



# Florida Statewide Committee RUF Campus Ministry 11/05/2014

## Location:

Orlando, Florida,  
La Quinta Inn and Suites, 7160 N. Frontage Road

## Members Present:

Central FL Presbytery: TE Mike Osborne, TE Randy Greenwald, TE Curt Moore,  
RE Chris Akers  
Gulf Coast Presbytery: TE Dennis Shackelford  
North Florida Presbytery: TE David Burke, TE Steve Lammers  
Gulf Stream Presbytery: TE Matt Wilson  
Southwest Florida Presbytery: **Chairman** TE Rod Culbertson, RE Ken Pothoven,  
TE Steve Casselli, TE Jeff McDonald  
South Florida Presbytery:  
Sun Coast Presbytery: RE Chick Shue, RE Mark Wandell

## Campus Ministers (CM):

TE Tommy Park:	UNF
TE David Story:	FSU
TE Lee Wright:	UCF
TE Jeff Lee:	USF
TE Tim Carper	UF

**Guests:** TE JR Foster, Florida Area Coordinator, **Lucas Tanner (FGCU candidate).**

**Excused Absences:** TE Michael Woodham, TE Bob Evans, TE Clif Wilcox, TE Todd Veleber,  
TE David Bradsher, RE Craig Carter, TE Chris Schwartz

1. **Rod Culbertson** began the meeting at 1005 hours and **after introductions, Matt Wilson led the group** with a devotional from 1 Cor. 9:19-23 on the significant relationship between our freedom in Christ and our being a servant to all people so that we might be able to win more of them to Him. Chick Shue then opened the meeting with prayer.
2. **Reports of new Campus Ministers: (up to 5 minutes each)**

**\*Note: the committee hears full reports from all Campus Ministers in the Spring Statewide committee meeting.**

A. Tim Carper, UF: Tim shared that it has been a busy year thus far with his graduating seminary and getting married (July 4, 2014) and then moving to campus. Tim says he is still adjusting to his new life on campus and to his work with the students. Tim observed that the students at UF are under a lot of pressure to produce perfection academically and otherwise and that RUF is something of an optional side activity that gets worked in for many students. Tim believes that in spite of this culture, large and small groups seem to be going well and he indicates that he is beginning to get a sense of the rhythm of the campus. Tim reported that his wife seems to be adjusting well to their new life together and that she has been very understanding of the demands of his new work. Since the departure of Rob Pendley from Christ Community church, Tim has been given multiple opportunities to help with pulpit supply and he has enjoyed this additional opportunity to serve this congregation. Tim reports that overall, things are working out great and he says he is looking forward to doing the hard work of ministry development.

B. Lee Wright, UCF: Lee announced that he and his wife Sarah (who just celebrated 5 years of marriage) now have a new 12 day old baby girl (Margo) at home, as well as their first child (2 yr. old Tilly). Lee shared that the transition has been going well. He shared that he found RUF training in Atlanta most helpful and he very much enjoyed the time with fellow Campus Ministers. Lee announced that he was licensed over the summer (August) and that he is now moving toward ordination (January 2015). Lee reported that he has had an adjustment period since he arrived on campus and he says he is now getting into the rhythm of weekly sermon preparation and delivery at large group. He and Sarah found a home less than two miles from campus that has proved great for student hospitality. Lee's wife is a former RUF intern and she has enjoyed having students in their home on a regular basis. Lee shared that three of his students are close to graduation and are exploring RUF's intern program and two of Lee's students have become new believers in the last couple of months. These same students are not from a church background, but have become involved in Covenant Presbyterian church pastored by Randy Greenwald (who is a member of this committee). Lee is actively working on financial development for the ministry and he knows that this needs to be a primary focus through the end of the year.

Mike Osborne and Mark Wardell led the committee in a season of prayer for Tim and for Lee and the work on their perspective campuses.

### **3. Interview of Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) candidate, Lucas Tanner.**

Note: The purpose of this interview is for the Statewide Committee to be an additional body to both evaluate and recommend a potential candidate to the Presbytery who is considering a new call. The Committee is interested in the candidate's sense of call to ministry, and in particular his sense of call to minister to college students and to engage in this work of ministry in a way that is compatible with the vision and values of RUF in particular. The committee is also interested in the theological views and philosophy of ministry embraced by the candidate.

Lucas Tanner was welcomed and given the floor to share his personal background, call to ministry and his sense of call to the particular work of RUF and FGCU. Lucas shared that he has been married for ten years with three children, Isaac (8yrs.), Sade (6 yrs. - who has special needs), and Molly (4 yrs.). Lucas has been at Saint Andrews church (PCA) in Hollywood, FL for the last 8 years serving as the Pastor of Youth and Family. Lucas became a believer in his early teens and began to attend a discipleship group with a high school friend who invited him to a local PCA church (Covenant

Presbyterian) in Naples, FL. Lucas spent his college years at UF, where he got involved with FCA and also got involved at Christ Community Church under Rob Pendley. Following his college years, Lucas was called to Saint Andrews church to serve as a full time youth director. After a few years of ministry, Lucas attended and received a M.Div. from Knox Seminary (May 2011).

