



Meeting of the Presbytery of New Covenant
Saturday, February 6, 2010 (9:00 am)
St. Philip Presbyterian Church, Houston, TX

Registration Form

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

Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

E-mail 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 *(without voting
privileges)*
- Other Church Professional
*(Non-certified Educator, Youth Director, Business
Administrator, Music Director, other)*

CALL TO THE STATED MEETING
The Presbytery of New Covenant, Synod of the Sun, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Saturday, February 6, 2010 9:00 am
St. Philip Presbyterian Church
4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056 (713-622-4807)

This meeting of the presbytery will be called to order at 9:00 am.

There is an **Orientation Session for first-time commissioners at 8:15 am in Room 201 on the second floor of the Sanctuary Building.**

By now all ministers and clerks should have received the invitation from the Session and Congregation of St. Philip Presbyterian Church to the first stated meeting of the presbytery in 2010. Directions to the church were provided, and hotel information for those who wish to spend the night in Houston.

For the presbytery meeting, no response is required for lunch, but childcare reservations **must be made directly to St. Philip Presbyterian Church** (contact information is listed above).

Complete the registration form in the Presbytery PACKET *prior to the meeting*, and turn it in at the registration table.

Each minister and elder-commissioner is urged to check the website three days prior to the meeting for additional meeting materials that may be posted (to include any New Business).

Anticipated absences (from ministers and churches) may be submitted to the Stated Clerk's Office by fax 713-526-8814, by USPS, or e-mail (jschessler@pbyofnewcovenant.org or dprevary@pbyofnewcovenant.org).

Directions to St. Philip may also be obtained from www.mapquest.com.

January 21, 2010

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

We begin this decade together at the kind invitation of St. Philip Presbyterian Church, celebrating their 60th Anniversary this year. All who have experienced the warm hospitality of the congregation and staff of St. Philip look forward to this meeting with anticipation.

Our keynote speaker, The Rev. Eric Hoey, will bring an energy and enthusiasm to his presentation that none will want to miss. So, please arrive on time, complete registration and be in the sanctuary promptly for the Call to Order at 9:00 am. A part of the morning's agenda will be small group discussions and the groups will be assigned by Clusters to specific rooms at St. Philip. Please note those assignments at **B.2** in the PACKET. In addition, there is an alphabetical list of churches and their room assignments posted separately among the Meeting Materials at www.pbyofnewcovenant.org (**B.2a**).

The sanctuary at St. Philip is not equipped with projection screens, but there will be rolling announcements on the monitor in the Gathering Area outside the sanctuary. Please be aware of these announcements as you prepare for the day, and during the lunch break.

Finally, note that the offering for this meeting will go to support United Campus Ministries of Greater Houston and Aggieland. Our Presbyterian campus ministers, Guinn Black-well Eagleson (U of H) and Kyle Walker, (Texas A&M) thank you in advance for your generous gifts at a time when budgets are being severely reduced.

Faithfully,

Diane

[Diane K. Prevary, Stated Clerk]

STATED MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF NEW COVENANT
SATURDAY, February 6, 2010
St. Philip Presbyterian Church, Houston, TX

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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 | (J) |

The Presbytery of New Covenant

"Growing congregations that passionately engage their community to make disciples."

Stated Meeting

Saturday, February 6, 2009

St. Philip Presbyterian Church

Houston, TX 77074 (713-774-7446)

Theme: **Growing the Church, Deep and Wide... Through Evangelism**

Offering: **United Campus Ministries**

8:15 am New Commissioner Orientation Classroom #201 (second floor)

8:30 am Registration in the Gathering Area (adjacent to Narthex)

Room 203 (upstairs) will be set aside for prayer and meditation during the course of the meeting. There will be signs announcing the location.

PROPOSED

THE DOCKET

Please turn off all electronic devices.

8:55 am **Hymn #280** *"Amazing Grace"*

Presbyterian Hymnal

9:00 am **Call to Order with Prayer**

Moderator Garry Schoonover

Opening Business

Moderator & Stated Clerk

- Declaration of Quorum and Adoption of the Docket
- Welcome by Host Church (The Rev. Bill Poe)
- Welcome of Others (First-time Commissioners, Corresponding Members, New Minister-Members)

9:15 am **Keynote Address**

The Rev. Eric Hoey, Director of Evangelism and Church Growth for PC(U.S.A.), and The Rev. Ray Jones, Coordinator for Evangelism, Evangelism and Church Growth or PC(U.S.A.)

10-10:15 Move to cluster groups (see List of Clusters in PACKET @ **B.2** with locations for each group; ALPHA list **B.2a** is posted separately on website among Meeting Materials)

10:15 am Discussion and prayer in cluster groups

11-11:15 Return to sanctuary

11:15 am **Worship**

12:15 pm FELLOWSHIP AT TABLE

1:00 pm Reconvening Hymn #339 *"Be Thou My Vision"*

Presbyterian Hymnal

Report of the Stated Clerk (**B**)

The Rev. Diane Prevary (H.R.)

