



CALLED

Special Meeting of the Presbytery of New Covenant

Tuesday, July 14, 2009 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Korean Young Nak Presbyterian Church
Houston, TX

REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete this form and bring it with you to the meeting. Thank you.

Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

Email address: _____

Church/City: _____

Are you a first-time commissioner? Yes No

CHECK ONLY ONE BOX BELOW

VOTING (check only one)

- Minister Member
- Elder Commissioner
(Elected from session of church listed above)
- Commissioned Lay Pastor
- Certified Church Educator
- Associate Certified Church Educator
- Elder with Privilege by Virtue of Office
*(Currently in a Presbytery leadership position,
designated for this privilege)*
- Former Moderator of Presbytery
- Elected Presbytery Staff
- Fellow – NACBA (National Association of Church
Business Administrators)

NON-VOTING (check only one)

- Corresponding Minister-Member
from _____
- Visitor
from _____
- Presbytery Staff
- Inquirer/Candidate under care
- Commissioned Lay Pastor (w/out
voting privileges)
- Other Church Professional
*(Non-certified Educator, Youth
Director, Business Administrator,
Music Director, other)*

**STATED MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF NEW COVENANT
TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2009
Korean Young-Nak Presbyterian Church, Houston, TX**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Registration Form 1
 Table of Contents 2
 Docket 3
 Stated Clerk’s Report (B)..... 4
 Glossary of Abbreviations Related to the Ministry of the Presbytery 4
 Minutes from the May 9, 2009 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of New Covenant..... Online
 Committee on Ministry (D).....5-11
 Committee on Preparation for Ministry (E)..... 12
 General Council (F) 13-24
 Restated Bylaws of the Presbytery of New Covenant (F.1)..... 15-23
 2009/10 Budget (F.2)..... Online
 Narrative Accompanying Proposed Budget..... 24
 Displays..... 25

For Information

Letters assigned for report organization:

- General Presbyter (A)
- Stated Clerk (B)
- Administrative Division (C)
- Committees (C.1, C.2, etc.)
- Committee on Ministry (D)
- Committee on Preparation (E)
- General Council (F)
- Ministries Division (G)
- Committees (G.1, G.2, etc.)
- Nominating Committee (H)
- Other Entities (I)

**STATED CLERK
REPORT TO PRESBYTERY
July 14, 2009**

I. Recommendation for presbytery action:

That the minutes of the Stated Meeting on May 9 be approved as posted on the presbytery's website.

II. Actions taken on behalf of presbytery:

Received the final report of Investigating Committee #02-09, comprised of The Rev. Marcia Miscall, Elder Ronald Johnson (FPC, Huntsville) and CLP Debbie Battise-Kleinman, that there is *"...no grounds or cause to believe that any of the alleged offenses were committed by either of the two accused."* This Investigating Committee is dismissed, with gratitude for their service, and barring a request for review by the accuser, this matter is closed.

II. Items for Information:

A. New minister-members of the presbytery will introduce themselves at this meeting, will sign THE BOOK, and the assembly is invited to extend to them the right-hand-of-fellowship after adjournment.

B. A Glossary of Abbreviations related to the ministry of the presbytery follows:

ADSC	Administrative Division Steering Committee	E&R	Evangelism and Renewal
		NCD	New Church Development
CO	Center Operations	OM	Outreach Ministries
EAC	Ecclesiastical Affairs Committee	RCC	Resource Center Committee
FIN	Finance Committee	POP	Presbyterian Outreach to Patients
COM	Committee on Ministry	PW	Presbyterian Women
CPM	Committee on Preparation for Ministry	OGA	Office of the General Assembly
		GAC	General Assembly Council
COR	Committee on Representation	SYNOD	Synod of the Sun
GC	General Council	PC(U.S.A.)	Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
NOM	Nominating Committee		
MDSC	Ministries Division Steering Committee	PDA	Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
		IRT	IKE Recovery Team
CRT	Congregational Resourcing Team		

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
REPORT TO THE PRESBYTERY
JULY 14, 2009

I. Recommendations for presbytery action:

1. The committee recommends and moves that the examination for candidate ordination **Ryan Cook** be sustained.

II. Actions taken on behalf of presbytery:

1. Approval of Pastoral Calls:

- a. **The Reverend Thomas Edwards** called to serve as Associate Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Kingwood, TX. Approved by COM on May 5, 2009; he sustained the examination of Committee on Examination on May 30, 2009. Ordained 5/27/95; Transferring from Presbytery of Southern Kansas.

Formal Education: Princeton Theological Seminary, MDiv; Institute for Defense and Strategies Studies, Certificate, National Security Affairs; University of Southern California, BA, International Relation.

(Statement of Faith follows COM Report in Packet)

Salary/Housing Allowance	\$60,000
Extra Housing Allowance (July 2009 – December 2009) until home is sold in Kansas	1,500
Social Security Offset 7.65%	4,590
Auto Allowance @IRS Rate	2,500
Boards of Pensions Dues Full 31 ½ %	Full
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	2,500
Study Leave time cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks
Annual Review	

- b. **Candidate for ordination Ryan Cook** called to serve as Associate Pastor of the Grand Lakes Presbyterian Church, Katy, TX. Approved by COM May 5, 2009; he sustained the examination of the Committee on Examinations on June 27, 2009; Candidate under care of Western Colorado Presbytery; Formal Education: 5/06 Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO, BA Speech Communication; 5/09 University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, Dubuque, IA, MDiv.

