

**Candidates Committee Report
Presbytery of Southwest FL
May 12, 2015**

I. Recommendations to the Presbytery from the Committee

- 1) To dismiss Gabriel Malloy as a candidate for the ministry pending him becoming a candidate of the Philadelphia Presbytery.**

II. Quarterly Intern Reports

Ardon, Willy: Willy continues to lead a Spanish bible-study at Redeemer Presbyterian church in Riverview. He has been encouraged with this work and has seen it incrementally grow. He has led an effort in starting a food-pantry at the church and a community garden and also has been overseeing juvenile delinquents who do community service at Redeemer, which has opened discipleship opportunities. He continues to aim for further educational steps and is waiting on LAMP courses to begin, administered through members of our Presbytery.

Joel DeVictoria: *We have been so warmly received by the Covenant Presbyterian family. I have had a few meetings with Pastor McWilliams and Pastor Jeff regarding the overall progress and implementation of my internship plan. These meetings have been pastorally encouraging to me as it provides me immediate access to their pastoral wisdom and experience. Also, I have accompanied Pastor Jeff on a hospital visit of one of the members from Covenant. And on three other occasions I have had the opportunity to make hospital visits on my own.*

I preached last month during their Sunday evening worship service and will be preaching again soon in May but I will have several more opportunities during the Summer months to preach additionally during their Wednesday Vesper Services.

Lastly, I am delighted and excited to share that on Friday May 8, I will launch a Bible study in Spanish. The plan is to meet at the church every other Friday evening. The study is based on Jerry Bridges' book "The Discipline of Grace: God's Role and Our Role in the Pursuit of Holiness", which has been translated into Spanish. This work explores the doctrines of grace and their implications for discipleship in Christ. We have about 15 Spanish-speakers from Covenant who plan to attend. Some of these members plan to invite their families, friends, and neighbors, who have difficulty with English, to attend. A few of the invitees have become disenchanted with the Roman Catholic Church but they hesitate in attending Covenant because of the language barrier; however, they are willing to attend the study as they would like to learn more about the Bible.

As you can see, this provides an opportunity for outreach but also for the current members to grow in their faith in Christ. Therefore, please join us in prayer for the Gospel to penetrate the hearts of this Roman Catholic group. And pray for the members of Covenant who will be attending that the study may result in a deeper understanding of God's grace and the empowerment of His grace to live the Christian life.

Nick Cirino: *"I am thankful to the Lord for the opportunities he has given me to serve his people in this first quarter of my internship. I have preached three times; taught high school Sunday School, elementary school chapel, and Women's Bible Study; engaged the homeless in the gospel; led an adult small group; and met with a young man to study the Confession together. My mentors and liaison have provided very helpful feedback to me and I believe myself to be growing in self-understanding and understanding of how to rightly divide the Word of truth--by God's kindness and grace. May he continue to grow and prepare me through this time of internship."*

The committee's next meeting is tentatively set for Thursday, August 13, 2015 at Redeemer in Riverview, at 9:15am. 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.