Omnibus Motion (**B.1**)

Moderator's Remarks and Appointments

Recommended Nominees for Nominating Committee:

Rev. Lynne Hall Buckridge – Member-at-Large – Class of 2011

Elder Margaret Swarts - St. Paul's PC - Class of 2012

Rev. Lacy Sellars - ChristChurch PC - Class of 2012

Rev. Jim McLeod – Member-at-Large - Class of 2012

Recognition of Ike Recovery Pastors and Staff Elder Dave Johnson

- 1:15 pm** Committee on Ministry **(D & D.1)**
Information and Action Items The Rev. Margaret Desmond
Service of Retirement for The Rev. Ray Harper The Rev. Mike Cole
- Ministries Division **(G)** The Rev. Blake Brinegar
"Tuesday Connect"
- Committee on Preparation **(E)** Elder Jim Bushong
Service of Candidacy
- Administrative Division Elder Ann Hardy
Ecclesiastical Affairs **(C.1)** Elder Jim Taylor
Action Item: Amend Standing Rules of the Mtgs. of Pby. **(C.1a)**
(C.1b) is posted separately among Meeting Materials
Finance Committee **(C.2)** Elder Pete Koester
- Nominating Committee **(H) (H.1)** Elder Pat Hosford
- Report of General Council **(F)** The Rev. Patricia Clark
Report on Vision Initiative Grants for 2009 **(F.1)** Elder Mary Herlitz

New Business

(Only if submitted to Stated Clerk 4 days prior to the meeting; to be posted on-line with Meeting Materials no later than 3 days prior)

Adjournment

(BY RULE OF THE PRESBYTERY, NO LATER THAN 4PM, UNLESS THE ASSEMBLY VOTES BY A 2/3RD MAJORITY TO EXTEND BEYOND)



**THE NEXT STATED MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF NEW COVENANT WILL BE
SATURDAY, MAY 8, 2010
AT NORTHWOODS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
3320 FM 1960 WEST, HOUSTON, 77068 281-444-8861**

STATED CLERK
REPORT TO PRESBYTERY
February 6, 2009

I. Recommendation for presbytery action:

- A. Move and recommend adoption of the Omnibus Motion (B.1).

II. Actions taken on behalf of presbytery:

- A. Received the final report of the Administrative Commission for the dissolution of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Beaumont. The property has been sold and all proceeds have been distributed. Expressed the gratitude of the presbytery to these individuals and the Trustees/Session of the congregation who stayed in place until all property matters were resolved. Both entities are now excused from service, effective 2-6-2010.

- B. Received the following judgment from the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Presbytery of New Covenant, dated November 18, 2009:

“WHEREAS, you, Winfred Clark Chamberlain, have pled guilty to offenses in violation of your ordination vow, specifically W-4.4003g, to uphold the peace, unity, and purity of the church, ... you were adjudged guilty ... and that such offenses are contrary to the Scriptures and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Now, therefore, the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Presbytery of New Covenant, does find you guilty of said offenses.

Now, therefore, the Presbytery of New Covenant, in the name and by the authority of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), does hereby set aside and remove you from all ordained and elected offices without removal from membership of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

[Subsequently, the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission received an appeal of this judgment (dated December 22, 2009). This appeal was dismissed by the Synod PJC on January 15, 2010.]

- C. Received the reports of the Administrative Commissions for the following ordinations/installations; they are dismissed with the gratitude of the presbytery:

1. to install the Rev. Tom G. Wessman as pastor of Gulf Prairie Presbyterian Church, Jones Creek, TX, on Sunday, November 15, 2009 at 1:30 pm during a service of worship;
2. to install the Rev. David Leard as Associate Pastor, Northwoods Presbyterian Church, Houston, TX, on Sunday, December 13, 2009 at 9:30 am during a service of worship.
3. to ordain Teri Summers Minette (candidate under care) at Woodlands Church on December 27, 2009 at 6 pm during a service of worship. She has been called to Grace Presbyterian Church, Grove, OK, Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery.
4. to install the Rev. James (Jim) Birchfield as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Houston, TX, on Sunday, January 10, 2010, during worship at 10:45 am.

III. 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 during the lunch break and after adjournment.

OMNIBUS MOTION

February 6, 2010 Meeting of the Presbytery of New Covenant

THE OMNIBUS MOTION is used to expedite routine business and usually does not require discussion and debate. The following motions are included in a single “Omnibus Motion” for a single vote unless there is a request to lift one or more of the motions out. If you have questions or would like information about any items in the Omnibus Motion, please request that item be lifted out for separate consideration.

At the time the Omnibus is presented, a commissioner/minister may request that an item be lifted for discussion at a later time in the meeting. This requires no vote of Presbytery. The Stated Clerk will announce when the item will be considered.

FROM THE STATED CLERK (B)

- A. Move and recommend approval of the minutes** of the Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of New Covenant on Saturday, November 14, 2009, as distributed (posted on presbytery’s website, as part of the Meeting Materials for today’s meeting).
- B. Move and recommend the election of Amy Klinkovsky**, an inquirer under the care of our presbytery and student at San Francisco Theological Seminary, as a **Theological Student Advisory Delegate** to the 219th General Assembly, July 3-10, 2010, in Minneapolis. Ms. Klinkovsky has been nominated for this position by that theological institution.

FROM THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY (D)

- A. Move and recommend the status of Honorably Retired be granted to the following Ministers of Word and Sacrament:**
- 1. The Reverend Morris J. “Skip” Ehrlich, III, effective December 1, 2009 (BIO follows COM Report (D) in the PACKET).
 - 2. The Reverend C. Paul Bennett, effective December 1, 2009.
 - 3. The Reverend William “Bill” Poe, effective June 30, 2010 (BIO will be in the PACKET for the May 8, 2010 meeting, when Service of Retirement will be observed).