(Statement of Faith follows COM Report in Packet)

Salary/Housing/Utility Allowance	\$42,000
Other paid Insurance – life and dental	540
Auto Allowance @IRS Rate	1,800
Cell Phone	600
Boards of Pensions Dues Full 31 ½ %	13,400
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years +	1,680
Clergy Retreat	750
Study Leave time cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks
Social Security Compensation up to 8.24%	3,505

Annual Review
Actual Moving Expense

- c. John Melsness called to serve as Associate Pastor of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Houston, approved by COM June 2, 2009; he sustained the examination of the Committee on Examinations on June 27, 2009; Ordained 3/9; Formal Education: 12/84 University of Washington, Seattle, WA, BA, International Studies; 2-6/89 Faculte de Theologie a Vaux sur Seine, France, Semester of Missiology; 5/90 Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ, MDiv; 5/02 Academy of Art University, San Francisco, CA, BFA, Illustration.

(Statement of Faith will be in the next Presbytery Packet)

Salary	\$48,000
Housing and Utility Allowance	20,000*
Value Manse	*
Auto Allowance @IRS Rate	3,000
Books, Professional Dues	2,000
Boards of Pensions Dues Full 31 ½ %	21,420
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	1,680
Study Leave time cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks
Social Security Compensation up to 8.24%	5,630.20
Annual Review	
*Alternative option:\$15,000 value of Manse; \$5,000 Utility Allowance	

- d. The Reverend Thomas Wessman and Jones Creek Presbyterian Church , Gulf Prairie, TX effective August 1, 2009

Salary	\$27,000
Housing and Utility Allowance	12,420
Social Security Offset	3,252.15
Auto Allowance @IRS Rate	.55 per mile
Boards of Pensions Dues Full 31 ½ %	13,441.73
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	1,420
Study Leave time cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks
Social Security Compensation up to 8.24%	2,700
Annual Review	

2. Approved Changes in Terms of Call

- a. Between Ann Marie Quigley Swanson and Houston, Northwoods effective 1/1/09

Salary	\$ 8,122	\$ 8,122
Housing and Utility Allowance	20,000	20,000
Auto Allowance @IRS Rate	Actual	Actual
Boards of Pensions Dues Full 31 ½ %	Full	Full
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	1,000	1,000
Study Leave time cumulative for 3 years	1 week	1 week
Vacation	3 weeks	3 weeks
Social Security Compensation up to 8.24%	½	½
Annual Review		

- b. Between Richard Kleiman and Baytown, Faith effective 1/25/09
- | | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| Salary | \$37,569 | \$38,000 |
| Housing and Utility Allowance | 30,900 | 32,000 |
| Auto Allowance @IRS Rate | 5,067 | 5,219 |
| Books, Professional Dues | 1,545 | 1,591 |
| Boards of Pensions Dues Full 31 ½ % | Full | Full |
| Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years | 1,236 | 1,680 |
| Study Leave time cumulative for 6 years | 2 weeks | 2 weeks |
| Vacation | 5 weeks | 5 weeks |
| Social Security Compensation up to 8.24% | 5,642 | 5,811 |
| Annual Review | | |
3. Granted approval to labor in/out the bounds of New Covenant Presbytery
- Scott Hookey from Grace Presbytery (FYI – Diane Prevary gave permission) permission to perform wedding May 23, 2009
 - Alcimar Dantas permission to labor outside the bounds 6/1/09 – 9/1/09 in Brazil, Cruz das Armas Presbyterian Church
 - David R. O’Neal from Grace Presbytery permission serves as Stated Supply of Trawick PC
 - David H. Green permission to labor outside the bounds 7/28 – 8/2/09 at Mount Washington PC, Cincinnati Presbytery
4. Approved commission to ordain candidate, Candice Klein at Grace Presbyterian Church, Houston, TX on July 12, 2009 at 7 pm
- To preside and propound the constitutional questions: The Rev. Wayne Eberly, Moderator; Pastor, Houston, Pines
- To preach the sermon: The Rev. Mike Fry, Associate Pastor, Houston, Grace
- To charge the pastor: The Rev. Jack Cormack, Mt. Tabor, New Albany, IN
- To charge the congregation: The Rev. Harry Slye, Pastor, Katy, Grand Lakes
- To complete the commission: Elder Mary Sockwell, Houston, Clear Lake; Elder Rene’ Murphy, Houston, Grace; and Rev. Hmingi Browne, Interim Associate Pastor, Houston, Clear Lake.
5. Granted permission to elect a PNC
- Livingston, First
6. Triennial Visit done
- Houston, St. Thomas done on 5/16/09
7. Approved Greg Davis, candidate, request to be put back on Pulpit Supply List.
8. Approved Contracts
- Between Aluu Williams Nnali and NCP/NCD part-time effective July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010.

Salary	\$ 7,000
Housing and Utility Allowance	14,100
Auto Allowance @IRS Rate	2,700
Boards of Pensions Dues Full 31 ½ %	7,080
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	1,500
Study Leave time cumulative for 3 years	Two weeks
Clergy Retreat	+ 3 days
Vacation	One month
Social Security Compensation up to 8.24%	1,740
Annual Review	

b. Between Aurelio Rodriguez Ordas and NCP/NCD for 12 months effective July 1 – June 30, 2010	
Salary	\$ 17,338
Housing and Utility Allowance	20,000
Auto Allowance @IRS Rate	@ IRS Rate
Boards of Pensions Dues Full 31 ½ %	11,761
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	1,420
Study Leave time cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks
Clergy Retreat	+ 3 days
Vacation	One month
Annual Review	
c. Between Daniel A. Nguyen and NCP/NCD effective July 1, 2009 – June 30 th , 2010	
Salary	\$ 20,000
Housing and Utility Allowance	23,200
Auto Allowance @IRS Rate	@ IRS Rate
Boards of Pensions Dues Full 31 ½ %	13,608
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	1,670
Study Leave time cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks
Clergy Retreat	+ 3 days
Vacation	One month
Annual Review	
d. Between Peter Lee and NCP/NCD effective July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010	
Salary	\$22,750
Housing and Utility Allowance	14,500
Social Security Offset	2,816
Auto Allowance @IRS Rate	2,000
Boards of Pensions Dues Full 31 ½ %	11,734
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	1,433
Study Leave time cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks
Clergy Retreat	+ 3 days
Vacation	One month
Annual Review	
e. Between Hyun “Shawn” Kang and NCP/NCD effective July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010	
Salary	\$23,388.75
Housing and Utility Allowance	21,945
Auto Allowance @IRS Rate	@ IRS Rate
Boards of Pensions Dues Full 31 ½ %	14,281.05
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	1,600.20
Study Leave time cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks
Clergy Retreat	+ 3 days
Vacation	4 weeks
Social Security Compensation up to 8.24%	3,735.90
Annual Review	
f. Between Alcimar Dantas Dias and NCP/NCD effective July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010	
Salary	\$18,000
Housing and Utility Allowance	21,000
Auto Allowance @IRS Rate	1,500
Boards of Pensions Dues Full 31 ½ %	12,474

Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	1,380
Study Leave time cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks
Clergy Retreat	+ 3 days
Vacation	One month
Annual Review	

g. Between Dan Alexander and Waverly ³/₄ time effective February 9, 2009 for one year.

Salary	\$ 8,500	\$ 2,225
Housing Allowance	10,000	7,800
Utilities Allowance	- 0 -	3,900
Auto Expenses Reimbursement @ IRS Rate	1,375	1,500
Medical & Pension @ Full Rate	- 0 -	3,600
Study Leave Allowance	- 0 -	975
Study Leave	- 0 -	One week
Vacation	4 weeks	4 weeks
Annual Review		

9. Approved renewal of Commission Lay Pastor Contracts

a. Between Carl Slagley and Pearland, First for 3 years effective May 13, 2009 – May 13, 2012 and that he be granted permission to do the following functions: Baptism, Lord’s Supper, Moderate Session Meetings and Perform Marriages.

b. Between Bob David and NCP/NCD and the Restoration Fellowship for 3 years effective June 1, 2009 – June 30, 2012 with compensation of \$100 per week and that he be granted permission to do the following functions: Baptism, Lord’s Supper, Voice in Presbytery Meetings, Vote in Presbytery Meetings and Perform Marriages.

III. Items of Information: Committee on Ministry met June 2, 2009; Committee on Examinations met on May 30, 2009 and June 27, 2009.

Statements of Faith

Gerald B. Hurst

I believe in the centrality of God as the creator, shaper, and sustainer of all that was, is, and shall be. I believe in the God who calls me into a covenant relationship with this broken and sinful world; that I have been blessed, not so that I can boast, but so that I can be a blessing to others in service beyond self. I believe we are called to worship this self same God by consecrating our lives and our resources to his glory. Worship should never be measured by what I or others get out of it, but rather how was God honored through this particular service.

I believe in the centrality of Jesus Christ as the incarnation of God, a sinless man born and brought up among sinful people; God in him and Christ in us that we may become completely one through his atoning grace and our abiding faith. I believe in the centrality of the cross, the font, and the table as graphic images to which we are called to remember God’s great love for us.

I believe in the centrality of the Holy Spirit. I believe God sent the Spirit to work within me to accomplish God’s will and to seek God’s good pleasure in and through my life. It is for God’s good pleasure that the Spirit leads me to the truth contained in the scriptures of both the Old and New Testaments. I believe it is the Holy Spirit which illuminates my journey of faith, and corrects my course when I stray from the path God has set before me. I believe in the power and the sanctity of the gifts of the Spirit. It is by the outpouring of these gifts upon the people of God that we experience the breadth and depth of God’s commitment to the church.

I believe in the church as the living legacy of Jesus Christ. Through it I am chosen to be part of a royal priesthood, a part of a holy nation that I might proclaim, in word and deed, the mighty acts of the God who called me out of darkness into the light of his amazing grace. I believe God calls women and men to serve in any and all offices of the church; that they are to be guided and led by the creeds and confessions of the Reformed church and the church which continues to reform itself. I believe that these confessions and creeds tend to strengthen and to inform my convictions as regards my faith and practice. Thus I can affirm with our Brief Statement of Faith:

“In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, I strive to serve Christ in my daily tasks and to live a holy and joyful life, even as I watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, ‘Come, Lord Jesus!’”

Thomas Edwards

I believe Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, the full and living revelation of God the Father and the One to whom alone we are called to follow, worship and serve. Jesus is the essence of the Gospel, the One who calls the Church into being, who empowers it for mission and ministry and who gives it direction for living out its life. I believe that the Church is to be reformed and always reforming according to the Word of God.

I believe that the Scriptures are the inspired and authoritative Word of God. I believe that God breaths life in to the Scriptures through the Holy Spirit. Scripture bears witness to God’s creating, calling, giving, judging, saving, redeeming and equipping activity in the world. As the Word of God written, Scripture is foundational for the Church’s life together as we follow and bear witness to the Word of God incarnate—Jesus Christ.

I am committed to and instructed by the Biblical and Trinitarian faith as it is articulated in the great creeds and confessions of the Reformed faith which are contained in our *Book of Confessions*. I believe in the Reformed view that God has given the Church two sacraments: Baptism and Holy Communion.

I believe that God is loving, faithful, merciful, just, righteous, holy, all wise, sovereign, unchanging. I believe God is one being in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The three persons of the Trinity are equal in power, glory and divinity. I believe that God created all things material and immaterial, and that God providentially orders all that exists.

I believe that God created humanity and the universe, making all things good. Then humankind fell into sin. This rebellion begun in the garden continues to this day. All humans are sinners. As drowning people we cannot save ourselves. Jesus must do that for us. Through grace alone God saves and redeems sinners like me.

