using the "Intern Packet" and getting the needed signatures?
 - 2) How is your relationship with your mentor?
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Candidate's Name: Blake Price

Date: 4/8/14

Phone: 863-224-1968

E-mail: baprice88@gmail.com

Mentor's Name (if applicable):

11)How is your relationship with Jesus Christ?

- a. I have really struggled through changes with jobs and marriage in the past few months. In some ways that has been really trying on my relationship with Jesus, but ultimately it has drawn me closer to him as I come to a fuller understanding of what suffering is, how to deal with/embrace it, and as I see more fully what Jesus has done for me in his suffering.

12)If married, how would your wife report on your marriage?

- a. It has been good. We have been married for 8 months, but our work schedules are just now getting closer together. Because of this we are just going through some of the growing pains of learning how to combine our separate lives as we become one. Little things like chores and how to spend free time can be tension points, but she would say that we are doing really well overall.

13)If single, how is your personal life going?

14)How are you doing financially?

- a. Much better now that I am working full time.

15)How is your relationship with your session?

- a. Good. I see them a little less now that I am working full time, but it is still good.

- 16) How are your grades if in seminary, and how do you see seminary helping to prepare you for ministry?
- My grades suffered a little as I figured out how to do school well while being married. Now that I am taking classes slower it should go much better.
- 17) What areas of ministry are you currently engaged in?
- Teaching in Children's Worship, leading the Assimilation Team, participating in discipleship groups and community groups.
- 18) Which areas do you feel you need development in?
- All of them. I am learning more and more how much experience in life is an asset in ministry. Specifically, more experience in teaching would be very beneficial to me.
- 19) What progress have you made in discerning your call to ministry and your fitness for ministry?
- The last year of my life has helped me see how much I still have to learn and grow. I am still excited about potentially planting a church in the future, but I am realizing that it may be a little further in the future than I previously thought.
- 20) How can we be praying for you as a Committee and Presbytery?
- Marriage – learning to be a loving husband
 - School – how to balance school and life well
 - Work – that I would see a path forward for the next stage of my life

For Interns:

- Are you making progress on your internship responsibilities? Are you keeping record using the "Intern Packet" and getting the needed signatures?
- How is your relationship with your mentor?

Candidate's Name: Chris Pruitt
Date: April 8, 2014
Phone: (863) 280-5768
E-mail: cpruittwh@yahoo.com

- How is your relationship with Jesus Christ? **Growing. This semester at RTS, specifically my Church Growth and Renewal class with Dr. Childers, has left me in a childlike awe of the Gospel. I attempt daily communion with the Father through the means of grace.**

- 2) If married, how would your wife report on your marriage? **Engaged. I am attempting to lead my future wife well through the process of engagement and the struggles that arise from this season of life. I try to live sacrificially, serving her and edifying her through daily prayer together and my prayers for his continual growing in grace.**
- 3) If single, how is your personal life going?
- 4) How are you doing financially? **I have worked part-time while attending seminary and I have not had a lot of excess money but God has consistently given me sufficient "manna" for the present day. Sometimes I do not know how I will pay bills, especially tuition but I have not had a problem throughout any semester. I currently am in talks with State Farm and hope to start there soon as a way to provide for my family and maintain a schedule where I can complete my final seminary courses online.**
- 5) How is your relationship with your session? **I have a father/son relationship with several members of my sessions, especially with our three TE's on staff. I consistently try to exhaust their wisdom as I try to be wise in this season on change approaching me.**
- 6) How are your grades if in seminary, and how do you see seminary helping to prepare you for ministry? **Currently my GPA is between and 3.2-3.3. I still have several classes to take on specific books of the Bible but as far theology and ministry plans/outlooks, seminary has been invaluable. My knowledge of Church History and especially the main heresies has increased and had equipped me with knowledge to battle very similar heresies today. My ability to articulate the Gospel and identifying which Gospel truths certain people need to hear based on their situation has increased as well.**
- 7) What areas of ministry are you currently engaged in? **This semester has been the most difficult for me to be involved in a specific ministry at church. Between my part-time job at Publix and being in Orlando for school three days a week, I have regretfully been greatly unavailable around the church. In the past and hopefully beginning again in the near future, I was able to serve as a small group leader in the youth group and impact some of the children. I still serve in Children's ministry on Sundays. Otherwise I try to complete whatever task the session request of me in a timely manner.**
- 8) Which areas do you feel you need development in? **If by this, we mean a skill, I need development in teaching. If this is a spiritual question, I am currently battling fear; in this season of change I have had a difficult time resting.**
- 9) What progress have you made in discerning your call to ministry and your fitness for ministry? **I am confident of my call and have been more compelled towards the vocation of church-planter in the past twelve months.**

10)How can we be praying for you as a Committee and Presbytery? **As I approach marriage, a new job, graduation, and uncertainty as to how I get myself into vocational ministry I would appreciate your prayers as I attempt discern what the Lord's will is.**

Candidate's Name: Joel De Victoria

Date: 4/2/2014

Phone: 863-859-3679

E-mail: deluge24@msn.com

Mentor's Name (if applicable):

21)How is your relationship with Jesus Christ?