Group A=Cluster 1

Rm. 202

Cluster 1 – South

Alvin, First
Angleton, Bethel
Angleton, First
Bay City, First
Brazoria, First
Freeport, First
Jones Creek, Gulf Prairie
Lake Jackson, First
Pearland, First
West Columbia, Bethel

Group B = Clusters 2 & 12

Rm. 200

Cluster 2 – Northwest

Brenham, Brenham
Bryan, First
Caldwell, First
Calvert, First
College Station, Covenant
Navasota, First
Shiro, First
Somerville, First
Waverly, Waverly

Cluster 12 – Northwest Central

Houston, Heights
Houston, Heritage
Houston, John Knox
Houston, Korean Young Nak
Houston, Oaks
Houston, St. Giles
Houston, Spring Branch

Group C = Clusters 3 & 4

Rm. 106

Cluster 3 – East (Geneva)

Beaumont, Pioneer
Beaumont, St. Andrew's
Jasper, First
Nederland, Providence
Orange, Drake Memorial
Orange, First
Port Neches, Trinity
Silsbee, First
Vidor, First

Cluster 4 – Galveston

Galveston, Emmanuel
Galveston, First
Galveston, West Isle
Galveston, Westminster
La Marque, La Marque
Tiki Island, Tiki Island Chapel
Texas City, First

Group D = Clusters 5 & 6

Rm. 205

Cluster 5 – West

Eagle Lake, First
Houston, Thien An
Houston, Westminster
Katy, Grand Lakes
Needville, St. Paul's
Missouri City, Biyaya Community
Missouri City, Southminster
Rosenberg, First
Sealy, First
Sugar Land, First
Wharton, First

Cluster 6 – Far North East

Cleveland, St. Luke's
Crockett, First
Livingston, First
Livingston, Indian
Lufkin, First
Nacogdoches, Trawick
Nacogdoches, Westminster
San Augustine, Memorial
Trinity, First

Group E = Cluster 7

Rm. 206

Cluster 7 – Southeast

Baytown, Faith
Dickinson, First
Houston, Clear Lake
Houston, Community of the Servant Savior
Houston, St. Stephen
Houston, Woodforest
LaPorte, St. James
Pasadena, Faith
Pasadena, First
Webster, Webster

Group F = Cluster 8

Rm. 104

Cluster 8 – Central

Houston, First
Houston, Juan Marcos
Houston, Pinecrest
Houston, San Pablo+Trinity
Houston, St. Andrew's
Houston, University

Group G = Cluster 9

Rm. 103

Cluster 9 – Southwest

Bellaire, ChristChurch
Houston, Central
Houston, Christ
Houston, Grace Taiwan
Houston, St. John's
Houston, St. Luke's
Houston, St. Paul
Houston, St. Philip
Pearland, Peace

Group H = Cluster 10

Rm. 204

Cluster 10 – West Central

Houston, Formosan
Houston, Grace
Houston, Korean Central
Houston, Memorial Drive
Houston, Pines
Houston, St. Thomas
Katy, New Hope

Group K = Cluster 11

Rm. 201

Cluster 11 – North

Atascocita, Atascocita
Conroe, First
Houston, First Lao
Houston, Northwoods
Houston, Windwood
Huntsville, First
Kingwood, First
Spring, Advent
Tomball, First
Woodlands, Timber Ridge
Woodlands, Woodlands Community

C.1

ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT TO PRESBYTERY February 6, 2010

- I Recommendations for presbytery action:**
Action on the Proposed Changes to the Standing Rules for the Meetings of the Presbytery.
(C.1a attached to this report.)
- II Actions taken on behalf of presbytery:**
N/A
- III Items for Information**
2010 presbytery meetings will be as follows:
Sat. May 8 Northwoods PC, Houston Laura Mendenhall, Speaker
Sun. July 18 Pinecrest PC, Houston Post-GA called meeting
Sat. Aug 7, Sun Aug 15 Weekends of Service and Celebration
Sat. Nov 13 St. John's PC, Houston

C.1a

A marked-up copy of the current Standing Rules (C.1b) is available in the Meeting Materials online at www.pbyofnewcovenant.org.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE STANDING RULES FOR THE MEETINGS OF PRESBYTERY FOR ACTION BY THE PRESBYTERY: February 6, 2010

These rules, IF ADOPTED, shall replace those that were adopted by the Presbytery of New Covenant at stated meetings on November 15, 2005 and the subsequent meeting on February 11, 2006. They shall remain in force until altered by any subsequent vote of the presbytery.

The changes to the existing Standing Rules are matters of sentence structure and vocabulary, as well as incorporating the current practice of using the internet as the primary medium for distribution of meeting materials. Those items that are **highlighted with yellow represent substantive actions for the presbytery.**

1. The most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order (RROO) is our guide to procedure (Book of Order G-9.0302).
2. **GETTING HELP:** The moderator and stated clerk are here to help the process of the meeting. If a presbyter is unsure about a correct procedure:
 - a. be recognized by the moderator
 - b. say what you want to do
 - c. ask the moderator how to do it.