I believe that Jesus came to earth to show us how to live and how to die. That he lived the only sinless life. Fully God and fully human, Jesus bore the penalty of sin and death in his crucifixion and overcame sin and death in his resurrection. I believe that Jesus is coming again to judge the living and dead. I believe in a bodily resurrection.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and give of life, God’s own Spirit who indwells the followers of Christ with power and authority over evil and the Devil, who convicts of sin and sanctifies, who gives spiritual gifts and speaks the truth of God’s Word and life into our own hearts and lives.

Ryan D. Cook

I believe in the one triune God, maker of all that is in heaven and earth. I believe 1 God is three 2 persons, in one. Equally divine; I believe in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God is the alpha 3 and omega. God is perfect, all knowing, never changing, and limitless in ability. God is faithful,

4 loving, and just.

5 I believe in Jesus Christ; born of the Virgin Mary, conceived by the Holy Spirit. True God and
6 true human, He suffered on the cross for the sins of all, under the order of Pontius Pilate. The
7 Son of God came to earth to teach us how to live and to save us from our transgressions. Christ
8 was crucified, dead, and buried. On the third day He rose from the grave and still lives today. I
9 believe in the forgiveness of sins only through this reconciling sacrifice of the perfect Christ, our
10 Lord and Savior. Whoever believes in Jesus Christ will not perish, but shall have everlasting life.

11 I believe in the Holy Spirit, who dwells among us and within us. The Holy Spirit inspires us
12 when reading scriptures. Equal to the Father and Son, the Holy Spirit is the great encourager;
13 comforting in times of need, strengthening in times of weakness, and lifting our hearts in times
14 of joy.

15 I believe the Bible is inspired by God and has full authority in educating believers and rebuking
16 sins. The purpose of scripture is to teach humanity who God is and how we are to live as
17 followers of Christ. The Bible is to be interpreted in its historical context, through prayer and
18 empowerment of the Holy Spirit. Scripture is authoritative because it reveals Christ to us.

19 I believe in the imperfection of all human beings. Beginning with the fall of Adam and Eve in
20 the Garden of Eden, all have fallen short of the glory of God. Despite good works, our sins cause
21 guilt of transgression against the law of God. But we are justified only through the great sacrifice
22 of the perfect lamb, Jesus Christ. As Christians who have faith in Christ, we are blameless in the
23 sight of the Almighty through grace alone.

24 I believe in the holy, universal, Church of Jesus Christ. The Church is both visible and invisible.
25 The visible church is the congregation of all who believe and confess Christ as their savior. It is
26 one body, despite its many parts. Only God knows the true elect of the Church, which makes up
27 the invisible church. Without division, without separation, the Church is led by Christ. Therefore
28 it should always stand for Jesus, in love, above all else.

29 I believe in two true sacraments of the Church: Baptism and The Lord's Supper. There is one
30 Baptism in Christ; a sign and seal of God's grace through Christ's sacrifice. Just as we are
31 washed by the water, we trust that we are washed and made innocent by the blood of Christ. The
32 Lord's Supper is the remembrance of Christ's death and resurrection, and the seal of grace that
33 came with it. As we partake together in communion, our souls are nourished in Jesus Christ.
34 Neither of the sacraments grants salvation, but both are true signs and seals of God's everlasting
35 covenant of grace with us.

36 I believe that the Church is called by God to share the good news of the gospel to the world. It is
37 our mission to evangelize, making disciples of all nations in Jesus Christ. As the Church, we are
38 to follow the example of our Lord. The Church is responsible for showing love to people of other
39 religions without judgment. But we are called also to be a witness for the gospel to all, despite
40 religious differences. For the gift of Christ's sacrifice is meant for all.

**COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY
REPORT TO PRESBYTERY
July 14, 2009**

I. Actions taken on behalf of presbytery:

1. Approved enrolling Anthony Ceder (Houston, First) as an inquirer
2. Approved Nora Gonzalez (Houston, Memorial Drive) request to take the Worship and Sacrament and Exegesis exams orally.
3. Approved Charlie Becker (Lufkin, First) proposed internship.
4. Approved Annual Consultations and granted permission to continue in the process:
Sally Wright (College Station, Covenant)
Martin Garner (The Woodlands)
5. Granted permission to take Ordination Exams
Lindsay Hatch (Houston, Clear Lake)
Jane Pettit (Houston, Grace)
6. Approved Mary Lawrence (Webster) request to be dropped from the process
7. Approved Ashley Stevenson (Houston, First) request to extend CPE
8. Approved Amy Klinkovsky (Bryan, First) proposed job description.

II. Item for Information:

1. Committee on Preparation for Ministry met on June 13, 2009.

REPORT TO THE PRESBYTERY
GENERAL COUNCIL
JULY 14, 2009

I. Actions Recommended for Presbytery's consideration:

- A.** Move and recommend **adoption of the *Restated Bylaws of the Presbytery of New Covenant***, found at **F.1** in the PACKET. A second vote is necessary and if today's vote is positive, the second vote will be scheduled at the Stated Meeting on November 14, 2009.
- B.** Move and recommend **adoption the proposed Budget for 2009-2010 for the Presbytery of New Covenant (F.2**, found separately in the meeting materials at www.pbyofnewcovenant.org and **F.2a** in this PACKET).
- C.** Move and recommend **concurrence with General Council's action to grant authority to the Administrative Commission for Westminster Presbyterian Church, Beaumont, TX**, to approve the sale of the property of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Beaumont, TX, and the distribution of the proceeds as requested by the session (see **II. E & F** of this report).

II. Actions taken on behalf of the presbytery

- A.** Amended the Manual of Operations to allow the Vice-Moderators of the Ministry Division Steering Committee and the Administrative Division Steering Committee to have voice and vote when attending General Council meetings in the place of the Moderator(s). The amended text read as follows, with addition in bold.

[UNDER GENERAL COUNCIL, Pg. 7, Line 41ff]

MEMBERSHIP:

The General Council shall be composed of sixteen (16) members. Twelve (12) elected members shall be divided into three (3) equal classes, one of which is elected each year by the presbytery. Term of service will be three (3) years with an individual eligible to serve up to two (2) consecutive terms.