I continue to delight in knowing and growing in Christ. My relationship with Christ is strong as I continue to learn what a great mediator and savior he truly is.

22)If married, how would your wife report on your marriage?

Our marriage is strong. Since early in our marriage, we have learned to confront many challenges in our lives by having constant and intimate communication.

23)If single, how is your personal life going?

24)How are you doing financially?

We are on a very tight budget because of my attendance at seminary. This has made it difficult to accumulate any savings.

25)How is your relationship with your session?

My relationship with my session is fairly good.

26)How are your grades if in seminary, and how do you see seminary helping to prepare you for ministry?

I receive good grades although I struggle with juggling between my responsibilities at home, as an elder at Berea, and the plethora of seminary assignments.

I see seminary as very crucial in equipping me for pastoral ministry. At Reformed Theological Seminary, I have received excellent training from leading scholars who love the Word of God, have a heart for the lost, and care about mentoring future Christian leaders. I pray that these three qualities may also abound in me and my future pastoral ministry.

27)What areas of ministry are you currently engaged in?

I serve as a ruling elder at Berea. I currently preach twice a month and teach a membership class on Sunday mornings.

28) Which areas do you feel you need development in?

As far as ministry is concerned, I am still growing to become a better communicator, exegete, and teacher/preacher. I continue to grow in sermon preparation. Also, I need more development in counseling skills. I need to be a better listener as well.

As far as my personal life, I need to be more patient and understanding of others and their needs.

29) What progress have you made in discerning your call to ministry and your fitness for ministry?

One area in which I have seen much progress in is being tested in experiencing difficult situations and crises in the context of ministry. I have gained much experience and grown in my preparation for ministry.

30) How can we be praying for you as a Committee and Presbytery?

Pray for my continued growth in wisdom in all areas of my life including my marriage, success in seminary studies, responsibilities and all of the challenges I face in the work of ministry at Berea. Pray that I may grow to be a good servant leader for the cause of Christ. Pray that I may be a better steward of my time.

For Interns:

5) Are you making progress on your internship responsibilities? Are you keeping record using the "Intern Packet" and getting the needed signatures?

6) How is your relationship with your mentor?

Candidate's Name: Heath Glandon

Date: 1/8/2014

Phone: 727-249-6442

E-mail: heath@glandon.us

Mentor's Name (if applicable): Bob Brubaker

31) How is your relationship with Jesus Christ?

My faith is strong and I grow toward living according to biblical principles in all areas of life. He is the source of my strength, the reason for my direction toward ministry, and the motivator toward perseverance in good works.

32) If married, how would your wife report on your marriage?

My wife feels blessed to have a wonderful husband and a marriage that looks to God for growth, strength, and fruit.

33) If single, how is your personal life going?

NA

34) How are you doing financially?

I have no inordinate amount of debt. Being employed full-time, I am able to provide for my family well. My wife, Michelle, has recently become a part-time online teacher, which will further supplement our income. God has been faithful to provide for 100% of my seminary expenses thus far, as he promised to do when I began.

35) How is your relationship with your session?

Bob and I try to get together at least once per week. Rick is the only other active elder and he is excited about my internship and wants to be involved as much as possible.

36) How are your grades in seminary, and how do you see seminary helping to prepare you for ministry?

I have been getting mostly A's. I can only remember one B which was in Greek II. Seminary is providing me with a much larger perspective on redemptive history and the global purpose of the church.

37) What areas of ministry are you currently engaged in?

Director of Children's Ministry, teaching Sunday School, leading worship, leading Wednesday night prayer, in addition to other more irregular opportunities to teach and serve.

38) Which areas do you feel you need development in?

The areas I feel most lacking in are those areas that I will have to grow through experience: weddings, funerals, counseling, etc. Some things can't be learned in seminary.

39) What progress have you made in discerning your call to ministry and your fitness for ministry?

My family, my church, my friends have all expressed how they have been able to see God growing me over these last several years. They would express no doubt as to my call due to God's hand at work in my life. As for me personally, God has enabled me to overcome fear, discouragement, and complacency. He is hitting me pretty hard regarding one thing or another in my personal life and I am taking those leadings and reprimands seriously.

40) How can we be praying for you as a Committee and Presbytery?

For the last few months He has shown me just how poor my discipline is when it comes to time management, planning, and execution. Everywhere I turn I see my failings in these areas. Pray that my passion for the call would lend clarity to decision making, and perseverance in completing tasks. Hard decisions often have to be made, especially when I have to say "No" to others and additional responsibilities. This is very difficult for me as I often feel guilty for not meeting people's needs when I know I am capable but simply don't

have time. I keep telling myself, if you say “Yes” to one person you are saying “No” to someone else.

For Interns:

- 7) Are you making progress on your internship responsibilities? Are you keeping record using the “Intern Packet” and getting the needed signatures?

Not as well as I ought. This is a good reminder for me to begin keeping better track of it.

- 8) How is your relationship with your mentor?