3. **AGENDA:** Adoption of the Docket gives permission to the officers and committees listed to speak and present reports in the order listed. The moderator may make changes to the approved order, but changing the substance of the Docket after it is adopted requires a two-thirds vote (RROO, sections 3, 40).
4. **SPEAKING**
 - a. Presbyters wishing to address the presbytery, shall PROMPTLY proceed to the nearest microphone,
 - b. Address the Moderator (- "Madame Moderator" or "Mister Moderator"), and WAIT to be recognized by - the moderator- (RROO, section 3).
 - c. Once recognized, presbyters are asked first to state name and church connection, then address the motion (RROO, section 41), or make a point-of-order.
 - d. Speeches during debate are limited to two minutes each (RROO, section 15).
 - e. The moderator will try to alternate Pro and Con speeches (RROO, section 41), but will also recognize neutral observations or questions for clarification as identified.
5. **MOTIONS**
 - a. Motions from a Committee are presumed to carry a second (RROO, section 4).
 - b. A person making a motion is entitled to speak first in debate (RROO, section 4), for **no more than four minutes.**
 - c. Any motion introduced on the floor SHALL be legibly written and submitted to the stated clerk, AS IT IS INTRODUCED.
 - d. All business shall be submitted to the presbytery office in time to be published in THE PACKET, which goes online two weeks prior to each stated meeting. New Business shall be submitted at least four days prior to the meeting of the presbytery. All New Business shall be published on the presbytery's website three days prior to the presbytery meeting.
 - e. Business not published as in 5.d. can only be introduced with the consent of two-thirds vote of the Presbytery. Addenda may be made available at the meeting, if referenced in the published Docket.
6. **VOTING:** The moderator shall use the most expeditious form of voting (RROO, section 44):
 - a. Unanimous consent
 - b. Voice vote ("those in favor those opposed")
 - c. Rising or show of hands (The moderator may use tellers to take an actual count, or the moderator may simply "eyeball" the result).
 - d. A written ballot – which is not a matter of right; it may be provided by the moderator, or ordered by a majority vote of the presbytery.
7. **ABSENCES**
 - a. **Elder Commissioners and minister-members of the presbytery are requested to alert the stated clerk of anticipated absences.**
 - b. **Attendance will be recorded in the minutes as "present" or "absent."**
8. **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR AND VOTE:**
 - a) Certain elders are granted **privilege of floor AND vote:**
 - 1) Former moderators of the Presbytery of New Covenant and its antecedent presbyteries -- the Presbytery of Brazos, and the Presbytery of the Gulf Coast from 1980 forward).
 - 2) Elders elected by the presbytery as general/executive presbyters or associate general/executive presbyters.
 - 3) Elders serving in specified offices under the presbytery, namely members of General Council and chairs of primary committees and divisions of the presbytery.
 - 4) Commissioned Lay Pastors, if the Presbytery has authorized these functions.

- 5) Certified Christian Educators (who are ordained elders), during the term of service in an educational ministry under the jurisdiction of the presbytery (G-11.0407), whether paid or volunteer.
- 6) Certified Fellows in Presbyterian Church Business Administration (who are ordained elders) (G-14.0742, G-14.0744).

- b) **Privilege of floor WITHOUT vote** is granted to:
- 1) Ministers of Word and Sacrament who are members of other presbyteries of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and who register with the stated clerk.
 - 2) Persons who represent institutions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) or ecumenical agencies related to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and who register with the stated clerk.
 - 3) Non-elder Certified Christian Educators serving in educational ministry within the bounds of the presbytery.
 - 4) Non-elder certified church professionals within the bounds of the Presbytery who are employed on at least a half-time basis by a church or agency of the Presbytery, (G-14.0742 and G-14.0744).

SUMMARY GUIDELINES FOR FLOOR DISCUSSION

1. The presenter of the motion shall be given no more than four minutes to speak to the motion after it is made. The time limit for each speaker during floor discussion shall be two minutes**, unless the assembly votes to change the time.
2. Presbyters shall ordinarily speak only once during floor discussion of each motion.
3. The moderator will attempt to call upon speakers pro and con in alternating order, but is free to take a neutral observation or question for clarification in any order.
4. There shall be no applause or vocal expressions of approval or disapproval.

**A yellow card will be held up after 1 ½ minutes; a red card will be held up when the time limit is reached.

C.1b

Marked-Up Copy
 Proposed Changes To The
 Standing Rules For The Meetings Of Presbytery
 (Posted Separately Online)

C.2a

Presbytery of New Covenant, Inc 2009/10 Budget
 (Posted Separately Online)

C.2b

Debt Repayment Schedule 2007-2012
 (Posted Separately Online)

Committee on Ministry

Presbytery Report

February 6, 2010

I. Recommendation for Presbytery action:

See Omnibus Motion.

II. Actions taken on behalf of the presbytery:

1. Approved Changes in Terms of Call

a. Between Margaret Desmond and Port Neches, Trinity effective 7/1/09

Salary	\$21,973	\$23,200
Housing and Utility Allowance	20,000	20,200
Auto Allowance	@ IRS Rate	@ IRS Rate
Board of Pensions Dues	13,221	13,671
Study Leave Allowance	cumulative for 3 years 1,670	1,680
Study Leave	cumulative for 3 years 2 wks	2 wks
Vacation	4 wks	4 wks
Annual Review		

b. Between Kevin Rudolph and Houston, Windwood effective 1/1/09

Salary		\$38,473
Housing and Utility Allowance		40,000
Social Security		6,996
Auto Allowance		4,992
Books, Professional Dues		1,500
Board of Pensions Dues		30,648
Study Leave Allowance	cumulative for 3 years	5,000
Study Leave	cumulative for 3 years	2 wks
Vacation		4 wks
Annual Review		

c. Between Barrett Ingram and Galveston, Westminster effective 1/1/10

Salary	\$20,000	\$20,000
Housing and Utility Allowance	17,400	18,896
Social Security	2,996	3,209
Auto Allowance	3,600	3,600
Board of Pensions Dues	11,780	12,583
Study Leave Allowance	cumulative for 3 years 1,680	1,680
Study Leave	cumulative for 3 years 2 wks	2 wks
Vacation	4 wks	4 wks
Annual Review		

d. Between Tom Sharon and Freeport, First effective 1/1/10

Salary	\$18,089	\$18,915
Housing and Utility Allowance	16,926	17,394
Other paid Insurance	675	
Auto Allowance	1,300	1,500
Board of Pensions Dues	11,030	11,437
Study Leave Allowance	cumulative for 3 years 1,420	1,450
Study Leave	cumulative for 3 years 2 wks	2 wks
Vacation	4 wks	4 wks
Social Security	2,885	2,991
Annual Review		

e. Between James Gentner and Bethel West Columbia effective 2/1/10

Salary		\$21,000
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Housing and Utility Allowance		22,000
Social Security		3,600
Deferred Income		2,100
Auto Allowance		5,000
Board of Pensions Dues		Full 31.5%
Study Leave Allowance	cumulative for 3 years	1,420
Study Leave	cumulative for 3 years	2 wks
Vacation		4 wks
Annual Review		