The chairpersons of the Administrative and Ministries Steering Committees, and the moderator and moderator-elect of presbytery are also members. **In the absence of either chairperson, the vice-chairperson of that division may attend, with voice and vote.**

- B.** Amended the Manual of Operations, to delete TABLE from Nominating Committee Policies, pages 43 and 44, because the information changes on an annual basis.

- C.** Amended Article 10.1 of the Manual of Operations, as requested by the Committee on Ministry, by striking "except Examinations," and inserting the following after the first sentence of Article 10.1:

"The members of the Sub-Committee on Examinations, other than the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, shall not be counted for the purpose of determining or establishing a quorum of meetings of the Committee on Ministry."

The text now reads:

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

MEMBERSHIP:

The Committee on Ministry shall be composed of a chairperson, vice chairperson, the chairpersons and vice chairpersons of its six subcommittees (Administration, Care of Congregation, Care of Church Professionals, Contracts, Lay Pastor, and Examinations) and the members of all

Subcommittees ~~except Examinations (which meets at a different day and time)~~. **The members of the subcommittee on Examinations, other than the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, shall not be counted for the purpose of determining or establishing a quorum of meetings of the Committee on Ministry.**

D. Appointed the 2009 Vision Initiative Grants Committee:

Council Class of 2010	Rev. Pat Clark
Council Class of 2011	Elder Mary Herlitz
At-Large Class of 2010	Rev. Dr. Kevin Boyd - St. Paul's Houston
At-Large Class of 2011	Elder Ben Svoboda - FPC of Sugar Land

(one vacancy Class in the of 2009, female elder Council-Member)

<u>Continuing At-Large Class of 2009:</u>	Rev. Lacy Sellars
<u>By Virtue of Office: Moderator-Elect:</u>	Elder Garry Schoonover

E. Granted authority to the WPC Administrative Commission to approve, on behalf of the presbytery, the final contract for the sale of WPC's Beaumont real estate to Austin Investments, if that approval is needed or requested by WPC leadership before July 14.

F. Concurred with the WPC session's list of recommended recipients and the divisions stated therein (attached) for the distribution of WPC's liquid assets (including, without limitation, the proceeds of the sale of WPC's Beaumont real estate) ... and to recommend to the AC that the AC give its final approval, on behalf of the presbytery, of such list and divisions. The approval of this motion was premised upon WPC's assurances of (i) WPC's prior payment or satisfaction of all of WPC's known current liabilities and obligations, and (ii) WPC's creation and administration of an adequate cash reserve for WPC's expected future liabilities and its contingent liabilities.

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Beaumont, TX
Distribution of Liquid Assets List

%	
15	Westminster Children's Center
15	Some Other Place (ecumenical assistance program)
15	Seafarers' Center
10	Dedicated Matching fund to help churches with redevelopment to provide seed money for an account which will assist congregations with pastor training, consultants, on-going coaching, etc. to be called the "Westminster, Beaumont, 'Do Not Die' fund"
5	SETIO (Southeast Texas Interfaith Organization which helps with hurricane recovery)
5	Family Services (Women's and Children's Crisis Center, Women's Protective Services)
5	Boys' Haven (residential program for troubled boys)
5	APTS Endowment for the Nelson scholarship
5	Schreiner University Endowed Choir scholarship
2	Prison Visitors Ministries
2	Council for Chaplains and Military Personnel
2	Salvation Army

OF
THE PRESBYTERY OF NEW COVENANT

These Restated Bylaws ("**Bylaws**") govern the affairs of The Presbytery of New Covenant, a non-profit corporation (hereinafter, the "**Corporation**" or "**Presbytery**").

ARTICLE 1: OFFICES

Principal Office

1.01 The Corporation's principal office in Texas is located at 1110 Lovett Boulevard, Houston, Texas 77006-3824. The Corporation may have such other offices, in Texas or elsewhere, as the General Council (as that term is defined in the Articles of Incorporation of the Corporation) may determine. The General Council may change the location of any office of the Corporation.

Registered Office and Registered Agent

1.02 The Corporation will maintain a registered office and registered agent in Texas. The registered office may, but need not, be identical with the Corporation's principal office in Texas. The General Council may change the registered office and the registered agent as permitted in the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act (as amended or replaced from time to time, the "**ACT**").

**ARTICLE 2:
OBJECTIVES, PURPOSES, FORMATION,
LIMITATIONS, POWERS AND DUTIES, PROPERTY**

Purpose

2.01 The purposes for which the Corporation is formed are as more fully set forth in the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) (as the same may be amended, established, made and declared by the authority of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) from time to time, hereinafter called the "**PCUSA CONSTITUTION**") (citations herein are to Part II of the PCUSA CONSTITUTION, entitled the *Book of Order*), including the "Great Ends of the Church" (see *Book of Order G-1.0200*), and in the articles of incorporation of the Corporation (as amended or restated from time to time, the "**Articles of Incorporation**").

Formation

2.02 The Corporation has been formed pursuant to the PCUSA CONSTITUTION (see *Book of Order G-8.0202*). Presbytery is a member of the Synod of the Sun, of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Authority

2.03 In carrying out such purposes, the Trustees (as hereinafter defined) and the Corporation shall be at all times and in all respects, conform to and support the PCUSA CONSTITUTION, except to the extent, if any, that the same conflicts with the laws of the State of Texas.

Trustees

2.04 The General Council of the presbytery shall constitute the Board of Trustees of the corporation unless the presbytery determines an alternative method to constitute the Board of Trustees (see *Book of Order G-8.0202*). (Duties as Trustees outlined in Section 7.8)

Powers and Duties

2.05 The Corporation shall have the powers and duties set forth in its Articles of Incorporation.

All Property Held in Trust

2.06 All property of the Corporation, both real and personal, is held in trust for the use and benefit of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) (see *Book of Order G-8.0201*).