Lucas expressed that he feels a burden for college students and he understands that this is a defining season in the lives of many students. Lucas says that he was very thankful that he was able to be involved in a campus ministry (FCA) and he knows how formative it was in his own walk with the Lord. Lucas wants to be a part of RUF because it is not a para-church organization, but a ministry of the church of which he loves and is a part. Lucas says he wants to be engaged in ministry to students and with students in this season of their lives.

After a season of various questions from Committee members, the committee moved into an informal exam with questions on philosophy of ministry and theological views.

Lucas reported that he is not yet ordained, but that he is “under care” in his Presbytery.

At 1135 hrs. Lucas was dismissed from the meeting so that the committee could review and discuss the exam. The committee affirmed Lucas’ candidacy without exception and a motion was made:

**MSP: To recommend Lucas Tanner to Suncoast Presbytery as the RUF campus minister at FGCU.**

At 1150 hrs., Lucas was invited back into the meeting to be informed of the committee’s approval and recommendation. Rod Culbertson led the committee in a prayer of thanksgiving for Lucas, his family, and for the Lord’s work in preparing the way for the new work at FGCU.

At 1155 hrs., the campus ministers were dismissed so that the committee could deliberate over budget recommendations.

**MSP: New Salary and Housing raises for 2015. (See Attachments for Housing Allowance Resolutions)**

Note: These formal resolutions MUST be voted on and approved by the Campus Minister’s Presbytery and recorded in their official minutes as a matter of best practice in the event of an audit by the IRS.

The committee then discussed Salary and Housing requirements for the new work at FGCU.

**MSP: To approve the proposed the combined salary and housing package for Lucas Tanner totaling \$75,000.00.**

ORDER OF THE DAY: At 1225 hrs. The Campus ministers were invited back into the room for lunch.

At 1230 hrs. Tommy Park offered a prayer of thanksgiving for the meal.

At 1305 hrs. the meeting resumed.

4. Report from Area Coordinator JR Foster (RUF Area Coordinator).

JR offered a brief report to the committee sharing some of the highlights from the RUF National perspective including: (1) the installment of Tom Cannon, RUF's new National Coordinator who has replaced retiring Coordinator Dr. Rod Mays. (2) The hiring of Kevin Teasley as the new Director of Advancement who will focus on the development work of RUF on a National level. (3) RUF's new website and (4) RUF's new logo, as well as the prospect of a new Gulf Stream Presbytery campus ministry at Florida Atlantic University in 2015 or 2016.

#### 5. Existence & Membership of Florida RUF Presbytery Committees

Rod Culbertson led a brief overview of the now six functioning RUF Presbytery committees and the further opportunities for expansion of the State Wide Committee in the state of Florida. There were no action items arising from this discussion.

#### 6. Statewide Development Discussion.

Rod Culbertson led a brief review of a list of Florida area churches that support RUF.

The merits and benefits (or lack there of) were discussed of asking churches to share the names of students headed to campus in the Fall.

Curt Moore announced that Steve Brown has agreed to speak at a fund raising banquet for the University of Central Florida RUF in the Spring.

There were no action items arising from this discussion.

#### 7. Other/New Business

Tommy Park announced that he and his wife were expecting a third child.

Next Meeting:

**MSP - To hold the next meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 29, 2015, in Orlando at La Quinta Inn and Suites, 7160 N. Frontage Road .**

**MSP to adjourn at 1:20 pm, Chris Akers led the committee in a closing prayer.**

Respectfully submitted,



Dennis Shackleford  
Clerk of Committee

See Attachment:

Resolution of the Southwest Florida Presbytery of  
The Presbyterian Church in America  
Designating a Portion of The Reverend Jeff Lee's  
2015 Compensation as Rental/Housing Allowance

**Whereas**, Internal Revenue Code Section 107, as well as the associated Regulation and Revenue Rulings, provide that the portion of a minister's remuneration, designated as a rental/housing allowance by the employing church or other qualifying organization, is excludable from the minister's gross income under Section 107 of the Code; and

**Whereas**, Southwest Florida Presbytery, is a qualifying organization,

**Now, Therefore, be it Resolved** that \$24,720.00 of the compensation paid The Reverend Jeff Lee during 2015 is designated as a rental/housing allowance in accordance with the provisions of Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code; and

**Be it Further Resolved** that the amounts so designated as rental/housing allowance are excludable from gross income of the recipient only to the extent that said amounts are used to rent or provide a home. Further, the amount eligible for the Section 107 exclusion may not exceed the fair rental value of the minister's home (including furnishings and appurtenances) plus the cost of utilities. To the extent a greater amount is designated as rental/housing allowance, the designation will be ineffectual with respect to such amount.

**This Resolution** is applicable for calendar year 2015 and all future years unless otherwise provided by the Affiliated Committee.

**Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2014, by Southwest Florida Presbytery.**

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Stated Clerk