2. Approved transfer of membership
 - a. David H. Jenkins to Grace Presbytery effective 1/9/10
 - b. Ellen Babinsky to Mission Presbytery effective 12/6/09
3. Approved commission to install
 - a. Commission to install Rachel Young as Associate Pastor at Houston, Clear Lake on 1/31/10 at 2 pm
 To preside and propound the Constitutional questions: Elder Gary Schoonover, Moderator NCP, Katy, Grand Lake
 To preach the sermon: The Rev. Stephen Oglesbee, Pastor, Houston, Clear Lake
 To charge the pastor: Elder Jane Grassley, Allen, First, Grace Presbytery
 To charge the congregation: The Rev. Hmingi Browne, Member at Large NCP
 To complete the commission: Elder Joe Sung, Houston, Clear Lake; Elder Sharon Darden, Houston, Pinecrest; and the Rev. Dean Pogue, Pastor, Pasadena, First
 - b. Commission to install James Birchfield as Pastor at Houston, First on 1/10/10 at 10:45 am To
 preside and propound the Constitutional questions: Elder Rupert Turner, Former Moderator NCP, Houston, Memorial Drive
 To preach the sermon: The Rev. Robert Henley, Pastor, PC of The Big Wood, Ketchum, ID
 To charge the pastor: The Rev. Robert Henley
 To charge the congregation: The Rev. David McKechnie, HR
 To complete the commission: The Rev. Michael Cole, General Presbyter NCP; Elder Sharon Darden, Houston, Pinecrest; Elder Victor Harris, Houston, First; Elder Mary Alice McDonald, Houston, First; Elder Gene Meyer, Houston, Northwoods.
 - c. Commission to install David Leard as Associate Pastor at Houston, Northwoods on 12/13/09 at 9:30 am
 To preside and propound the Constitutional questions: Elder Jody Harrington, Former Moderator, Houston, Memorial Drive
 To preach the sermon: The Rev. John Gruel, Pastor, First, Edmond, OK
 To charge the pastor: The Rev. Dr. Paul Nazarian, Pastor, Houston, Northwoods
 To charge the congregation: The Rev. Linda McCarty, Director, Faith in Practice
 To complete the commission: The Rev. Rachel Poysky, Member at Large; Elder Gene Meyer, Houston, Northwoods; Elder James Hooper, Houston, Pinecrest
4. Approved commission to ordain Teri Summers Minette (candidate under care) called to Grace Presbyterian Church, Grove, OK, Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery at Woodland Church on 12/27/09 at 6 pm
 To preside and propound the Constitutional questions: Elder Gene Meyer, Former Moderator, Houston, Northwoods
 To preach the sermon: The Rev. Amy Summers-Minette, Associate Pastor, New Covenant PC, Staunton, VA
 To charge the pastor: The Rev. Dr. David F. Jones, Pastor, The Woodlands Community PC
 To complete the commission: Elder Todd Brady, The Woodlands Community PC; Elder Sharon Carey, Houston, St. Paul; Elder Bill Gober, The Woodlands, Timber Ridge; Elder Isabel Rivera-Velez, Galveston, Emmanuel; Elder Nancy Trennel Houston, Northwoods; The Rev. Noelle Day, Pastor, Houston, Oaks and Mr. Jonathan Murray, Pastor-Elect, Needville, St. Paul's.
5. Granted Permission to Labor In and Out Bounds
 - a. Labor in bounds to Sunny Chang from New Hope Presbytery as she works with Pathways NCD, Houston
 - b. Labor in the bounds John Woodard from Grace Presbytery to officiate at graveside service in San Augustine
 - c. Labor in the bounds to Gayle Perkins until received as a member of NCP
 - d. Labor out of the Bounds to Shawn Kang to a wedding of the Presbytery of Puerto Rico/approved laboring outside the bounds of PCUSA.
6. Approved Parish Associate Covenant

- a. Between Southminster, Missouri City and David Northcutt
- b. Between Southminster, Missouri City and Lynn Hall Buckridge
7. Approved dissolution of the relationship between Scott Thayer and Houston, Memorial Drive, effective 1/16/10.
8. Approved dismissing Scott Thayer to Monmouth Presbytery pending receipt of pastoral call forms.
9. Approved validation of call for candidate under call Juan Herrera (Houston, St. Andrew's) as associate pastor of First Presbyterian Church, St. Petersburg, FL, Tampa Bay Presbytery.
10. Approved to be placed on Pulpit Supply List
 - a. Carol Tompkins – member at large
 - b. Gayle Perkins, HR, in process of transferring to NCP – member of Tres Rios Presbytery
 - c. Raymond Feyes, HR
11. Approved and receive Annual Reports Retired Clergy – Raymond Feyes
12. Appointed Moderator
 - a. Alvin, First - Jonathan Murray
 - b. Eagle Lake, First – Debbie Cenko
13. Granted Bob David permission to administer communion at St. James, La Porte in the month of January 2010.
14. Received as information FastTrac Report from Houston, Heritage
15. Approved Contract
 - a. Between Atilano Muradas and NCD/NCP and Brazilian NCD for six month effective 1/1/10 – 6/30/10

Salary		\$18,000
Housing and Utility Allowance		21,000
Auto Allowance		1,500
Board of Pensions Dues		12,474
Study Leave Allowance	cumulative for 3 years	1,500 + 3 days Clergy Retreat
Study Leave	cumulative for 3 years	2 wks
Vacation		4 wks
Review		
16. Approved renewal of Interim Pastor Contract
 - a. Between Marcia Miscall and Livingston, First for 6 months effective 2/1/10 – 7/31/10