ARTICLE 3: MEMBERS

Eligibility for Membership

3.01 Presbytery is a corporate expression of the church consisting of all the churches and ministers of the Word and Sacrament within a certain district. When the presbytery meets, each church shall be represented by an elder(s) commissioned by the session as allowed by the PCUSA CONSTITUTION (see *Book of Order G-11.0100*).

3.02 All minister-members of the Presbytery and those elders elected by the sessions of the individual churches of the Presbytery, and elders who formerly served as Moderator of the Presbytery, or designated by *virtue of office*, may serve as voting commissioners to meetings of the Corporation.

3.03 Minister-members and members of congregations that constitute the Presbytery shall be eligible to be elected to committees and divisions.

3.04 Only ministers and elders shall be elected to the Committee on Ministry and General Council.

ARTICLE 4: MEETINGS OF MEMBERS (see *Book of Order G-11.0201*)

Meetings

4.01 There shall be no fewer than two meetings of the Members of the Corporation each year. Stated meetings are those called by General Council, the dates and times for which are published at least six months in advance.

Place and Time

4.02. Such meetings shall be held at locations determined by the General Council of the Presbytery. Both ecclesiastical and corporate business may be conducted at the same meeting.

Special Meetings

4.03. Special meetings of the Members may be called as provided in Section 4.04 for any or all of the purposes appropriate to a stated meeting or to conduct such other business as may be proper for presbytery consideration. The business to be transacted shall be limited to items specifically listed in the call for the meeting.

How Meetings Are Called

4.04. Meetings of the Presbytery may be called:

- (a) by the General Council whenever it determines such a meeting is necessary,
- (b) by the Presbytery whenever it determines such a meeting is necessary, or
- (c) by the Moderator of the Presbytery when requested in writing by two ministers and two elders, the elders being of different churches.

Notices

4.05. Public notice of any meeting of the Members shall be given two weeks in advance. Notice for stated meetings may be in writing, sent electronically or by US Mail, or posted on the presbytery's website. Notice for special called meetings shall be in writing, sent electronically or by US Mail, addressed to the moderators and clerks of the churches' sessions and to all other minister-members of the presbytery and elders who are Members *by virtue of office*, and shall be sent not less than ten days in advance.

Quorum

4.06. The quorum of a meeting of the Members shall be not less than three minister-members and the elder members present, provided at least three churches are represented by elders. The Presbytery by its own vote may fix a higher quorum.

Procedural Requirements

4.07. The meetings of the Presbytery shall be conducted to conform to the procedural requirements and the provisions of the PCUSA CONSTITUTION (see *Book of Order (G-9.0300)*). In addition to those requirements and provisions, these Bylaws provide specific guidance for the Corporation. *Robert's Rules of Order (Newly Revised)* shall be used for parliamentary guidance.

Proxy Voting

4.08. Voting of Members by proxy is prohibited.

Electronic Meetings

4.09 A principle of Presbyterian Government is that "*decisions shall be reached in governing bodies by vote, following opportunity for discussion, and a majority shall govern (G-4.0301)*." By these *Bylaws* further provision for meetings is also made as follows:

- 4.10 Members of the Presbytery or Board of Trustees of the Corporation or of any committee or division of the Presbytery may participate in and hold a meeting by means of:
- (a) conference telephone or similar communications equipment by which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other; or
 - (b) another suitable electronic communications system, including videoconferencing technology
 - (c) or the Internet, only if:
 - (i) each member entitled to participate in the meeting consents to the meeting being held by means of that system; and
 - (ii) the system provides access to the meeting in a manner or using a method by which each member participating in the meeting can communicate concurrently with each other participant.

Participation in a meeting pursuant to this Section shall constitute presence in person at such meeting, except where a person participates in the meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business on the ground that the meeting is not lawfully called or convened.

ARTICLE V. PRESBYTERY'S OFFICERS

5.0 The presbytery shall elect and at the close of the meeting install a moderator for the following year during the final stated meeting each year. The moderator shall take office January 1, and shall serve until the next moderator takes office. This nomination shall be made by the Nominating Committee. The moderator shall serve according to the provisions of the Book of Order, these Bylaws, and the Manual of Operations of the Presbytery of New Covenant.

5.1 The presbytery shall elect and install a moderator-elect during the final stated meeting each year. Ordinarily the moderator-elect shall be the next moderator. This nomination shall be made by the Nominating Committee. Term of office shall begin January 1.

5.2 The offices of moderator and moderator-elect shall be filled alternately by ministers and elders.

5.3 At the end of every three years or when the office is vacant, the presbytery shall elect a stated clerk to serve a three (3) year term. The general presbyter shall not be elected to the office of stated clerk. Method of nomination is found in The Manual of Operations.

5.4 At the end of every three years or when the offices are vacant, the presbytery shall elect a treasurer and a recording clerk, each to serve a three (3) year term. Method of nomination is found in The Manual of Operations.

5.5 The Moderator may appoint a parliamentarian for any meeting of the presbytery and for up to a year's service. Ordinarily the stated clerk will provide this service to the presbytery.

ARTICLE VI. PRESBYTERY'S ELECTED PROGRAM STAFF

6.1 Presbytery's elected program staff shall consist of a general presbyter and such associates as shall be necessary to accomplish its work, in accordance with the vision and mission of the Presbytery. The Personnel Committee, in consultation with General Council, will compose job descriptions for the general presbyter and any associate staff and will submit these job descriptions to presbytery for approval. Job descriptions and changes in job descriptions must be approved at a stated meeting of the presbytery.

