

**Church Leadership Connection**  
The Call System for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

**Mif #: 01324.ACO**

**Ministry General Information**

<b>Ministry Number</b>	01324
<b>Ministry Name</b>	Weirsdale Presbyterian Church
<b>Mailing Address</b>	16303 SE 137 Court Weirsdale, FL 32195
<b>Phone</b>	(352) 821-2757
<b>Fax</b>	
<b>E-Mail</b>	weirsdlepres@gmail.com
<b>WWW Address</b>	weirsdalepresbyterianchurch.org
<b>Ministry Size</b>	101 - 250 members
<b>Ethnic Composition</b>	
	Black or African American (African Native, Caribbean) 2%
	White 98%

<b>Average Worship Attendance</b>	110
<b>Church School Attendance</b>	0
<b>Curriculum</b>	No formal congregation sponsored Church School at this time
<b>Yoked</b>	False
<b>Presbytery</b>	SAINT AUGUSTINE PRESBYTERY
<b>Synod</b>	SYNOD OF SOUTH ATLANTIC
<b>Community Type</b>	Suburban
Ten-year trend statistics of this church/organization <a href="#">Show Statistics</a>	

**Information about the position**

<b>Position:</b>	Solo Pastor
<b>Experience Required:</b>	2 to 5 Years
<b>Specific Title:</b>	
<b>Employment Status:</b>	Open to both

<b>Language Requirements:</b>	
	English

<b>Other Language:</b>	
<b>Statement of Faith Required:</b>	True
<b>Clergy Couples:</b>	True

<b>Training/Certificate Requirements:</b>	
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<b>Other Training:</b>	
<b>Brief Church Mission Statement:</b>	

# Church Leadership Connection

## The Call System for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

**The mission of Weirsdale Presbyterian Church is to bring people to Christ and develop discipleship through worship and honoring God; enhance fellowship by creating authentic relationships; and improving our care ministry and missions that reach out and assist our community.**

### **What is the congregation's or organization's vision for ministry:**

Our congregation has a stated Mission Statement, yet one member's responses to our Mission Study sums up our congregation's vision well. She wrote, "We seek to be a congregation who follows the tenets of our historic Reformed tradition while accepting each member's personal relationship with God in our broader interfaith world." We are a community of believers who literally come from all over the United States. Many have come here in retirement to begin a new phase of life that is marked by Spiritual renewal, hospitality, mutual care, forbearance and care for the "least of these."

Our vision is lived out through involvement in our local community. Members tutor in, and provide supplies, shoes and clothes for local elementary school students and collect items for our schools and a local ecumenical ministry Love Inc A Boy Scout Troop is sponsored that produces record numbers of Eagle Scouts that become eligible for college scholarships, funded in part by the congregation. A weekly luncheon for the lonely and the hungry in our community is served each Tuesday satisfying the hunger for companionship and physical hunger.

### **How do you feel called to reach out to address the emerging needs of your community or constituency:**

We live in rapidly growing part of Florida. With the growth come challenges. The first level of challenge is welcoming and caring for large numbers of persons who have moved away from the familiar and are seeking community with their new, and often very different, neighbors. Attempts are made to create a sense of community for those who have left "home" behind. Intentional decisions have been made by our congregation to not become the mega-churches that have sprung up around us. We can imagine a day when our congregation has multiple worship services in our historic (125 seat) sanctuary, being drawn together as the Body of Christ through common mission and spiritual growth.

WPC has also become acutely aware of the economic disparities between those who are moving here for retirement and those who live here to serve the needs of the retired. There are many challenges helping those whose incomes are derived from the "service sector" of our economy. Our work in the public schools and through Scouting has contributed to the welfare of many who work in our community. A growing edge for our congregation is how we can better help this segment of our population and be a welcoming community towards them. We don't expect a pastor to be the charismatic leader who magically brings in young families and kids, but if opportunities to lower our median age are presented, we hope our new pastor could help us maximize the providential opportunities presented.

### **How will this position help you to reach your vision and mission goals:**

The person occupying this position will best help us by equipping us for the mission we have before us. That equipping will include preaching sermons that both inspire and teach. Sermons and other elements of worship should make the listener "think" and lead to further contemplation and reflection during the week. He/she will be engaged with congregational members providing pastoral care and prayer with and for members of the congregation. Our new leader will be a spiritual guide in and through the challenges that come with aging and living the last segment of our lives. Our new leader will also become involved adequately in our community so that he/she will discern needs in the community, see where God is at work, and lead efforts to have us join God in those places. He/she may be called upon to help lead processes where we can discern the direction in which God is calling us, and help develop intentional strategies to meet the goals and objectives discerned.

### **Provide a description of the characteristics needed by the person who is open to being called to this congregation and or organization:**

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Jesus teaches in the Sermon on the Plain, "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same." That which we seek most in a pastor is a pastor who will love us, even when we may not be at our loveliest. When might we not be at our loveliest?

- When newness presses up against tradition.
- When personalities simply collide.
- When competing interests or priorities find us in a stalemate.
- When grief overcomes us.
- When theological differences tempt us to move outside of "the big tent."

Compassion and empathy are highly valued by this congregation. We desire a good teacher, a person who devotes significant time to "a life of the mind in service to God," so that he/she can share the Good News with depth, confidence and theological acumen. A person who is an "introverted intellectual" would not be successful. A person who is able to laugh, even sometimes at her/his self would be most welcomed. We seek someone who will be a companion with us on our journey of faith and life. Resilience and the ability to adapt to unforeseen circumstances is valued. While open to, and welcoming of the transforming power of the Holy Spirit, we are not looking for a person who believes it is his/her calling to lead change for the sake of change.

### What specific tasks, assignments, and program areas will this person have responsibility?

The primary responsibilities of our new pastor will be to preach, teach and provide pastoral care. Fulfilling those duties responsibly may occupy nearly  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a pastor's time with us. Other responsibilities might include community mission, ministry and networking, administrative tasks associated with moderating the Session including leadership training. The pastor will work closely with the Deacons providing pastoral care, but there will be times that care from a deacon will not substitute for pastoral presence. Providing support for, and input into, planning/visioning processes may become an intermittent priority at times. In the first several years of the pastorate, work in Presbytery structures should be limited.

### Optional Links:

### Leadership Competencies:

Preaching and Worship Leadership

Spiritual Maturity

Public Communicator

Advisor

Organizational Agility

Strategy and Vision

Financial Manager

Collaboration

Interpersonal Engagement

Motivator

### Compensation and Housing: Cost of Living Calculator

**Minimum Effective Salary:** \$48,489

**Housing Type:** Manse

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<b>References:</b>				
<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Phone Numbers</b>	<b>Relation</b>	<b>Email</b>
Rev. Jeffrey W. Welch	20200 SW 95th St., Dunnellon FL 34431	352-817-2534	Liaison with Call Commission/ Current Moderator of	jeffrey.welch1957@gmail.com
Pam Rowland	7001 Roland Road, Huntington, PA 16652	(814) 599-6170	Church Member who relocated to Pennsylvania	pwroland@verizon.net
Dr. Ron Watson	2003 29th Place, Ocala, FL 34471	352-286-3036	Co-chair, Presbytery Call Commission	drwatsonocala@gmail.com

**Has the Pastor Nominating Committee and Search committee affirmed its intention to follow the Form Of Government in this regard?**

Yes

**Version Track Info: This MIF was last updated on 02/24/2023**

**Self-referral Contact Information**

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<b>COM:</b> Joy Laughridge	<b>Address</b> 2001 University Boulevard W., Jacksonville, FL 32217
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