Salary		\$19,500
Housing and Utility Allowance		8,000
Auto Allowance		@ IRS Rate
Books, Professional Expenses		Up to 300
Board of Pensions Dues		Full 31.5%
Study Leave Allowance	cumulative for 3 years	850
Study Leave	cumulative for 3 years	7 wks
Vacation		14 days
Review		
 - b. Between Michael Sydnor and Bay City, First for one year 12/15/09 – 12/15/10

Salary		\$31,200
Housing and Utility Allowance		12,000
Social Security		3,832
Auto Allowance		3,300
Board of Pensions Dues		14,648
Study Leave Allowance	cumulative for 3 years	1,700
Study Leave	cumulative for 3 years	14 days
Vacation		68 days
Review		
17. Approved renewal of Stated Supply Contract
 - a. Between Rhonda Detenbeck and Rosenberg, First effective 1/1/10 for one year

Salary	\$20,800	\$13,600
Housing Allowance		7,200
Auto Allowance	1,200	400
Board of Pensions Dues	11,244	11,799
Study Leave Allowance	cumulative for 3 years	100
Study Leave	cumulative for 3 years	2 wks
Vacation	800	800
Other: Continue Education/Books	200	300
Annual Review		

III. Items for Information:

- a. The committee met and held its retreat on January 9, 2010.

BIOGRAPHY

The Reverend Ray Harper (Granted Honorably Retired Status at the 11/14/09 Stated Presbytery Meeting)

Chaplain (Lieutenant Colonel) Ray Harper, U.S. Army, Retired, is a native of Plain City, Ohio and now a resident of Texas. The Harper's attended the United Presbyterian Church, Plain City, Ohio. He graduated from Jonathan Alder high school, Plain City, Ohio in 1967. He received the Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from Franklin University, Columbus, Ohio in 1975. The University of Dubuque Theological Seminary awarded him the Master of Divinity Degree in 1980. The Presbyterian Church (USA) ordained him to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament in 1980, after which he served as pastor to the Senecaville Presbyterian Church, Senecaville, Ohio, 1980-1983.

He volunteered for the US Army draft in 1968. After Basic Training, AIT, and Noncommissioned Officer training he served with the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) in the Republic of South Vietnam as an Infantry squad leader. He separated from the military on 22 August 1970.

Harper enlisted in the Ohio Army National Guard as a helicopter crew chief in 1974. He held this position until 1977. The Guard commissioned him as a Chaplain (First Lieutenant) in 1982. He then attended the Chaplain Officer Basic Course at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. The Army accepted him as an active duty chaplain in February 1983, and stationed him at Fort Benning, Georgia.

Chaplain Harper has served soldiers at Camp Darby, Italy in 1986-1989; The Chaplain Officer Advanced Course (1989); Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri: co-pastor at Soldier Memorial Chapel, battalion chaplain 43rd AG Battalion (REC), battalion chaplain for 5th Engineer Battalion (Combat) Operation Desert Storm; brigade chaplain, 10th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Training Brigade, Fort Leonard Wood; completed Clinical Pastoral Education in June 1994 at Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC); chaplain clinician (Institute of Surgical Research Burn and Trauma Unit) at BAMC; staff chaplain, US Army Chemical Activity, Pacific, Johnston Island, and Chief, Unit Ministry Team Training and Operations Branch, Staff Chaplain's Office, The Academy of Health Sciences, U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School and Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Chaplain Harper retired after 21 years of military service in 2001. He served as the pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Alvin, Texas, from 2001 to 2009. Ray served on the Care of Church Professionals subcommittee of COM (2002-2004). He was honorably retired 31 December 2009.

His military awards include: the Legion of Merit; the Combat Infantry Badge; one Presidential Unit Citation; two Meritorious Unit Citations; the Bronze Star Medal with V-device for valor; the Bronze Star Medal (second award); the Legion of Merit Medal; the Meritorious Service Medal (3rd award); the Air Medal; Army Commendation Medal with V-device; Army Commendation Medal (3rd award); Army Achievement Medal (4th award); the ten-year Reserve Component Medal; the Vietnam Service and Campaign Medals; the Southwest Asia Medal; the Kuwaiti Liberation Medal; and the Red Hat Pin (awarded for ministry to personnel who demilitarized (destroyed) chemical munitions).

The Rev. Ray Harper resides with Debbie, his wife of forty-one years, and their daughter Aimee Harper, at 324 Axis Deer TRL, Hutto, Texas 78634. Ray and Debbie's son, Ryan is married to Catherine Kowalik Harper, and they reside in Pflugerville, Texas.

The Reverend Morris J. "Skip" Ehrlich, III

Born and raised in South Carolina. Graduate of The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina, B.S., '65; Columbia Theological Seminary, M.Div., '68; McCormick Theological Seminary, '00, D.Min.

Began experience with two quarters of CPE; and then served as Associate Pastor, First Church, Monroe NC; Assistant Pastor (Youth), Highland Park, Dallas TX; Assistant Pastor (CE), First, Marietta GA; Assistant Pastor, Malibu CA; Pastor, First, Moorcroft WY; Pastor, Community PC, Hysham MT and Custer UCC, Custer MT; Temporary Supply, First PC, Anaconda MT; Interim Pastor, Montezuma Valley PC, Cortez CO; Pastor, Rocky Creek PC and Jefferson PC, Jefferson SC; Pastor, First, LaJunta CO; Interim Senior Pastor, Diamondhead MS; Pastor, Texas City TX.