6.2 The general presbyter shall have oversight and responsibility for all staff whether elected or appointed.

ARTICLE VII. THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF PRESBYTERY

7.1 The General Council shall serve as presbytery's visioning agency and shall coordinate the mission and program of the presbytery. The General Council will annually review and evaluate presbytery's mission and structure in the light of adopted priorities; coordinate and present to presbytery an annual budget; allocate benevolence funds to the Synod of the Sun and the mission program of the General Assembly; allocate funds to pay the per capita assessment of the General Assembly; implement and monitor the budget adopted by presbytery and provide for an annual audit; provide for the development of funds for presbytery's mission and budget; make any necessary recommendations to presbytery concerning elected and contract personnel; receive and deal with complaints, criticisms, and disagreements arising out of or between internal agencies and congregations; receive and provide for implementation of referrals from presbytery; encourage and promote a sense of unity and community in the presbytery.

7.2 The Moderator-elect of Presbytery shall preside over the meetings of the General Council.

7.3 The Presbytery shall elect twelve members to the General Council who shall be organized into three equal classes. The twelve elected members, the chairperson of the Administrative Division, the chairperson of the Ministries Division, the moderator of the presbytery and the

moderator-elect shall be voting members of the General Council. The General Council will elect a vice-chairperson from its membership; the stated clerk of the presbytery shall serve as clerk of the General Council.

7.4 Ordinarily the General Council will meet monthly. In addition the General Council will meet annually for review and planning. The General Council is accountable to the presbytery and reports to each stated meeting of the presbytery.

7.5 No action of General Council shall be counter to the *Book of Order*, nor encroach on the prerogatives of presbytery as a governing body.

7.6 The quorum for the General Council shall be no fewer than a third of its voting members. General Council may set the quorum at a higher number.

7.7 Whenever presbytery's council, division, ministries, committees, or task forces discuss or act upon a matter on which a member has a vested interest, that member will be expected to excuse himself/herself from that portion of the meeting; that member shall preserve the right to make a presentation.

7.8 The General Council of the Presbytery of New Covenant, as constituted in these *Bylaws*, shall be the Trustees for the Corporation, with the officers of council serving as the officers of the corporation. Upon the approval of the presbytery, the General Council shall have the power to buy, sell, mortgage, and lease Property and shall report these transactions to the next stated meeting of the presbytery (see *Book of Order G-11.0103v*). The presbytery shall be a Texas non-profit corporation as defined by Texas non-profit corporate statutes. The corporation shall be organized within the meaning of Section 501 C 3 of the Internal Revenue Code for religious, charitable and education purposes and none of the properties owned by said corporation shall ever inure to the benefit of any director, trustee, or member of said Corporation. The corporation shall be organized on a non-stock membership basis with the members of the Presbytery of New Covenant constituting the membership of the corporation.

7.9 The General Council shall have the authority (G-11.0103v) to approve mortgages, loans, and guarantees of loans of congregations between the meetings of the presbytery and shall report these transactions to the next stated meeting of the presbytery.

ARTICLE VIII: THE ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

8.1 The Administrative Division shall, in cooperation with the general presbyter, oversee the operation of the Presbyterian Center; participate in the annual personnel evaluations and make any necessary recommendations to the General Council; conduct other personnel reviews as requested by the General Council; and as provided by the personnel manual participate in the employment, release, and termination of appointed personnel. This division shall also annually prepare and propose an administrative budget to the General Council; monitor the administrative budget and report to the General Council; oversee the administration of the business affairs of the presbytery; review requests from congregations for guarantee of loans and make recommendations to the General Council concerning the guarantee; recommend to the General Council whether to purchase property and whether to sell presbytery owned properties; manage/service/monitor presbytery debt and accounts receivable; oversee the ecclesiastical affairs of presbytery including worship for the meetings of presbytery, relationships with other governing bodies, ecumenical affairs, review of the minutes of sessions; training of commissioners, principals and alternates for the General Assembly; and recommend the approval of

presbytery minutes. The particular committees and other entities of the Administrative Division shall be outlined in The Manual of Operations.

8.2 The presbytery shall elect a chairperson and a vice-chairperson to serve for a period of one year with the possibility for re-election in one-year increments not to exceed three years.

8.3 The Administrative Division Steering Committee will be composed of the chairperson and the vice chairperson and the chairperson of each committee of the division, who shall be voting members of the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee will elect a secretary from among its members.

8.4 The Administrative Division is accountable to and reports directly to the presbytery.

ARTICLE IX: THE MINISTRIES DIVISION

9.1 The presbytery shall elect a Ministries Division which shall coordinate the programs of the presbytery in light of the presbytery's mission and priorities; annually prepare and propose both program and benevolence budgets of the presbytery; administer the program and benevolence budgets of the presbytery, including the authority to reallocate budgeted funds among ministry areas; administer scholarships for individuals to attend events outside the presbytery; coordinate the development and implementation of new presbytery ministries within the limitations of approved budget and personnel; approve the creation and elimination of committees, teams and task groups within the ministries of the presbytery, including the establishment of the number of authorized personnel for each; develop, promote and encourage a sense of unity and community as the Presbytery of New Covenant. The particular committees and other entities of the Ministries Division shall be outlined in The Manual of Operations.

9.2 The presbytery shall elect a chairperson and a vice-chairperson to serve for a period of one year with the possibility for re-election in one-year increments not to exceed three years.

9.3 The Ministries Division Steering Committee shall be composed of the chairperson, the vice-chairperson, and the chairperson of each of the entities of the division, the Committee on Ministry and the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, who shall be the voting members of the Ministries Division Steering Committee. The Steering Committee shall elect a secretary from among its members.

ARTICLE X: COMMITTEES OF PRESBYTERY (Required by the Book of Order, G-9.0902)

10.1 COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY (*Book of Order G-11.0500*) The Committee on Ministry shall be composed of a chairperson, vice chairperson, the chairpersons and vice chairpersons of its subcommittees, and members of all subcommittees except Examinations, which meets at a different day and time. Subcommittees shall be divided into three (3) equal classes, one of which is elected each year by the presbytery. Terms will be three (3) years with eligibility to serve up to two (2) terms.