As I mentioned above, Bob and I try to get together once a week to go over the current state of affairs and consider what progress has been made and where we go from here. I couldn't ask for a better mentor.

Candidate's Name: **JEFFREY KRAUSE**

Date: **01/15/14**

Phone: **9415252759**

E-mail: **jskrause2@liberty.edu**

Mentor's Name (if applicable): **DWIGHT DOLBY**

- 41) How is your relationship with Jesus Christ? **My relationship with our great God and Savior is ever growing and I am forever indebted to my Lord and King for His sacrifice for my sin.**

- 42) If married, how would your wife report on your marriage? **My wife would report that we are rock solid as a couple. We continue to grow in light of the grace of Christ as a married couple and we are blessed to have such a strong covenant union.**

43) If single, how is your personal life going?

- 44) How are you doing financially? **We struggle at times, there is no doubt. The key is not to live beyond our means. My wife stays at home with our young children to raise them in the fear and instruction of the Lord, so, we have one less income than we did years ago. But, it is well worth it and I believe the Lord is pleased.**

- 45) How is your relationship with your session? **I believe that my relationship with the session is good and open. At times, we do have differences regarding certain non-essentials of the faith. But, as a whole, I believe that things are well and growing in the right direction on a consistent basis.**

- 46) How are your grades if in seminary, and how do you see seminary helping to prepare you for ministry?
- 47) What areas of ministry are you currently engaged in? **My current (main areas would be more accurate) areas of ministry are preaching, teaching, evangelism and apologetics.**
- 48) Which areas do you feel you need development in? **I need to develop in all areas of my Christian ministry and my Christian walk. I am a sinner saved by grace and in need of refining in all areas. A work that is taking place via the Spirit of Christ for which I am grateful.**
- 49) What progress have you made in discerning your call to ministry and your fitness for ministry? **On both counts I have confirmed my call to ministry both internally and externally.**
- 50) How can we be praying for you as a Committee and Presbytery? **General prayers for strength in doing spiritual battle in this fallen world. Also, please pray for my children, my wife's pregnancy and for an ever continuing growth in my marriage.**

For Interns:

- 9) Are you making progress on your internship responsibilities? Are you keeping record using the "Intern Packet" and getting the needed signatures? **All of my work as an intern is logged on the APRCA webpage as mp3 downloads as far as preaching and teaching. So, on this point, things are well. I do need to get evaluations done for my preaching and teaching growth and development. Also, I need to complete the short summation paper on worship and also the mentoring aspect of the packet by filling out the prescribed records. In all, I am not far from completion.**
- 10) How is your relationship with your mentor? **My relation with Dwight Dolby is simply wonderful. He has shown me what a true pastors heart looks like and has communicated that need to me very well and has been vital to my growth in Christian and pastoral ministry.**
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Annual SWFP Candidate Report

Candidate's Name: Joe Ragsdale

Date: 4-8-14 Phone: 863-604-9513

E-mail: joeragsbcf@gmail.com

Mentor's Name (if applicable): Gene Lanehart

1) How is your relationship with Jesus Christ? Well.. Striving to participate in my church's Community Bible Reading. Also rereading Paul Millers A Praying Life.

- 2) If married, how would your wife report on your marriage? N/a
- 3) If single, how is your personal life going? Going well. My life consists of school, work, and church duties. Also live in a house with 4 roommates.
- 4) How are you doing financially? Received a raise from the church this year which allowed me to go to school one extra day a week. Making enough to cover all of my expenses.
- 5) How is your relationship with your session? I know 5 or 6 very well. I definitely feel as though they are in my corner. Very approachable men.
- 6) How are your grades if in seminary, and how do you see seminary helping to prepare you for ministry? Make As and Bs. GPA — 3.32... This semester has been great, especially my class on church growth and renewal. It's very practical and challenging.
- 7) What areas of ministry are you currently engaged in? Media ministry, kids worship once a month, and men's discipleship group
- 8) Which areas do you feel you need development in? Teaching opportunities. I'm young so I don't have a lot of life experience. However, I trust that the process of interning and being under the supervision of my session and presbytery is vital to helping me through the process of discerning my call to ministry.
- 9) What progress have you made in discerning your call to ministry and your fitness for ministry? Through one on ones with my pastor and going through Spurgeon's Lectures to My Students, I am beginning to see how affinity, ability, and opportunity are essential elements to discerning my call.
- 10) How can we be praying for you as a Committee and Presbytery? Pray for my relationships with my coworkers in my other part time job. Also for diligence in handling school and work.

For Interns:

- 1) Are you making progress on your internship responsibilities? Are you keeping record using the "Intern Packet" and getting the needed signatures?

The committee's next meeting is tentatively set for Thursday, August 21, 2014 at Redeemer in Riverview, at 9:00am. Those seeking to meet with the committee for candidacy or internship purposes need to submit all requirements ten days in advance of this meeting.

Those seeking to come under care are responsible for ensuring that they know the dates and location of the committee meeting and are responsible for knowing what they must submit in order to be examined.