Also worked as a national sales trainer, high school science teacher and as a case worker/chaplain in Wyoming's correctional institution for boys.

E

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

Presbytery Report

February 6, 2010

I. Recommendation for Presbytery action:

- a. The committee recommends and moves that **Wendy Bleike** (The Woodlands Community) be enrolled as a candidate.

II. Actions taken on behalf of the presbytery:

- a. Approved dropping **Hwa Cho** (Houston, Korean Central) from the preparation for ministry process.
- b. Approved dropping **Betty Palmer** (Houston, University) from the preparation for ministry process.
- c. Approved **Anthony Ceder's** (Houston, First) internship job description at Houston, St. Andrew's.
- d. Approved **Mark Plunkett's** (Houston, Spring Branch) internship job description.
- e. Granted **Mark Plunkett** (Houston, Spring Branch) permission to take ordination exams in the summer of 2010.
- f. Granted **Shane Webb** (Pasadena, First) permission to retake the ordination exams on January 22-23, 2010.
- g. Approved **Jane Whitney's** (Houston, St. Andrew's) request to be removed from the preparation for ministry process.
- h. Approved **Isabel Rivera-Velez** (Galveston, Emmanuel) CPE evaluation.
- i. Approved asking the Examination Services permission for **Isabel-Rivera-Velez** (Galveston, Emmanuel) to have extra time when taking the ordination examination on January 22-23, 2010.
- j. Approved Annual Consultation for **Ray Henderson** (Houston, Northwoods) and that he continues in the process.
- k. Approved inviting **Greg Davis** (Houston, San Pablo Trinity) to meet with the committee for his Annual Consultation.
- l. Approved Annual Consultation for **Charles Kelly** (Houston, Central) that he continues in the process.
- m. Approved enrolling **Chad A. Erb** (Kingwood, First) as an inquirer.
- n. Approved request of **Charlie Becker-Hornes** (Lufkin, First) to have a called meeting of the committee on Friday, May 7, 2010 to move to candidacy; the committee voted to have the meeting on Saturday, May 8, 2010 at 7:30 am at Northwoods Presbyterian Church prior to the 9 am, Stated Presbytery Meeting.

III. Items for Information:

- a. The committee met on December 12, 2009 and January 9, 2010.

**REPORT TO THE PRESBYTERY
GENERAL COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 6, 2010**

I. Actions Recommended for Presbytery's consideration: None

II. Actions taken on behalf of the presbytery

A. Received the report of the Communications Task Force. The goal is for the presbytery to become a digital communicator, primarily, with occasional print communications. GC directed the Ministries Division to form a Task Force to continue to think through these issues and forward recommendations for further implementation.

B. Assigned to Evangelism and Renewal oversight of \$50,000 gift from proceeds of sale of Westminster, Beaumont designated as "Do Not Die Fund," [as per provisions of approved policy on the administration of restricted gifts].

C. Received the auditors' report for years ending 6-30-08 and 6-30-09, conducted by Blazek and Vetterling, CPAs.

D. Retained the legal firm of Fulbright and Jaworski, and attorney Reagan Brown in particular, to represent the presbytery in the matters related to a lawsuit filed in Galveston County, TX, and served on the presbytery December 17, 2009. Mr. Brown is an elder and member of First Presbyterian Church, Houston, TX.

III. Items for Information

A. New Church Development. Wendy Bailey reported to General Council that New Covenant is leading the denomination in New Church Developments (13). NCD is the R&D end of the church! It is a place to try new things and have the freedom to fail. Important lessons are learned along the way and our NCD Ministries takes them seriously. A significant part of our strategy for new church development is that we are a "yes" organization – providing encouragement and networking possibilities.

B. Members of General Council participated in the presbytery's annual **Leadership Retreat**, held at Cho-Yeh Camp and Conference Center, January 12-13, 2010.

C. Vision Initiatives Grants, 2008-09: See written report among meeting materials on website (F.1). Elder Mary Herlitz will give brief oral report.

THE COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Moderator: The Rev. Patricia Clark	Vice-Moderator: Elder Mary Herlitz
Class of 2010: Elders Jeff Early, Ginger Broussard	Ministers Hmingi Browne, Doug Ferguson
Class of 2011: Elders Mary Herlitz, Mort McPhail	Ministers Mauricio Chacon, Debbie Measells
Class of 2012: Elders David Eyre, Nancy Penney	Ministers Mary Currie, Shawn Kang

2009 Ex Officio ("By Virtue of Office") w/voice and vote:

Moderator-Elect of Presbytery:	The Rev. Patricia Clark
Moderator of Ministries Division Steering Committee:	The Rev. Blake Brinegar
Moderator of Presbytery:	Elder Garry Schoonover
Moderator of Administrative Division Steering Committee:	Elder Ann Hardy

Staff Support (voice, no vote):

General Presbyter Mike Cole Stated Clerk Diane Prevary
Associate General Presbyters Mary Marcotte and Wendy Bailey.

[end: GC Report]

**Vision Initiatives Grant Committee
Final Report to General Council
Grant Year # 2
July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009**

(Posted Separately Online)

**OUTREACH MINISTRIES COMMITTEE
REPORT TO PRESBYTERY
FEBRUARY 6, 2010**

I. Recommendations for presbytery action:

NONE

II. Actions taken on behalf of presbytery:

NONE

III. Items for Information:

1. The Presbytery participated in World Mission Challenge 2009 by hosting mission worker Jed Koball October 16-19. Jed began his service as a mission co-worker in January 2009 when he was appointed companionship facilitator for the Joining Hands network in Peru. “Joining Hands” is a program of the Presbyterian Hunger Program that fights the root causes of hunger by sparking the formation of networks in developing countries.