10.1a The chairperson and vice chairperson of the Committee and the chairpersons and vice

chairpersons of its subcommittees shall be elected from within the committee's membership by the presbytery for a period of one year with the possibility for re-election in one-year increments not to exceed three years.

10.2 COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY (*Book of Order G-14.0400*) The Committee on Preparation for Ministry shall be composed of fifteen (15) members divided into three (3) equal classes, one of which is elected each year by the presbytery. Terms of service will be three (3) years with eligibility to serve up to two (2) terms.

10.2a The chairperson and vice chairperson shall be elected from within the committee's membership by the presbytery for a period of one year with the possibility for re-election in one-year increments not to exceed three years.

10.3 COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION (*Book of Order G-9.0105*)

Presbytery shall elect a Committee on Representation in conformity with the Book of Order, G-9.0105. In carrying out its function, this committee shall have the right to advocate to the Nominations Committee or to the presbytery prior to election or approval of any nominees as provided in the *Book of Order, G-11.0302*.

10.3.a This committee will annually report to the presbytery and higher governing bodies in accordance with the *Book of Order, G-9.0105c*.

10.4 COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS (*Book of Order G-9.0800*)

Presbytery shall elect a Committee on Nominations in conformity with the Book of Order, G-9.0800. Members of this committee will be nominated annually by the moderator, moderator-elect and the most recent former moderator of presbytery.

10.4a Annually the Nominations Committee shall submit to the presbytery its nominations for moderator, moderator-elect as provided for in Article V. It shall nominate members of presbytery committees (except the Committee on Nominations), members of council, divisions, ministries and members of other agencies of the presbytery, as provided in The Manual of Operations. It shall nominate commissioners and alternate commissioners to Synod and General Assembly following the guidelines adopted by the presbytery and found in the Manual of Operations.

10.4b When vacancies occur in any position elected by presbytery, the Committee on Nominations shall make every effort to nominate a replacement to the next stated meeting of the presbytery.

10.4c The Committee on Nominations shall endeavor to encourage qualified persons to participate in the work of the presbytery.

10.5 PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION (*Book of Order D-5.0000*)

Presbytery shall elect a Permanent Judicial Commission composed of nine members and at no time no fewer than seven (7) ministers and elders in conformity with D-5.0101. In the cases transmitted to the commission, the commission shall have the power prescribed by, and conduct all proceedings according to, the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and rules governing the procedure in such cases. Members of the commission shall be nominated to the presbytery by the Nominations Committee.

10.5a The commission shall perform those duties directed by the *Book of Order, D-5.0000*.

10.5b The commission shall elect a moderator and a clerk from among the members of the commission.

10.5c The commission shall meet at the call of the moderator of the commission.

10.5d When any case has been transmitted to the commission, the presbytery shall take no further action.

ARTICLE XI: A PRESBYTERY MANUAL OF OPERATIONS

11.1 A manual of operations shall establish rules for the interrelationship of presbytery's various officers and agencies and for its internal operating procedures. The General Council shall be responsible for approving changes to The Manual of Operations. The General Council will report these changes to the next stated meeting of the presbytery.

11.2 The Manual of Operations may be amended by a majority vote of the General Council at any of its meetings.

11.3 A specified portion of The Manual of Operations may be suspended for a particular meeting by a majority vote of members present and voting.

ARTICLE XII: PROCESS FOR AMENDMENT

These *Bylaws* may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of members of General Council present and voting at a meeting, provided the proposed amendment has been published at the meeting previous to the one at which the vote takes place. Any changes in the *Bylaws* shall be presented to the presbytery at the next stated meeting following the vote to change. The presbytery may override that change by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote.

end: Restated ByLaws

(Proposed budget for 2009-2010 posted separately on website)

F.2

F.2a

NARRATIVE ACCOMPANYING PROPOSED BUDGET FROM ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION AND GENERAL COUNCIL

To the Presbytery of New Covenant Special Called Meeting, July 14, 2009

Friends,

The budget before you was very difficult to prepare. The simple fact is that the expected income for this fiscal year does not appear to equal or surpass the expected expenses. Hard choices have had to be made. One of those choices relates to per capita.

If the presbytery is going to be able to meet its obligations at the local level, and make a minimal contribution toward the mission of the Synod of the Sun and the General Assembly Mission Council, it appears that funds will not be available to pay the full amount of per capita for the churches which do not submit to the presbytery that which is apportioned by the Office of the General Assembly.

Please understand, this is not a policy recommendation for the future. For this year only, payments of Per Capita to GA (line 16) are budgeted to be equal to presbytery's expected Per Capita receipts (line 4). If actual Per Capita receipts in this fiscal year exceed the budgeted amount, the excess will be paid to GA as per capita.

If this fiscal year's actual undesignated Benevolences from Churches (line 3) exceed the budgeted amount, General Council (upon recommendation of the Finance Committee) will make a determination for this fiscal year, whether all or any part of this excess constitutes funds available within the presbytery to make unbudgeted per capita payments to GA.

The inability of our presbytery to maintain our mission at the local level and fully support the mission of our synod and General Assembly is a situation in which we never expected to find ourselves. We are hopeful that once our obligations are fulfilled related to the repayment schedule set up to satisfy the financial crisis of 2007, our benevolent giving beyond the presbytery will be able to be increased significantly.

In the meantime, every church in the presbytery is asked to consider prayerfully whether your own ability to support the mission of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is adequately expressed in your own budgets.

[end: Budget Narrative]

DISPLAYS FOR JULY 14, 2009 PRESBYTERY MEETING

CAREER TRANSITION MINISTRY – MEMORIAL DRIVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FOCUS