Three churches hosted Jed during his visit.

- Atascocita Presbyterian Church
- Clear Lake Presbyterian Church
- Westminster Presbyterian Church

The committee extends its deepest appreciation to Dana Rowan of Atascocita P.C., Katrina Pennington of Clear Lake P.C., and Vicki Smith of Westminster P.C. for their time, commitment and participation.

For more information:

Mission Challenge 2009 Speakers: <http://www.pcusa.org/missionchallenge/speakers.htm>

Jed’s profile: <http://www.pcusa.org/missionconnections/profiles/koballj.htm>

2. The committee will be intently and prayerfully considering its current role and responsibilities within the Presbytery and whether any changes are warranted in order to best serve God, the Presbytery, its congregations and members, and our communities. All thoughts, concerns and ideas are welcomed and can be submitted to Carl Quebedeaux (chqpsc@hotmail.com).

DON'T MISS

receiving your copy of...

TUESDAY CONNECT!

Tuesday Connect is a new weekly email from the presbytery that is sent to all in the Presbytery of New Covenant who have given us their email address.*

The purpose of **Tuesday Connect** is to build community within the presbytery by keeping our congregations and partner organizations informed in a very timely manner, without filling our InBoxes with multiple emails from the presbytery.

The information included in **Tuesday Connect** is short and concise (50-100 words), possibly with a link to more information on a website. For example, an announcement about a special event could be included with a link to additional details on your website about registration and speakers.

We are using an email service, Constant Contact, for the emails. Individual emails will no longer be sent from the presbytery office, except when there is urgent information or an emergency. Patricia Brantley will no longer be sending out emails received from churches or related organizations.

Please send Helen Wolf, hwolf@pbyofnewcovenant.org, your information for **Tuesday Connect** at any time.

*Give us your email address TODAY by signing the list at the Information Table!

Tuesday Connect

Presbytery of New Covenant News

In This Issue

[Church Officer Enrichment](#)

[St. Philip delivers the goods!](#)

[Reminders](#)

In Our Prayers

Rupert Turner, former moderator, has completed second round of chemotherapy at MD Anderson.

Rev. Jim Birchfield was installed as Pastor at First Presbyterian Houston Jan. 10.

Rev. Mary Currie, Member-at-Large, whose brother Martyn Miller died Jan. 11.

The people of Haiti and those seeking to provide aid and comfort in this critical time.

Rachel Elizabeth Grassley Young who was installed as associate pastor of spiritual formation at Clear Lake Presbyterian on Jan. 31.

Quick Links

[NEW Ike Recovery website!](#)

[Our Website](#)

[NC on Facebook](#)
[PC\(USA\)](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Welcome to our new communications vehicle, *Tuesday Connect!* With brief news and helpful links, we hope this weekly contact will continue to build the community called New Covenant. As the title suggests, our plan is to send such an email each Tuesday to members of our presbytery who subscribe to it.

Reminder!

Church Officer Enrichment

Sat., Jan. 23
9:00 a.m. to 12 noon
Registration: 8:30 a.m.
St. Luke's Presbyterian Church
8915 Timberside, Houston, TX77025

Register by Monday, Jan. 18

[Click here for more information.](#)

St. Philip delivers the goods!

About 100 members of St. Philip Presbyterian helped unload the truck that delivered the new Paul Fritts Organ, built, packed up, and moved to Houston from Tacoma, WA. It will be up in the choir loft by next Sunday! But it will take about two weeks before it plays its first notes and not totally operational for about a month.



Dedication of the Organ will be **April 18** at the 11:00 service with an organ concert in the afternoon. All are invited!

Reminder to Clerks of Session: the first Session Records Review for 2010 will be held **Jan. 23** at St. Luke's, Houston. More details and the new check-sheets for 2010 can be found on the Office of Stated Clerk section of the presbytery website.

[Session Records Review](#)

FINAL CALL for New Covenant Triennium delegation: ABSOLUTELY NO registrations can be accepted after Jan. 19. Click here for registration materials. [Read more about the event.](#) For more info, contact [Mary Marcotte](#) or [Caressa Murray](#).

Check out this information about a unique conference for Laity and Clergy, "[Celebrating a Call to Lay Ministry](#)" that is being presented by the Spiritual Care and Education department of Methodist Hospital **Feb. 4-6**. The conference will be held at St. Paul's U. Methodist Church, 5501 Main Street, Houston.

Postlude,

the publication that highlights the events and business conducted at the presbytery meeting, will be published on the presbytery's website.

An e-mail will be sent notifying you when the Postlude is available. Commissioners are encouraged to share it with their sessions.

Those churches not having internet access will be mailed a copy of The Postlude.

Comments and suggestions should be directed to:

Helen Wolf at hwolf@pbyofnewcovenant.org

NEXT STATED MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY

THE NEXT STATED MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF NEW COVENANT WILL BE

SATURDAY, MAY 8, 2010

AT NORTHWOODS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3320 FM 1960 WEST, HOUSTON, TX 77068-3604

**PRESBYTERY OF NEW COVENANT
CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

FEBRUARY

February 6
Stated Presbytery Meeting
St. Philip PC, Houston

February 19-21
Youth Conclaves

February 26-28
Youth Conclaves

MARCH

March 5-7
Youth Conclaves

March 13
Session Records Review (Clusters 3 &
17)
Faith PC, Baytown

APRIL

April 9 – 11
Presbyterian Marriage Encounter

April 17
PW Spring Gathering

MAY

May 8
Stated Presbytery Meeting
Northwoods PC, Houston

Displays for Today's Meeting

Presbyterian Marriage Encounter

“Kids Against Hunger”
(St. Philip participates in this hunger program)